

These are the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Town of Bass Lake, Sawyer County held on Monday, September 13, 2021 in person and using Zoom. Members Present: Chairman Justin Hall, Supervisors Dave Aubart, Don Adams, Marshal Savitski, Bob Hammond and Clerk Erica Warshawsky. Members Absent: Treasurer Kari Aderman.

Chairman Justin Hall called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Clerk Warshawsky affirmed agenda was posted in compliance with open meetings law.

Hall reported that he called the State regarding mask mandates and was told that the Board must approve a mandate. Hall suggested continuing the current mandate due to Sawyer County being at a high-risk level and the Clerk is temporarily vulnerable. Motion by Hall, seconded by Adams to stay with the mandate until the County is in the yellow zone. Hall opened the floor for discussion and asked that speakers state their name and limit their comments to 3 minutes. Chris Headley spoke in opposition. Headley reported that he attends at least four meeting a month and masks are not required. Traci Yackel spoke in strong opposition to the mandate stating that the Board took an oath to uphold the Constitution and mask mandates are unconstitutional. Hall called the Wisconsin Towns Association (WTA) and was told the Board can vote on a mandate. Yackel replied that it is our Town. Edmond Packee spoke in favor of a mandate. Packee explained that he is diabetic. He checked with a specialist and was told that he is at higher-than-normal risk. Packee stated that the Town should make meetings safe for him and everybody. Jim Evans spoke in strong opposition Evans explained that this all started with the Planning Committee meeting of which he is a member. He refuses to wear a mask. He had Covid-19 and it is hardly a risk. Not one but the Town of Bass Lake cares about this. It should be a choice. He is tired of authoritarianism. Discussion followed. Savitski spoke in strong opposition to the mask mandate and capacity limits. Savitski stated that we need to stop sending people away. Hall replied that people have been allowed to stay and capacity has been expanded. Savitski stated that this has bothered him from the very beginning. Discussion followed. Hammond spoke in strong opposition. Hammond was attending virtually but stated that he will be attending the next meeting in person and will not be wearing a mask. Hammond asked Hall to withdraw the motion. Tom Whitt spoke in strong opposition. Whitt is a member of the Planning Committee. Whitt stated that a mask does not stop a thing and there is no consistency between masks and other face coverings. Whitt stated that the mandate is against Board members' oaths and the people will fight back. Whitt stated that the government is going in the wrong direction and making a mountain out of a molehill. Hall withdrew his motion but reserved the right to hold meeting virtually until Sawyer County is out of the red risk level.

Motion by Aubart, seconded by Adams to approve the consent agenda listed below:

- a. Approve Agenda
- b. Review and Approve Vouchers for August 2021
- c. Minutes of the August 9, 2021 Regular Meeting
- d. Minutes of the July 5, 2021 Fire Department Meeting
- e. Minutes of the August 2, 2021 Fire Department Meeting
- f. Minutes of the August 5, 2021 Planning Committee Meeting

Hall presented correspondence:

1. Northwest Regional Planning Commission (NWRPC) is offering the Main Street Bounceback Grant Program. The grant provides one time assistance to new and existing business opening a location in a previously vacant commercial building. Anyone interested should contact the Clerk.
2. Enbridge is hosting a pipeline safety program Tuesday, September 28, 2021, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm at the Sevenwinds Casino, Lodge and Conference Center.

Hall presented the Special Use Permit for Joas and Candace Yoder. The application is for the construction for a year-round or seasonal dwelling in the Forestry One (F-1) Zone District. Planning Committee Chairman, Bond Sutton read the Planning Committee's decision. The Planning Committee recommended approval with the following conditions:

1. The lot cannot be further subdivided for additional dwellings.
2. Land Use Permit will not be effective until a covenant on deed is provided to the Zoning Department.
3. The placement of only one single family dwelling on the parcel.

Sutton reported that the applicant was present at the Planning Committee meeting and agreed to the conditions.

Motion by Savitski, seconded by Adams to approve the permit with the Planning Committee's conditions. Motion carried.

Findings of Fact:

1. It would not be damaging to the rights of others or property values.
2. It would not be detrimental to ecology, wildlife, or wetlands.
3. It would not create traffic or highway access problems.

Fire Chief Marvin Mullet presented the Fire Department Report. Mullet reported that the annual picnic was well attended. The Fire Department provided crowd control at The Boulevard on September 11, 2021. Mullet gave the fire call and training updates.

Hall announced that former Fire Department member Natasha Shimko would like to be reinstated. Discussion followed. Motion by Aubart, seconded by Savitski to reinstate Shimko. Motion carried.

Fire Department Purchases: Mullet reported that the Fire Department has ordered a Milwaukee Saws All and security tape. The department is waiting for helmets.

Mullet reported that the rodent problem at the Fire Hall has vastly improved. Mullet reported that painting the office floor will cost around \$600.00 in addition to Paul Coutain's labor. Hall suggested that they hold off until a decision regarding the America Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

Mullet reported that he is in the process of getting a quote from Justice Keenan for the roof.

Mullet presented the ISO rating update. Mullet reported that to lower the Town's ISO rating, the Fire Department must have at least six firefighters show up at each structure fire. Mullet stated that you cannot make people show up.

Highway Crew Chief Truit Campbell presented the Highway Report. Campbell reported that last month was spent grading and graveling roads, shouldering, and mowing. Campbell reported that two passes of mowing have been completed. Hall asked if it was just passes or if it involved widening as well. Campbell replied that widening was included. Discussion followed.

Campbell presented the Driveway Permit Application for Rob Carani and Kara Watts. Campbell reported that a culvert is not needed and there are no sight distance issues. Motion by Hammond, seconded by Savitski to approve the driveway permit. Motion carried.

Warshawsky presented the Treasurer's Report. Warshawsky reported that as of August 1, 2021, the Town has a total of \$566,440.03 in all accounts. The Clerk and Treasurer balance for the month. Motion by Savitski, seconded by Adams to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

Clerk's Report – None

Hall presented the nuisance complaint update. Hall reported that he and Campbell reviewed to remaining complaints. Hall will try to call the County regarding the Cox property.

Warshawsky presented the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) update. Warshawsky will present the worksheet developed by the WTA next month. In the meantime, Warshawsky asked Board members to speak to other towns to see what they are planning.

Hall presented the update on oak wilt management on Thoroughfare Road. Hall stated that Dan Tyrolt did a good job at last month's meeting explaining what oak wilt is and how it spreads. Since the last meeting, Packee and Tony Pfendt have met with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Hall reported that an oak wilt contract has been received from Paul Cigan at the DNR. The Town will have to clean up the fallen trees. Cigan explained that the program is at no

cost to the Town. Discussion followed. Motion by Aubart, seconded by Savitski to approve the contract with the DNR. Motion carried. Cigan stated that work could start next week. Discussion followed.

Warshawsky presented the 2021 redistricting update. Warshawsky reported that the County has approved version 3 and the next step will be to approve the wards. A resolution to change the wards will be presented next month.

Hall presented the Grindstone Landing Road address project. Hall reported that Sawyer County will be changing the addresses for those with property on Grindstone Landing Road.

Hall reported that the Town Hall needs a new printer. Warshawsky presented quotes ranging in price from \$699.00 to \$900.00. Discussion followed. Motion by Aubart, seconded by Savitski to approve a new printer not to exceed \$900.00. Motion carried.

Hall presented LP quotes for the 2021 heating season. Hall reviewed the handout. Discussion followed. Motion by Aubart, seconded by Hammond to approve the quote from COMO. Motion carried.

Hall presented 3 Operator License Applications. Discussion followed. Motion by Adams, Seconded by Savitski to approve all three applications. Motion carried.

Hall announced that the Budget Workshop will be held on Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at 5:00 pm.

Public Comment

Motion by Savitski, seconded by Adams to adjourn at 7:26 pm. Motion carried.