**Custer Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

**February 19,2024**

Tom Trenner called the Custer Township Board Meeting to order at 1:30pm, members present besides Tom Trenner, were Larry Larr, Trustee; George Allison, Trustee; Carey Jolly, Treasurer; Staci Wood, Clerk.

The Custer Township January Board meeting minutes were presented for review, with no changes or discussion Carey Jolly made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Larry Larr seconded Ayes=5 Nays=0 motion carried.

Staci Wood presented the bills for review with the change of holding off paying Safety decals with check # 6259 in the amount of $17.90 until we receive the signs Carey Jolly made the motion to approve the payables report, Larry Larr seconded the motion Ayes=5 Nays =0 motion carried.

Visitor’s: Sheriff Kim Cole gave the monthly incident report stated that he will be attending a meeting on March 6th @ 1:00pm with Forest Services, Mason County Sheriff's Office, Supervisor of Custer Township Tom Trenner, and the Manager of the City of Scottville. This meeting will be to discuss the Pere Marquette River Patrol that will take place this summer between Custer Bridge Landing and Scottville Bridge Landing.

Ron Bacon stated that Mason County received ½ million-dollar bank to help people with property clean up. He stated that the owners of the Scottville School house have applied for the restoration of a new roof on the building.

Clerks Report:

Staci Wood stated that she received an email from Theresa Rohde from the Mason County Clerks Association reminding the board that we are to host the next MCTOA meeting which will be held on Thursday, April 18th at 5:00pm at the Custer Township Hall. Staci Wood will contact Randy Wyman from Wyman’s Funeral Home to see if he would like to be the guest speaker for this event.

Staci received an email from Dani McGarry Executive Director of Mason-Lake Conservation District inviting the Custer Township board members to the Annual dinner with the Mason-Lake Conservation District which will be held on March 7th from 6:00pm to 8:00pm at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Scottville.

Staci received a letter from Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Program requesting Annal dues in the amount of $ 414.80 the township has agreed to pay the same amount as we paid last year.

Staci stated that her election workers as well as herself have been going to intensive training sessions this past month to prepare for the early nine days of voting and for the February Primary election. Custer township is responsible for working today as part of the nine days of early election she stated that everything has been going well and there has been a bigger turn out than expected. The amount of work that has been put in getting prepared for this election has been very stressful with all the new rules and regulations.

She stated that she has received a lot of Absentee Ballots back and because she now must put return postage on all absentee applications and ballots people are using the return envelopes to send in their tax payments. She plans to bring this to the attention of the other clerks at the next association meeting.

Staci Stated she received a call from Wyman’s Funeral Home asking if we would consider opening the Cemetery for a full burial. I brought this to the attention of the board and the sexton, and we all agreed that we have closed the Cemetery for the winter, and it will stay closed until Spring when there are better conditions for burials. Staci contacted the funeral home to let them know it won’t be open until Spring.

Staci stated that she will be setting the hall up for the upcoming election that will be held on Tuesday February 27th and that she contacted Brett Kessel to make sure he was aware that the parking lot needed to plow for the day of the elections. She stated that she did purchase crowd barriers to place on the sidewalk to form the line down the sidewalk instead of it forming in the parking lot to keep the public safe while waiting to vote.

Staci stated that she contacted Roger from DMC unlimited to let him know that the laptop she uses for the election that contains only the Electronic Poll Book is no longer working and that we needed a replacement before the election day. Roger informed her that he had a laptop in stock that he would program and have ready and would drop off to her by the end of the business day.

Treasurers Report:

Carey Jolly stated that she has been receiving a lot of winter tax payments. She presented to the board the monthly balance sheet.

The CD’s will be expiring in April, so I will be rolling the funds at that time to the best rate.

The treasurer will be in the office on Thursday February 29, 2024 to receive tax payments. This will be the last day to pay 2023 taxes before they are delinquent. After this date parcels owners will have to call Mason Co. Treasurer to get a pay off balance and make payments to them.

All personal property within the Township has been paid for the 2023 tax year.

Supervisor’s Report:

Tom Trenner stated that he has been working with the Mason County Road Commission Supervisor and getting new quotes on getting the Stephens Road repaired. Steve Wessel from the Mason County Road Commission came and spoke on his behalf to go over the a few quotes he had for the upcoming summer brine. We as the board agreed to go with the proposal to apply one application of new brine that will be equivalent to the three applications we typically use. However, the new brine does not hold up we agreed to apply one application of the old brine and still be under the cost of last year.

The board had one applicant for the open trustee position. After holding interviews, the board voted to elect Sue Hansen as the new Trustee. Staci made a motion to elect Sue Hansen as new trustee, George seconded 5- yays, 0- nays Motion passed. Welcome aboard.

Respectfully Submitted,

Staci K. Wood