

# Board Meeting



*Tuesday, September 17, 2024*

*Cormorant Town Hall*

## MINUTES

Board Members Present: Bob Leonard, Dave Stene, John Cosgriff, Greg Gustafson (online), Nick Valentine, Paul Lykken, Denise Lund-Smith, Fred Hage, Bill Ness (online), Jim Poolman (online)

Others Present: Moriya Rufer (Lake Coordinator), Wayne Johnson (Otter Tail County Commissioner, Dean Vetter (AE2S) Keith Berndt (PLPOA)

The meeting was called to order at 4:00pm and the pledge of allegiance was recited. The September meeting minutes were reviewed. Stene made a motion to approve the minutes, Lykken seconded, and it passed.

Stene presented the financial report. Leonard made a motion to approve the financial report, Lund-Smith seconded, and it passed. Leonard made a motion to increase expenditures on the newsletter up to \$1,000 next year, Hage seconded it, and it passed.

AE2S presented on their experience in forming a water district in Clay/Norman counties. The board discussed steps toward a regional water district and possible funding sources. They discussed sending a letter to the county board to ask for support for a water district. After discussion, the board decided they should get more data on septic systems and well water quality to inform the need for a water district. The board discussed a county records survey of septic system ages now that the information is available on the county website. Leonard made a motion to approve \$5,000 for a septic system records inventory and report, Hage seconded it, and it passed.

The board discussed a drinking water testing program. They decided instead of sending well kits to people to test themselves, they should hire RMB Labs to do the testing so it's all the same. Rufer will reach out to RMB Labs for a quote for this study. Hage made a motion to approve up to \$75,000 for a well testing study in 2025, Stene seconded it, and it passed. The board decided to hold a special meeting before the board meeting on December 3, 2024, for approval to spend this \$75,000 since this expenditure is not in the 2025 budget and is above the \$5,000 the board can spend without membership approval.

Stene made a motion for a resolution of support for rural water, Lykken seconded the motion and it passed.

Rufer presented the Lake Coordinator report. The board discussed the swimmer's itch issue. There are two lake residents willing to serve on a task force to address swimmer's itch solutions. Stene made a motion to form a swimmer's itch task force made up of two residents (Bill Ness and Marjorie Mathison Hance), the Lake Coordinator (Moriya Rufer), and two board members (Dave Stene and Bob Leonard). Lykken seconded the motion, and it passed. The board discussed renewing the Lake Coordinator contract for 2025. Stene made a motion to renew the contract for \$26,000, Hage seconded it, and it passed.

Marty and Mark presented on reduced fire response call times in Dunn Township. They are researching and promoting having the city of Pelican Rapids have a satellite fire station in Dunn Township. Currently, they are a class 10. Stene made a motion for a resolution of support for a satellite fire station, Lund-Smith seconded it, and it passed.

The meeting adjourned at 6:26pm.

*Submitted by Moriya Rufer*

DRAFT