

MINUTES

Cascade Charter Township
THORNAPPLE RIVER SAD AD-HOC COMMITTEE MEETING
April 17, 2023 at 5:30pm
Cascade Charter Township Hall
5920 Tahoe Dr. SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

- ARTICLE 1.** The meeting was called to order at 5:37pm.
- Members Present: Members Scott Rissi, Chuck Whitley, Thomas Keith, Trustee Shipley, Michael Wiegand, and Jeff Carpenter (via Zoom).
- Members Absent: Leann Rowland
- Others Present: Township Manager (TM) Ben Swayze
- ARTICLE 2. Approve the current Agenda**
- Motion was made by Member Rissi to approve the agenda as written. Supported by Member Keith. Motion carried.**
- ARTICLE 3. Acknowledge Visitors & Public Comment**
- There were not any visitors who wished to comment at this time.
- ARTICLE 4. Approve the Minutes of the March 6, 2023 Meeting**
- Motion was made by Member Rissi to approve the minutes with one change of the word 'price' to 'budget'. Supported by Trustee Shipley. Motion carried.**
- ARTICLE 5. Safety & Navigational Marking Plan RFP**
- TM Swayze explained that the township didn't receive any bids by the deadline but there is a possibility the they will be receiving two the coming Friday. Member Rissi was to take representatives from interested companies out on the river the previous Monday but the river was high and the Emergency Manager requested everyone stay off the river that day. TM Swayze will send out the applications, if they are received, on Friday and call a special meeting, if need be, to award the bid. Otherwise, it will be determined at the May 1 meeting.
- Neither of the two interested companies would be options for debris removal as this marking project would be considered a small project compared to the work they regularly perform. The river will likely need debris removal this year but they will first need an access point. Harbor Hawk was used in the past butt they are not an option anymore. Some municipalities now use Inline Marine. Harbor Hawk previously cost \$5,000 for 2 barges and 25 workers, over the course of 2 days.
- ARTICLE 6. Aquatic Weed Management Plan Update**

The latest update arrived the day of the meeting. Member Rissi said they should make sure Jamie knows the draw down schedule. The township will attach a cover letter and add a landing page on the website. The communication plan will include eblasts the week before each of the treatments.

The launch on the side of the railroad bridge is the location the committee hopes to use this year. This will be included on the May 1 agenda and will look to push out information on May 2.

ARTICLE 7. River Measurement Program

Member Whitley brought up the potential for a river measurement program; there is currently a measuring devise at 84th St. This could allow for easy customization of data collection and timely eblasts. It was suggested that it may be prudent to see if the county would put money towards the project rather than the Thornapple River SAD paying the full cost. There was also discussion as to if the Cascade Dam would be willing to share their data such as level, flow rate, and temperature. TM Swayze will touch base with the dam on what type of monitoring they use. Member Whitley will send TM Swayze information from a vendor he knows of to add to the next meeting agenda.

ARTICLE 8. Roundtable Q & A

None of the residents that failed to turn off their irrigation systems when the chemicals were being spread for the weed removal last year noticed any damage to their plants.

The next meeting will be held on May 1st at 5:30pm and the committee will review the RFP.

ARTICLE 9. Public Comment

There were not any visitors who wished to comment at this time.

ARTICLE 10. Adjournment

Motion was made by Member Keith to adjourn. Supported by Member Rissi. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

Approved by the Thornapple River SAD Ad-Hoc Committee - TBD