

EDNA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
REPORT OF JULY 19, 2011 BOARD MEETING

AUGUST 23, 2011

Minutes at
7-19-2011

Board Present

James Nigg, Chair William Norris, Supervisor Dennis Sazama, Supervisor
Carol Nelson, Clerk Karen Marthaler, Treasurer

Others Present

Lyle Smith	John Williamson	Torey Sonnenberg
Rick Sonnenberg	Joe Tschida	Dennis Anderson
MaryAnn Anderson	Dennis Mitchell	Doug Ackling
Keith Brokke	Jeff Stabnow	Terry Marthaler
Odell Nelson	Dave Heyer	

1. Jim Nigg called the meeting to order at 8 pm, with the Pledge of Allegiance
2. Agenda had two additions; a.) Paul Lake Road culvert work and b.) Big McDonald Lake, plus adjoining lakes are interested in creating a Lake Improvement District. Their representative is requesting LID sponsorship from Edna Township.
- Norris made the motion to approve the agenda with the additions. 2nd by Sazama. Agenda was approved 3/0.
3. Request for gopher bounty. One resident brought in 42 pairs of gopher feet, earning \$105.00.
4. The supervisors did a performance review with Sonnenberg's Road Maintenance prior to this meeting. The report will be ready for viewing at the August meeting. When those present were asked for any comments or concerns, there were none.
5. Copies were available of the clerk's report prior to the meeting. Norris moved to approve clerk's report as written. Dennis 2nd. Report approved 3/0
6. Treasurer's report: revenue \$163,502.81 year to date \$109,957.73 was paid in disbursements. Norris made the motion to approve, 2nd by Sazama. Motion carries 3/0
14. Claims to pay (This was moved to the beginning of the meeting). In total, 18 claims were submitted, totaling \$62,007.69. The major amount of money was spent in trying to save roads from going under water; gravel, riprap, and contractors.
- Sazama made the motion to approve claims as listed with the addition of gopher bounty.
- Norris 2nd. Claims approved 3/0.
7. Road Concerns and Safety.
 - a. Wolf Lake Rd Otter Tail County is interested in moving forward on creating drainage solution.
 - b. N. Little McDonald Edna Township is working with DNR. Water has been flowing over the road for some time and the public access has been affected. Drivers are asked to please stay off the road. Residents are doing some pumping to keep water off the road. Road will need to be raised.
 - c. Big McDonald Lane the berm is holding well. It is not glamorous, but it is keeping water from Walde Lake off the road.
 - d. Devil's Lake Road Attorney Svingen has written a letter to Edna Twp, outlining the procedures the residents need to follow if they wish to have West Devil's Lake Drive improved. Several copies were given to Devil's Lake Road residents present at this meeting. They can share it with the others who own property along the road. If they have questions, the Supervisors will be willing to work with them.
 - e. West Little McDonald Dr. Gurnard Lake is flowing over the road, and is 5 1/2 inches deep in the low spots. Evaporation would help. Otherwise, in September, filling in these roads with sand/gravel will be needed to keep water off the road & the road safe. This is not permanent solution
 - f. East Little McDonald Drive- road is marked as closed and barricades are in place. However, people are moving the barricades to drive on the road. The shoulders are soft. Edna Supervisors have been communicating w/Dent Fire Dept & first responders as a safety reminder. Dent shares this information with Perham & Vergas agencies, so they will know to be careful on these roads..
 - g. Resident concern: Engstrom Beach Road has sink holes caused by beaver and muskrats burrowing. Torey Sonnenberg will repair these holes with rock and fill.. That road has been on the list as needing repair, but there isn't time to get to everything as promptly as wished. Sazama has talked to DNR and "as long as the beaver dam is in the road right of way, it can be pulled out"

h. Resident concern: South Little McDonald has water from the slough encroaching on the road before the cul de sac. There are also some wash outs. All the roads surrounding Little McDonald Lake are underwater at some point.. Supervisors will look at this road tonight.

8. Summer Short courses

Nigg & Nelson - attended and quickly shared some of the information received. Both reports will be kept with the clerk's report for this meeting. One of the meetings attended by Nigg, concerned Noxious Weeds. A farm site on 400th Avenue, has many thistles on the Perham Township side. These have now been plowed under.

9. Recent Correspondence -

a. letter from Svingen establishing the format that needs to be followed if Devil's Lake residents want to improve their road beyond the current 18 feet. There must be written permission from each & every land owner in order to avoid any lawsuits.

b. Farmers State Bank, Dent, MN

Currently the monthly interest payments have been made by check. This isn't working out as well as wished, since the bank & the Twp. payment dates do not match. Nigg has a form written, signed and ready to give to the bank changing this procedure from payment by check to payment by EFT. Nelson will need to receive a copy of the bank statement each month, in order to create a proper claim.

Norris made the motion to approve making interest payments through EFT. 2nd by Sazama.

Motion approved 3/0

10. Website additions. Norris will be downloading PDF files on Wednesday for clerk's report and treasurer's report.

11. Current road conditions and publications will also be on the website. Edna township.org.

12. Shared township lines. Hobart Twp sent letter on shared township line, as information only.

13. Officer job descriptions no changes

15 Other

a. Paul Lake Culvert West Paul Lake Drive has a large wash out 6 feet deep, 10 feet wide. This sink hole occurred because the current culvert had separated at the joining collar & had a 2" gap. This damage to the culvert can be repaired. Plus, the repair of the road damage can be done w/o breaking the apron of the road. Safety cones were put out about 9 pm Monday night.

b. Big McDonald LID

a. At the annual meeting of the Big McDonald Lake Association, the members discussed the probability that something must to be done to protect the landlocked lakes of Little McDonald, Kerbs & Paul. Water must move. The Big McDonald group wants to be proactive. They are saying "let's work with them & make sure we are all taking care". Big McDonald Lake Association has established their high & low water marks. They want Little McDonald's water to come in through Berger Lake, not from the north side. Berger Lake is opposed to this, they fear mercury contamination. (The mercury comes from the sky, not from the water.) Little McDonald, Kerbs & Paul Lake Improvement District has a complete proposal that OTC commissioners are looking at now. Current technology allows present culverts to continue to be used but at full capacity. Big McDonald is not draining as quickly as it has in the past. Roger Fenstad, Big McDonald Lake, & Jeff Volk, Little McDonald Lake, work for Moore Engineering & will work together to help with the drainage concerns. Houston Engineering, has been hired to draw up the plans. This will avoid the conflict of interest concerns. Edna Twp can sponsor the forming of a LID from the lakes. Norris makes the motion "Edna Township will be one of the sponsoring agencies when Big McDonald (plus possible adjoin lakes) has the LID format developed. Nigg 2nd the motion. Motion carries 2/1.

Sazama wants to see documentation for each step of the LID proposal/development.

b. Water is a concern to Edna Township in many locations this year. Its damage to road infrastructure may affect 300 residents, who account for \$95 million in tax valuation.

Comment by Jeff Stabnow who is a member of the Collation Of Lake Associations Board.

"There is a public hearing August 22 in Perham for lake residents and O. T. C. commissioners. Little McDonald, Paul & Krebs's Lid's Board has authorized Houston Engineering to get the study going quickly. The process has been established & a timeline will be developed. Commissioners will notify all the lake

residents who are in this chain of drainage.

c. Norris asks a question of the residents present, "Do you want us to continue to keep roads open or to close the roads & save the money? We are spending money we don't have right now." Response was "Keep the roads open." The final decision must be made by the Supervisors.

Board Supervisors are still expecting to meet with FEMA officials. This hasn't happened. Supervisors are keeping files, pictures & expense vouchers for every road. Receiving dollars from FEMA would be most helpful.

16. Norris made the motion to adjourn this meeting at 8:58. Sazama 2nd. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Carol Nelson, Clerk

Edna Township

CLAIMS PAID JULY 19, 2011

Jim Tschida	gopher bounty	\$ 105.00
Sonnenberg Road Maint.	road grading	\$2,371.50
Ackling Construction	1344 yards of fill	\$8,763.00
Heyer Engineering	Devil's Lake Rd, High Water Sites, West Little McDonald Drive	\$1,000.00
M & R Signs	Safety signs, flags, & supports	\$957.59
City of Dent	Fire Protection for 6 months	\$10,800.00
Sonnenberg Excavating	riprap, skidsteer, labor, etc	\$19,179.10
Dustin Dahring	Mowing ditches	\$1,035.00
Olson Gravel	class 5 gravel	\$12,144.00
East Otter Tail Focus	legal ads/road warnings	\$64.65
Perham Printing	Copies of agenda 6/21 & report 5/17	\$7.75
North Central Supply	rock, fabric, installation	\$4,280.00
Farmer's State Bank	interest on line of credit	\$93.82
Carol Nelson	Salary & meetings	\$308.71
Karen Marthaler	Salary & meetings	\$177.74
James Nigg	Meetings(2) & road work	\$373.64
William Norris	Meeting + road work	\$346.19
		\$62,007.69

DRAFT FROM ANNUAL MEETING REPORT March 2011

14. LEVY general levy dedicated levy

Dora = 710 residents/net tax carrying capacity - 15.789%

Hobart = 730 resident - 12.361

Gorman = 373 residents -13.249%

Perham = 14.659%

Edna = 9.517 levy

Neighboring townships have been raising levies over time, to protect their roads.

Edna Township could raise their levy to lower range of neighbors. Raising levy to 12.752% would bring in \$300,700 and would about cost approximately \$35/\$100,000 value. To approve this residents would be voting for a tax increase.

Comments - important to maintain road, catch up with costs paid in 2010 for 2009.

If levy is raised, it can be lowered in the future. Levy has to be certified by August meeting. There are no statutory limits as to how high a levy can be raised. Need to get exact numbers to present at a Board meeting.

Supervisors would like to have a benchmark for hard surface repair.

Richard Dubord suggests raising levy to about 13%.

Levy is based on tax carrying capacity. Ardell Wiegandt makes the motion to accept the budget at \$297,100.

Ray Sazama 2nd. Motion is approved by the majority of residents present at this annual meeting.