

Wacouta Township  
November 13, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Following is the written text of the business transacted by the Wacouta Board of Supervisors at its monthly meeting held on November 13, 2023. Board members present were: Supervisors John Plehal, George Thoma, and Daryl Franklin. Laan Dommer, Clerk/Treasurer was also in attendance. The meeting was held at the town hall, 27700 Grace Trail, Red Wing, Minnesota.

- 1) Chair John Plehal called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- 2) Approval of the October 10, 2023 minutes: Franklin moved to amend the minutes, to correct administrative oversights (*“Plehal” instead of “Franklin”, within the ‘5a’ motion; and “November 13” instead of “December 11”, within item 7*); seconded by Thoma. The motion carried. Thoma moved to accept amended minutes for 10/10/2023; seconded by Franklin. The motion carried.
- 3) Old Business
  - a) Web site improvements: Plehal discussed website ideas. He reached out to Terrace LLC (*Bobby Culbertson*) for options. After review of options including doing nothing, retain what we have, or improve the website, George Thoma moved to retain Terrace LLC to develop the website (*using Wordpress*) \$2000 development fee, \$75/month); seconded by Franklin. The motion carried.
  - b) Sherriff’s department: Goodhue County Sheriff Deputy Jim Lawler was present for questions.
- 4) New Business
  - a) Roads and trail:
    - i. Fall maintenance projects: Thoma reviewed the road signs recently placed in Sevastopol. One of ten trail signs was placed at the bottom end of Lakeview Avenue.
    - ii. A brief consideration of the use of the trail for cross country skiing was discussed. No consensus was determined. However, it was suggested to consider reviewing this subject at the annual meeting to get residents’ input.
  - b) Planning & Zoning: No permits were discussed. Questions were asked of Fred Plaas, Zoning Administrator, regarding septic tank regulations.
  - c) Town Hall & Cemetery

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- i. Cemetery survey status: Franklin gave a brief review of the draft mapping of the cemetery survey. The surveyors have asked for corrections before finalizing the project.
- ii. Tree planning update: Franklin and Dommer are scheduled to meet with Red Wing Cemetery staff, John Friedrich & Bill Rooney, this week, to ask for ideas to establish possible policy changes for tree plantings.
- iii. Internet access: Thoma contacted county commissioner, Sue Betcher, regarding ARPA funds that may be available to HBC. These funds may be offered to Wacouta on a matching donation basis. Thoma will review this with Betcher, for further details, and return with the findings.
- iv. Warning sirens: Plehal stated that some of the requirements to maintain the warning sirens may have been modified, so that Xcel may not be obligated to maintain these. More details should be forthcoming.
- v. MAT Annual meeting will be held in St. Cloud, December 7-9, 2023.

5) Treasurer's Report as of October 31, 2023

- a) Pay Bills – Amount of 'checks for approval' (*disbursements & payroll*) – \$ 15,802.51.

Plehal moved to accept the claims and checks for approval of \$ 15,802.51; seconded by Thoma. The motion carried.

6) Franklin moved to adjourn; seconded by Thoma. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 6:54 PM.

7) The next meeting of the Wacouta Board of Supervisors is Monday, December 11, 2023, at 6:00 PM, Wacouta Town Hall, 27700 Grace Trail, Red Wing, Minnesota.

- submitted by Laan Dommer