

COLDSPRINGS TOWNSHIP

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

COLDSPRINGS TOWNSHIP HALL-COUNTY ROAD 571

JUNE 12, 2006

7:00 P.M.

Supervisor Neubecker called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was said by all. Board members present at roll call were Supervisor Neubecker, Clerk Hodges, Treasurer Casto, Trustee Bondy and Trustee Paladino. Approx. 10 guests were also present.

Adoption of the Agenda - Neubecker asked to have Stuart McKinnon and Lou Nemeth placed on the agenda after approval of the minutes and Treasurer Casto asked to have the agreement to collect summer taxes for TBA placed on the agenda. M/Casto S/Paladino to adopt the agenda as amended. All in favor. Motion carried.

Establish any conflict of interest of items that are on the agenda. None were presented.

Approval of minutes - M/Casto S/Bondy to approve the minutes from the May 8, 2006 regular board meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

Stuart McKinnon and Lou Nemeth were present. Both are on the ballot for the August Primary and are candidates for the office of County Commissioner District #2. The successful candidate would fill the vacancy left by Phyllis Senske who resigned as County Commissioner on June 1st to take over as the Supervisor of Rapid River Township. Both candidates introduced themselves and spoke as to why they would like to represent both Coldsprings and Rapid River Townships on the County Board Of Commissioners. They also answered questions from members of the board and the audience.

Correspondence was reviewed.

Committee Reports - (A) Planning & Maintenance - Trustee Bondy reported that the new garage doors are on. She also reported that the Community Work Crew had the cemetery ready by Memorial Day, they washed down, cleaned and painted the bathhouse at the park and also painted the fence at the park. She said that the work crew put in 248 hours and they did an excellent job. Bondy said that the only thing that needs to be done at the park is to put the other grill in down near the swim area. Bondy did ask about having the posts from the old grills cut down. Short discussion. M/Neubecker

S/Paladino to authorize Chuck Vernon to cut down the posts from the old grills. All in favor. Motion carried. (B) Fire Board - Minutes from the June 7th fireboard meeting were presented. Copy on file. (C) Road Commission Meeting - Trustee Paladino said that the main subject at the road commission meeting for our township was the Starvation Lake Road issue. Paladino said that John Neumann addressed the Road Commission Board regarding the poor condition of Starvation Lake Rd. and that the board basically told him that they were out of money and short on funds. Paladino said that he told them (the road commission) that he could remember when the road commission originally said that they were going to chip the road up and then come back and do the gravel but then they kind of gave up and went to Garfield Township or somewhere else. Basically the road commission came back and said that Blue Lake Township paid for their part of Starvation Lake Rd so why doesn't Coldsprings Township pay for their portion. He told them that we (Coldsprings) had a special meeting in regards to that and it was open to the public and even the people from Starvation Lake Rd said that that wouldn't be fair since it is a county road. Also Paladino told them that Blue Lake has a road millage where Coldsprings Township does not. Neubecker said that at one point in time the board may have been willing to spend \$93,000.00 out of township funds for Starvation Lake Rd. but that the people from Starvation Lake Rd. said no, that that is not what that money is for, that it is the County's responsibility. Paladino said that Tim Dorman is supposedly suppose to go out and look at the road and make an effort to at least put some clay on it and grade it. Paladino said that he went out and drove down the road and he said that he had to agree with John Neumann that 5 or 10 miles per hour is about as fast as you can go. Neumann asked the road commission about getting it brined and the board said that their availability of brine, where they have been getting their brine from, that Antrim County has been tapping into their brine source, but that they could buy brine for six cents a gallon. Neubecker asked why should we have to pay for brine when they are giving it away to Antrim County. Paladino said that there was some controversy about as to why they are letting Antrim County come in and get it versus Kalkaska. He said that the Kalkaska County Road Commission has two trucks designated that they can use for brine within their geographical area of Kalkaska County and they have the manpower but because of their budget they are only working the people 40 hours a week. Paladino said that the road commission said that they felt that the townships should start taking upon more of the burden for the roads. He said that the road commission said that even though the cost of diesel fuel and gasoline has gone up, the counties in northern Michigan have not received any increased funds for road maintenance and that that is strictly where their allocations of funds comes from. Paladino said that he has been out there (to Starvation Lake Rd.) twice and it does look like they have made an effort to put brine on it and it looks like they may have graded it. He said that it seems like it is an on going battle. Paladino said that the road commission acts like this problem is something new and he realizes that it is a new road commission board but this problem has been going on for 10 years plus. Neubecker said at least 13 years. Casto said, getting back to the brine, why is Antrim taking brine from Kalkaska. Paladino said he didn't really know for sure but he said that to his knowledge the brine is on a first come first serve basis and it's

free and evidently Antrim County has an extra truck and extra manpower and they're tapping in on it. Casto then complained about the poor condition of Covert Rd. Paladino said that the last couple of months when you give the road commission a direct question they'll say that they feel for us but you're not the only person in Kalkaska County. He said that it's like a push off and he said that it's not the first time he's brought up an issue, it's something that's been going on for a couple of years. He said he realizes that the budget is tight but when things were good it doesn't seem like anything really got done then. He also said that to his knowledge Starvation Lake Rd didn't even get on this years work list. Paladino said that last February John Rogers was supposed to get together with Tim and Woodam to figure out what their priorities were going to be to give their workers a 40 hour work week and he said that some of the things that had been talked about didn't even get put on the list especially in this part of the county. Neubecker said that over at least the past thirteen years the township has attended road commission meetings and written letters asking for them to fix Starvation Lake Rd. but nothing has been done it's only gotten worse. Paladino said that he hasn't heard anything more about the culvert on Priest Road. He said they were supposed to have a meeting about it but every time it comes up it just keeps getting tabled. Neubecker said that he hasn't heard anything on it either. He said that he does know that it is Loon nesting season and of course they won't do anything now until Loon nesting season is over. Paladino said that they haven't said anything more about Tower Road. He said that that was kind of on their agenda, they wanted to know if Tower could be made 22ft. wide up on the hill just west of Rogers Rd. to help with traffic and snow plowing in the winter. Neubecker said that that is something that they should come to us about not something that we should go to them about. Hodges said that she spoke with John Rogers about putting weight restrictions signs on some of our township roads. Rogers said that it is legal but we would have to put it before the County Road Commission and we would have to have a good reason for such a sign. Hodges gave him a for instance, such as Sunset Trail. Some years ago the township spent a lot of money to upgrade the road to make it a good gravel road with the idea to someday blacktop it, then in 1997 the township spent again a lot of money to put 1 layer of blacktop on it only to have it start to break up within about three years because of the heavy trucks that used it, then last year the township spent more money to put a 2nd layer of blacktop on it and it looks great and we would like to try and keep it that way. Rogers suggested that Paladino bring it before the road commission board at their next meeting. Hodges said that of course part of Sunset Trail is in Blue Lake Township so we would also have to ask them about it. Paladino said he would bring it up. Hodges also said that Rogers made the remark that Coldsprings should have a road millage. She thought why, when other townships have road millages and the road commission can't come up with the money for their part, so nothings getting done anyway. Hodges said that Rogers told her that 20 years ago the road commission got .18 a gallon and that they're still getting just .18 a gallon. She asked why can Antrim and Crawford counties get things done with their .18 and Kalkaska can't. Really didn't get a good answer. (D) Liquor Enforcement - Reports on both Kiootee's and Manistee Lake Stop & Shop were received. Both were good.

Treasurers Report - Treasurer Casto presented the monthly reconciliation report for the month of May. The report showed that there was \$351,463.13 in the various bank accounts, \$1,451.18 in the tax account and \$100.00 in the petty cash account. M/Neubecker S/Hodges to accept the treasurers report as presented. All in favor. Motion carried. Casto received an agreement from TBA to collect their summer taxes for both Kalkaska and Mancelona School Districts. M/Casto S/Hodges to accept the agreement from TBA to collect the summer taxes. All in favor. Motion carried.

Old Business - (A) Punch & Judy Petition For Snow Plowing - A petition was received from some property owners of Punch & Judy subdivision for a special assessment for snow plowing for the next five years. The board did accept the petition. Hodges will send the petition to the assessor for property validation and we will contact our attorney regarding the petition. We will also have to set up Public Hearings and publish them in the paper. (B) Ceiling In The Hall & Molding For the Baseboard - Hodges received a proposal for a new ceiling in the meeting room and the new baseboard in the meeting room and front entrance. The board tabled the ceiling until we get a solution to the leak in the meeting room. The proposal for the baseboard was \$750.00. Hodges wasn't sure if that included the front entryway or not. Short discussion. M/Neubecker S/Casto to authorize Brian Anderson to remove the vinyl baseboard in the meeting room and the old front entryway and replace it with red oak baseboard at a cost not to exceed \$950.00. All in favor. Motion carried. (C) Propane Prices - Hodges received quotes from six different propane companies for propane for the coming heating season. The best commercial rate was from Shell Propane at \$144.9 per gallon and that price would be capped until June 2007 with no participation fee. We are currently with Shell. M/Neubecker S/Paladino to stay with Shell. All in favor. Motion carried. (D) Junk Complaints - Neubecker asked if we had any new complaints. Hodges said that a lady did stop in the hall and complained about the property on 571 just north of 612 but Hodges said that she didn't have anything in writing. The lady was supposed to come back with something in writing but nothing so far. Neubecker said that we currently have 8 active complaints. There were 2 on E Shore Dr, 3 on Westwood, 2 on Townline and 1 on 571. Someone did mention junk was being thrown on Rogers Rd at the Power Line. Neubecker is going to check that out.

New Business - (A) Approval of a Street Sign for Sanmott Trail - Short discussion. M/Neubecker S/Casto to allow Eva Waltz to put a sign on Sanmott Trail stating Sanmott Trail Private Road. All in favor. Motion carried. (B) Increase Mileage From .40 to .44 Per Mile - Neubecker said that the IRS standard is .44.5 per mile and that they are looking at increasing it again in the near future but they haven't come out with it as yet. Neubecker said that it was his suggestion and that he would like to make a Motion to increase the board mileage reimbursement rate from .40 per mile to .44 per mile effective the date of this meeting. Seconded by Paladino. All in favor. Motion carried. (C) Amend The Budget - Hodges had two amendments to the budget. One for PTAF and the

other was for PILT payments. We actually received \$11,241.04 more than we had budgeted. M/Neubecker S/Bondy to accept the budget amendments. Roll call vote. Casto yes, Hodges yes, Neubecker yes, Paladino yes and Bondy yes. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Bills - Two bills were added to the list of bills. Check #10157 for \$22.00 to Attorney Michael Edwards and check #10158 for \$20.00 to Tami Hendricks for computer help for the treasurer. M/Paladino S/Bondy to pay the bills as presented. Roll call vote. Casto yes, Hodges yes, Neubecker yes, Paladino yes and Bondy yes. All in favor. Motion carried. Checks #10127 through #10158 in the amount of \$23,854.80 were issued for payment.

Citizens Comments - Question regarding a Cell Phone Tower - Hodges said that she has not heard anything recently. She said that she did send another e-mail to Alltel however she has not had a reply back as yet. Another question was about getting a speed limit on Covert Road. Neubecker said that we ran into the same thing on Camp Tanuga Rd. He said that the Michigan State Police states that any unimproved road the speed limit is assumed to be 55 MPH or what conditions dictate and in order to get something different you have to have a traffic study done. There was a complaint about a white car being parked on E Shore Drive right where the first big S curve is and that sometimes it is parked on part of the roadway and could cause an accident. Neubecker said that he would go and check it out. There was also discussion regarding the culvert on E Shore Drive and Ford Rd. It was stated that it still is not cleaned out the way it should be. Paladino said that he would bring it up at the road commission meeting.

Upon proper motion the meeting adjourned at 9:02 P.M.

Mary Hodges
Coldsprings Township Clerk

