

**Birchdale Township
Annual Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 12, 2013 - 8:15 p.m.**

1. Call to Order /Pledge of Allegiance

Clerk Bauer called to order the Annual Meeting of the Birchdale Township Board at 8:15 p.m. on Tuesday, March 12, 2013 at the Birchdale Town Hall. Because the Pledge of Allegiance was recited at the Canvassing Board meeting held directly prior to the Annual Meeting, it was not repeated. The following were present: Supervisors Cathy Lensing, Dale Ahrens, Arnold Berscheid and Marc Brinkman and Clerk Jackie Bauer. Also in attendance were Patsy Ahrens and Larry Bebus. Treasurer Van Havermaet was absent.

2. Election of a Moderator

- a. Clerk Bauer announced that the electors would need to nominate a moderator for the meeting. A motion was made by Supervisor Ahrens, seconded by Supervisor Berscheid and unanimously carried that Cathy Lensing serve as the moderator.

3. Announce Agenda for Rest of Meeting

- a. Moderator Lensing announced the agenda for the meeting.

4. Approval of Agenda

- a. A motion was made by Supervisor Carstens, seconded by Supervisor Brinkman, and unanimously carried to approve the agenda as presented.

5. Reading of Minutes

- a. Clerk Bauer then read the March 13, 2012 Annual Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Supervisor Berscheid, seconded by Supervisor Brinkman and unanimously carried to approve the meeting minutes as amended.

6. Reading of Board of Audit Report as Posted Prior to Meeting

- a. Clerk Bauer then presented and reviewed the Audit Report for the year ending December 31, 2013. A motion was made by Supervisor Berscheid, seconded by Supervisor Ahrens, and unanimously carried to approve the Report as presented.

7. Road Report By Road Subcommittee

- a. Birchdale Township Comprehensive Plan - Supervisor Carstens and Supervisor Berscheid discussed the condition of roads within the

township. This year, seal-coating will be completed on the following roads: Almond Drive, Amaryllis Road, Alum Trail, Alum Lane, Alligator Road, Alpine Lane, Amber Drive, Ambassador Drive and Apple Trail. Seal-coating of these roads is included as scheduled within the Township's Five-Year Comprehensive Plan. These roads are scheduled to be seal-coated every five years.

Supervisor Berscheid then discussed that no graveling of roads had been done last year so in 2013, the Board would like to have graveling done for all of the roads.

- b. Dust Control/Blading Maintenance on High Traffic Roads – Supervisor Berscheid then explained that this year, four township roads will have a new type of dust control applied. The chemical used is a more oil-based type product called calcium chloride. After it rains, the product sets down and is a better type of dust control. After this year, the roads that have this product applied will be compared to roads without it. If it is an improvement, all of the roads in the township will have dust control applied with the calcium chloride product.
- c. Angler Drive Safety Concerns – Residents who live along Angler Drive have concerns about the speed of vehicles traveling past their homes. Clerk Bauer discussed options that the Board will be looking at including solar-powered LED speed signs. Resident Larry Bebus has done research on these types of signs and the cost of the lights can range from \$300.00 to \$400.00 and signs that can actually measure speed can range from \$2,700.00 to \$10,000.00. Supervisor Lensing stated that possibly flasher lights could be added to the existing speed limit signs as an option also. Supervisor Brinkman also suggested that additional speed limit signs being added might be an option too.
- d. Resident Patsy Ahrens suggested that it might be easier for the Board to count gophers for gopher bounty, if the feet could be separated into groups of four instead of being put all together.

8. Approve Budget, General Levy, and any Depreciated Levies

- a. Clerk Bauer then presented the proposed 2014 Budget and General Levy needed to cover budgeted costs. The proposed budget totaled \$158,000:
 - Revenue Fund - \$35,000
 - Fire Fund - 23,000
 - Road and Bridge Fund - 100,000
 - Total Proposed Budget - \$158,000

The 2013 budget was also \$158,000. The recommendation by Treasurer VanHavermaet and Clerk Bauer is to keep the Budget and General Levy the same for 2014. A motion was made by Supervisor Brinkman, seconded by Supervisor Carstens, and unanimously carried to approve the 2014 Budget and General Levy as recommended.

9. Approve Time and Location for the next Annual Meeting and Township Election

- a. A motion was made by Supervisor Carstens, seconded by Supervisor Berscheid and unanimously carried to set the next Annual Meeting and Township Election for Tuesday, March 11, 2014 at the Birchdale Township Hall with election hours to be from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. and the Annual Meeting to begin at 8:15 p.m. Notice of the election and meeting to be published in the Sauk Centre Herald and the Long Prairie Leader and posted on the Township's website and Town Hall bulletin board.

10. Adjournment

With no further business, a motion was made by Supervisor Brinkman, seconded by Supervisor Ahrens, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jackie Bauer
Birchdale Township Clerk