Eureka! The News



Eureka Township Supervisors

Meets monthly, 2nd Monday, 7:00 p.m.

Brian Budenski, Chair
952-292-6028, term to 3/11

Dan Rogers, Vice Chair
952-469-3739, term to 3/12

Carrie Jennings
952-469-4976, term to 3/11

Kenny Miller,
952-469-4803, term to 3/13

Nancy Sauber,
952-469-5146, term to 3/12

Eureka Planning Commission

Meets monthly, 1st Monday, 7:00 p.m. Ken Olstad, Chair 612-546-5656, term to 4/11 Peter Storlie, Vice Chair 952-469-3668, term to 4/12 Lucretia (Lucy) Barfknecht 952-469-3513, term to 4/13 Cheryl Groves,

507-645-7103, term to 4/12 Vince Mako,

952-469-3928, term to 4/11

Township Contact, Clerk/Treasurer

Nanett Sandstrom, 952-469-3736 Fax 952-469-5525

Town Hall Office Hours:

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Thursdays 10:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. At other times, calls are transferred to voice mail; all calls are returned.

Location: 25043 Cedar Ave. S. **Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 576

Lakeville, MN 55044

Drop Box – Applications and other items may be placed in the locked drop box near the Town Hall front door.

E-mail: eurekatn@frontiernet.net
Website: http://eurekatownship-mn.us
Ken Olstad 952-985-7248

Township Roads:

Kenny Miller 952-469-4803 Dan Rogers 952-469-3739

Building Officals:

MNSPECT 952-442-7520 info@mnspect.com www.mnspect.com

Emergency 911: ambulance, police, fire (non-emergency 651-437-4211)

Official Notices are posted on the bulletin board located on the south (parking lot) side of the Town Hall, 25043 Cedar Ave. and published in ThisWeek Life and Times newspaper.

Editor: Jody Arman-Jones, 651-463-2876

Mailings: Brianna Groves

Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization

What is the Vermillion River Watershed?

With 335 square miles of land that drain to the Vermillion River and its tributaries, the Vermillion River Watershed is the largest in area among watersheds in the Twin Cities Metropolitan area. It passes through "areas of rapid urban growth, agricultural land and suburban residential land" in Scott and Dakota Counties and contains the only "world class trout stream within a major metropolitan area in the United States."

What is the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization?

Dakota and Scott Counties formed the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO) in 2000, replacing the earlier Watershed Management Organization (WMO). When the earlier WMO was dissolved, State statute required the responsibility for water planning and management to be taken up by the Counties. After forming the new Joint Powers Organization, a new Watershed Plan was developed and adopted in 2005, leading the development of policies, programs, and projects that protect and preserve water resources in the Vermillion Watershed. The VRWJPO is governed by a three-member Joint Powers Board. A nine-member citizen advisory Watershed Planning Commission supports the Joint Powers Organization. Dakota and Scott Counties jointly fund the administration and activities of the VRWJPO through a levy in a "special purpose" tax district.

What is the history of the VRWJPO Plan, Standards and Rules?

The overall goal of the **Watershed Plan** is to protect water quality and quantity by gradually implementing river-friendly land use practices to previously impacted lands or land-use changes in the watershed originating from development. It was adopted in November, 2005. The **Watershed Standards**, adopted on February 27, 2008, are a minor amendment to the Plan and published as a companion document to the Plan. The **Watershed Rules** are the implementation mechanism for the Standards at the watershed level, similar to local ordinances, and govern certain land use and alteration activities within the Vermillion River Watershed.

Where does Eureka stand on the adoption of the Watershed Plan, Standards and Rules?

We are currently in a kind of limbo. The Eureka Town Board responded to citizen input and adopted a Local Water Management Plan but did not adopt a Water Management Ordinance (which would implement the Watershed Standards). However, this does not mean that the Watershed Rules do not affect us. The citizens of the Township who live in the Vermillion Watershed, are obligated to abide by the Watershed Rules. Without a Township Ordinance, enforcement and permitting of the Watershed Rules would come from the VRWJPO (located in the Dakota County Govt. Center in Apple Valley) and not locally from the Township.

The VRWJPO Plan has been amended, partly in response to Eureka's concerns over buffer requirements and conservation easements. What changed?

Many of the situations that would have triggered the need for buffers along waterways and wetlands no longer apply to our Township as long as we keep housing density at one home per quarter-quarter-section and are not clustering building eligibility along waterways and wetlands.

What kind of practical effect does this have on me if I have property along an affected parcel?

The amendment provides that a lot split for an existing building eligibility available under the one per quarter per quarter zoning *would be exempted* from the requirement to establish

the buffer through conservation easement. The proposed building <u>would need to meet setbacks</u> so that there would be no physical encroachment into the "buffer" area, but <u>no buffer would need to be planted, nor would an easement be required.</u>

What would trigger the buffer and conservation easement now?

The exemption applies only to the eligibility within that quarter-quarter. A lot split to accommodate an eligibility transferred from another area would need to establish the buffer through conservation easement (for example in the case of clustering), but only in the new lot that is being created. A split of an existing lot of record that is not eligible for this or other exemptions would also be required to establish the buffer at the time the lot is split.

For more information, please see:

http://vermillionriverwatershed.org/ http://www.co.dakota.mn.us/CountyGovernment/PublicEntities/VermillionJPO/default.htm call the Dakota County Water Resources at 952-891-7000

stop in at the Dakota CountyWestern Service Center at 14955 Galaxie Ave. in Apple Valley e-mail to vrwjpo@co.dakota.mn.us

Dakota County watershed map http://www.co.dakota.mn.us/NR/rdonlyres/0000069b/ksyzgiwrdnppgykgscloahghuikjpurf/VRWmap.pdf

Wild Parsnips Alert!

Township ditches and fields are again producing a fine crop of wild parsnips. When the sap of the plant comes in contact with skin in the presence of UV light (present on sunny days or cloudy ones), it can cause a rash, blistering and discoloration of the skin. The plant can grow to three feet or taller, has lacy yellow



flowers and is often mistaken for dill. For more information, call the DNR at 651-296-6157 or see its website at http://www.dnr.state.mn. us/invasives/terrestrialplants/ herbaceous/wildparsnip.html

Eureka - Site of Bicycle Time Trials

Using the Town Hall as a starting point, the *Silver Cycling* organization will use 250th St., Dodd Blvd., Highview Ave. and Cedar Ave. as a course for the first ever "Farm Dog" (replacing Black Dog) time trials. Dates are Wednesdays, July 28, August 11 and August 25. Registration is 5:45 p.m. – 6:45 p.m., with the trials beginning at 7:00 p.m. For more information call race director Russ Loucks at 612-205-9171 or http://www.silvercycling.org/bdtt.html

Start seeing bicycles

TOWN BOARD NEWS

Township Road Concerns – Please contact Town Board Supervisors Dan Rogers at 952-469-3739 or Kenny Miller at 952-469-4803 regarding any issues relating to Township roads or ditches rather than the road contractors.



CapX2020 Power Line – In May 2010, Administrative Law Judge Luis forwarded to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) his conclusions for the route of the high voltage power line. It appears a modified version of the earlier identified "preferred route" through the center portion of Eureka Township has been recommended for the Brookings to Hampton section. The PUC has not yet issued a routing permit and the utilities involved in this section of the project have asked for a delay until 2015, in part, to determine how the project will be funded. The Minnesota Court of Appeals ruled against Citizens Energy Task Force (CETF) and others in early June 2010, paving the way for the Hampton to LaCrosse portion of the project to move forward, possibly as early as Fall 2010. More information is available at http://oah.state.mn.us/apa.html or by calling 651-361-7900.

Eminent Domain - On April 30, 2010, Governor Tim Pawlenty signed legislation designed to" increase fairness for Minnesota landowners involved in the eminent domain process with utility companies." The increased protections for landowners include language regarding compensation for attorney bills, appraisals, negotiations, notice, loss of "growing concerns", and relocation. This will provide additional assistance for those landowners should the CAPX 2020 project move forward.

Ordinance Updates - The Board adopted the June 14, 2010 document and those Ordinance changes went into effect on July 9, 2010. Those changes include, but are not limited to, definition changes throughout, Ordinance 3 – Zoning (clustering, junk vehicles, manufactured homes), Ordinance 4 – Public Safety (utility installation), Ordinance 6 – Mining, and Ordinance 7 – Fees. For more information, see http://eurekatownship-mn.us/ordinances/as-approved-by-board-on-2010-06-15-with-change-marks.pdf or call the Town Hall at 952-469-3736.

System Pumping

"Making a list, checking it twice..."

Be sure you're not on the list of folks who haven't pumped their septic system!
Just one pumping every three years keeps you in State compliance.

Kudos to Georgie Molitor!

For the majority of years *Eureka! The News* has been published, Georgie has graciously donated her time and energies to pick up, address, seal, collate by destination and deliver the newsletter to the Post Office. Her assistance has been invaluable and she will be sorely missed as she passes on her duties to Brianna Groves.

Welcome Brianna Groves !

PLANNING COMMISSION MESSAGES

Organizational Meeting - At the May 2010 meeting, Ken Olstad was voted Chair and Pete Storlie, Vice Chair.

Commercial/Industrial Task Force Members Named – Upon recommendation of the Planning Commission, Mike Jacobson, Jim Sauber and Jeff Otto were appointed to serve with Town Board liaisons Nancy Sauber and Kenny Miller on the 2010 Commercial/Industrial Task Force. A meeting schedule and Planning Commission members will be announced in August.

Public Hearing Scheduled - A Public Hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, August 24 at 7:00 p.m. regarding the request by Kelly Aggregate, Inc. for a proposed Text Amendment to Ordinance 6 – Mining, to allow for Recycled Aggregate Products, Ready-Mixed Concrete and Asphalt Production. For more information, please call the Town Hall at 952-469-3736 or see http://eurekatownship-mn.us/events/2010/Text%20Amendment%20Application%2011-24-2009.pdf

NOTES FROM THE CLERK



2010 Elections – The State of Minnesota has changed the Primary Election Day from September to August and expanded the opportunities for absentee voting. Residents who are not registered to vote in Eureka Township, are encouraged to do so prior to an election. Minnesota does allow for Election Day registration; however, pre-registration significantly speeds the Election Day voting process at the polls for everyone.

Election	2010 Election Date	Voter Pre-register Deadline	Absentee Voting Periods
Primary	Tuesday, August 10	Tuesday, July 20	Friday, June 25 - Monday, August 9
General	Tuesday, November 2	Tuesday, October 12	Friday, September 17 - Mon, Nov. 1

Poll hours at the Eureka Town Hall are 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. For more information, please contact the following: Secretary of State http://www.sos.state.mn.us/index.aspx?page=134 or call 651-215-1440

Dakota County http://www.co.dakota.mn.us/CountyGovernment/VotingElections/Voting/default.htm or call 651-438-4380



DAKOTA COUNTY HAPPENINGS

Capital Improvement Plan Impacts Eureka – Dakota County has released its 2010 – 2014 Capital Improvement Plan, which contains three major road projects for Eureka Township. Among these are upgrading County Road 80/255th St. to a two-lane State Aid highway from County Road 23 (Cedar/Galaxie/Gambier) to Highway 3, including modifying/reconstructing the railroad bridge. Also being rebuilt is County Road 9/Dodd Blvd., including shoulders and turn lanes, from County Road 46/2 in Scott County to County Road 70/215th St. County participation in this project is contingent upon the receipt of Federal funding. A third project is the creation of a two-lane paved road on County Road 84/267th St. from the Scott/Dakota County line to County Road 17/Highview Ave. Landowners involved in all projects will receive notice of public meetings during the design phase of each project. No local cost share or assessments are expected. For more information call the Dakota County Transportation Department at 952-891-7100 or see the "2010 Capital Improvement Plan" page located at www.co.dakota.mn.us/CountyGovernment/BudgetFinance/FinanceReportsCIP.htm.

Project	Design Phase	Right of Way Acquisition	Construction
County 80/255 th St.	2011	2012	2013
County 9/Dodd Blvd	2011	2012	2013
County 84/267 th St.	2012	2013	2014

Dakota County and the State Clean Water, Land and Legacy Fund – On June 6, 2010, an article appeared in the St. Paul Pioneer Press outlining Dakota County plans for its first share of monies from the newly implemented State Constitutional Amendment commonly referred to as the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Act. The author, Frederick Melo, divides projects into Preserving Shoreline, Monitoring Water, Upgrading Parks and Supporting the Arts. Among the many diverse plans listed are purchasing conservation easements on Chub Lake, the Cannon River and the Vermillion River in Eureka Township. The author may be reached by calling 651-228-2172, or the article may be viewed on the Township website at http://eurekatownship-mn.us/news/Dakota%20County%20seeing%20benefits%20of%20state%20Legacy%20fund.pdf

Septic System Pumping – Every three years State residents are required to have their septic systems pumped. Dakota County sends reminder notices to landowners and charges the Township with enforcing the law. Your prompt cooperation is much appreciated.



Eureka Township P.O. Box 576 Lakeville, MN 55044

> 25043 Cedar Ave. Phone 952-469-3736 Fax 952-469-5525

E-mail: eurekatn@frontiernet.net Website http://eurekatownship-mn.us Pstd Standard US POSTAGE PAID Permit 5090 Lakeville, MN

2010 Eureka Township Calendar...events at Eureka Town Hall, 25043 Cedar Ave., unless otherwise indicated

August 2	Monday	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, Special Board Meeting
August 9	Monday	5:00 p.m.	Primary Election absentee ballot in-person voting deadline
August 9	Monday	7:00 p.m.	Town Board Meeting, Special Planning Commission Meeting
August 10	Tuesday	7a.m. – 8p.m.	Primary Election (note date change from previous years)
August 24	Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Public Hearing Mining Ordinance 6 Amendments
August 26	Thursday	noon	Applications due for September 7 Planning Commission Meeting
September 7	Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, Special Board Meeting
September 13	Monday	7:00 p.m.	Town Board Meeting, Special Planning Commission Meeting
September 17	Friday		Absentee Ballots become available for General Election
September 23	Thursday	noon	Applications due for October 7 Planning Commission Meeting
October 4	Monday	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, Special Board Meeting
October 12	Monday	7:00 p.m.	Town Board Meeting, Special Planning Commission Meeting
October 12	Monday	4:30 p.m.	Deadline for voter pre-registration for the Nov. General Election
October 14	Thursday	5:00 p.m.	Deadline for quarterly newsletter
October 28	Thursday	noon	Applications due for November 5 Planning Commission Mtg.
November 1	Monday	5:00 p.m.	General Election absentee ballot in-person voting deadline
November 1	Monday	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, Special Board Meeting
November 2	Tuesday	7a.m 8p.m.	General Election (absentee ballots due by 3:00 p.m.)
November 8	Monday	7:00 p.m.	Town Board Meeting, Special Planning Commission Meeting
November 23	Tuesday	noon	Applications due for December 6 Planning Commission Mtg,

*Note: All new structures, most types of remodeling (both interior and exterior), and some types of repairs require a building permit under the Minnesota State Uniform Building Code and Eureka Township Ordinances. If you are in doubt about whether a project requires a permit, please contact the Town Clerk at 952-469-3736. Eureka Township Ordinances are available from the Town Clerk at \$25 for a hard copy, \$2 for a CD disk or can be accessed on the website, http://eurekatownship-mn.us, or at the Dakota County libraries in Lakeville and Farmington, or Eureka Town Hall or the Dakota County Law Library.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & CLASSIFIEDS

County/Township Tire Recycling Day

Eureka Township is planning to host a tire recycling opportunity for residents later this fall. Volunteers are needed to assist with this event. If you are interested or have additional questions, please contact the Town Clerk at 952-469-3736 or by email at www.eurekatn@frontiernet.net. Watch for further details as they develop at http://eurekatownship-mn.us or receive email notices about this event and others by signing up for electronic reminders with the Clerk.

Town Hall Available for Rent

The Town Hall holds up to 140 people and is available to be rented Sundays through Saturdays, from 7:30 a.m. through 11:30 p.m. Applicants must be at least 21 years of age. More information and an application are available by calling the Clerk at 952-469-3736, in person at the Town Hall or on the website at http://eurekatownship-

mn.us/Policies%20Procedures/Town%20Hall%20Rental%20Agr eement%2012-10-2007.pdf.

LaVerne's Pumping Service

Septic System Maintenance

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Carol S. Cooper, Attorney at Law 26437 Galaxie Ave., Farmington, MN 55024

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(651) 460-2056 cooper@cscooperlaw.com http://www.cscooperlaw.com





Eureka Sand & Gravel

5100 West 235th Street Farmington, MN 55024 651-460-4700 www.eurekasands.com

Low Interest Loans for Septic System Upgrades

There is a loan program available through the Soil and Water Conservation District to assist with the costs of upgrading septic systems. For more information please contact Todd Matzke at the Farmington SWCD office at 651-480-7777 or todd.matzke@co.dakota.mn.us

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Clinic (651) 460-6868

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Valid July 25, 2010 - September 25, 2010 Not valid with other offers

COUPON

Business Ads by Residents and/or Landowners in Eureka Township

No endorsement of products, services or business status is implied. Eureka landowners and/or residents who wish to advertise their businesses in this newsletter, may place a "business card ad" for the price of \$35.00 per quarter or \$125.00 per annum and will help defray costs of this newsletter.