

**CASTLE ROCK TOWNSHIP
ANNUAL MEETING
MARCH 9, 2004**

The Annual Meeting of the Township of Castle Rock was convened at the Town Hall at 8:15 p.m. on Tuesday, March 9, 2004. Present were Kris Akin, Dick Ozment, Kenneth Betzold, Pat Tinsley, Mike Rademacher, Marge Hulbert, Harold Eide, Bill May, Paul Irrthum, Norbert Kuhn, Jonathan Kuhn, Russell H. Zellmer, Norman Torbenson, Randy Becker, Arlyn Lamb, Deloy and Charlene Kiser, Jim Ozmun, Rick Betzold, John Day, Eileen Anderson, Ida Sieg, Elaine Wikstrom, Marlys Guildner, Kathleen Betzold, Roger Randall, Mark Wagenknecht, Ken Schentzel, Robert Dubbels, Judy Solinger, Dave Kammuller, David Mumm, Maralee Rother, Russ Zellmer, Colin Garvey, Lloyd Stevens, and David Nicolai.

Maralee Rother, Clerk, called the meeting to order at 8:15 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The Clerk called for nominations for a moderator. **John Day made a motion and Mark Wagenknecht seconded to nominate Bill May. Pat Tinsley nominated both Paul Irrthum and Norbert Kuhn, both declined. There being no other nominations, the motion was carried for Bill May as moderator.**

The minutes of the 2003 Annual Meeting were read. **Ken Betzold made a motion and John Day seconded to approve the minutes of 2003 as written and read. Motion carried.**

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Roger Randall gave a report for the year ended December 31, 2003. The Township's total income was \$355,929.59, and the total expenses were \$424,947.30, leaving a balance of -\$69,017.71. The figures for these amounts were on pages eight and nine in the annual packet. Also in the annual packet the revenue and expense statement was on pages 10, 11, and 12. **Russ Zellmer made a motion and Dave Nicolai seconded to approve the Treasurer's report subject to audit. Motion carried.**

ROAD COMMITTEE REPORT

Ken Betzold, Chair of the Road Committee, gave the following report: The Township completed their second major reconstruction in recent years in August and September of 2003. The west ½ mile of 230th Street starting at Biscayne was sub-cut and re-graded. The project was scheduled for the summer of 2003, and this past spring provided substantial proof that this project was needed. The road was closed and considered impassable for over a month. An additional 600 feet of road, east of the surveyed project, was sub-cut and repaired at considerable savings for the Township. The savings resulted from the fact that the equipment and work force were already on-site and the fill was coming from the adjacent land rather than being hauled in from a remote source. Other projects of 2003 included sub-cuts on Biscayne between 230th and 240th Streets, and at Highway 3 and 240th Street. Tree removal in the right-of-way of 225th Street and also on 275th Street was also completed. Lime rock was placed on 275th Street, 240th Street, and also on the north ½ mile of Denmark Avenue in an effort to hold the gravel in

place and reduce maintenance. Denmark Avenue has one of the highest traffic volumes in the Township, at one of the highest rates of speed.

Following are the Road Committee recommendations for 2004:

1. 225th Street and Highway 3 – Remove existing driveway, clean ditches, replace culvert, and possibly add 2 other culverts to help drainage. Approximate cost \$2000.00.
2. Be sure that specs for gravel bids include a magnesium sulfate soundness test – MNDOT 1219 (freeze/thaw) from now on.
3. Tiling – Biscayne south of 230th Street and south of 240th. Approximate cost \$4000.00.
4. Set an amount for maintenance man to clean ditches (removal of rock and debris), then set aside money for mowing right-of-ways to keep weeds and trees under control. Approximate cost for maintenance man \$2,500.00, approximate cost of mowing \$3,000.00.
5. Ditch on 270th Street – North side of road east of Biscayne along Kimber property. Rebuild ditch and seed. Approximate cost \$3,000.00.
6. Lime rock 225th Street from Highway 3 to Biscayne Avenue (would take about 1500 ton). Have 500 ton of lime rock for spot gravel. Class 5 rock needed for 265th, 250th East, 250th West, and 230th Streets, and Biscayne Avenue. Approximate cost for lime rock \$16,000.00 for 2,000 ton. Approximate cost for Class 5 rock \$30,000.00 for 5,000 ton.
7. Overlay approximately 1,450 feet of Danville in the village of Castle Rock. Give to County for their asphalt overlay package.
8. Install a culvert ½ mile west of Annette on 230th Street to replace the old one. Approximate cost \$1,500.00.
9. No bridge work should be done unless we can receive aid from the County to do the work.
10. Dust control – Approximate cost \$12,500.00.
11. 265th Street – Clean up trees and debris between Blaine Avenue and County Road 47. Approximate cost \$1,500.00.
12. The Road Committee feels that there is no reason to do any Long Term Capital Improvement suggestions for roads at this time due to the fact that we see no major changes in the Township until the Comprehensive Plan is revised in the year 2018.

Road Counts 2002

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Count</u>
Denmark Avenue N of 240 th :	8/1	495	8/2	503
275 th E of Highway 3:	8/8	44	8/9	83
240 th E of Denmark:	8/29	278	8/30	295
225 th E of Highway 3:	9/9	550	9/10	518
225 th E of Biscayne:	9/11	165	9/12	136
Annette S of Highway 50:	9/16	175	9/17	192

Road Counts 2003

230 th W of Blaine:	7/8	108	7/9	92
270 th E of Biscayne:	7/10	154	7/11	119

230 th W of Blaine:	7/16	86	7/17	108
Akron at 280 th :	7/21	94	7/22	163 (accident route)
270 th W of Blaine:	7/23	161	7/24	116
230 th E of Biscayne:	7/30	100	8/1	113

COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

Doug Wiedder, Chair of the Committee, called in sick and was not present at the meeting. Maralee Rother read the report which stated : The Communication Committee compiles and publishes the Castle Rock Chronicle on a quarterly basis. Issues are mailed to Castle Rock residents, property owners, and interested parties in February, May, August, and November. The Communication Committee tries to keep township residents informed of issues and events in the township by printing them in the Chronicle. Articles to be published may be submitted to the Clerk at the Town Hall. The Chronicle is published and mailed at no cost to Township residents as advertiser fees cover the cost of the publication. Volunteer Shirley Dubbels seeks and renews contracts with the advertisers annually. The printing and folding is done by Farmington Printing, stamping and attaching mailing labels is done by volunteer Clarence Rother. Volunteers Judy Solinger and Maralee Rother type and edit the Chronicle. The Communication Committee welcomes any suggestions for ways to improve the Chronicle, and welcomes articles (or ideas for articles) for publication. Members of the committee are Doug Wiedder Supervisor, Clarence and Maralee Rother, Shirley Dubbels, and Judy Solinger.

PARKS REPORT

Kris Akin gave the following report:

Castle Rock Township maintains two parks. One is located on Highway 50 between Berring and Beaumont Avenues and the other is located in Rocky Hills Addition, south on Highway 3.

The north park (Countryside Park) on Highway 50 was well used in 2003, for the first time in many years, as Farmington Youth Baseball held practices and games on the baseball field evenings from May thru July. To prepare the field for use, chain link fence was installed down the first and third base sides, and ag lime was spread in the base lines. Supervisor Jim Ozmun repaired the benches. The Waterford Warriors Snowmobile Club’s donation to the township was used to pay for the improvements.

No plant material or trees were added to either park. The grass was well maintained by the contracted company, Wide Open Contracting. The trees in the north park were pruned in the fall by Arlyn Lamb, Randy Becker, and Dave Akin.

We hope to add more plant material (shrubs and trees) to the north park. A letter requesting donations of plant material was sent to landscape and nursery businesses in Castle Rock Township, for planting in 2004.

2004 PLANS

Farmington Youth Baseball has notified the Township that they would like to reserve the field at Countryside Park for the period of May 10 to July 31, Monday thru Thursday, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Youth Baseball will meet with the Township to assess the condition of the field; Ag lime will need to be added to the baselines and infield area. We will look into the possibility of enlarging the parking lot. We will coordinate the addition of more shrubs and trees to the north park. The lettering in the park sign will be

repainted red so it is more visible. We will ask the Clerk to print another notice in the Chronicle to warn people about parking cars for sale in the north parking lot. More participation from residents near the south park at Rocky Hills Addition will be encouraged in order to decide the direction and development of this park area. We will encourage more residents to serve on the Parks Committee.

SUPERVISORS REPORT

Randy Becker, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, gave the following report: The Castle Rock Township Board of Supervisors has addressed many issues in 2003. One project that had long been unresolved is the Ash Street project with the City of Farmington. In 2003, a Joint Powers/Orderly Annexation agreement was signed with the City, and any annexation issues that result from this project will be addressed as they arise, and on an individual basis. The City of Farmington has agreed to reimburse the Township for past expenses associated with this project, and will be billed. A site in Castle Rock Township has been identified as a possible location for a new high school for District 192. This site is only one of the sites under consideration, and no final decisions have been made. The Board of Supervisors continue to meet with representatives of the School District and the City of Farmington. The Board of Supervisors meet the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. These meetings are open to the public, and any interested citizens are encouraged to attend and become more informed about the governing of Castle Rock Township.

PLANNING COMMISSION

David Nicolai, Vice-Chair of the Planning Commission, gave the following report: The Planning Commission held special and public meetings in 2003:

- Reviewed guidelines for roads and recommended that the Board of Supervisors adopt them into the Township's Policy and Procedures.
- Recommended approval for a conditional use permit to move a double wide home onto a property at 1560 220th Street East, and to waver the bond for removal of old mobile home because it must be removed before the new one can be put on the property.
- Interviewed two candidates for Planning Commission position vacated by Arlyn Lamb when he became a Board Supervisor, and recommended that David Kammüller be appointed to the position.
- Recommended to deny a conditional use permit for a moto-cross track at 26XXX Denmark Avenue because it is not a permitted use in an agricultural district in accordance with 6.04 – 6.04 D and 8.05 of the Township's ordinances.
- Recommended to deny an application for a conditional use permit for a landscape business at 22915 Annette Avenue because the owner is not in compliance.
- Recommended approval for a conditional use permit to move a modular home on property at 1000 250th Street East.
- Recommended approval for a conditional use permit for a seasonal mining permit for the Township of Castle Rock to provide fill and material for the reconstruction of 230th Street east of Biscayne Avenue.
- Recommended approval of a conditional use permit for the use of the shed at 3181 225th Street for storage of equipment and light shop duty use.

- Recommended approval of the Tax Parcel Split at 22080 Chippendale Avenue in the commercial district.
- Recommended to deny a conditional use permit for used auto sales at 22056 Chippendale Avenue because of the absence of the applicant.
- Recommended approval of a parcel split at 1205 240th Street.

The Planning Commission meets the last Monday of each month at 8:00 P.M. at the Castle Rock Town Hall. Planning Commission members are Jim Heiman Chair, David Nicolai Vice Chair, Maralee Rother Secretary, David KammueLLer, and Bob Dubbels.

CLERK REPORT

Maralee Rother Clerk read a report which included the following:

In the March 2003 election, Randy Becker and Arlyn Lamb were elected for three-year terms as Supervisors, and Roger Randall was elected for a two-year term as treasurer. Randy Becker was appointed as Chairman of the Board, and Jim Ozmun was appointed Vice Chair.

- Legal notices are published in the Township's official newspapers: the Farmington Independent and the Cannon Falls Beacon. Legal posting places are Castle Rock Banks in Castle Rock and Farmington, Farmers Mill and Elevator in Castle Rock, and the Castle Rock Town Hall.
- Castle Rock Bank is the primary bank for the Township, and Anchor Bank is secondary bank.
- The attorneys for the Township are Severson, Sheldon, Dougherty, and Molenda, P.A., and Thuet, Pugh, Rogosheske, and Atkins, LTD.
- The Township has issued 36 building permits, five conditional use permits, and two variances in the year of 2003.
- The Township reconstructed ½ mile of 230th Street east of Biscayne, and also reconstructed 600 feet of 230th Street in a separate project.
- On February 11, 2003 Castle Rock Township adopted the resolution for guidelines for roads in Castle Rock Township.
- On May 13, 2003, Castle Rock Township adopted the resolution to accept federal mileage rate for reimbursement for travel outside the Township.
- On August 12, 2003 Castle Rock Township adopted the resolution concerning approving the Joint Powers/Orderly Annexation Agreement between Castle Rock Township and the City of Farmington including the Ash Street reconstruction and utility improvements.
- On November 12, 2003 Castle Rock Township adopted the resolution of support for House File 375/Senate File 477 "Annexation Equity Bill".
- On July 29, 2003, Castle Rock Township adopted the resolution concerning temporarily closing roads in Castle Rock Township, and for the closing of 230th Street.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Sandy Weber presented a memo from Bobby King from Lewiston, MN, who is with the land stewardship project regarding the local control of Townships. The concern is that Township control over land use and zoning to protect the health and quality of life for residents will be severely limited. Legislation has been proposed that weakens the Township powers. It is suggested that Township officers and residents should contact legislators and tell them to oppose this legislation and any that weakens Township powers. **Norman Torbenson made a motion and Kenneth Betzold seconded that the Clerk prepare a letter regarding this issue and send it to the Senators and Representatives named in the memo. Motion carried.**

Discussion was held regarding rezoning use of land by clustering. **Rick Betzold made a motion and Mark Wagonknecht seconded to take a straw vote to have clustering, and the vote was 16 for and 14 against.**

John Day, member of the Randolph Area History Society explained the organization. The Society is using the old Methodist Church in Randolph for their historical material from the area, which includes Castle Rock Township. The building is open to the public the first and third Sunday of each month from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. He also made a request for a donation to the organization from each Township involved. **Rich Betzold made a motion and Mark Wagonknecht seconded to make a donation of \$400.00 to the Randolph Area Historical Society. Motion carried.**

Discussion was held regarding putting the minutes of Township meetings or Township activities in the paper, or putting them on a web page on the internet. **Kris Akin made a motion and Elaine Wikstom seconded that the Township research providing information through the internet.**

2004 BUDGET AND LEVY

Roger Randall, Treasurer, reviewed the proposed budget and levy for 2004, which was on page 13 of the Annual Report. **Elaine Wikstrom made a motion and David Nicolai seconded to accept the proposed levy of \$266,000.00. Motion carried.**

ELECTION RESULTS

SUPERVISOR A – THREE YEAR TERM

Norbert Kuhn 125
Russ Zellmer 132

SUPERVISOR B – THREE YEAR TERM

Kenneth Betzold 118
Paul Irrthum 128
Doug Wiedder 9
Norbert Kuhn (write in) 2

Results are unofficial until after the Board of Canvass report.

2005 ANNUAL MEETING

Maralee Rother made a motion and Roger Randall seconded to hold the 2005 Annual Township Meeting on the second Tuesday of March at 8:15 p.m. Motion carried.

ADJOURN

Ken Betzold made a motion and Arlyn Lamb seconded to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Maralee Rother, Clerk