

**Bridgewater Township Emergency Storm Debris Meeting**  
**County of Rice, State of Minnesota**  
**October 5, 2018**  
**Official Minutes**

Call to order at 3:30pm

Roll Call: John Holden, Glen Castore, Gary Ebling, Mike Groth, Brent Aspenwall, Frances Boehning

- Storm Debris from September 20, 2018
  - The storm debris clean up to date was reviewed.
  - While a number of residents cleaned up their own storm debris and brought the trees and brush to the compost site, there were some residents that believed the Township was responsible for clean up. As a result, some residents moved all trees and brush into the road right of ways. These large piles of debris reduced sightlines along the roadway and in some cases, narrowed the road to single lane. Due to the hazard this presented, the township moved forward with engaging a contractor to remove the debris.
  - The total expenses for clean up from the tornadoes is expected to be approximately \$350,000.
  - The Rice County Emergency Management Director is working with the state to secure funding for reimbursement of clean up. Paperwork was submitted by the township for this.
  - A brief discussion was held regarding assessing some of the homeowners for clean up as excess amounts were placed in the road right of way. A final date of pick up will be announced as soon as possible.
  - Gary Ebling requested Aspenwall to submit an invoice for expenses to date.
  - Brent Aspenwall stated that he will submit an invoice. He also noted at Perry Collins had not been available to begin clean up yet.
  - There was a property on Eaton Avenue that had trees fall in the right of way and the local football team dragged all of the trees back onto the property. Brent Aspenwall spoke with the homeowner and said that if the trees were dragged back to the right of way, he would pick them up.
- Cleaning up Steam and Gas site
  - Brent Aspenwall suggested that he engage Brian Feist of Rock Hard Landscaping to come with equipment for chipping. There will be a set up fee for mobilization. Brent Aspenwall estimated that the hauling would be completed in 2-3 weeks and chipping would be finished by mid-November.
- Other Township Locations
  - Mike Groth noted that there was some right of way clean up that should happen on other township roads also:
    - 115<sup>th</sup> Street
    - Jump road between Cty Rd 20 and 22
    - 125<sup>th</sup> Street
  - These roads will be reviewed after clean is complete in the housing developments.
- Meetings with Developments
  - A possible meeting with individual developments was discussed. These meetings would take place in mid-November.
  - Included in these discussions would be a review of how the message of Township clean up was started and where it went from there.
  - A discussion of possible assessments would be included in these meetings; however, no absolute numbers would be reviewed until the Township receives information from the State regarding possible reimbursement. Possible levels and methods of assessment will be reviewed.
  - John Holden suggested that we begin with Upper Oak Hills followed by Telemark, Lower Oak Hills/Eaton, Wendwood, Bittersweet, and finally Timberlane.
  - A mailing will be sent out with final information on October 25<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup>.

- Continued clean up of road right of ways
  - A discussion of future right of way clean up to the 33' line was held. This will be a long term project that will need to be estimated out and possible placed in a future budget.
  - The stumps will need to be removed from the ditches after the brush is cleared.
  
- Misc.
  - Gary Ebling will talk to Galen Malecha and Jake Gillen regarding final say on who has authority over old Rice County issued C.U.Ps.
  - A request for Rice County to take back Decker Ave. will also be reviewed with Galen Malecha and Jake Gillen.
  - Steve Albers has requested permission to cut out some brush from the road right of ways. This topic will be reviewed during the next Board of Supervisors meeting. It was noted that this may not be accomplished this year due to budget constraints from the September storm.

Adjourn