

**Bridgewater Township Rice Creek Meeting**  
**County of Rice, State of Minnesota**  
**October 8, 2015**  
**Official Minutes**

Call to order – 4:00 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Gary Ebling, John Holden, Frances Boehning, Kathleen Doran-Norton

- Kathleen Doran-Norton reviewed her position regarding the Rice Creek Ordinance – the Board of Supervisors needs to make a decision regarding this ordinance.
- Gary Ebling reviewed where the residents properties stand versus the DNR setbacks and the Ordinance proposed set backs.
- A discussion was held regarding a change to the Planning Commission by-laws and how communication is handled with the public.
- A discussion was held regarding having a DNR representative at one of the future meetings.
- Gary Ebling reviewed the agenda from the September 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.
  - Reviewed how future meetings would be held.
- Gary Ebling made a motion to set aside the Rice Creek proposed ordinance approval process for a period of 30 months. This is for the following reasons:
  - To give the DNR/State of Minnesota time to complete the current in process changes to the farm buffer regulations.
  - To give the DNR time to amend other stream regulations and get them through the legislature.
  - To give the Township the time and opportunity to further analyze the ditch and Rice Creek with all involved. This needs to be an overtly inclusive process that builds consensus, trust, and rebuilds any damage to our reputation.
- Kathleen Doran-Norton did not agree to the motion.
  - Would like to return the Ordinance to the Planning Commission to allow them to hold a public meeting to better understand the position and concerns of the area residents.
  - Kathleen Doran-Norton and John Holden expressed interest in holding off on the decision but continuing the process.
- Gary Ebling requested a meeting with the Board of Supervisors, the Planning and Zoning Commission, and area residents to layout the Ordinance versus the DNR versus Rice County after we have approved the process.
- Final consensus was not reached by the Board.

Meeting adjourned at 5:55pm.

Adjourn – 2pm