

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
**April 19th, 2022, 6:00 PM at the Balkan Community Center**

In attendance: Chairman – Brad Strgar  
 Supervisor - Garth Wilson  
 Treasurer – Kent Fredeen  
 Clerk – Misty Hendrickson  
 Visitors – 3 guests  
 Absent: Supervisor - Dirk VerSteeg

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 6:09 pm.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

- After review of the minutes from the regular board meeting on April 5th, 2022, a motion was made by Supervisor Wilson, supported by Supervisor Strgar to approve the April 5th, 2022 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Kent Fredeen

<b>Receipts: \$1,206.21</b>			
<b>Revenues:</b>		<b>First National Bank – Interest</b>	
Community Center Rent	\$615.00	FNB-C Checking account 2022 March 2022 interest	\$8.49
Community Center Garbage fee	\$50.00		
Life Insurance reimbursed	\$32.72		
Canister Site Coupons sold	\$500.00		

<b>First National Bank - Account Balances</b>	
Checking Account	<b>\$148,440.19</b>
MET (Mining Effects Tax) Account	\$32,182.26
Community Center Account	\$48,736.32
Building Project Account	\$1,065.75
COVID -19 account	\$6,494.36
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$236,918.88</b>

A motion was made by Supervisor Wilson to approve the treasurer’s report as read. This was supported by Supervisor Strgar and passed.

**Debit Card usage:**

1. \$1,038.68 to Walmart for HP All-in-one Computer, extra monitor and adaptor
2. \$13.95 Amazon Prime shipping fee (to be refunded on the next bank statement)

**Transfers completed:**

1. The transfer of \$765.00 from checking to the Community Center fund for the March 2022 Community Center Rent was completed.

**Recommended transfers: None**

A motion was made by Supervisor Strgar, supported by Supervisor Wilson, to approve the bills for payment on April 19th, 2022, and ordered paid in the amount of \$4,108.37. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion by Supervisor Strgar, supported by Supervisor Wilson, to accept the payroll for April 19th, 2022 (payroll period April 3<sup>rd</sup> – April 16th, 2022), in the amount of \$8,522.34. Motion carried unanimously.

## REPORTS:

### 1. Clerks Report: Misty Hendrickson

- a. The newsletter for Spring 2022 is ready for supervisor approval. Money needs to be added to Balkan's marketing mail account. **A motion was made by Supervisor Strgar, supported by Supervisor Wilson, to approve the newsletter for printing and mailing. This passed.**  
**A motion was made by Supervisor Strgar, supported by Supervisor Wilson, to approve adding \$200 to Balkan's marketing mail account. This passed.**
- b. Last week, there was no internet at the office. The clerk was unable to work on the ARPA reporting but will work on submission this week.
- c. The treasurer's new computer was set up last week. Microsoft Office 365 was purchased for \$99.99. The treasurer won't need the additional monitor, the clerk will add the extra monitor to her computer set-up.
- d. The Local Board of Appeal and Equalization paperwork has been gathered in a binder for April 28<sup>th</sup>'s meeting. The clerk has heard from a few residents who wish to discuss their property valuations with Shannon Cairns, St Louis Co. tax assessor.

### 2. Shop & Road Report:

- a. Bucket teeth were procured from H&L for the excavator on April 4<sup>th</sup>.
- b. Sever Road was brushed on April 4<sup>th</sup>.
- c. Supervisor VerSteeg and Steve checked on Katie Betters's well on April 5<sup>th</sup> to determine her issue with ground water running in it.
- d. Johnson and Latick Roads were spot graded on April 5<sup>th</sup>.
- e. The community center was plowed on April 6<sup>th</sup>. Some roads were patrolled for water problems.
- f. The rear brakes for the 2012 Ford pickup were disassembled for inspection and new brake pads were ordered.
- g. Snow was plowed on all east and west routes on April 7<sup>th</sup>, following another snow storm.
- h. Snow banks were pushed back to facilitate better road drainage on multiple roads. Culverts on Smolcich and Long Lake Roads were steamed to get water moving again. Drifting on Cooper, Latick and Kekke Roads was plowed on April 8th.
- i. Long Lake Road was graded on April 10<sup>th</sup>, due to the impassable condition of the road.
- j. Rear brake pads were installed on the 2012 Ford pickup. The tool box on the pickup was removed in order to get to the "L" shaped fuel tank that had a hole in it.
- k. A temporary patch for a culvert on Nettle Road was made on April 12<sup>th</sup>. Krogerus and Baich Roads were graded.
- l. Spot grading was done on Pozar and Vlasich Roads on April 12<sup>th</sup>. Krogerus and Baich Roads on the west route were graded.

- m. A tree on Baich Road was removed on April 13<sup>th</sup>. A frozen culvert was attempted to be steamed on Baich Road and Long Lake Roads. Cooper Road was graded. The drain tile in the shop driveway was steamed to open it to begin draining the “lake” that formed.
  - n. Easter holiday was observed on April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
3. Community Center Report:
- a. The canister at the Community Center hasn’t been emptied yet by General Waste. A phone call to them last week said they would pick up the garbage Monday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
  - b. Some of the frying griddles used for the pancake breakfasts need replacing. These will be replaced this year in the near future.
  - c. The playground equipment will need to be checked for safety again this spring.
  - d. The basketball hoops will need to be installed this spring.
  - e. Dave Pajunen finished waxing the community center’s large room with 4 coats of wax this week.
4. Canister Site Report :
- a. All is well.
5. Other Reports:
- a. An activity director is needed for the community center this year. The clerk suggested it be a paid position. A job description and wage will be discussed in the future.

**CONCERNS AND COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE: none**

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. Jessica Davis, Chisholm’s EMS director, sent a quarterly report of the calls from Balkan. There were 10 calls for service to Balkan. Seven of the ten calls resulted in transports to the hospital.
2. Terry Beckman, from Northland Lawn and Equipment emailed Balkan to ask if we needed anything ordered for now to the end of the year. Due to supply chain bottlenecks, some items are backordered or not available until next year. They caution us to think ahead.
3. Shannon Cairns, St Louis County assessor, sent a packet for the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization scheduled for April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 6-7 PM at the Balkan Community Center.
4. A potential employer for a past employee sent a form for safety history for Balkan supervisors to fill out and sign.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Internet has been restored to the office as of April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The clerk was asked to look into Century Link’s high speed internet service at the office.
2. A letter to a resident who has violated St Louis Co. zoning ordinance section 6.25, Inoperable vehicle storage, was remitted to Balkan supervisors for support. This letter will be sent to the resident asking for compliance in cleaning up their yard.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. The work priority sheets were provided for the supervisors and reviewed.
2. An update from Shari Fisher, regarding the Direct Congressional Spending application was given to the board. The funding window opened in March. She added 15% to Balkan’s request for funds for broadband development due to inflation, which increased the request to \$5.13 million. She requested and received letters of support for Balkan’s broadband development initiative from Chisholm Public Schools, Range Area Municipalities and Schools, IRRRB, and Paul Bunyan’s IT manager, Steve Howard. The application was listed under the HUD Economic Development Initiative.  
The board discussed Shari keeping a log of her hours spent on the broadband project for possible reimbursement in the future. A key to the Community Center was given to Shari, in

the event she needs to use the internet for the broadband project. She doesn't get internet at her house. A pavilion key will also be furnished to Shari, per Supervisor Strgar.

3. The old typewriter, the Dell printer and old computer components were removed from use when the new computer came. These items were determined to have no value and will be thrown away. The old tower may have something useful on it and will be checked, then thrown away.
4. A key for the back door of the garage is kept at the canister site for employees to use the bathroom facilities. It went missing. Dave Pajunen asked for another key to replace the missing key on April 14<sup>th</sup>. The missing key was later found and put back in the safe.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:**

1. Pancake Breakfast schedule – next breakfast will be April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022.
2. Local Board of Appeal and Equalization meets April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 6-7 PM at the Balkan Community Center.
3. ARPA expense reporting is due April 30th, 2022.

**NEWSLETTERS & MEETING MINUTES:** none

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**A motion was made by Supervisor Strgar, supported by Supervisor Wilson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM. The next board meeting will be held at 6:00 PM at the Balkan Community Center on May 3rd, 2022.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Misty Hendrickson, Clerk

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(Clerk) Misty Hendrickson

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(Board Chair) Brad Strgar