

# *Town of Red Cedar*

## **Minutes of the 2013 Annual Meeting April 16, 2013**

Call to Order: The Annual Meeting of the Town of Red Cedar was called to order by Ron Robelia, Chairman, at 7:05 p.m. at the Town Hall in Rusk.

Eleven people attended, including the Town Chairman, Town Clerk, Town Treasurer, and Town Board Members Deb Gotlibson, Andy Gansberg, and Doug Miller.

Approval of Prior Year's Annual Meeting Minutes: The 2012 Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Town of Red Cedar were read by the Chairman. *At 7:07 p.m., Deb Gotlibson moved to approve the minutes of the 2012 Annual Meeting; Pete Prochnow seconded. MC*

Review and Approve the 2012 Financial Report: The 2012 Financial Report was reviewed with the audience by Cheryl Miller, Clerk, and Jill Haldeman, Treasurer. *At 7:23 p.m., Chad Haldeman made a motion to approve the 2012 Financial Report; Deb Gotlibson seconded. MC.*

### Discussion Items:

(a) Discussion was held with respect to the 2013 road budget approved by the electorate at the fall budget meeting. Pete Prochnow questioned the role of the money market account with respect to the 2013 road budget, and the Clerk and Treasurer explained how the funds are moved between accounts. *No action taken.*

(b) Discussion was held with respect to what the expenditures were in 2012 for rebuilding and maintaining two road projects; specifically, the approximate 1-mile stretch of 670<sup>th</sup> Street. Pete Prochnow asked if the project was bid out, how much of the expenses were kept track of, and what expenses were billed to the road project. Further, he explained that the town used to have a detailed sheet to outline all expenses and hours for projects, then the board reviewed it to see where the costs are going.

Ron Prochnow wanted to know what the 2012 total road costs cover – is everything separated – grader hours, labor, materials, etc. He indicated that his employees fill out a sheet every day, it would be nice to know where the dollars are going, that certain services may be available to hire out for less dollars, and that bids should be put out because county services are usually billed at a higher rate than private businesses. Chad Haldeman indicated that a detailed sheet would show the costs in black and white and that the town should get at least three bids on a project.

The Chairman explained that the 670<sup>th</sup> Street road project cost approximately \$88,000.00, and the county bid \$126,000.00. Most of the work was performed by the town, and Monarch and the county paved. The figures were presented to the town board with the county's bid. The town does keep track of total costs but they are not completely broken down. The blacktop for the project cost about \$68,000.00 to \$69,000.00, and materials and time spent was \$16,000.00 to \$18,000.00.

Motion 1: *Pete Prochnow made an advisory motion directing the town board to come up with a detailed worksheet outlining expenses, hours, etc. for the Patrolman to complete and have an update at the next annual meeting; Andy Gansberg seconded. MC*

Motion 2: *Ron Prochnow made an advisory motion directing the town board to advertise for bids and to call companies, if possible, to receive more than one bid on a road construction project; motion seconded by Chad Haldeman. Further discussion had. MC by a majority vote of residents present.*

(c) Pete Prochnow wanted to know what was going on with the old red truck which was supposed to be obsolete about 10 years ago. Ron Prochnow stated that he was at the annual meeting where the electors voted to purchase a new truck to replace that truck and that a trailer was supposed to be purchased to go behind the new truck. The

## Town of Red Cedar

Chairman explained that about \$500.00 has been spent on the red truck, it has problems going into reverse and runs hot, and that it would be nice to keep the truck to do patching, etc. Discussion had. *No action taken.*

(d) Pete Prochnow indicated he appeared at a town board meeting a few months ago to explain what constitutes a per diem, and he wanted to know if the town board has a standard on that issue. Andy Gansberg asked if the town chair can receive an hourly rate since some work should be paid out hourly. Pete Prochnow indicated that per diems need to be defined, then the board needs to review per diems presented as to what is and what is not allowed. Discussion had. *No action taken.*

(e) Residents asked why there are certain stop signs and yield signs in town; specifically, at 650<sup>th</sup> Street and County Road E. Pete Prochnow indicated that the stop sign must be there under state statutes and that if a stop sign is removed and someone gets into an accident, the town will be liable. Discussion had. *No action taken.*

(f) Vicki Evans indicated that 689<sup>th</sup> Avenue needs to be repaired with blacktop and fill. Discussion had. *No action taken.*

(g) Ron Prochnow asked why our town has a patrolman and two part-time workers when other towns have one patrolman and one part-time worker on call. Some towns bid out snow plowing, shouldering, salt/sand, etc. The grader was out a lot this winter. The town should utilize the big truck instead of the grader since the grader is a very expensive piece of machinery and the cost per hour is much higher than the truck. Other towns utilize one truck, have the patrolman start plowing in the very early a.m. hours, then a part-time worker takes over in the same truck, etc. Our town's costs for 50-60 miles of road are too high. Discussion had. *No action taken.*

(h) Cheryl Miller, Clerk, brought up the need for a town financial committee to review the expenses and other financial matters of the town. Discussion had. *No action taken.*

(i) Jill Haldeman, Treasurer, brought up the number of per diems claimed per month by the Chairman. Doug Miller asked why per diems were charged for preparing for a board meeting. Discussion had and per diem standards revisited. Supervisor 1, Deb Gotlibson, indicated that it would help if the Chairman would explain to the board what occurred at meetings attended and what was learned, etc. *No action taken.*

(j) Cheryl Miller, Clerk, apprised the attendees that a Timber Ridge resident was asking for information with respect to roads in the development which are not yet completed by the developer. Discussion had. Pete Prochnow suggested that a letter be sent to subdivision residents indicating what their options are. *No action taken.*

(k) Vicki Evans asked what the status was of the Southfield addition driveway/road matter which was brought before the board last year and who was keeping track of it. Discussion had. The Chairman indicated that no one was keeping track of the matter and that there was no time table set. *No action taken.*

Set Next Meeting Date: The next Annual Meeting was set for the third Tuesday in April of 2014 (April 15, 2014).

Adjournment: At 9:21 p.m., Doug Miller made a motion to adjourn the 2013 Annual Meeting; Pete Prochnow seconded. Meeting adjourned.

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Cheryl Miller, Clerk

Date: April 19, 2013