



**MINNEHA TOWNSHIP**  
Sedgwick County, Kansas  
Regular Meeting  
August 10, 2020  
256 N Greenwich Road  
Wichita, Kansas

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.  
Present were Marc Miller, Trustee; Paula Crook, Clerk; Chris Carlson, Treasurer;  
Township Residents.
2. After a review of the minutes of the July 13, 2020 meeting, a motion was made by Miller with a second by Carlson to approve the minutes. Miller, Crook and Carlson voted to approve the minutes. Motion carried 3-0.
3. **Township Auditing Board**  
The beginning balance in the accounts is \$1,642,195.60. There were receipts into the accounts of \$438 and the disbursements for the month were \$58,447.02 leaving an ending balance of \$1,584,214.96. Carlson noted the payment to Santana Concrete of \$3200 for road and gravel work and curb and gutter up north. The audit by Knudsen, Monroe was paid in the amount of \$5110. All other charges are normal. Carlson stated that the balance in the accounts will drop off significantly in the next couple of months due to the road work being done within the Township. Carlson made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. There was a second by Crook. Miller, Crook and Carlson voted to approve the report. Motion carried 3-0,
4. **Board of Highway Commissioner / Road Overseer Report**
  - A. Mike Keys, shop manager, stated that they continue to mow along the north side of Central and pull weeds that have grown in the rocks inside the wall.
  - B. Some of the trees along the east side of the entry way into St. Cloud were sprayed for bagworms.
  - C. There were 2 culverts installed on Richfield and 1 culvert installed on Belaire in SSHID. Two more culverts will be installed on Richfield and one on Crest. Mike will be spraying the ditches in the area for weeds.
5. **Old Business** – Carlson stated that last month it was approved by the board to repair Crest Ridge, Kimberly Hills, Overbrook and the Trees. Crest Ridge and Kimberly Hills will be complete as of Friday. The residents in Kimberly Hills have already called to thank the board for the work done. The start date for Overbrook and The Trees is slated for September. The Trees has complete failure under the asphalt due to lack of maintenance. APAC Shears will handle both of these projects in Overbrook and The Trees.
6. **New Business** –
  - A. Carlson stated that he won't be able to continue to fill the road overseer position in the foreseeable future. He stated the board needs to start a search for a qualified person to fill that position. Miller and Crook stated they wouldn't be able fill that



- position either. Carlson made a motion that Minneha Township boards of trustees begin an active search to fill the position of road overseer. There was a second by Crook. Miller, Crook and Carlson voted to approve the motion. Motion carried, 3-0. The board will take resumes to aid in the search. Carlson stated there are a couple of people who have expressed interest and that Karen Bailey had mentioned that she had names of individuals who could fill that position. Carlson will contact her for those names. Carlson asked that Mike Keys let the board know if he's interested in the position.
- B. The Township may be short an employee. Mike notified Carlson that Tracey was didn't show up for work today, Monday, August 10. Carlson said he would contact Tracey.
- C. The Villas / 127<sup>th</sup> Street North – The City of Wichita, Minneha Township and Crestview Country ID partnered to share the cost to resurface 127<sup>th</sup> Street with the City doing the work. The City of Wichita would then take over maintenance of said road. The City of Wichita maintains and mows on 127<sup>th</sup> 20 feet from the edge of the road. From that point to the wall at the Villas which is probably another 20 feet beyond and includes a ditch is not being mowed or the ditch being maintained. The City says that portion is County property and as County property it becomes Minneha Township property. Minneha mowed the area until the City took over maintenance of 127<sup>th</sup> according to Mike Keys. It was agreed by the board that Minneha township would mow what the City doesn't mow which is the 20 feet beyond what the City is responsible to maintain and includes the ditch.
- D. Villas II – There was discussion of the fact that Villas II no longer wants their roads to be private. They would like their roads to be made public in order that Villas II roads would be accepted into the Minneha Township and the township would be able to help with the maintenance of the roads in regard to snow removal, crack sealing and street sweeping curb to curb, not to include sidewalks or parking area. Before this can happen, the roads have to be deemed as up to standard by Jim Webber at Sedgwick County. That process begins with Villas II submitting a request to Sedgwick County through Jim Webber who will have the roads evaluated for proper lane width and taking a core sample to assure that there has been no degradation to the roads since the major work that was done to bring the roads up to standard again a few years ago. Webber has stated to Carlson that he will not approve an application from Villas II if it puts a financial burden on Minneha Township. It will be approximately 45-60 days from date of application before a report is received at which time Webber will appear before the board to present the report from the engineer. The entrance to Villas I and II was widened as Webber was concerned that cars couldn't be stacked when exiting the Villas. A median was removed and the area was widened to allow for better traffic flow and easier access by 18 wheeler trucks or emergency vehicles. After discussion, Carlson made a motion to accept Villas II roads to be maintained by Minneha Township as long as the roads are validated by the report from Sedgwick County to be in good condition and don't present a



financial burden to Minneha Township. There was a second by Crook. Crook, Miller and Carlson voted to approve the motion. Motion carried, 3-0.

- E. Recently, each Minneha township board member received a letter from Sedgwick County Commissioner Jim Howell. He wants to create a new law pursuant to road repair in the township. Basically, Howell is saying that if a road becomes impassable as deemed by the county, the county will repair the road to travel condition pursuant to K.S.A. 68-124 and charge the township for the repair costs requesting payment in full by a specified date. If the township doesn't have the funds, "at the discretion of the BoCC this time frame could accommodate a future mill levy increase by the township in order to avoid collection and legal actions contemplated within Section 8.B. of this policy". The Township has ½ mile of dirt road on 159<sup>th</sup> from Pawnee to Harry. The city maintains ½ of the roadway and the City of Andover maintains the other half for Minneha. It was graded once a month and hasn't had problems until recently due to the construction in the area. All of the traffic has been directed to 159<sup>th</sup> and more than tripled the vehicle traffic on that street. Minneha is 3 years behind on road maintenance. In the event Commissioner Howell is thinking specifically of 159<sup>th</sup>, Carlson got an estimate of the repair costs. An asphalt project would be \$600,000, concrete would be \$800,000. If the project was curb and gutter, the cost is \$1,000,000. It's a dirt road that was never built for high traffic. Carlson encouraged anyone in the township to contact the commissioners, particularly Pete Meitzner, regarding K.S.A. 68-124 if they have any comments to make about the policy Commissioner Howell wants to introduce and pass as it does include a mill levy if necessary and affects everyone. There is cause for concern because Commissioner Howell got an amendment passed in only 3 days in regard to the speed limit on 159<sup>th</sup> Street. The speed limit heading north was 40 mph and the speed limit going south was 55 mph. Resident Gaylor requested a copy of the letter from Howell. The board is in unanimous agreement in not wanting this law to pass.
- F. Carlson mentioned for discussion the idea of having a video posting of the township's meetings due to the continuation of Covid distancing and the fact that while more residents would like to attend the meetings they are not willing to be in an enclosed area with others. He stated that the meetings are being held at the maintenance facility because the fire station where meetings are normally held is still closed to the public. The improvement districts are beginning to hold their meetings at the Greenwich location. The company that maintains the township website can video the meetings to be posted on the website after the meetings. Two years ago Carlson looked into this and the cost was \$300/month to video the meeting, edit the video and post it to the website. Carlson has only had 1 person inquire about having a video and that was a county commissioner. Miller stated he would be in agreement if it would be used. Crook questioned if it would be used by the residents. Carlson suggested polling the residents on the website. It was agreed by the board that polling is a viable option.



7. **Adjournment** – A motion was made by Miller with a second by Crook to adjourn the meeting at 6:12 p.m. Miller, Crook and Carlson approved the motion, 3-0.
8. The next scheduled meeting is Monday, September 14, 2020 at 5:30 p.m., 256 N. Greenwich, Wichita, KS

Submitted by  
Paula Crook, Clerk

Marc Miller introduced himself as a resident of Springdale Lakes. He has been in the Army for 20 years having joined at 17. Twelve of those years he was in the infantry and then an opportunity to go to flight school. He works at Spirit Aerosystems. He stated he has 2 kids and looks forward to working with everyone in the township.

### **Public Comments**

Rick Moyer brought up discussion about SSHID in regard to the drainage problems. Carlson stated he had walked the area with Steven Frank, MKEC, last week. There was a drainage study done in the past. Those plans can be utilized with new data entered since the work done in the area by the City. Several of the houses that used to flood, no longer flood. The Belaire project looks like it will be a 3 phase project. It needs roads, connective approaches and drives for the roads and has major drainage problems. The first portion of the road was done in roller compacted concrete. The second half Gragg had looked at for curb and gutter with a current estimate of \$1,000,000. Money was already pushed forward from this year's budget for use in Belaire next year. Carlson said the board will kick MKEC off the construction documents and the permitting. Carlson stated the board believes there are other people in Wichita that would be significantly less expensive than MKEC in these areas. As far back as 2014, MKEC was paid \$17,000/week to do construction administration. If APAC and Andale are used, they have CA on site already. The proposal for Belaire was \$19,000/week. The board will bid out for a CA to find someone who is well qualified at a much better price. Mike was supposed to start today on the ditches in SSHID but was unable due to weather. He hopes to spend all week there.

Barbara, Springdale Lakes resident, inquired about who has the responsibility for 1 or 2 dead pine trees being removed on Kellogg Drive which is a county road. Carlson stated that the trees fall in a gray area. Countryside sprayed the trees recently. Springdale Lakes has a deed for all of their roads except E. Kellogg Drive, Lincoln and Fairlawn. Those roads are county roads. It was the consensus of the board to contract out the removal of the trees. Miller knows of a company who is reasonably priced and would arrange to have the trees removed. It was asked whose responsibility it would be to have new scotch pines planted along the edge of 143<sup>rd</sup>.



Carlson responded that it depends on exactly where along 143<sup>rd</sup>. It will need to be evaluated to see if the responsibility falls to Springdale or Minneha. If it is the responsibility of Springdale, it could be arranged for the township to sell the trees to Springdale. The County will not sell to improvement districts only to townships. SSHID needs of 3 more speed limit signs so there will be one off of every thru street off of Greenwich and Pawnee. The signs can be purchased elsewhere than the county, but they won't be county approved.

Public comments ended 6:32 p.m.