

Seven Towns Meeting Minutes *AMENDED*

Brazeau, Breed, Doty, Lakewood, Mountain, Riverview and Townsend

Location: Doty Town Hall

Date: June 10, 2020

Call to order by: Town of Doty Chair, Andrew Stemp, at 6:30 p.m.

Present:

Brazeau:	Jean Grosse
Breed:	Richard VandeWettering, Ethel Firgens
Doty:	Andrew Stemp
Lakewood:	Joanne Roy
Mountain:	Skip Maletzke, Brenda Carey-Mielke, Wayne O'Barski
Riverview:	Ann Hogan, Dick Booth, Jim Zittlow
Townsend:	Carla VanCamp, Linda Adamczyk, Claude Bowman

Guests:

Todd Skarban	Oconto County Sheriff
Jim Plotkin	Northern Oconto County Community Officer
Chris Schultz	MAS (Mountain Ambulance Service) Administrator
Ryan Giese	Animal Control Officer
Adriane Bartels	Planning Commission

Citizens:

Dick Kendall
Jim Adamczyk
1 additional person, who did not sign in

Pledge of Allegiance

Establish Order of the Day

Business Items:

1. Motion m/s/c (Hogan/Adamczyk) to approve the 01-22-20 minutes from the Seven Towns meeting with the following amendment: Business Item #6 should remove the words "town of Mountain" and replace them with "MAS (Mountain Ambulance Service)".
2. Jim Plotkin, Northern Oconto County Community Officer, gave an update on his training; work schedule; incidents, citations and warnings; and safety concerns with summer activities. He is making every effort to focus on accomplishing the goals that each town presented to him at an earlier meeting.

Sheriff Skarban reported on a partnership and grant funding that will provide additional work force and summer and winter recreational vehicles for the department.
3. Chris Schultz, MAS Administrator, handed out packets of information and informed the group that his requests to NWTC (Northeast WI Technical College) to have EMS (Emergency Medical Services) training in our area have "fallen on deaf ears". Currently, any training would require extended travel time and increased costs with no negotiating offered by NWTC staff. A large portion of Oconto County tax dollars are paid to NWTC and if we cannot get them to train in our area, then we will consider switching to Nicolet College out of Rhinelander, Wisconsin. A motion m/s/c (Carey-Mielke/Hogan) to establish a committee from the Seven Towns assembly. Wayne O'Barski, Carla VanCamp and Ann Hogan have volunteered to review the current EMS training process for the Seven Towns and the Sheriff's Department and then confront staff at NWTC for a resolution or indicate we will change training venue.

4. Andrew Stemp, Town of Doty Chair, gave updates on the following:
 - a) Most every ATV trail is open for the summer season – a few have marked detours.
 - b) All boat landings are open – a few are under water. “Slow, No Wake” status on Wheeler, Waubee and Surprise Lakes.
 - c) All campgrounds, except for Boot Lake, are open. Social distancing practices are enforced.
 - d) Timber harvesting/clean-up continues in full force and is expected to be completed in September.
5. Ryan Giese, the new Animal Control Officer, introduced himself to the audience, briefly identified some of his job responsibilities and confirmed that he sends monthly reports to each Town Chair.
6. Adriane (Gigi) Bartels, Town of Riverview, advocates the installation of black-top bicycle trails in this area to promote tourism for families and those who prefer ‘silent’ sport vehicles. About 20 years ago, a committee was formed in the Town of Riverview to investigate and collect information for bike trails, but all data was lost during the 2007 tornado devastation. Gigi will gather more details and present an update at our next meeting.
7. Fire Prevention: Andrew Stemp, Town of Doty Chair, reported that:
 - a) there will be chainsaw training at the end of October.
 - b) to check the “Fire Danger”, call the DNR number 888-WIS-BURN (888-947-2876) after 11:00 a.m.
 - c) loggers are leaving a 200’ path around property owner’s homes.
 - d) Fire Departments are working together, but personnel are lacking.
8. Ann Hogan, Town of Riverview Chair, asked what each town was doing with their COVID-19 funds. **Ann added that FEMA has transferred microburst reimbursement amounts to the state. Each town will receive four forms from the state that they must complete and then payment will follow.**
9. Each town chair gave a brief description of the status of storm clean-up from July, 2019:
 - a) Brazeau: under control.
 - b) Breed: brush accumulation – need a chipper.
 - c) Doty: dump repair is happening this week. Tying up loose ends.
 - d) Lakewood: Forestry is finishing up on Binder Lake. Tons of private brushing – need a chipper.
 - e) Mountain: Ten loggers are working in their town. Road repair continues. Brush center doing well. FEMA is done – putting pressure on the state to get their money.
 - f) Riverview: One more road to clean up. FEMA has their money.
 - g) Townsend: Working diligently as trees are falling every day. Need a chipper for brush. Carla will order a chipper for the towns of Breed, Lakewood and Townsend.
10. Ann Hogan, Town of Riverview Chair, requested input about the future direction and vision of the Seven Towns assembly. Each town is directed to gather their thoughts as homework for our July meeting.
11. **Next Meeting:** scheduled for Wednesday, July 22, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. at the Lakewood Administrative Office, 17181 Twin Pines Road, Lakewood – across from the Lakewood SuperValu.

Suggested topics at this time include:

- Vision statement for the Seven Towns – input desired from each town.
- EMS continuing education update from newly-formed committee.
- Bike Trails update.
- Recycling – Joanne Roy would like policy input from each town.
- NOCCO report.
- Animal Control update.

Meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Kendall
Mary Kendall, Seven Towns Secretary

posted 7/12/2020
Lynne Kaulgarie
Town of Mountain