

**MINUTES from the REGULAR Meeting
Harris Township Board
Wednesday, February 10, 2010 at 7:30pm**

The Regular Meeting of the Harris Town Board was held on Wednesday, February 10, 2010. The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm, at the Harris Town Hall, with the following officers present: Supervisors Larry Key, Dennis Kortekaas, and Gary Rosato; Clerk Michele Smith and Treasurer John Jokela.

Also in attendance: Julie Kennedy, SEH Engineer,

1. **Pledge to the flag**, followed by the reading of the township mission statement
2. **Approve minutes** of the Regular Meeting on January 13, the P&D Meeting on January 27, the Budget Work Session on January 20, and the Round Table with Grand Rapids staff on February 3, 2010.

A motion was made by Supervisor Kortekaas, seconded by Supervisor Rosato, to approve the minutes as presented. Upon roll call, motion carried.

3. Roads

- Updates by Julie Kennedy – SEH Engineer
 - Nothing to add, other than she is working on budget items for next week's budget work session.

4. Treasurer's Reports

- December and January reports have not yet completed due to year end balancing still in progress

5. Business from the Floor

- **None**

6. Recreation

- Rinks have been open most days. There are currently 3 rink attendants working. The ice at both rinks is still holding up pretty well. The maintenance guys were planning to flood Crystal Park rink today.

7. Correspondence

Board Action items:

None

Noteworthy items:

- Notice of an Itasca County Board of Commissioners public hearing on Tues. Feb 9th at 3:30pm for recommendation of the proposed amendments to the 9/15/98 Sanitation Ordinance (*No one from the board attended, nor was Julie able to attend.*)
- Notice received for the Board of Appeal and Equalization: Thursday, May 6 at 9:00am. The board was asked to make note of this date.
- Qwest contact list for notifying them of any road construction projects affecting its facilities was shared with the board.

8. Consent Agenda

None

9. Old Business

- Discuss future of the South Central Itasca County Intergovernmental Planning Board and annual dues

At the recent South Central meeting on Monday 2/8/10, the group discussed the future of the board. Because ninety days notice before end of year is required to drop out, and no one did this, the dues will not change for 2010. The question was asked, "Should the South Central Board continue?" The overall consensus was 'yes'. The South Central Board was not thought to be an extra layer of government, but rather a way to network. Testimonials to this were given. The team's project in 2010 is to 'regroup', how they operate, and what their mission, dues and structure are. Current dues are high, which may be preventing some members from joining. The South Central Board would like to see Greenway ISD and Cohasset come back.

Supervisor Rosato made a motion to pay the 2010 dues to the South Central Itasca County Intergovernmental Planning Board as billed, for \$1,299.00. Supervisor Kortekaas seconded the motion for discussion. He asked who' are the current members of South Central? A: Arbo and Harris Townships, ISD 318, the cities of Grand Rapids and LaPrairie, and Itasca County. Previously, Cohasset, Trout Lake Twp and Grand Rapids Twp were members, but since have dropped out. Upon roll call, motion carried.

- Great River Energy Letter

A letter was received, addressed to those who attended the open house on January 21, 2010 for the Lake Country Power Substation and Great River Energy 115kV Transmission Line Project. During this project, a new substation will be constructed on the corner of County Road 67 and Wildwood Road, and eight miles of line will be installed along County Roads 67 and 68 to an existing Minnesota Power line, northeast of Split Hand Lake. The benefits of the project will be an increased capacity and improved reliability of LCP's electric service.

An environmental assessment will be prepared for the project, and the township will be invited to participate in the development of the scope of the assessment. (a copy of the memo will be attached to these minutes)

10. New Business

- Consider RBA #1, and approval of the list of Township Election Judges as recommended by the clerk

Supervisor Rosato made a motion to approve the list of judges and their wages as outlined in the RBA#1. Supervisor Kortekaas seconded the motion, and upon roll call, motion carried.

- Round table with the Grand Rapids staff

Supervisor Rosato mentioned that the round table discussion held with Grand Rapids city staff on February 3, 2010, was very beneficial. On item he does not want the Board to forget about was opening up and reviewing the Harris Twp Comprehensive Plan as discussed at the round table. The City will be reviewing their comprehensive plan in 2010, and is asking surrounding communities to do the same.

- Cleaning services

Filthy Clean gave Supervisor Kortekaas a business card in case we ever need their services – like town hall floor cleaning. Supervisor Key had also received a business card from another similar vendor.

- Shelving for town hall office

Clerk Smith requested additional shelving for the town hall office, for minute and agenda books. The Board agreed this would be a good idea, and Supervisor Key will have maintenance crew do it.

- The MAT Spring Short Course

The MAT Spring Short Course is April 1st at the Sawmill. Treasurer Jokela stated that we can cut a check for registration during the March check run for those interested in going. Clerk Smith will put a reminder in the March agenda packets, asking for an RSVP for the short course.

- A reminder that the annual meeting for Twp Association will be April 12, at Marcell Family Center

- Address for Harris Township mail

Much of the township's mail is still going to Peggy, as her address is listed for Harris Township. However, John asked if it would make more sense to list the Service Center's address for Harris Township. There is a mail delivery there already (newspaper), and John's office is there. The Board was fine with that, and noted that the Clerk's correspondence can still be sent to her home address.

11. Approve payment of bills

A motion was made by Supervisor Kortekaas , seconded by Supervisor Rosato, to approve the attached bill list entitled "February 2010 Bill Listing to Board", in the amount of \$33,394.60. Upon roll call, motion carried.

12. Adjourn

Rosato made a motion to adjourn at 8:05pm, seconded by Supervisor Kortekaas. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Michele R. Smith, Clerk of Harris Township