

MINUTES
SQUAW CREEK TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

Date: 02/26/2025

Time: 1:15 p.m.

Location: 7129 G-76 Highway, New Virginia, Iowa

CALL TO ORDER – Trustee Sheri Jandik called the meeting to order at 1:19 p.m.

TRUSTEE ROLL CALL - Present for the Clerk's roll call were: Trustees Sheri Jandik, and Kimberly Smith. Steven Lawyer joined by cell phone at 1:22 p.m. No public was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. January 22, 2025 meeting minutes – Motion by Smith and second by Jandik to approve the minutes. Ayes: Jandik and Smith. Absent: Lawyer. Motion approved. Lawyer arrived after this approval at 1:22 p.m.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

1. January 2025 People's Bank account reconciliations – Motion by Jandik and second by Smith to approve the account reconciliation reports. Ayes: All present. Motion approved.
2. Invoices – Motion by Jandik and second by Lawyer to approve invoice payments for Indianola Record Herald, Tri-Corner Express and Iowa Prison Industries. Ayes: All present. Motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Tree Trimming and Fence Maintenance – After discussion and noting the weather conditions, Lawyer stated he and Sam Lawyer will remove some branches at Mt. Tabor. Smith said that when weather improves, she will be measure the top rail at Indian Valley to determine the length needed to repair the fence.
2. Headstone Maintenance/Purchases – Jandik reported that McCall Monument will be calling with installation dates for the unknown headstones when the weather allows for installation. Jandik also reported that she has completed the QA process of the GPR cemetery maps. New links were sent via email and new hardcopy maps will be mailed to her within the next few weeks.
 - a. Native American Headstone – Lawyer discussed of the headstone and will get bids for 8 ½ x 11 and 11 x 17. Item tabled to the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Mt. Tabor Cemetery Plot Purchase – Lawyer asked that this be removed and that the Lawyer family will approach the township when ready to purchase plots.
2. Cemetery improvement planning - Trustees discussed cemetery fencing that would be appropriate for the cemeteries, low maintenance and to respect the use of adjoining properties by being livestock resistant. Also discussed was archway entrances. Trustees will determine width and height needed for funeral plot preparation and burial. Township will then create a request for proposals (RFP) with specifications for design. Next the need for gravel at each cemetery was discussed with the Trustees choosing to start the March 26, 2025 meeting at Indian Valley Cemetery to view the gravel and fence. Clerk noted this for the next meeting.

3. Cemetery mowing bid for 2025 – Because no bids have been received, the Trustees extended the deadline to March 25, 2025. Jandik and the Clerk will submit the updated public notice to the Tri-Corner Express and the Indianola Record Herald. Jandik will also update the website and Facebook pages.
4. United States Flag purchase – Smith shared that she brought to the meeting 5 donated honor burial flags that are 5-foot x 8-foot. Trustees noted that the flags will be used for all cemeteries and expressed their gratitude for the donation.
5. New Virginia Hometown Pride donation request – Motion by Lawyer and second by Jandik for the Township to participate in the End of Summer Social at Hickory Hills by donating \$250; the Township will have historical, cemetery and other information available during the event. Ayes: All present. Motion approved.
6. Fy2026 Budget Hearing – Motion by Jandik and second by Lawyer to open the public hearing for the fy2026 Squaw Creek Township Budget Hearing. Ayes: All present. Motion approved. Jandik called for oral and written comments. There was no public attending. The Clerk stated that no written comments had been received. Motion by Jandik and second by Lawyer to close the public hearing. Ayes: All. Motion approved. Then motion by Lawyer and second by Jandik to approve Resolution 2025-01 approving the fy2026 Squaw Creek Township Budget and directing the Clerk to make the necessary filing. Ayes: All. Motion approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – There were no public comments.

PROPOSITIONS AND REMARKS FROM TRUSTEES AND CLERK – Lawyer noted that he had been contacted by a concerned township resident who abuts a portion of the Medora Prairie, located on Tyler Street, and there is not a fence. The area may be open to a variety of public recreational opportunities and there is a concern regarding trespassing. Lawyer will monitor the situation should fence viewing be requested.

Jandik reviewed the Indianola Fire/EMS annual report for calls for service report. Jandik also noted that Kelly Penman, who has helped tremendously with headstone repair and maintenance, is now also a trustee in his jurisdiction.

Trustees then briefly discussed Lawyers “Para-Santa” that was seen flying over Squaw Creek Township earlier in the year and a suggestion was made that there could be a ‘Para-Bunny” for the Easter holiday. Clerk was asked to include this on the next agenda.

CONFIRM NEXT MEETING – March 26 2025 at 1:00p.m. at Indian Valley Cemetery and then the meeting will move to 7129 G-76 Highway, New Virginia, Iowa.

ADJOURNMENT - Motion by Smith to adjourn at 2:16 p.m. Second by Lawyer. Ayes: All present. Motion approved.

APPROVAL DATE: _____

Sheri Jandik, Trustee

Steven Lawyer, Trustee

Kimberly Smith, Trustee

ATTEST:

Misti Kosman, Clerk