

**Girard Township Minutes**  
**December 20, 2022 – Regular Monthly Meeting**

Chairman Pedersen opened the meeting at 6 p.m. with the pledge to the flag. Open meeting with the pledge to the flag.

Present: Chairman Pedersen, Supervisors J. Trites (by phone) and Estes, appointed supervisor Grewe, Irmen

Visitors: Jerame Tysdal and Jeff Stabnow

Trites moved to approve the agenda for the December 20, 2022, monthly meeting with two additions. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Visitors may have five minutes to speak.

Pedersen moved to approve the minutes from the regular monthly meeting held Nov. 19, 2022, at the Town Hall. Trites seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

In the absence of the treasurer, the clerk reported the bank balance in the NOW account was 200,000.19; and the balance in the Money Market account was \$522,598.77.

After reviewing claims, Pedersen moved to approve claims as presented/audited, totaling \$39,077.45, and any bills that may be presented at this meeting (plus payroll). Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Reports/Information**

Roads and Equipment – Luhnig noted that the roads are in good condition in light of the recent snowfall, and equipment is working well.

The clerk reported that all the unpaid Liberty Lane Road Improvement project special assessments had been turned over to the OTC Auditor. She shared that MATIT had extended coverage through June of 2023, and the Board of Review and Equalization meeting is set for 9 a.m. Friday, April 21, 2023, at Girard Townhall. Dates for the Township Day at the Capitol, and the Henning Fire Dept. Fireman’s Feed were noted and are listed further down in these minutes. The Minnesota Association of Townships is rolling out MAT-U- a new online training model which is free the first year and will be assessed at \$149 after the first year, should the township wish to continue with the service. She also shared that the Otter Tail County Historical Society requested a personal year-end donation from anyone interested in making a donation (Note: this is not a request for a township donation); MAT offers a Scholarship Program open to Juniors. Anyone interested may contact the clerk for the paperwork and other details. Telcom Construction requested information of township Underground Utility requirements. The clerk was directed to respond to the request. Newly appointed supervisor Grewe filled out an Affidavit of Candidacy and paid the \$2 filing fee. It will be filed with the county when the filing period closes.

### **New Business/Additions to Agenda**

Trites moved to approve the Election Resolution Designating Annual Polling Place designating Girard Town Hall at its polling place for all 2023 state and federal elections. Pedersen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Estes moved that the Township election will be held Tuesday, March 14, 2023, beginning at 5 p.m. (following the annual meeting) and ending at 8 p.m. at the Girard Town Hall. Pedersen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Pedersen moved to approve the resignation of long-time Girard Township Supervisor Jim Trites from the town board. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The Oath of Office was administered to appointed supervisor Brad Grewe.

Grewe moved to accept Absentee Voting by Mail Only for the upcoming Township election. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Grewe motioned to allow the use of Otter Tail County Poll Pads during the March Township Election. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Estes filled out the Noxious Weed Control Annual Township Report. Irmen will send it to the appropriate person by the Jan. 9, 2023, deadline

The clerk discussed errors in Luhning's insurance premium payments that left him without insurance from August through December and suggested options for mitigating the errors. After discussion, Pedersen moved to pay Luhning \$473.82 for his out-of-pocket premium expense when he re-enrolled in the insurance program, allocate \$2001.10 of the back premium payments to Luhning's HSA account for the uncovered months, and to pay \$264.29 to Luhning's HSA account to correct a clerical error from 2021. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Following discussion regarding purchase of a CD, it was decided to continue moving forward with that purchase, using the previously approved amount of \$200,000. Pedersen will work with the treasure to secure the CD.

Jerame Tysdal requested signatures on the Hull Addition Plat approved by Otter Tail County, which also required signatures from the Township Chairman and Clerk to finalize.

### **Old Business**

Townhall building project update – Pedersen noted that the townhall bathroom and office project was nearly complete, with just a few details left to finish such as installing drawer and cabinet pulls and purchase of an office desk and chair.

Pedersen reported that the dock at 41853 Ukkleberg Dr., has been moved to meet right-of-way rules.

Discussion on gravel changes was tabled until the regular monthly meeting in January.

Pedersen purchased the wood stove from Girard Township for \$50. There was no response to an ad placed in the township's official newspapers. He will also remove it.

It was decided to add discussion regarding changing the regular meeting dates and times until the annual meeting. Meetings will continue to be held the third Tuesday at 6 p.m. until that meeting.

### **9. Dates to remember**

**Monday, Jan. 9** -- Noxious Weed Control Report Due

**Tuesday, January 17, 2023** -- Next regular monthly meeting at 6 p.m. at Girard Town Hall

**Jan. 3 – Jan. 17** -- Election Filings open and close

**Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2023** – Henning Fire Department Annual Fireman's Feed, Social hour 6-7 p.m., Dinner at 7 p.m.

**Wednesday and Thursday, Feb. 1 & 2** – Township Day at the Capitol (see informational sheet)

**Monday, Feb. 27, 2023** – Fire and Ambulance Annual meeting, Ambulance at 7 p.m., Fire meeting at 7:30 p.m., at the Henning Community Center

**Tuesday, March 14, 2023** – Girard Township Annual Meeting, 2:30 p.m. (ending by 4:30 p.m.), at Girard Townhall

**Tuesday, March 14, 2023** – Girard Township Election, 5 to 8 p.m., at Girard Townhall

**March 21-22, 2023** – Annual Local Weed Inspectors meeting, time to be determined, location either at Perham City Hall or SWCD office

**Friday, April 21, 2023** – Board of Review and Equalization, 9 a.m., at Girard Townhall

### **10. Adjourn meeting**

Pedersen moved to adjourn the township meeting at 7:45 p.m. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

---

Chairman

---

Clerk

Approval date: