

**Minutes – Board of Town Trustees
May 15, 2014**

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Crawford County
Town of Robinson

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES met at the Robinson Township Office at 6:00 p.m. May 15, 2014. The following official business was transacted. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Larry McCoy. Clerk Vickie Gribben then called the roll.

PRESENT:	Larry McCoy	Township Supervisor
	Vickie Gribben	Township Clerk
	David Lachenmayr	Township Highway Commissioner
	Sue Roberts	Assessor
	Shirley Berry	Township Trustee
	Lori Hodge	Township Trustee
	Greg Wolfe	Township Trustee
ABSENT:	Pat Richards	Township Trustee

Persons from the public attending the meeting were as follows: Becky Taylor, Leon Taylor, Janie Thackrey, Lacey Whipkey, Gary Wilson and Matthew Wilson.

Item 3, Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 4, Public Comments, there were none.

Under Item 5, Mr. McCoy asked if the trustees had any questions or changes concerning the minutes of the April 17, 2014 regular Monthly Board Meeting. There being none, Shirley Berry made the motion, seconded by Lori Hodge, to approve the minutes as written. Motion carried with vote as follows: Shirley Berry-yes; Lori Hodge-yes; Greg Wolfe-yes; Larry McCoy-yes.

Under Item 6A, the Supervisor's report, Mr. McCoy noted the interest rates were still 3/10% on the Robinson Township Investment List. He referred the trustees to the paper listing the beginning and ending monthly account balances from April 1, 2014 to April 30, 2014. He mentioned the letter from TOIPAC and told the board that any contributions were totally voluntary. He then said he has renewed the farmland lease with Joe Trimble for the same amount as the previous year-\$1902.00. He said that he and Mr. Trimble had both signed the lease and asked the trustees to sign also. He asked for questions. There were none.

Under Item 6B, the Highway Commissioner's report, Mr. Lachenmayr told the trustees the new tractor he had ordered would be delivered May 16, 2014. He said the crew would be mowing the roadside part of the ditches as it would still be too wet to get to the back part of the ditch. He said there had been a rash of culverts wash out due, he thought, to shifting of the ground because of the winter freeze and thaw. Six cement culverts had just come apart. He said that they were still using the patcher on an almost daily basis. The department has used approximately ten loads of cold patch at almost \$1000 per load, adding that "it gets into your pocket pretty quick."

Under Item 6C, Assessor's report, Sue Roberts stated that she was happy to report that numerous new houses are being built. She said that she is currently assessing seventeen new houses within the township. She stated that she is driving the country roads and has found properties that are not on the tax rolls, and asked for help by having people tell her if they see new construction. Building in town requires a building permit which she can access. In the country, a 911 address is required for new construction. The Highway Commissioner said his department has to install the culvert for new homes. She said she has seen several newer homes that are not on the tax records. Supervisor McCoy asked what happens in the event a house has been overlooked for three or four years. "Is it just tough luck for the township?" Sue Roberts responded that she was not sure. Mr. McCoy asked if Hope Weber would know. Mrs. Roberts said Ms. Weber's staff has been really good about leaving her a note in her mailbox if they see new construction. She also commented, "...you can tell whether something's relatively new or not, but if the yard's all completed and all set and green, and the plants are fairly good size, you know it's not brand new...It's been there a little while. She concluded by stating that anybody that can help with spotting new construction is saving the taxpayers money. Mr. McCoy commended her.

Item 7A, Discuss Road District borrowing money from Town General Fund for land purchase. Mr. McCoy referred the trustees to the prepared deed and the contract for the sale and purchase of the real estate and the intergovernmental agreement should the trustees approve loaning the money from the Town Fund to the Road District. He asked Mr. Lachenmayr to discuss the proposal. Mr. Lachenmayr requested a five year payback starting in 2015 with \$32,000 per year. He plans on paying it back in three, but, if something came up, he wanted to be sure there was enough money to cover necessary road work. He approached some banks, but would like to borrow from the Township to save some interest money. The one bank that got back to him quoted 2.85% for a five year loan. Mr. McCoy noted that the seller's attorney prepared the deed. The Township's attorney reviewed it and made appropriate changes. Mr. McCoy referred to and read pertinent parts: no interest and loan must be paid back in full within ten years. He again made the point he noted at a previous meeting which is that the taxpayers might think the township is taxing too much, or had too much of a surplus. Mr. McCoy continued by stating that if you are going to buy the ground, and the money is in the Town Fund, it just makes sense to not make the taxpayer pay interest on a loan from a lending institution. Mr. Wolfe clarified that this was a "done deal" in that Mr. Lachenmayr has entered into an agreement to purchase and does not need board approval to purchase. Mr. Wolfe said he saw the viewpoint where the taxpayers would say "where did you get all that money?" Mr. McCoy responded that townships are required by statute to keep a two year surplus and "the upside to that is you're never going over budget; you have a surplus which is far better than operating in the red. And if, God forbid, there were a catastrophe or something, you would have the funds to help address them. So I think if all government were required to operate the way we are, the whole country would be in far better condition than it is." After further discussion, Mr. McCoy made the motion to adopt the intergovernmental agreement in which the Robinson Township will lend the Road District the necessary funds—\$160,000—from the General Town Fund to purchase the seventeen acres as described in the warranty deed to be repaid at no interest over a period of five years in the amount of \$32,000 annually. Greg Wolfe seconded. Motion carried with vote as follows: Lori Hodge-yes; Greg Wolfe-yes; Larry McCoy-abstain; Shirley Berry-yes.

Item 7B. Bids for Auditors for the Fiscal Year April 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014. Larry McCoy told the trustees that only one bid was received. Mr. McCoy opened and read the letter from Kemper CPA for a one year audit option for \$5250.00 or a three year engagement for \$5000.00 for 2014; \$5150 for 2015; and \$5300 for 2016. Mr. McCoy asked Lacey Whipkey, the bookkeeper, how much the audit cost for the previous year. Ms. Whipkey responded, "\$6800.00 and the year before was \$6600.00." The

question was raised about the legality of a three year proposal. Mr. McCoy responded that Brian Bradbury was very familiar with Township law, but he would check. Greg Wolfe made the motion, seconded by Lori Hodge, to take the three year proposal with the provision the legality is okay. Motion carried with vote as follows: Lori Hodge-yes; Greg Wolfe-yes; Larry McCoy-yes; Shirley Berry-yes.

Item 8A, New Business, Town Funds Tentative Budget for fiscal year 2014-2015, (\$675,593 Budgeted). This is \$148,507 less than last year's budget. Final action is to be taken at the June 19, 2014 meeting. Mr. McCoy requested a motion to set the Town Budget hearing for 5:30 P.M., June 19, 2014. Lori Hodge made the motion and Greg Wolfe seconded. Motion carried with vote as follows: Greg Wolfe-yes; Larry McCoy-yes; Shirley Berry-yes; Lori Hodge-yes.

Item 8B, New Business, Road Funds Tentative Budget for fiscal year 2014-2015, (\$718,680 Budgeted). This is \$50,740 less than last year's budget. Final action is to be taken at the June 19, 2014 meeting. Mr. McCoy requested a motion to set the Road Budget hearing for 5:45 P.M., June 19, 2014. Lori Hodge made the motion which was seconded by Shirley Berry. Motion carried with vote as follows: Larry McCoy-yes; Shirley Berry-yes; Lori Hodge-yes; Greg Wolfe-yes.

Item 8C, Reappoint Rebecca Taylor as FOIA officer. Chairman McCoy made the motion which was seconded by Shirley Berry. Motion carried with vote as follows: Shirley Berry-yes; Lori Hodge-yes; Greg Wolfe-yes; Larry McCoy-yes.

Item 9A, Lori Hodge moved to approve payment of Town, G.A., and Payroll bills. Greg Wolfe seconded the motion. Motion carried with vote as follows: Lori Hodge-yes; Greg Wolfe-yes; Larry McCoy-yes; Shirley Berry-yes.

Item 9B, Larry McCoy made a motion to pay the Road District bills. Shirley Berry seconded the motion. Motion carried with vote as follows: Lori Hodge-yes; Greg Wolfe-yes; Larry McCoy-yes; Shirley Berry-yes.

Item 9C: Greg Wolfe made a motion, seconded by Lori Hodge, to pre-approve payment of Elected Officials for the time period of May 16, 2014 through June 19, 2014. Motion carried with vote as follows: Greg Wolfe-yes; Larry McCoy-yes; Shirley Berry-yes; Lori Hodge-yes.

Item 10: Lori Hodge made a motion, seconded by Shirley Berry, to pay per diem. Motion carried with vote as follows: Shirley Berry-yes; Lori Hodge-yes; Greg Wolfe-yes; Larry McCoy-yes.

Item 11: Greg Wolfe made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Larry McCoy seconded. Motion carried with all in favor voting aye.

Meeting adjourned at 6:31 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie Gribben
Township Clerk

Larry McCoy
Township Supervisor