

**Franconia Township, Minnesota**  
**Town Board of Supervisors Meeting – January 12, 2021**  
**Franconia Town Hall, 25156 St. Croix Trail N Shafer, MN 55074**

**Town Board Members Present**

Owen Kuhnly – Chair  
Dennis Gustafson – Vice-Chair  
Sonny Sparby – Supervisor  
Angela Dahlstrom– Clerk (via zoom)  
Karen Anderson - Treasurer  
Lee Cartier - Maintenance  
Jake Guzik – Engineer (via zoom)

**Residents Present:**

Kenneth Webber  
Bethany Cox (via zoom)

**Call to Order**

Chairman Owen Kuhnly called the monthly Franconia Township board meeting to order at 7:00 pm.  
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Approve Agenda:**

Owen Kuhnly made a motion to approve the agenda and seconded by Dennis Gustafson.  
Motion carried.

**Approval of Previous Minutes:**

Dennis Gustafson made a motion to approve the December 8, 2020 minutes and seconded by Owen Kuhnly. Motion carried.

**Board Member Reports:**

**Engineer – Jake Guzik:**

Concept plans for Franconia Town hall are estimated to be done by the end of January, to be presented at the February meeting.

Review local road improvement application criteria for road repair grant. Jake was aware of grant, but not sure if any projects in Franconia would qualify.

**Treasurer Report:**

Karen Anderson presented the board with claim numbers to be submitted for approval #1294 through #1316, and #91011 through #91013 for a total amount of \$135,766.52 and payroll checks #13223 through #13228 for a total of \$7,226.49. Dennis Gustafson made a motion to approve the claims and payroll and seconded by Owen Kuhnly. Motion carried.

Treasurer Anderson stated Franconia Township received \$50,000 from the Shafer Franconia Fire Relief Association. Resolution 2021-01-12 was presented for acceptance of the donation. Dennis Gustafson made a motion to approve, and seconded by Supervisor Sonny Sparby.

**Maintenance Report:**

Lee Cartier reported there was a citizen present for review about a second driveway.

Citizen Mike Weber, (Ken), was present. He recently purchased a home on Quail, and wanted to create a second driveway. He already talked to the County and was told he could not touch the wetland. Possibilities of various accesses of driveway were discussed. It was determined a second driveway would be required. Motion was made by Owen Kuhnly to allow the second driveway and seconded by Dennis Gustafson.

Lee Cartier reported a resident wanted him to grade after it already snowed. Lee let him know that he could not grade now, but will try to get out there in the spring. Scrap was hauled away and received \$416.00. There were a couple of signs that were run over, so signs had to be replaced. It was undetermined who hit the signs to report to the responsible party's insurance. The arrow sign on Chisago Lakes Blvd has been hit multiple times, so the sign placement was moved a bit. It was determined the arrow sign was still in the boundaries of where it needed to be height and distance wise for liability purposes.

Lee had sent an email about the Security to the Board. There is a company in St. Croix that had reached out to Lee. The email did not go through, so Lee will resend the email.

There also was discussion about the bridge at the end of Cornelius. The bridge and turn around at the end of the bridge are narrow and makes it hard for plowing. The loaded plow truck is at mass capacity weight for the bridge and the turnaround is narrow. Lee has been contacting Jayford to plow the bridge and turnaround. Lee did discuss the bridge with Joe at

the County Highway Dept. The bridge was built in 1962, and last inspected in 2019. Joe did believe this was the worst bridge in Chisago County. There is money in the township bridge account. It was determined it would cost township about \$20,000 to repair the bridge. It was determined to put this issue on the February agenda, and have Engineer Jake Guzik review.

Grants for road repair were discussed. Lee said there are roads that need to be worked on, and recommended to start with NW corner and Lawrence Creek Rd. He would like to get the ditch cleaned and elevation raised up going to 95. He mentioned also issues on 280<sup>th</sup> and Bloom Lake Road. The road grant ends on March 3, 2021. Lee said he would contact Jake and have him review Lawrence Creek Rd. The grant and road repair will be on the February agenda.

### **Township Clerk:**

Angela Dahlstrom verified all driveway permits were reviewed.

Reviewed email from Dan Omdahl pertaining to putting together a new Franconia Township website, and the software and yearly fee costs. There seemed to be many extra costs with utilizing Dan Omdahl's services. It was determined to review with current website designer Lynn about updating the site, and if the site can be made accessible for the Township to update. Angela will reach out to Lynn to request further information and quotes. It was also requested Angela reach out to Missy with City of Lindstrom and Joan with Shafer on who they use for Websites.

The quotes from the Township insurance holders, Chisago Lakes Mutual Insurance and MATIT insurance were reviewed. Does Franconia want to have separate insurance companies, or go with MATIT for all insurance coverage? It was requested Angela resend the insurance quotes for review to determine if the Township wants to keep the two companies, or if the insurance should be put all together with MAT for insurance coverage.

### **Citizens Forum**

None to report

### **New Business**

Bethany Cox from St. Croix River Association, a nonprofit that supports the National Park, the St. Croix National River Way, attended via Zoom. They are hosting an event at the Franconia Sculpture Park on May 20, 2021, and they are coming to the Board to ask for approval for a temporary liquor license from 4:00 to 8:00 pm on that day so they can share a glass of wine or bottle of beer with their supporters that join them there on that day. The board requested the

paperwork for them to review and sign. Bethany did say that paperwork was underway. A resolution will be drafted by Angela Dahlstrom and presented at the February board meeting.

Karen Anderson stated at the last Joint Powers meeting, the Joint Powers Board agreed to change the Joint Powers agreement to have the retirement fund for the Fire Department at a 2/3 Franconia, 1/3 City of Shafer instead of the City of Shafer owning the whole retirement fund. Dennis Gustafson mentioned a raise in retirement fund from \$1,100.00 to \$1,300.00 a year. Once both the Franconia and Shafer board, and council agree to approve the 2/3 Franconia, 1/3 City of Shafer retirement fund then the joint powers can be changed. Motion made by Dennis Gustafson and seconded by Owen Kuhnly.

Chairman Owen Kuhnly requested to set the Audit and Budget meeting date. The date was set for February 27, 2021 at 9:00 am. Motion made by Owen Kuhnly seconded by Sonny Sparby

Karen Anderson stated due to elections and annual meeting March 9, 2021, the regular board meeting should be moved to March 17, 2021 at 7:00 pm. Motion made by Dennis Gustafson seconded by Owen Kuhnly.

The annual meeting will need to be zoom accessible. It will also need to be left open and a date set to close it the night of the annual meeting. It was recommended to have Frontier take a look at our router, and if possible get a smart TV hooked up for the February meeting so we are ready for the annual meeting

Being that Angela Dahlstrom was unable to attend the meeting in person, Karen Anderson requested a motion be made so Karen Anderson and Owen Kuhnly could sign checks. Motion was made by Dennis Gustafson seconded by Sonny Sparby.

Owen Kuhnly inquired if an outside audit was required this year, Dennis Gustafson did not believe that would be necessary, as two sets of books have been maintained.

Karen Anderson said policies and procedures needed to be worked on. It was decided that policies and procedures would be reviewed and started in February.

**Old Business:**

Owen reviewed preparedness plan for plowing. Neil said he would not be available for plowing; he did not want to give up driving bus. Gary Linblad said he would do it. He worked for Forest

Lake Dressel's may be available. Insurance would need to be contacted to review coverage for a temporary employee.

Broadband was reviewed, and it was determined a decision could not be made at this time. With the need for internet at an all-time high, there may be other options presented soon. There have been at least 2 or 3 high speed internet providers that have come into the area. There is some fiber optics in the township and it may be more prudent to expand on that.

There was mention of the Historical Book. Nothing new has been heard. It was believed to be coming due in 2021.

**Upcoming Meetings**

- CCATO- January 27, 2021 at 7:00 pm
- Joint Powers Meeting - February 8, 2021 at 7:00 pm
- Regular Board Meeting - February 9, 2021 at 7:00 pm
- Elections – March 9, 2021
- Annual Meeting – Tuesday March 9, 2021 at 8:05 pm
- Election Certification Meeting – After annual meeting – March 9, 2021
- Franconia Township Board meeting – March 17, 2021 at 7:00 pm

**Adjournment**

A motion made by Dennis Gustafson to adjourn the January Regular Board Meeting and was seconded by Owen Kuhnly. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 8:52 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Angela Dahlstrom, Clerk

  
Owen Kuhnly, Chairman

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-01-12

FRANCONIA TOWNSHIP

CHISAGO COUNTY, MINNESOTA

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS

WHEREAS, Franconia Township is authorized to accept and maintain donations of real and personal property pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 465.03 for the benefit of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, The following persons and entities have offered to contribute the donation set forth below to the township:

Shafer Firemen's Volunteer Benefit Association (license number 02326) 30325 Redwing Avenue, Box 219, Shafer MN 55074 for \$50,000.00

Contribution will not be used for a pension or retirement fund.

WHEREAS, All such donations have been contributed to the township for the benefit of its citizens, as allowed by law; and

WHEREAS, The Township Board finds it is appropriate to accept the donations offered.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN BOARD OF  
FRANCONIA TOWNSHIP, CHISAGO COUNTY, MINNESOTA, AS FOLLOWS:**

1. The donations described above are accepted and shall be used in accordance with noted terms or conditions either alone or in cooperation with others, as allowed by law.
2. The town clerk is hereby directed to acknowledge to each donor the town's acceptance of the donor's donation.

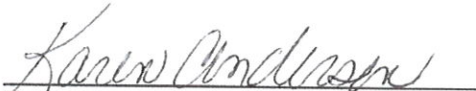
Adopted by the Town Board of Franconia Township on January 12, 2021.

Approved:



Chairman, Owen Kuhnly

Attested:



Treasurer, Karen Anderson

LG555 Government Approval or Acknowledgment For Use of Gambling Funds

Keep this completed form attached to the LG1010 Schedule C in your organization's records. You do not need to submit this form to the Gambling Control Board.

Organization and Expenditure Information (attach additional sheets if necessary)

Organization name Shaker Wildlife Friends Benefit License number 02326

Address P.O. Box 219 Shaker, MN 55074

1. \$ 50,000.00 Amount of proposed lawful purpose expenditure

2. Check one expenditure category.

- A. Contribution to a unit of government - United States, state of Minnesota, or any of its subdivisions, agencies, or instrumentalities. NOTE: A contribution may not be made directly to a law enforcement or prosecutorial agency, such as a police department, county sheriff, or county attorney.
- B. Wildlife management project or activity that benefits the public at large, with approval by the DNR
- C. Grooming and maintaining snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle trails established under Minnesota Statute 84.83 and 84.927, including purchase or lease of equipment, with approval by DNR. All trails must be open to public use.
- D. Supplies and materials for safety training and educational programs coordinated by the DNR, including the Enforcement Division.
- E. Citizen monitoring of surface water quality testing for public waters by individuals or nongovernmental organizations, with Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) guidance on monitoring procedures, quality assurance protocols, and data management, providing that data is submitted to the PCA.

3. Describe the proposed expenditure, including vendors.

- NO FINANCIAL OR OTHER BENEFIT: I affirm that the contribution or expenditure does not result in any monetary, economic, financial, or material benefit to our organization, in compliance with Minnesota Rules 7861.0320, Subpart 17C.
- FOR DNR-RELATED PROJECTS: I affirm that when lawful gambling funds are used for grooming and maintaining snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle trails or for any wildlife management project for which reimbursement is received from a unit of government, the reimbursement funds must be deposited in our lawful gambling account and recorded on the LG1010 Schedule C report.
- FOR SURFACE WATER QUALITY TESTING: I affirm that MPCA guidance has been consulted in developing the monitoring plan and that the data collected will be submitted to the MPCA. Send form for signature to: Manager, Water Monitoring Section, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, 520 Lafayette Road North, St. Paul, MN 55155. Website is www.pca.state.mn.us.

Chief executive officer's signature \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime phone number \_\_\_\_\_ Date 12/31/20

Print name \_\_\_\_\_

Government Approval/Acknowledgment

Check one. By signature below, the representative of the unit of government:

- Government - acknowledges the contribution which will not be used for a pension or retirement fund.
- Wildlife DNR - approves the wildlife management project or activity.
- Trails DNR - approves the grooming/maintaining of snowmobile and/or all-terrain vehicle trails.
- Safety training DNR - approves the supplies/materials for DNR safety training and educational programs.
- Water quality testing - MPCA approves the surface water quality testing project.

Unit of Government Francis Township Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Address P.O. Box 175 City Shaker State MN Zip 55074

Print Name Owen Kuhnly Title Chairman

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date 12/31/20

Questions? Contact the Gambling Control Board at 651-639-4000. This form will be made available in alternative format (i.e. large print, Braille) upon request. The information requested on this form will become public information, when requested by the Board, and will be used to determine your compliance with Minnesota statutes and rules governing lawful gambling activities.