

Aitkin County  
Association of Townships  
Serving all of Aitkin County

January 17, 2013  
Quarterly Meeting

Open with Pledge at 7:35pm with 22 townships represented (Hazelton Had full board!), Sheriff Turner, Laurie Westerlund (Commissioner District 2), Reno Well (MAT Director), Mike Dangers (County Assessor), John Welle (County Engineer), Representative Joe Radinovich and 1 visitor all in attendance.

Welcome new officers

Moment of silence for those who have past away in the last quarter, Al read off the list of the five who had passed away in the last quarter.

Approve Sect. Report as mailed on a motion from Roberta Elvacrog and second by Owen Heins.

Approved Treasurer Report as read by Anita and it was approved on a motion by Harold Harms and seconded by Ken Danielson.

Correspondence: MAT thank you, L & R Meeting in February in St. Paul, MAT Calendar, all mentioned. Also Irene Bright wanted all to know that CTAS is not licensed to run on Windows 8, and upgrade depends on funding.

We need a representative on the ARDC board, this person must be a township officer, and approved by the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners. It meets quarterly, about the same day as our meeting. Interested party, please contact Al or Anita.

Reno mentioned that the MAT website is up to date with list of all the Short Courses, contacts, and will be updated as the year progresses. NaTAT report on the "Fiscal Cliff", please have the schools push the scholarship program, check the DNR website for an update on PILT, new session started on the 8<sup>th</sup>, all elected officers should attend the new officers training, even if re-elected. Law book and Manual is being updated.

Carole mentioned that we can send 5 to L & R in February. All ideas for change will be looked at, just let a Board member know you have an idea. The L & R in February is a chance to talk to all our legislators about what is happening in townships.

Alan gave a brief report on the Annual Conference and all the workshops, meetings and updates we received.

County Officials: Mike Dangers spoke on the Property Tax Assessment coming up, Department of Revenue has new website and soon will have information on the Board of Appeal and Equalization (course possible online soon). Aitkin County will have a reduction in Market Value, we were asked to make adjustment for 2014. 2012 showed more property sales and lower foreclosures. Minnesota has the most complicated Property Taxes in the US and there is a move to simplify them.

John Welle spoke about ordering culverts and asked townships to order extra and they do not keep inventory on hand, he must charge sales tax, so if we can get them from a vendor or the Minnesota Coop Purchasing Program, the better for us. Question was asked about ice on the dirt roads and the response is that the County has 1 serrated grader edge and they are trying to get out and get all the roads done.

Sheriff Turner reported that burglaries were up in 2012 by 40 across the board and many factors showed up. New Radio system will be up and running by the end of the year. Need for First Responders as they are often the first on a scene and are a great help. Looking for a grant to fund the Hazard Mitigation plan for Aitkin County as it needs updating. Drug issues are coming back.

Rep. Joe Radinovich gave an update on the session so far and admitted there is a lot to learn. Budget meeting next week and part of that is Property Tax Relief. Wants to hear from us and answers all his mail.

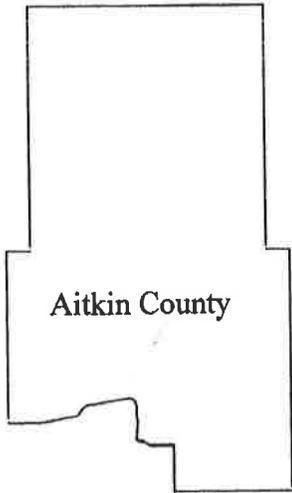
Guest Speaker: Eric Hedke spoke on Cemetery issues. Reviewed with us his previous notes, any public or church cemetery not been taken care of for

over 10 years now becomes the property and responsibility of the township, due to liability issue. Townships can levy up to \$10,000 for upkeep and repair of the cemetery. Perpetual care fund suggested. Townships can charge extra for a winter burial, if one requested. Any private cemetery not attended to for 10 years become the County Board Responsibility. If a body is removed from the cemetery, without notification, must call the sheriff, or you will be charged.

Thank you to the Aitkin VFW for having us, next Meeting will be at the McGregor Community Center, April 18, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. This will be our Annual meeting with the following director is up for re-election: Bill Pratt from District 1 (Aitkin, Farm Island, Hill Lake, Kimberly, MacVille, Morrison, Spencer, Waukenabo).

Adjournment was made on a motion by Dave Peterson with Ken Danielson second at 8:55pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Anita Anderson  
Secretary/Treasurer



Aitkin County  
Association of Townships  
Serving all of Aitkin County

MAR 13 2013

Date	October 17, 2012
Balance On Hand	\$ 4,436.03
Income	
Dues	\$ 7,014.29
Interest	\$ 0.12
Total	<u>\$ 11,450.44</u>
Expenses	
Wages	\$ 230.90
IRS	\$ 140.99
Mileage	\$ 499.64
Office Supplies	\$ 45.00
Refreshments/misc.	\$ 12.00
Door prizes	\$ 46.72
Dues paid	\$ -
Convention/L & R Reg.etc.	\$ 959.07
Hall Rents	\$ -
Total	\$ 1,934.32
Balance on hand	\$ 9,516.12
Date	January 16, 2013