

MINUTES
SQUAW CREEK TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

Date: 01/31/2024

Time: 1:15 p.m.

Location: 10804 G-76 Highway, New Virginia, Iowa

CALL TO ORDER - Chairperson Sheri Jandik motioned to open and call to order the meeting at 1:19 p.m. Second by Smith. Ayes: All. Motion approved.

TRUSTEE ROLL CALL Present for the Clerk's roll call were Trustees Sheri Jandik, Steven Lawyer, and Kimberly Smith. Public answering the Clerk's name request were Mark Blackford, Warren County Veteran's Administration Board Commissioner, his wife Rose Blackford, and Bebe Bird.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

1. December 20, 2023 meeting minutes – Motion by Lawyer to approve the minutes. Second by Jandik. Ayes: All present. Motion approved.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

1. December 2023 People's Bank checking and savings - Motion by Smith to approve the financial reports. Second by Jandik. Ayes: All present. Motion approved.
2. Ahlers & Cooney invoice for \$657.00 – Motion by Lawyer to approve the invoice. Second by Jandik. Ayes: All present. Motion approved.

2023 TRUSTEE ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIONS - After reviewing the 2024 Trustee organizational actions, the following appointments were made:

1. Steven Lawyer as Trustee Chair for Squaw Creek Township
2. Sheri Jandik as Trustee Chair to the EMS Advisory Board
3. Sheri Jandik as Trustee Chair for interment purchases at Cemeteries with assignments for each cemetery burial as follows: Lawyer – Mt. Tabor Cemetery; Smith – Smith Cemetery; Jandik – Indian Valley Cemetery
4. Kimberly Smith as Trustee Chair for Cemetery Fence/Tree Maintenance
5. Steven Lawyer as Trustee Chair for Fence Disputes
6. Sheri Jandik as Trustee Chair for Township History
7. Clerk to post official publications at Warren County Administration Building, Medora Church, and Fairview Church
8. Steven Lawyer to post official publications on Facebook and website
9. Sheri Jandik and Clerk to remain signers for financials at People's Bank the official depository for the township.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Tree Trimming – Smith reported the phone box was removed from the Smith access road as well as tree limbs. All tree trimming actions will be tabled until Spring 2024.

2. Headstone Maintenance/Purchases – Jandik stated that because of the opportunity to review burial records with Warren County Veteran's Affairs, the purchase of the unknown headstones is suspended.
3. Smith Cemetery Access – Jandik reported that Warren County has not responded to requests to help engineer the access road. Clerk will check again with Engineer. Jandik will contact Iowa Department of Transportation.
4. Mt. Tabor Deed Update – Lawyer shared that the majority of the documents have been completed and it should be finalized in the near future.
5. Lawyer cemetery plot – Lawyer cemetery plot - Jandik provided Lawyer documentation to sign and return along with a check for the recording fee. She also provided documentation for the recording of John Nordin's plot for Lawyer to have Sarah Lawyer sign and provide a recording fee.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Mowing Bid Contracts – Motion by Lawyer to extend the mowing contract for one year with Turner Lawn Care LLC at the same fee. Second by Jandik. Ayes: All present. Motion approved.
2. 28E Agreements – Trustees acknowledged that the 28E Agreements with the City of New Virginia and the City of Indianola will expire FY2028.
3. FY2025 Budget – After reviewing the draft of the budget and plans for FY2025, the item was tabled for further discussion at the February meeting and tentatively scheduled for a public hearing at the end of March 2024.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Mark Blackford, Board Commissioner of Warren County Veteran's Affairs spoke to the Trustees regarding ways the Veteran's Affairs can help with headstones for veterans. They receive funds from the federal government that goes into the Warren County General Funds. Their budget provides for veterans in the county with things such as housing, groceries, and funeral costs. They would also have funds to repair existing stones, provide stones for veterans, or provide markers for veterans. In reorganizing their office, they have someone who is working on a project that would perhaps allow a comparison of data for veterans who have passed away and may be in one of our three cemeteries. He is wondering if we would be interested in comparing our records to theirs. Jandik responded YES! Trustees informed him that for all unmarked graves we will provide a basic stone, however, if one of those graves matches a veteran, the Veteran Affairs could assist with providing appropriate markings for the armed forces branch the veteran served in. The trustees also mentioned that they have someone who has been repairing stones on a volunteer basis.

PROPOSITIONS AND REMARKS FROM TRUSTEES AND CLERK – Jandik shared that there will be a burial at Mt. Tabor Cemetery on February 9, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. that she will be attending. Lawyer will also attend as Township Trustee. Note: At a later date, the funeral date and time changed to Saturday and Smith and Jandik attended.

CONFIRM NEXT MEETING – February 28, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at Medora Church, 10804 G-76 Highway, New Virginia, Iowa.

ADJOURNMENT - Motion by Smith to adjourn at 3:03 p.m. Second by Jandik. Ayes: All present. Motion approved.

APPROVAL DATE: _____

Sheri Jandik, Trustee

Steven Lawyer, Trustee

Kimberly Smith, Trustee

ATTEST:

Misti Kosman, Clerk