



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

**Wednesday, July 7, 2021**  
**6:00 PM**  
**Monthly Township Meeting minutes**

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Chairman Ron Gernandt called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

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

**2. APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES FROM JUNE 2, 2021.**

Ashley read the minutes from the June 2 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 \$395,864.73. This is the balance with the SSD and Tri-Lakes accounts removed. The township received 70% of the first half of property taxes. The first rural fire check was self-addressed with the wrong address. The Township did not receive the check back from the post office. Elaine put a stop payment on the check and cut them a new check tonight for the first half of Northfield Rural Fire dues.

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

**4. BUSINESS**

The Circle Lake Improvement District annual meeting is going to be held on August 16, 2021. The Circle Lake race will be held on September 18. The board agreed to not mow the ditches until after the race. There is watering sampling happening at Circle Lake. They also harvested weeds.

Charlie sprayed parsnip and thistle on Monday and will start brush spraying next week. Charlie hung up the 4 noxious weeds signs throughout the township.

The Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation hosts a Small Town Grant Program which supports projects which identify ways to boost the well-being of individuals and quality of life in small communities. Forest Township will apply to start a trail system in Forest Township. The group discussed various community organizations who would support the project.

Bridgewater, Forest Township, and Rice County have been meeting regarding the zone around the highway. There is interest in the future commercial zone along 35. The County is supportive of ensuring Forest township has control of future development. The group would like to discuss the addition of water and sewage and a joint powers agreement. Charlie will attend a meeting tomorrow at 11 between the County, Forest Township, and Bridgewater. The group decided to hold an open meeting soon.

The township has not yet received gravel from Kielmeyer. There is a deadline of the July 15 for them to deliver gravel.

The group discussed the County Fair donation request. The board declined.

The board discussed tires for the grader and the quotes received.

*Charlie made a motion to purchase Michelin snow tires from Community Co-op for the grader. Bill seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.*

The Northfield Rural Fire Board met and made recommendations to increase the pension to \$13,000/year of service. The Fire board is not in favor of moving to a full-time fire chief.

The board reviewed the 2021 Road Tour minutes.

*Charlie makes a motion to approve the 2021 Road Tour minutes. Bill seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.*

The Rice County Association meeting will be held on Thursday July 29, at 7:00 pm.

The board reviewed an email from the County about township street sign replacements. The board will continue to do Forest Township street sign replacements. There are some that need replacing. The board will do an inventory while they are doing gravel and Charlie will place an order.

Charlie discussed the July Planning Commission and Board of Adjustment items. There were no concerns. The board reviewed the building permits and had no concerns.

The County recently released updated areal imagery of Forest Township on Beacon.

The truck has not yet been fixed as they are waiting on parts. As soon as it is fixed, Ashley will submit the bills to MATIT.

The group discussed the ARPA funds earmarked for townships.

*Charlie made a motion that Forest Township apply for ARPA funds. Bill seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.*

The group reviewed a Verbal Permit Form from Century Link on Fairfax Way and the board had no concerns.

## **5. ADJOURN**

*Bill made a motion to adjourn at 7:00 pm. Charlie seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.*