

**TOWNSHIP OF CLAY
CLAY TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
MAY 22, 2013, 7:00 PM
MANTRAP VALLEY CONSERVATION CLUB
PARK RAPIDS, MN**

1. CALL TO ORDER: The May 22nd, 2013 Meeting of the Clay Township Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Andy Kietzman, and those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ROLL CALL: Present: Supervisors Andy Kietzman, Norm Leistikow, and Jeff Haukebo, Treasurer Del Holz, and Clerk Margie Vik. Absent: None. Others Present: Alice Holz and Chuck Backus.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A motion was made by Kietzman, seconded by Haukebo, and unanimously carried to approve the agenda with the addition of Item #5.A. Val Chatel Property.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A. Clay Township Regular Meeting Minutes-April 24, 2013: A motion was made by Kietzman, seconded by Leistikow, and unanimously carried to approve the Clay Township Regular Meeting Minutes for April 24th, 2013.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Val Chatel Property: Chuck Backus stated he'd like to be kept abreast of what's happening at the old Val Chatel property on Deep Lake since he's been out of state. He stated he was glad that Clay Township goes above and beyond what is required by the state regarding zoning requirements. He bought his property last year, which is on the north half of the lake, and it's pristine. It's a special place and it should be kept that way. I don't want it turned into a commercial use. At the very least Deep Lake should be designated a motor-less lake because of its small size, at approximately forty acres.

Leistikow stated Doug Kingsley, from the DNR, has requested that the township keep him informed and that he wants the lake protected. Backus questioned if the township could regulate the surface water. Kietzman stated we could start the procedures.

Haukebo stated this discussion is premature. We haven't received an application to change the zoning of the property. We won't act on anything without public input. We'll go through a public hearing process before we even consider any changes.

Backus stated he'd like to talk to the new owners to see what they're thinking about doing. He's talked to Youngs to introduce himself. They said there were some ice fishing houses on the lake this winter.

Kietzman stated he talked to the DNR regarding regulations on a wilderness lake. There are three kinds of wilderness categories and each of them have a different designation. Haukebo stated Clay Township has two zoning classifications, conservation and residential. Backus stated the State of Minnesota won't get involved in this because there is not a public access on Deep Lake. If I am asked, I would prefer no change in zoning and I'd ask that the lake be designated non-motorized.

Kietzman stated our job is to enforce the zoning regulations. A change in the zoning ordinance would require a public hearing. We would have to receive an application to change the zoning, we'd hold a public hearing. Based on public input, we would then decide whether or not to change anything. I understand why you don't want it to change, but that may not be what your neighbors want. Backus stated the rules are there for a good reason. But it's a small lake. With motors there is also a noise factor. I hope the new owners change their minds and just build a house on their property. I was hoping someone would buy the property that wanted to take care of the lake. These owners will provide taxes to the township. But a change that would allow a commercial use will have an effect on the township, such as a possible increase in emergency vehicles.

B. Clay Township History: Alice Holz presented her compiled history of Clay Township which includes such subjects as early logging, early settlers, railroads, past plat maps, logging, the Mantrap Valley Conservation Club's inception, Emmaville's early uses, and personal interviews with long time residents. Pictures of all the lakes located in the township have been included, along with points of interest such as the Wilderness Boys Scout Camp, Val Chatel, the Viking Theatre, and the tornado of 2008.

Kietzman stated we talked about putting the contents of the book on the township's website, but questioned if all this material is of public record. Holz stated she got most of the information off of the internet but is not positive if there would be a copyright infringement. She added she's given credit for articles wherever possible.

A motion was made by Kietzman, seconded by Leistikow, and unanimously carried to authorize Alice Holz to talk with the township's attorney regarding any copyright infringements, and if there are no problems, authorize Kietzman to take the book to MicroTec to get a cost estimate to upload it to the website.

C. MAT Summer Short Courses: Kietzman stated the MAT Summer Short Course will be held in Walker on June 26th if anyone is interested in attending.

D. Zoning Application: Haukebo stated he received a zoning application from Dirck and Carolyn Hanson at 19541 Jigsaw Drive, which is on the northwest side of Bad Axe Lake, to build a 4'x12' wood frame building that will be used as a sauna. He added there are no issues with this request. **A motion was made by Kietzman, seconded by Leistikow, and unanimously carried to approve the zoning permit request from Dirck and Carolyn Hanson to build a sauna at 19541 Jigsaw Drive.**

6. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Brushing Ditches: Kietzman stated Greg Hensel will be brushing the ditches in the next few days.

7. APPROVAL OF TREASURERS REPORT: Holz stated no income was received this month. The checking account balance is \$3,917.86, and the money market balance is \$49,432.01. The total funds are \$53,349.87. The outstanding invoices for this month are \$108.40 for the Enterprise, \$346.25 for Cumber Construction, the second quarter stipends and reimbursements, the second quarter IRS payment, and \$3,640.60 for the assessor (SLL Inc). Total payables are approximately \$6,915.25.

Holz stated he has chosen Jerry Thomas as his deputy treasurer and would ask that he be sworn in at the next meeting. The CD rates remain at an all-time low.

A motion was made by Kietzman, seconded by Leistikow, and unanimously carried to approve the treasurer's report and to pay the outstanding invoices.

8. ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Kietzman, seconded by Leistikow, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

ATTEST:

Chair Andy Kietzman

Margie M. Vik
Township Clerk