

# Forest Bridgewater Joint Powers Development District

Rice County, Minnesota  
Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
6:00 pm  
Official Minutes

1. **Call to order:** Glen Castore called the meeting to order at 6:00pm  
**Members Present:** Charlie Peters, Glen Castore, Andrew Ebling, Lori Noreen
2. **Approval of November 15, 2023, meeting minutes**  
Andrew Ebling made a motion to approve the minutes of November 15, 2023, Charlie Peters seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.
3. **Joint Powers Account update**  
Glen Castore stated that there is approximately \$4.3K in the Joint Powers checking account. He noted that the balance will cover the cost for insurance for one more year.
4. **CORE X Partners update**
  - a. Glen Castore stated that Bridgewater Township has been awarded \$1.6M in grant money from MNDOT for 140<sup>th</sup> Street Improvements that are scheduled to occur. He noted that Bridgewater Township has applied for an additional \$400K grant and are awaiting to hear if they will be awarded that as well. The project to improve 140<sup>th</sup> Street has an approximate cost of \$2.1M.
  - b. Glen Castore stated that CORE X Partners still has not signed the Escrow Agreement with Bridgewater Township therefore the project is at a standstill at this time. No permits have been issued as of yet and will not until the escrow agreement is in place.
  - c. It was discussed that CORE X Partners was awarded \$1.9M in grant money for the railroad siding. It was noted that Union Pacific is interested in developing more business and expressed interested in serving said siding.
  - d. It was discussed to speak with Eric Schrader regarding the Industrial Park that was created in Randolph to see how the process went there.
  - e. Discussion was held regarding the cost to charge for utilities in the Industrial Park once companies have been established within the area. It was noted that at this time, the proposed well and septic would only serve the CORE X Partners facility but Bridgewater Township would maintain them.
  - f. It was discussed that the Township is working to have Steele Waseca be the utilities provider to the Industrial Park. The first hearing was held in January, with the next being sometime in May. It was noted that the timeline then would be that the Judge would make a decision by May 31<sup>st</sup>. It was noted that Xcel has expressed interest in doing a territory swap with Steele Waseca in which Steele

Waseca would obtain the Comus Industrial Park area for an area that is currently Steele Waseca's. There is a tentative meeting with a mediator regarding this on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. It was also noted that Galen Malecha is willing to testify on the Township's behalf in favor for Bridgewater Township to obtain Steele Waseca as the utilities provider.

- g. Discussion was held regarding bonding and options Bridgewater Township has for Infrastructure as well as Roads.

**5. Misc. Items of Discussion**

Discussion was held regarding how each Township performs road maintenance on each gravel and asphalt roads.

**6. Adjourn**

The Meeting was adjourned at 6:50pm

Respectfully submitted by Lori Noreen, Clerk, Forest Bridgewater Joint Powers Development District.