

**TOWN OF CABLE BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2022 - 7:00 P.M.
CABLE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

MINUTES

Call to Order

Chairman Haag called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Supervisor Merrill, seconded by Supervisor Hambrecht to approve the meeting agenda with the change from Wednesday to Monday.

Motion carried 5-0.

**Approval of Minutes: November 14, 2022 Public Hearing
 November 14, 2022 Elector Meeting
 November 16, 2022 Regular Board Meeting**

Motion by Supervisor Merrill, seconded by Supervisor Popelka to approve the minutes from November 14, 2022 Public Haring; November 14, 2022 Elector Meeting; and November 16, 2022 Regular Board meeting.

Motion carried 5-0.

Clerk's Report

The last payment from Shared Revenue from 2022 has been received in the amount of \$23,980.

Nomination papers are available at the town office. They are due at 5:00 p.m. on January 3, 2023.

Treasurer's Report as of October 31, 2022

General Fund Balance:	\$703,888.88
Cemetery Annual Care:	\$2,839.85
Cemetery Perpetual Care:	\$5,032.79

Receipt of Reports:

Ais Report –

Scott Gooler gave a brief summary of the report to the Board. The budget for 2023 shows \$17,000, which includes in-kind donations. However, it is not known year to year if donations will be received. More employees are needed. High school students are welcome to apply.

- **Airport Commission Minutes - Draft November 17, 2022**
- **Forest Lodge Library Report**
- **Road Report**

Public Comment

Doug Rowe stated that he plays pickle ball regularly and complemented the Board on the nice facility. He asked if consideration would be given to resurfacing because of cracks in the pavement. Chairman Haag answered that he has heard from others in the community. One improvement planned in 2023 is to resurface the pickle ball courts.

Discussion/Possible Action to Approve Operator Licenses

Motion by Supervisor Merrill, seconded by Supervisor Hambrecht to approve operator licenses for Phyllis Nelson and Shelly Wilson.

Clerk McCauley reported that the background checks are clear.

Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion/Possible Action to Ratify Resolution Petitioning Secretary of Transportation for Airport.

Airport Commissioner Sue Thurn explained that the petition has been updated to include plans for future improvements at the airport with FAA and/or BOA funding. A public hearing was held December 5, 2022. Ten people attended. The petition resolution was approved and now needs to be ratified by each of the town owners—Cable, Drummond and Namakagon. Projects funded by the FAA and/or BOA require the three towns to share 5% of the cost.

Supervisor Merrill asked for further clarification of a hangar for plowing equipment and asked if this would be cost effective. Airport Commission Chairman Rowe explained that while not a high priority, the petition is for six years and lists every project. The Commission appreciates Cable plowing the

runway, but the airport seeks to be self-sufficient by acquiring its own equipment for plowing and brushing. The runway would be plowed sooner if the Commission owns its own equipment, and a storage hangar will be needed.

Chairman Haag asked about the incident with cars driving through airport property and getting a fence. Chairman Rowe stated there was a perfect storm of circumstances for that incident during the Fat Tire. Fat Tire officials are taking steps to see that never happens again. Next year a security gate will be installed in front of the airport and a secure access from Telemark Road. A full perimeter fence is needed to prevent wildlife entering the property.

Chairman Haag asked if there would be a bigger runway approach if trees were cleared. Chairman Rowe stated that trees are a problem. The Commission is looking at runway identifier lights to make it safer at night to land.

Motion by Supervisor Hambrecht, seconded by Supervisor Popelka to ratify and affirm the Cable Union Airport Commission's Resolution Petitioning the Secretary of Transportation for Airport Improvement Aid, dated December 5, 2022.

Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion/Possible Action to Renew Lease with Forest Lodge Library

Library Director Kristine Lendved stated that the lease before the board is the annual joint lease with the Cable Natural History Museum with the towns of Cable and Namakagon.

Motion by Supervisor Merrill, seconded by Supervisor Weber to renew the Forest Lodge Library Lease for 2023.

Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion/Possible Action to Approve Birkie Events

Kristi Maki reported that the Hayward Dash is part of a dual high school event with Hayward and Spooner. Otherwise, all three events are planned the same as in the past. During Birkie Week, plans are to have only buses using McNaught. All other traffic would be on Telemark Road.

Supervisor Popelka stated that the town appreciates traffic being directed to Telemark Road.

Motion by Supervisor Popelka, seconded by Supervisor Weber to approve the following Birkie event applications submitted:

Birkie Hayward Dash	12/28/2022
Fat Bike Birkie	3/11/2023
Birkie Epic Bike Fest	6/9/2023 to 11/2023

Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion/Possible Action Regarding A Birkie Annual Fee

In the January board meeting minutes, there was a discussion about groups with multiple events paying a flat annual fee rather than a fee for each event.

The following motion was passed at the board’s December 15, 2021, read by Chairman Haag:

“Motion by Supervisor Weber, seconded by Supervisor Hambrecht to approve the Event Checklist form with the addition that an organization with multiple events in Cable each year can fill out one form for all events and provide proof of medical insurance one time with a fee of \$1000 for events of participants up to 1000 and \$1500 for 1001 or more participants.”

Motion carried 5-0.

Event application fees were discussed again at the May 18, 2022 meeting, when a motion passed to change the application fee from \$25 to \$50.

Kristi Maki stated that the Birkie hosts 9 events per year. Three are camps, not events. The Birkie pays for 5 events crossing a town road with registration.

Supervisor Popelka noted it would be more cost effective to pay \$50 per event rather than \$1000 per year. The fee is to provide Shelly Wilson’s assistance to the organization having an event and to possibly help with emergency services.

Kristi Maki stated that the Birkie will pay the fees once per year and then fill out the applications for each event for planning.

Ben Popp stated that it is important for the town to be informed. The Birkie spends \$2000 separately for EMS and security support. The Birkie is happy to pay the event fee and work with Shelly to make everything work well.

Motion by Supervisor Weber, seconded by Supervisor Popelka to recommend a yearly event fee based on the events scheduled by one organization for that year at \$50 per event.

Supervisor Popelka offered an amendment to cap events per organization at 25. Supervisor Weber accepted the amendment.
Motion carried 5-0.

D/A Birkie Signage

Ben Popp reported that Birkie traffic is being routed to Telemark Road. Any signage on a county road is under county jurisdiction, which would be any signage for the Birkie on County Road M. There is a sign on Randysek and McNaught indicating no access. The Birkie will get input about signage on County Road M from a Road Supervisors meeting to be held January 4, 2023.

Mr. Popp encouraged the town board to email any questions or concerns. The Birkie is moving ahead with fundraising and plans for a community center and fat bike trails.

Motion by Supervisor Hambrecht, seconded by Supervisor Weber to encourage Bayfield County to pursue additional signage for Birkie routing through town and county roads.
Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion/Possible Action to Approve North End Events:

North End Snowshoe Classic –	January 7, 2023
North End Classic Cross Country Ski Race –	February 12, 2023
North End Trail Run/Walk -	May 27, 2023

Ron Bergin stated that event forms have been submitted for all three events. The snowshoe event is small and stays entirely on the event course without using town roads or services. He requested a waiver of the event fee and noted that an extra \$1.00 is being added to the registration fee for Great Divide services.

Motion by Supervisor Weber, seconded by Supervisor Hambrecht to approve all three events including a fee waiver for the Snowshoe Classic due to it being a small event and its location does not use town resources except the public road access.

Discussion:

Supervisor Weber expressed his appreciation for charging an additional dollar for Great Divide. Such a practice would be a beneficial way to move forward for emergency services. It may seem like a small amount, but it could substantially help Great Divide and the Fire Department.

Chairman Haag stated that the board has not previously approved a fee exemption on non-town events. He wants to be fair but does not want to set a precedent. Even the Chamber paid the event fee for Fall Fest. He wants to make sure to follow what the board has said previously that the only exemption would be for town-sponsored events and non-fee events.

Supervisor Popelka agreed that the only exemptions granted have been for town sponsored events. He also has a concern about setting a precedent.

Supervisor Hambrecht added that if a precedent is set this year, it will be hard not to allow an exemption next year if the number of participants doubles.

Supervisor Weber noted that the final event application form leaves a gray area because there is a space to request an exemption.

Motion passed 3-2.

Voting Aye: Supervisors Hambrecht, Merrill, Weber

Voting Nay: Chairman Haag, Supervisor Popelka

Discussion/Possible Action to Approve Special Use Permit – Signorelli

Plan Commission Chair Tony Erba stated that this application was reviewed by the Plan Commission at its November meeting and was tabled for insufficient information. The information was provided at the December meeting and the application approved to be forwarded to the Town Board. This application brought to light a conflict with the town's Driveway Ordinance which requires 66 feet of clearance width for a private road accessing three residences. The private road is sufficient for emergency vehicle access. It is the Plan Commission's recommendation that the Driveway Ordinance be reviewed.

Motion by Supervisor Popelka, seconded by Supervisor Hambrecht to recommend approval of the short-term rental Special Use application for Lake

Owen Cabin LLC, Anthony Signorelli based on the recommendation of the Plan Commission and that the application meets the town land use policy.
Motion carried 5-0.

**Discussion/Possible Action to Approve Conditional Use Permit –
Start Line Inn**

This application was reviewed by the Plan Commission and forwarded to the board for approval.

Motion by Supervisor Merrill, seconded by Supervisor Hambrecht to approve the Conditional Use Permit to keep existing permits which granted a home based business d/b/a Start Line Services Bike and XC Ski Service and Retail Center approved in December 2017; and keep approval for the prefab storage shed approved February 2021; and allow expanded use as a show room; and grant the use of two small open floor plan short-term rental units which have already been permitted by Bayfield County Health Department.

Discussion:

Supervisor Popelka asked if there will be further expansion in the future. Mike Choate, owner, stated that there are no plans to expand.

Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion/Possible Action to Approve Employment Bereavement Policy

Clerk/Treasurer summarized information of policies from Barnes, Wascott and Hayward.

It was the census of the board to adopt a bereavement policy that grants 3 consecutive days with pay in the event of the death of an immediate family member; and one (1) working day with pay in the event of the death of a family member as listed.

Motion by Supervisor Hambrecht, seconded by Supervisor Popelka to adopt a bereavement policy that grants three (3) consecutive days with pay in the event of the death of an immediate family member as listed in the draft presented; and one (1) working day with pay in the event of the death of a family member as listed in the draft presented.

Motion carried 4-1.

Voting Aye: Chairman Haag; Supervisors Hambrecht, Popelka, Weber

Voting Nay: Supervisor Merrill

Discussion/Possible Action to Reconsider Ambulance Donation Letter

Supervisor Popelka noted that the donation letter does not say what donations would be used for and does not say anything about the burden of cost to taxpayers in the future. At the last board meeting there was consensus that the request for the donation letter to be included with taxpayer property tax statements would not be appropriate. The letter should go out on its own merit and would be sent by the town.

Supervisor Weber stated he does not understand why Great Divide is not sending this letter out on their own, rather than asking each town to send it out. He agreed that the letter should not be sent with tax statements. The Drummond Fire Department sent a donation with specifically what the money would be used for. The effort was spear headed by the Fire Department. It should be the same for the ambulance.

Chairman Haag stated that the town contributes significantly to Great Divide each year. This would mean an additional \$583 in postage plus staff time to do the mailing.

Motion by Supervisor Popelka, seconded by Supervisor Weber to rescind approval for the donation letter to be sent but endorses Great Divide sending the letter to Town of Cable taxpayers. Addresses of property owners will be provided.

Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion/Possible Action Re: Enforcement Duties of Kevin Johnson

At a recent Four-Towns Meeting, enforcement activities were discussed and policies that need to be changed. The Constable Ordinance for Cable is not accurate and was rescinded at the November 16, 2022 board meeting.

Chairman Haag stated that there is no violation using emergency lights, and there are no concerns with assisting with roadway and public safety instances. The concern is Kevin Johnson's own liability. Towns can easily step away and point a finger. One area that would be of help would be enforcement of ordinances and issuing citations if warranted, which Bayfield County cannot do. Only the Town Board Chair and Kevin Johnson can enforce ordinances. If there are complaints he would like Kevin to follow up.

Kevin responded that he would be willing to enforce ordinances, but he would be working under a different situation and he is not fully certified. This would put him in a different category.

Supervisor Hambrecht stated that the board rescinded the Constable Ordinance and needs to write an ordinance that is accurate to cccccccccc Kevin's responsibilities. He agreed it would be good to have the means to address and enforce ordinances. It would be good for residents to be able to call Kevin for stray, violent or loose dogs.

Kevin stated that the ordinance adopted by Namakagon is very thorough and he would like to see something similar in Cable. He requested that the Fire Department and Great Divide be advised that he is authorized to help. He would like to see something in writing from Great Divide and the Fire Department to cover his liability. He is not deputized by the county.

It was the consensus of the board to draft a new ordinance for further discussion with Kevin about his duties.

Discussion/Possible Action to Adopt Resolution 2022-11, Application for WEDC Vibrant Spaces Grant

Supervisor Popelka referred board members to the information in their packets. The WEDC Vibrant Spaces Grant opened in mid-November. The application is due January 15, 2023. Board support is needed at this meeting if an application is to be submitted. His suggestion is the old fire hall site. The program is designed for \$25,000 on a one-to-one match. The town has \$40,000 in the parking lot fund so there is money to match the grant. Ideas for the area include picnic tables and seating areas, community garden, parking lot for new library, water garden, electrical vehicle charging station. It would be a place to gather and would be close to walk to many places in the community. A project started in 2023 must be completed by June of 2024.

Supervisor Merrill expressed concern that no cost details are known. Supervisor Popelka explained that detailed costs will have to be submitted with the grant application per WEDC requirements. A grant will not be funded if the town cannot prove the project will be finished.

Motion by Supervisor Popelka, seconded by Supervisor Hambrecht to approve Resolution 2022-11 for application to the WEDC Vibrant Spaces Grant.
Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion/Possible Action on Update of School Property - Authorize Bids for Demolition

Supervisor Popelka reported that the town's WEDC grant application for demolition of the old school is in final review. He would like to publish a request for bids for the following: 1) to clean out the building; 2) remediation of asbestos; and 3) demolition. The board cannot make an informed decision until actual costs are known.

Supervisor Merrill noted that the town's commitment with the owner of the school building ends December 31, 2022. Supervisor Popelka stated that the Parkers cannot not act on their option unless there is help from the town. The owner of the school needs not to lose her house over the cost of the school. He will get a specific price for the school by the January meeting.

Chairman Haag expressed his concern about how much more time and energy the board is going to put into the school demolition. The Parkers have not taken any steps to purchase the property, and why should the town be burdened with getting bids for demolition? The town has put so much into this, but it feels like there are a lot of walls and it is not the best move for the town to continue at this point. The town can get firm numbers, but until someone comes with a real plan, he does not see the point of continuing. He is not sure there is anything sustainable on which to take action. There is a circle of people depending on different people.

Supervisor Popelka stated that the Parkers have the same option on the property as the town and they have been told to hold off. A final decision can be made in January. If the building is going to be torn down, he wants it done before July 4.

This bid process is the last step before a yes or no decision.

Supervisor Hambrecht stated he understands Chair Haag's hesitation and concern. The thing is the building is right downtown. It would be a huge for the community if the board can get this demolition done.

Motion by Supervisor Popelka, seconded by Supervisor Hambrecht to authorize advertisement for bids for demolition of the school property in standard legal bid authorization format.

Motion carried 3-2.

Voting Aye: Supervisors Hambrecht, Popelka, Weber

Voting Nay: Chair Haag and Supervisor Merrill

D/A to Approve Checks:

Fire Department	Nos. 3265 through 3276
Forest Lodge Library	Nos. 3917 through 3925
Town of Cable	Nos. 10607 through 10636

Motion by Supervisor Merrill, seconded by Supervisor Weber to approve the following checks:

Fire Department	Nos. 3265 through 3276
Forest Lodge Library	Nos. 3917 through 3925
Town of Cable	Nos. 10607 through 10636

Motion carried 5-0.

Next Meeting: Town Board Meeting - January 18, 2023 - 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment. 9:45 p.m.