

Wacouta Township

July 10, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Following is the written text of the business transacted by the Wacouta Board of Supervisors at its monthly meeting held on July 10, 2023. Board members present were: Supervisors George Thoma, and Daryl Franklin; John Plehal was absent. Laan Dommer, Clerk/Treasurer was also in attendance. The meeting was held at the town hall, 27700 Grace Trail, Red Wing, Minnesota.

- 1) Supervisor George Thoma called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- 2) Approval of the June 12, 2023 minutes: Franklin moved to approve the minutes of 6/12/2023; seconded by Thoma. The motion carried.
- 3) Old Business
 - a) Reorganization motions:
 - i) Trail sign update: Thoma reviewed the trail sign repair and showed an example of the new upgraded signs. He indicated that nine of the eighteen signs have been fixed and placements are pending.
 - ii) Township picnic update: Dommer indicated that there have been no volunteers after the recent requests placed in the last newsletters. There was no further action to pursue an annual picnic this year.
- 4) New Business
 - a) Bike Race request: Mick Wendland from “DCI – Triathlon” was available to present a request for the use of the Wacouta roads and the trail for a short loop in a late September race. Franklin moved to approve the use of Wacouta roads and trail for the DSI Triathlon; seconded by Thoma. After discussion and questions the motion carried. DSI will get respond back to the township after a review of the options is made by their Board.
 - b) Goodhue County Commissioner Sue Betcher was present to update residents on recent happenings. First, there will be a county website broad-band initiative to collect feedback from residents They are collecting information from County Townships. Also, there is some discussion about consideration for potential statues to be placed in Wacouta township (*as well as the cities of Red Wing and Wabasha*). Franklin volunteered to be the liaison with the committee involved in this project.
 - c) Roads & trail
 - i) Shoulder work update: Bruce’s Backhoe had told to John Plehal, Chair, that it was their intention to get the shoulder work started in the next week or two.
 - ii) Xcel road repair: Thoma contacted Xcel regarding the Wacouta Trail-Lakeview intersection road that needs repair, after recent contractor work. They indicated that it was their intention to get the road repair done soon.
 - iii) Mowing & weed control: Thoma reviewed the summer mowing progress. Then, Dommer indicated that crack repair on the trail has been started, with volunteer help, along Rattlesnake Trail from the cemetery toward the lake on Wacouta Trail.
 - iv) Prairie Restoration funding: Dommer said that the invoice from Prairie Restoration was received. A check for the initial work, on the first statement, has been written for approval tonight.
 - d) Planning & Zoning: Fred Plaas reviewed some restoration work on bluffs in the township. He said Goodhue County wants the township’s input in the projects. Some discussion was made regarding permitting of work on the bluff and revision of the township ordinances. A

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consensus was made to revisit this subject after gathering more information from the County official.

- e) Town Hall & Cemetery
 - i) Cemetery survey status: Franklin moved to approve the use of Johnson & Scofield Land Surveying for the completion of survey work at the cemetery, at an estimated cost between \$3500 and 4000; seconded by Thoma. The motion carried.
 - ii) Recreational areas update: Franklin and Dommer reviewed the recent work and upgrades at the playground and court area.
 - iii) Township tools purchase suggestions: A brief discussion was made regarding the suggestion to start purchasing more tools to be made available to volunteers or hired contractors (*manual & power tools*). The subject was tabled for future consideration.

- 5) Treasurer's Report as of June 30, 2023
 - a) Review of voided check: A review of the voided check, #4414, for \$100 on 4/30/2023, was made by the Supervisors.
 - b) Pay Bills – Amount of 'checks for approval' (*disbursements & payroll*) – \$ 154,507.39.
Thoma moved to accept the claims and checks for approval of \$ 154,507.39; seconded by Franklin. The motion carried.
 - c) Pending deposits & checks: Dommer indicated that a deposit for Ad Valorum (current taxes) for \$100,329.44 was deposited on July 3, 2023. The next deposit for Ad Valorum should be expected at the end of November.

- 6) Thoma moved to adjourn; seconded by Franklin. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 6:52 PM.

- 7) Next meeting of the Wacouta Board of Supervisors is Monday, August 14, 2023, at 6:00 PM, Wacouta Town Hall, 27700 Grace Trail, Red Wing, Minnesota.

- submitted by Laan Dommer