

Volume 2,
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May 2001

Wabedo Township News

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of Wabedo Township was held on Tuesday, March 14, 2001.

The meeting began with the election of a moderator. Bill Bliss was elected to this position.

Items on the agenda included .

- Treasurer's report
- Election Results
- Levies for: Road & Bridge, Fire Department, Ambulance, and General
- Donation requests
- Planning Commission Report
- Investigating the sale of the Town Hall
- Road maintenance and equipment

Look for articles on some of these topics.

Although the meeting was well attended there is always room for more. Next year's meeting date was set for the second Tuesday in March, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Hall. **March 13, 2002.**

It is important for everyone to take an active role in their township government.

Mark your calendars for next year's meeting and plan to attend. Great discussion & coffee.



Election Results

Wabedo Township held its annual election on Tuesday, March 14, 2001. The three positions on the ballots were one township board member, the treasurer and the township clerk.

Patrick Butler was elected to a three year position on the Board of Supervisors.. He was appointed to the Board last November to finish Dewey Wenzel's term.

Alicia Burgers was re-elected Treasurer for a two year term. Barbara Anderson was elected Clerk for a one year term. Anderson was appointed clerk when Rona Hoff moved out of the area last December.

**Consider running for the
Township Board or serving on
the Planning Commission.**

**The Board members are: Bill Bliss,
Chair, Bill Berger and Patrick Butler—
supervisors, Alicia Burgers—Treasurer
and Barbara Anderson—Clerk.**

Lakes Associations in Wabedo Township:

- *Little Boy, Wabedo, Rice, Cooper and Inguadona, Dewey Wenzel, PO Box 133, Longville, MN 56655.*
- *Woman, Girl, Child Lakes, Don Waldera, PO Box 335, Longville, MN 56655*
- *Mule Lake Association, Dorothy Tostengard, PO Box 115, Longville, MN 56655*

Join your Lakes Association today!

Road & Bridge by Bill Berger



Road maintenance and improvements projects for 2001 were approved at the May township board meeting.

Chloride road stabilization and dust control is planned for Stoney Creek (old "C" road) with additional gravel along the full length and some additional culverts and re-ditching.

30 MPH speed limit signs will also be posted on sections of Stoney Creek Road.

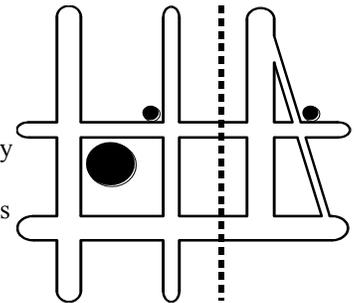
Considerable work is also planned for South Little Boy Drive (old "D" road).

Routine maintenance and minor upgrades are planned for all other township roads.

At the March annual meeting road maintenance funds for 2002 were set at \$68,000 in anticipation of further improvements and chloride treatments.

House Signs

Cass County has installed all the new road signs and house number signs. This was done because of the enhanced 911 in the area. The County will maintain the street signs and the property owner is responsible for their blue and white house number sign. *The county asks that we remove the old fire number sign.* They only want the house number sign up and visible. Both signs can be confusing to the emergency vehicle drivers



911 Street Map

Tax Levies

The tax levies payable in the year 2002 were set at the Annual Meeting.

- The Road & Bridge Levy was set at \$68,000. See article on road and bridges.
- The Fire Department Levy was raised from \$15,110 in 2001 to \$16,610 in 2002.
- The Township is in the fourth year of a 10 year commitment to the Longville Ambulance Building District. The

obligation is \$4,500 per year for the building.

- The general levy was set at \$10,000. This is the same as last year.

Road maintenance costs could be lowered if people driving motor bikes and ATVs would drive more carefully on the township roads.

Annual Meeting notes...

There were two requests for donations. Donations are part of the general revenue fund and given by Wabedo Township to organizations in the area.

Friends of the Library requested \$1,500 to help run the library. County funding is the same as last year. Longville is the smallest town in Minnesota to have a public library. The request was approved.

The Longville Lakes Clinic was given \$1,750.

There was some discussion at the annual meeting about the Township looking into the possibility of owning its own road equipment. Would this be cost effective?

Also, it was requested that the Board look into the possibility of selling the present town hall and property; purchasing non-lakeshore land, building another town hall and storage shed.

The Board will look into both of these suggestions and report their findings at next year's annual meeting.

Come and hear their report!

Wabedo Township Re-assessment by Steven Kuha, Cass County Assessor

Each year the Cass County Assessor's Office completely reappraises all taxable properties within several taxing districts. For the January 2, 2001 assessment, Wabedo Township was one of those districts re-assessed. In addition to structure values being reconsidered, most land values were increased. All off-water acreage values needed increases because of recent market activity. The most significant changes were made to lakeshore assessments. Most lakes in the township, such as Little Boy, Wabedo and Woman Lakes were increased anywhere from 10-20 percent this year.

The primary purpose of a re-assessment is to bring the Estimated Market Values in line with real values as expressed by current market activity. All real estate sales within the county are processed through the Assessor's Office, and are the basis for indicating what property is worth in certain locations through out the county. By law, the Estimated Market Value arrived at from the Assessor's Office must be reasonably close

to the actual value of the property if it were offered for sale and sold in an arms-length transaction.

In some cases, a re-assessment results in considerable market value increases. As a result of the re-assessment in Wabedo Township, the average township-wide increase was slightly under 9 percent. This was a modest increase, compared to what some other taxing districts incurred.

Taxpayers are encouraged to contact the County Assessors' Office whenever there is a question regarding their property assessment. Dennis Fisher, the staff appraiser responsible for the assessments in Wabedo Township, will be happy to visit with taxpayers regarding appraisal concerns. Taxpayers do not have to wait for the spring Board of Review Meeting in order to get answers to their questions.



Septic System Owner's Guide Tips

The University of Minnesota Extension Service offers the following tips for septic systems.

Bathroom:

- Do not use "every flush" toilet bowl disinfectants that are placed in the tank or bowl.
- Do not flush facial tissues, paper towels, or personal hygiene products down the toilet.
- Do not flush cigarette butts or unwanted prescriptions or over the counter medications down the toilet.

Kitchen:

- Use liquid detergent in the dishwasher.
- Use low-phosphate (0 to 5%) dishwasher soaps.
- Do not use a garbage disposal or dispose of vegetables, meat fat, oil, coffee grounds and other undigested food products

Laundry:

- Use no-phosphate laundry detergents.
- Use liquid detergents (powdered detergents add fine particles to the sludge accumulations).
- Use highly biodegradable powdered detergents if liquid detergents are undesirable.

Basement & Utility Rooms:

- Recharge the water softener as infrequently as possible.
- Reroute the water softened recharge water outside the septic system.
- NEVER let wash water from latex paint on brushes or rollers go down the drain and into the septic system.

Septic System Owner's Guide a 24 page book is available through the U of M Extension. #PC-6583-OF2 for \$4.00. Call 1-800-876-8636 or send check to Extension Distribution Center, 1420 Eckles Ave., St. Paul, MN 55108-6069.



Cass County Sheriff's Department Report for 2000

The Cass County Sheriff's Department sends a report each year to cities and townships in the county. The total calls for service received for the year 2000 in Cass County were over 14,000. In Wabedo Township there were 97 calls.

Here is a breakdown of some of the types of calls:

Fire—5, False alarms—2, Boat accident 2, DWI— 7, Vehicle and deer, 7, Car accident—4, Sickness—21, Bugarly alarm system—10, Burglary—3, Attempt to locate —3, Sudden death —2, Beer party—1, Information —1, Fireworks —1.

The number of calls has dropped from 134 in 1993 to 97 in 2000.

The highest number of calls was in 1995 with 149.

*The age limit to drive a 4 wheeler is 16.
ATVs are not allowed on the main roads*

WABEDO TOWNSHIP NEWS

1535 Bergen Lane NE
Longville, MN 56655

Phone: 218-363-2649

A great place to live!

Little Facts

The 2000 Wabedo population is 374, up from 269 in 1990. That is a 39.4% increase.

Fixing a driveway?

It has been suggested that when people install a driveway culvert it should be at least the length required by the county, which is 20' for a driveway. This will make it easier for deliveries and emergency vehicles to gain access to your property.

Go outside and take a look, do you have enough space for a large vehicle to turn around? For a fire truck to set up in case of a house fire? These are a few things to think of now that spring is here.



Bear Alert...

The MN Department of Fish and Wildlife is advising hikers, hunters and fishermen this spring to take extra precautions and be on the alert for bears while in the Duluth, Brainerd and International Falls areas.

We are advising people to wear noise producing devices such as little bells to alert, but not startle the bears unexpectedly.

We are also advising you to carry pepper spray in case of an encounter with a bear.

It is also a good idea to look for signs of bear activity in your area.

Outdoorsman should recognize the difference between black bear and grizzly bear droppings.

Grizzly bear droppings have bells in them and smell like pepper spray.