

Wacouta Township
January 8, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Following is the written text of the business transacted by the Wacouta Board of Supervisors at its monthly meeting held on January 8, 2024. 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 December 11, 2023 minutes: Thoma moved to accept the 12/11/2023 minutes; seconded by Franklin. The motion carried.
- 3) Old Business
 - a) Website improvements: Plehal discussed website progress. Terrace LLC has made headway to completing the upgrade. It should be ready to launch in the next couple weeks.
 - b) Goodhue County Commissioner Sue Betcher gave a brief overview of recent county issues being addressed. She also discussed some implications that may need to be considered with the new contract with the City of Red Wing Fire Department.
- 4) New Business
 - a) Roads and trail: There were no new considerations.
 - b) Planning & Zoning:
 - i) Thoma cited some of the work that has been done for potential AirBNB ordinance development. He has sent information out to some of the AirBNB owners to get feedback.
 - ii) A review was made of the Grace Trail 'triangle' ownership, which is deemed private property and not township.
 - iii) Thoma also referred to a private venture being considered to use a lift for tree removal this upcoming spring.
Residents may contact George Thoma if interested.
 - c) Town Hall & Cemetery
 - i) Cemetery survey status: Franklin mentioned that work continues with the mapping and survey upgrade of the cemetery.
 - ii) A brief discussion of placement of headstones was made.
 - iii) Cemetery policy review: Dommer is continuing work to digitize the analog/paper copy cemetery policy and include some of the suggested changes.

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- d) Annual meeting & Levy preparations: Plehal cited significant meeting dates upcoming (*monthly meeting, March 11, 2024, 6:00 PM; township elections, March 12, 5 – 8 PM; Annual meeting, March 12, 8:15 PM*).

The Board of Audit is to be scheduled along with levy preparation. A motion was made by Thoma to schedule the Board of Audit for February 10, 2024, at 2:00 PM, at 31167 Lakeview Avenue, Red Wing, Minnesota; seconded by Franklin. The motion carried.

- e) 2024 Election planning:

- i) Dommer reviewed the status of the planning for upcoming elections. There is a candidate that has filed for township supervisor.

The upcoming elections this year are the Presidential National Primary on March 5, 2024; the township election on March 12, 2024; the Primary Election on August 13, 2024; and lastly, the General Election on November 5, 2024. Preparations and training are ongoing.

- f) Vandalism – Plehal briefed the Board on recent vandalism within the township. The Sheriff’s Department was contacted.

5) Treasurer’s Report as of December 31, 2023

Plehal previewed the report with recognition for the clear and thorough reports from the treasurer’s reports and the accounting software (*CTAS*) that the Board is provided with.

- a) Pay Bills – Amount of ‘checks for approval’ (*disbursements & payroll*) – \$ 33,019.41.

Plehal moved to accept the claims and checks for approval of \$ 33,019.41; seconded by Thoma. The motion carried.

- 6) Franklin moved to adjourn; seconded by Thoma. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 6:43 PM.

- 7) The next meeting of the Wacouta Board of Supervisors is Monday, February 12, 2024, at 6:00 PM, Wacouta Town Hall, 27700 Grace Trail, Red Wing, Minnesota.

- submitted by Laan Dommer