



**Forest Township**  
Rice County  
3625 Millersburg Boulevard  
Faribault, Minnesota

**December 4, 2019**  
**7:00 PM**  
**Monthly Township Meeting minutes**

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Chairman Ron Gernandt called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**Members Present:** Ron Gernandt, William Malecha, Charlie Peters, Elaine Trnka, Ashley Anderson

**2. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 6, 2019.**

Ashley read the minutes from the November 6 meeting.

*Bill made a motion to approve the minutes. Charlie seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.*

**3. TRESURER'S REPORT**

The treasurer's report was presented with a township balance of \$242,643.73. This is the balance with the SSD and Tri-Lakes accounts removed.

We will be receiving 2<sup>nd</sup> half of property tax distribution on December 12 from Rice County. Elaine noted that Forest Townships has many more special assessments then other townships in Rice County due to the SSDs.

*Charlie made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Bill seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.*

**4. BUSINESS**

Trodiem Shores Lake Access Association collects yearly dues. They have asked if the township would assess a property owner that has not paid dues over the last 8 years. The Township politely declined. Ashley will relay the message to the association.

A resident had questions about the annual budget. There are two township meetings in March – the Reorganizational meeting which takes place the first Wednesday in March and the Annual Meeting which takes place March 10, 2020. The Road and Bridge and General levy haven't been changed since 2002 and budget will be determined by those who attend the annual meeting. What is determined in March 2020 will affect the 2021 property taxes of residents.

There have been some developments regarding the Wolf Creek Autobahn. The current project has been halted, but there is potential for the developer to come back and redetermine the scope of the project.

It was noted that there are concerns in Minnesota about the severity of flooding next Spring. Residents are encouraged to purchase flood insurance should they live in a flood plain.

A hole by the culvert by the old schoolhouse has opened and will need attention. The town board determined to address it next Spring.

The mailbox project in Circle Lake Estates will happen next Spring. The board is still having a hard time reaching residents who need to have their septic systems inspected. Charlie would like to go to a Circle Lake Estates meeting next week with the developer and property owners and propose that each Circle Lake Estates SSD member pays an additional \$70 dollars per month if they continue to not adhere to the inspection requirement. The board agreed this was the next course of action.

Ashley received a call from the German Union Cemetery Association wondering if the town board offered grants to organizations for associations to maintain the township's cemeteries. The township does not offer this grant. Ashley will relay the message to the association.

Rice County is requiring an Election Emergency Plan in which the townships designate a back up polling location should the designated location be unusable at the time of an election. The county recommended contacting a nearby township. The board proposed the Ashley contact Erin Township and ask and to offer the Forest Town Hall as a back up for their emergency plan. Ashley will contact the clerk.

A group Medicare plan from BCBS is now available for MN Township Officers if anyone on the board is interested.

The Minnesota Association of Township is looking for input on any training needs or potential training topics.

Elaine and Ashley went to the MAT Annual meeting in Mankato.

**5. ADJOURN**

*Bill made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 pm. Charlie seconded the motion. All in favor and the motion carried.*

Respectfully submitted by Ashley Anderson, Clerk, Forest Township.