## Eureka! The News



#### **Eureka Township Supervisors**

Meets monthly, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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, term to 3/11 952-469-4976 Kenny Miller, term to 3/13 952-469-4803 Nancy Sauber, term to 3/12 952-469-5146

#### **Eureka Planning Commission**

Meets monthly, 1<sup>st</sup> Monday, 7:00 p.m. Vince Mako, Chair 952-469-3928, term to 4/11 Ken Olstad, Vice-Chair 952-985-7248, term to 4/11 Lucretia (Lucy) Barfknecht 952-469-3513, term to 4/13 Cheryl Groves, 507-645-7103, term to 4/12 Peter Storlie.

#### Township Contact, Clerk/Treasurer

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

952-469-3668, term to 4/12

#### **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 – A**pplications and other items may be placed in the locked drop box near the Town Hall front door.

E-mail: <a href="mailto:eurekatn@frontiernet.net">eurekatn@frontiernet.net</a>
Website: <a href="mailto:http://eurekatownship-mn.us">http://eurekatownship-mn.us</a>
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: Georgie Molitor

# 2010 Annual Election and Meeting

The 2010 Annual Election and Town Meeting were held on Tuesday, March 9. With 132 total votes cast, the results of the election are Kenny Miller - 70 votes, Chris Prose - 56 votes, Write in - 6 votes. The canvassing board met on Thursday, March 11, 2010, to officially declare Kenny Miller as the next Town Board Supervisor, term to run through March 2013.

The 2010 Annual Meeting began at approximately 8:15 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the election of Cory Behrendt as moderator.

Chair, Vince Mako recapped the Planning Commission top agenda items:

Township's Comprehensive Plan Ordinance review and updates

Preparation for the upcoming Commercial-Industrial task force **Jeff Otto, Chair** of the Town Board, included the following information:

**Roads** – In 2009 - Four miles of Township roads were graveled, \$31,000 in dust control was applied (aiding in the long-term viability of the gravel), and 225<sup>th</sup> St. was rebuilt where it crosses the Vermillion River.

2010 possible paving of part of 225<sup>th</sup> St. due to additional hangar construction 2013 plan to repave Dodd Boulevard by Dakota County

2014 possible realignment of Cedar Ave. to accommodate runway extension

Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO)

Eureka rejected the burden of enforcement of the ordinance, which will now fall to the County and Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) which has the staff, resources and expertise to oversee the legislation. This has become a model for other Dakota County Townships.

Ordinance Updates – The 1990 Clustering Ordinance needs reworking as it contradicts the 1 on 40 zoning in the Township. Continue work on lots identified as having grand-fathered building site eligibility. Clarify requirement to rebuild on current sites within 12 months when original structure has been destroyed. Update the Road Haul ordinance.

CapX2020 – High voltage power line project continues with Eureka being impacted by both the preferred route (primarily 240<sup>th</sup> St.) and the alternate route (basically County Road 86). As an aside to this issue, the Minnesota Legislature is, again, considering removing the current exemptions of utility companies to the Eminent Domain law.

**Country Stone Litigation** – A CD of approximately 700 pages of testimony is available for the cost of \$5.00. Please contact the Town Clerk if interested.

**Commercial – Industrial Task Force** – TKDA has been identified as the facilitators for this body. Additional Eureka residents and landowners are being sought to serve. \$15,000 of the expense will come from the negotiated settlement of the Hat Trick Property annexation by Lakeville.

#### 2011 Levy set - \$465,000.00 (decrease of \$15,000 from 2010)

General Fund \$164,700 Road and Bridge Fund \$230,000 Hard Road Surface Escrow \$17,300

Town Hall Fund \$53,000 (Mortgage Reduction)

It is anticipated that through unallotment, the State will reduce its aid to Eureka by \$13,700 in the coming year (up from over \$7,000 last year). In another change, those in attendance at the Annual Meeting voted to eliminate the yearly \$15,000 contribution to the Professional Services Escrow Fund for 2011.

### TOWN BOARD NEWS

**A Very Big Thank You to Jeff Ofto -** The Town Board and citizens it represents would like to recognize the commitment and service of Jeff Otto as he ends his term on the Town Board. Jeff also served on the Strategic Planning Task Force prior to his election to the Town Board. His time and talents are very much appreciated and will be sorely missed. He has agreed to remain as a citizen member of the Country Stone litigation team and the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization team for the time being. Thank you for your outstanding work on behalf of the Township, Jeff.

Town Board 2010 Reorganization - During the April 2010 Town Board Reorganization meeting, the

following official designations, liaisons and representatives were identified:

Chair – Brian Budenski

Vice Chair – Dan Rogers

Official Newspaper – ThisWeek Life and Times

Official Bank - Castle Rock

Township Attorney - Kelly & Lemmons, P.A.

Liaison Nancy Sauber (primary), Brian Budenski

Professional Services Firm - TKDA

Liaison Carrie Jennings (primary), Brian Budenski

Lakeville/Farmington Fire - Dan Rogers

Weed Inspector - Kenny Miller

Allina Ambulance – Dan Rogers

Roads – Dan Rogers, Kenny Miller

Wetlands - Carrie Jennings (primary), Kenny Miller

Airlake Airport – Dan Rogers (primary), Kenny Miller

Town Hall – Nanett Sandstrom

Dakota County - Kenny Miller

Dakota County Sheriff – Dan Rogers

Compliance Officer – Dan Rogers

DNR – Carrie Jennings

Cannon/Vermillion River Watershed -

Carrie Jennings (primary), Nancy Sauber

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.

**Spring Clean Up** – Many thanks to all who have taken it upon themselves to pick up litter and trash from the road ditches and around properties. Everyone is encouraged to join in! Contact Dan or Kenny regarding larger discarded items.

**CapX2020 Power Line** – The Minnesota Court of Appeals heard arguments on March 17, 2010, challenging last August's decision by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to approve the Certificates of Need for the project. No date has been identified for the decision by the Court.

**Country Stone / Friedges Litigation -** CD's of the court testimony to March 2010 are available for \$5.00. Please contact the Town Clerk for more information.

**Eminent Domain** – The Minnesota State Legislature has taken up the issue of removing the special exemptions for public service companies (utilities) in the current Minnesota Eminent Domain law. To date, bills have passed both the House and Senate and are in conference committee to iron out the differences between the two versions of the bill.

**Interceptor Sewer Line** - This project continues and will include short-term road closures on 225<sup>th</sup> east of Dodd Blvd. and Dodd Blvd. north of 225<sup>th</sup> during May and/or June. More specific information will be posted on the Township website as it becomes available.

**Vermillion River Watershed** – Meetings and discussion between the Township and the VRWJPO on the possibility of dual permitting continue, including an agenda item for the May 10 Town Board meeting. A VRWJPO public hearing for final comments on and the adoption of the amendments to the Watershed Standards will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 27, 2010 at the Dakota County Western Service Center, Conference Room 334, 14955 Galaxie Ave., Apple Valley. Contact the Town Clerk for further details on viewing the draft amendments and opportunity for written and oral comment.

## PLANNING COMMISSION MESSAGES

**New Planning Commission Member -** Lucretia Barfknecht has lived in Eureka Estates for the past 22 years while raising four children and working in the banking and insurance industries. Welcome aboard, Lucy!

Commercial/Industrial Task Force Members Sought - Additional citizens are needed to serve on this Task Force. Eureka residents and landowners are encouraged to submit letters of interest by May 25 to Town Clerk, Nanett Sandstrom <a href="mailto:curekatn@frontiernet.net">curekatn@frontiernet.net</a>, stop at the Town Hall, or via U.S. mail to P.O Box 576, Lakeville, MN 55044. Such a letter or e-mail should include contact information and a comment or two about why the writer is interested in serving on the Commercial/Industrial Task Force, and what they can bring to the discussion. Applicants submitting letters of interest will meet individually with the Planning Commission at the June 7, 2010 Planning Commission meeting. The Town Board has selected TKDA as facilitators for the Township's Commercial/Industrial Task Force.

**Ordinance Update in Progress, Public Hearing Scheduled** - The Planning Commission, as part of regular periodic review, has drafted proposed changes to Township Ordinances. A public hearing is scheduled for May 17, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at the Eureka Town Hall. The proposed Ordinance changes are available for review at the Town Hall and through a link on the Eureka Township web site, <a href="http://eurekatownship-mn.us">http://eurekatownship-mn.us</a>. Public hearing notices are posted on the Eureka Township web site; in <a href="mailto:ThisWeek Life">ThisWeek Life</a> and Times Newspaper; on the bulletin board located on the south side of the Town Hall; or you may contact the Town Clerk at <a href="mailto:eurekato@frontiernet.net">eurekato@frontiernet.net</a> to request electronic notification.

#### **How Permit Fees are Calculated**

By Scott Qualle of MNSpect, Township Building Officials

#### My permit fee is based on the project Valuation. Why is that?

MN Rules Chapter 1300.0160 Subpart 4: "Building Permit Fees shall be based on Valuation. Exceptions:

- A. One and two-family dwelling maintenance permits for roofing, siding, windows, doors or other minor projects may be charged a fixed fee.
- B. Permits for plumbing, mechanical, electrical, or other building service equipment may be based on valuation or changed a fixed fee."

#### Why do I need to supply the Valuation on the permit application?

MN Rules Chapter 1300.0160 Subpart 3: "The **applicant** for a permit shall provide an estimated permit value at time of application. Permit Valuations shall include total value of **all** construction work, **including materials and labor**, for which the permit is being issued..."

#### The Building Official changed my valuation to a higher number. Why?

MN Rules Chapter 1300.0160 Subpart 3: "...Building permit valuation shall be set by the building official." *In order to treat everyone fairly, the supplied valuation is used with a minimum of a calculated valuation based on the State Valuation Tables.* 

#### So how does the Valuation translate to the permit fee?

MN Rules Chapter 1300.0160 Subpart 1: "The applicant for a permit for a building; structure; or electrical, gas, mechanical or plumbing system or alteration requiring a permit shall pay the fee set forth by a fee schedule adopted by the municipality."

#### What are all the fees that might apply to my permit?

**Permit Fee:** Based on the above valuation calculation or fixed fee from fee schedule. **Plan Review Fee:** Based on 65% of the permit fee when submittal documents are required. **State Surcharge:** This is like a sales tax, and is not part of the Municipality's fee schedule. **Other Fees:** Miscellaneous fees like copy charges, site inspections, SEC, or other fees.

Municipality Fees not calculated by us: Sewer, Water, Sewer Access charges, Water Access charges, Park Dedication fees,

Zoning fees, Application fees, etc.

## NOTES FROM THE CLERK

## Stay on top of Township Happenings!

E-mail your request to receive electronic mailings to Town Clerk, Nanett Sandstrom, at <a href="mailto:eurekatn@frontiernet.net">eurekatn@frontiernet.net</a>

Special meetings \* Public hearings \* Agendas \* Quarterly Township Newsletter \* and more!

**Town Hall Cleaners Named** – The Town Board accepted the bid of T and C Commercial Cleaning to clean the Town Hall approximately once a month. T and C Commercial Cleaning is owned and operated by Eureka Township residents.

## Where Should Your Tax Dollars Be Put to Work? Voice Your Opinion!

As part of the 2008 Minnesota voter-approved Constitutional Amendment, commonly titled *Clean Water, Land and Legacy Act*, the Minnesota State Legislature has charged the Water Resources Center at the University of Minnesota with designing a framework on how and when to make investments that will ensure the purity and abundance of Minnesota's water for generations to come. As a part of this charge, vehicles have been created to gather public opinion via surveys and listening sessions on a range of water issues – from boating to agricultural practices.

Here's your chance to be heard on issues of water quality, water usage and priorities. Please share your opinions by answering the survey questions located at <a href="http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BL5KNPB">http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BL5KNPB</a>. Survey responses will be tallied and used to guide the Framework's final set of recommendations. The survey is expected to be available until sometime in May 2010. If you have additional comments or questions about the project, please e-mail <a href="water@umn.edu">water@umn.edu</a>. or call 612-624-9282. Learn more about the Minnesota Water Sustainability Framework at <a href="http://wrc.umn.edu/watersustainabilityframework/index.htm">http://wrc.umn.edu/watersustainabilityframework/index.htm</a>



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

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

E-mail: <a href="mailto:eurekatn@frontiernet.net">eurekatn@frontiernet.net</a> Website <a href="mailto:http://eurekatownship-mn.us">http://eurekatownship-mn.us</a> US POSTAGE PAID Presorted MAIL Permit 5090 Lakeville, MN

2010 Eureka Township Calendarevents at Eureka	Town Hall, 23043 Cedar Ave., unless otherwise indicated

May 3 May 10 May 17 May 25 May 27 May 27	Monday Monday Monday Tuesday Thursday Thursday	7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. noon . noon .	Planning Commission Meeting Town Board Meeting Public hearing on proposed Township Ordinance changes Letters of Interest due for Commercial-Industrial Task Force Applications due for June 7 Planning Commission Meeting Vermillion River Watershed Joint Power Organization (VRWJPO) public hearing, Dakota County Western Service Center, Conference Room 334, 14955 Galaxie Ave., Apple Valley, MN
June 7	Monday	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting and Interviews for C/I Task Force
June 14	Monday	7:00 p.m.	Town Board Meeting
June 24	Thursday	noon	Applications due for July 5 Planning Commission Meeting
July 6	Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting Town Board Meeting Deadline for quarterly Newsletter Applications due for August 2 Planning Commission Meeting
July 12	Monday	7:00 p.m.	
July 15	Thursday	5:00 p.m.	
July 22	Thursday	noon	
August 2	Monday	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting Town Board Meeting Applications due for September 7 Planning Commission Meeting
August 9	Monday	7:00 p.m.	
August 26	Thursday	noon	

\*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, <a href="http://eurekatownship-mn.us">http://eurekatownship-mn.us</a>, or at the Dakota County libraries in Lakeville and Farmington, or Eureka Town Hall or the Dakota County Law Library.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & CLASSIFIEDS

#### Town Hall Available for Rent

The Town Hall is available to be rented Sundays through Saturdays, from 7:30 a.m. through 11:30 p.m. An application is available by calling the Clerk at 952-469-3736 or in person at the Town Hall.

Applicants must be at least 21 years of age. A fee of \$25.00 per block of four hours and a \$200 deposit is required at least two weeks prior to the event. Please note that events may not be of a commercial, promotional, sales or fundraising nature. No admission may be charged to events. Alcoholic beverages, gambling and smoking are prohibited on the premises. No food preparation or cleaning facilities are available.

The Town Hall capacity is 140 people.

## 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



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

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## SOUTH CEDAR GARDEN CENTER

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Purchase of \$25.00 or more

Valid April 24, 2010 - July 25, 2010 Not valid with other offers

COUPON



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Dr. Brian Swedin

Chiropractic Physician

315 Fourth Street Farmington, MN 55024

Clinic (651) 460-6868

#### 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.