Guthrie Township

Hubbard County Minnesota

2025 Annual Meeting Minutes March 11th 2025

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The Township of Guthrie, Hubbard County Minnesota held its annual meeting on March 11th 2025.

At 7:00 P.M. the Clerk Amanda Fallgren called the meeting to order with the pledge. The sign in roster indicated that sixteen people attended the meeting.

The Clerk introduced the Board and instructed the people to elect a moderator who was to conduct the remainder of the meeting. Ivy Knoshaug nominated Candy Barthels and David Johnson seconded the motion. No other motions for the moderator were made, Candy Barthels accepted the nomination.

Rebecca Theis read the treasurers report and detailed the data that was approved at the Board of Audit meeting. There were multiple copies of the 2024 financial report made available to the public. Les Kline motioned to accept and Julie Johnson seconded the motion. The report was approved as read.

The Clerk then read the minutes of the last year’s (2024) Annual Meeting Minutes. David Johnson motioned to accept and Joel Hamilton seconded the motion and approved as read.

Mike Schmidt (Board Supervisor) provided a road report which included the following:

*The Guthrie Township Board conducts 2 road tours per year. One tour in the spring after roads have dried to assess any needed maintenance or repairs, and one tour in the fall to inspect and make any needed maintenance or repairs before the onset of winter. These are both open/posted meetings.*

*Summer road blading was contracted in 2024/2025 on a per hour basis with Gladen Construction. All roads are to be bladed every other week, with weather or extremely dry conditions being the only factors that could alter the schedule. A couple of our higher traveled east/west roads, 420th west and 444th, are being bladed every week, conditions allowing. The only exceptions to these schedules are our smaller, dead end development roads, which are to be bladed at least one time per month. These roads include Quiet Pasture, Palomino Drive and Roxberry Drive. Any additional blading, other than scheduled blading, is also done on a per hour basis.*

*Winter road snowplowing was contracted with Gladen Const. for 2024/2025 on a per hour basis. The snow removal on all Guthrie Township roads is to be done whenever a snowfall of 4 inches or more  has occurred. Plowing is to start after major snowing has slowed or stopped. The township hall driveways and parking lot are also plowed by Gladen Const. under this contract. Any additional winter plowing, other than snowfall plowing, is done on a per hour basis, such as ice removal, drift removal or sandingR*

*Guthrie Township's summer blading and winter snowplowing contracts have always been contracted together as one (1) contract. One (1) contract, with one (1) contractor, doing all of the road summer blading and winter snowplowing  maintenance for the length of the signed contract.  This contract is for one (1) year and runs from July 1st of the signing year through June 30th of the following year. Guthrie Township has issued two (2) year contracts a couple of times when it helps to control costs to do so. This contract was a 2 year contract and is set to expire June 30, 2025.*

*Gravel prices, on a per yard price, will be contracted for the 2025/2026 contract year.*

*The current gravel, blading and snowplowing contract expires on June 30, 2025.*

*Roadside mowing was contracted out in 2024 with Josh Weiss, owner of Hines Brushing. All Guthrie Township roads were mowed in August on a per hour basis. Roadside mowing done late in the summer helps eliminate the need and the cost for 2 mowings. Guthrie Township has signed a multiple year, fixed hourly rate contract in 2024 with Josh Weiss to help control costs.*

*Some of the things that were done in the last year:*

*The US 71/440th intersection was rebuilt. This intersection has never been safe since it's original construction. The turn off lanes that were installed on US 71 about 10 years ago made this intersection even more unsafe. The rebuild decreased the incline angle as much as possible when approaching US 71 from the west on 440th and provided a long, large level road section on 440th at the stop sign. This intersection is now the safest it has ever been. The reconstruction was completed in a very timely manner with no problems by Gladen Construction.*

*The deep, unsafe vertical ditch section on the south side of 450th street just west of Troy Boucher's drive way was rebuilt. The ditch was repaired, fill dirt and black top soil added, with the up-slope and back-slope being rebuilt. The area was graded out properly with a culvert extension and apron installed on the culvert going under 450th. This work was completed by Corson Construction. The right-of-way area and roadside were reseeded by a township employee to save money.*

*Guthrie Township spent just short of $40,000 dollars on class 1 modified gravel. This gravel was spread on 255th, 410th, 420th east, 420th west and 440th.*

*Four emergency road wash outs and a downed tree were repaired and removed due to heavy rain fall and wind. Two were on 450th and three were on 245th. Gladen Construction completed these repairs the same day they were reported.*

*An emergency road repair was made on Roxberry Drive in December. Many complaints were received about potholes in the road in front of a resident's where the calcium chloride had been used. This happened after a snow and a thaw period in December. The cost to the township for this repair was just under  $1000 dollars. Guthrie Township needs to revisit the residents allowed use of calcium chloride on township roads  for dust control policy.*

*Some things to look at this year:*

*Better tracking of costs on a per road basis, roadside gravel reclaiming, roadside brushing and signage.*

*Possible re-ditching on 245 north.*

**The floor was open for general discussion:**

Floor discussion in regards to use of calcium chloride, Les Kline from Gladen’s explained why grating roads that have been coated isn’t possible until it’s packed with snow. Mike recommends putting blades to coated roads started Sept 1st to allow for 2-3 blades before the snow flies. Roxbury currently being bladed at once a month, recommended to bring to twice a month. Motion made for calcium chloride to only be applied from Second Monday in June until September 1st. Motion made by Troy Lindquist and seconded by Les Kline. Motion carried.

David Johnson brings up mowing not going out far enough to cut down willows. Mike will talk to Josh Weis about this.

Shannon Nelson with Lakeport Emergency Medical Responders was in attendance and presented statistics for 2024:

*We would like to start by saying thank you for the ongoing support you have shown the Lakeport Area Emergency Medical Responders. As a completely volunteer group, we depend solely on your donations and the generosity of those in our community. We truly appreciate your support and dedication to work alongside us in making our community a safer place.*

*The Lakeport Area Emergency Medical Responders provide pre-ambulance medical care to community members within the 236 square miles of our coverage area, as well as outlying mutual aid areas. We currently have 19 volunteer members who respond to these emergencies 24 hours a day – 7 days a week. Of these 19 volunteers, 2 are paramedics, 8 are emergency medical technicians (EMTs), and 9 are emergency medical responders (EMRs).*

*In our rural area, wait times for an ambulance are likely at least 10-20 minutes, with wait times of over 45 minutes becoming more common. In emergency situations, those minutes can seem like an eternity. Our responders live in the communities we serve. They have made a commitment to fill the gap and be there when those minutes matter.*

*We are proud to be one of the only groups in the area that have equipped every responder with an AED. That is largely due to your support and grant funding. These AEDs have saved lives in our community! We thank you for being a part of that!*

*Your financial support will help us with ongoing training, equipment, supplies, and medications needed to keep our organization running. Because all of our members are 100% volunteer, every dollar donated goes directly toward those expenses. Your generous donations help us to be there when you need us most.*

Ivy Knoshaug presented the Ye’ Ol School Grounds Annual Report. There was a total of 17 renters with 12 of those being from Guthrie Township. Handouts were provided outlying the details of the Income and Expenses for 2024. Total Income $5,046 and Total Expenses $2,361.24

In 2024 a new bulletin board was built outside of the town hall using bricks from the old Guthrie Bank. Goals for next projects include a new barrier for the playground and moving of the other playground equipment.

Donation requests received were reviewed.

Mike Schmidt made a motion to cap this year’s donations to $2,000. Cindy McAllister seconded the motion. After discussion a vote taken to cap at $2,000 – nay’s have it. Motion denied.

Joel Hamilton made a motion to cap donations to be used and allocated primarily within the township for $3,000. Seconded by Troy Lindquist. Motion carried.

Mike Schmidt motioned 2025 donation to Lakeport Medical Responders for $3,000 and Ivy Knoshaug seconded the motion. Motion carried.

TOWNSHIP LEVIES

Mike Schmidt made a motion to levy $36,000 to the General Fund and David Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

David Johnson made a motion to levy $60,000 to The Road and Bridge Fund and Joel Hamilton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Julie Johnson made a motion to levy $2,000 to the Cemetery Fund and Mike Schmidt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

David Johnson made a motion to levy $8,000 to the Fire Fund and Mike Schmidt seconded the motion. Motion carried

David Johnson made a motion to levy $3,000 to the Building Fund and Bryan Delaney seconded the motion. Motion carried.

No further discussions and Mike Schmidt made a motion to have next year’s meeting at 7:00 PM on the second Tuesday in March and to have the Bemidji Pioneer as the official newspaper. Les Kline seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ryan Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mike Schmidt seconded the motion. Meeting Adjourned.

Submitted by: Jakki Blom – Clerk

4/15/2025

Ryan made a motion to accept minutes 4/15/25, Bryan seconded.