



# Fish Lake Township

## 2017

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#### Town Board

Diane Larkin  
Corey Johnson  
Bruce Fitzwater

#### Treasurer

Sharon McAndrew

#### Clerk

Andrea Nekowitsch

#### Employees

Gary Guse, Roads  
Craig Debel, PT  
Larry Freedlund, PT

#### Township Address

2170 Brunswick Rd.  
Harris, MN 55032  
(651) 674-7709

#### Website

[www.fishlaketownship.com](http://www.fishlaketownship.com)

### Anchor Ave. Paving Project

The portion of Anchor Ave. between Brunswick Road/Cty. 63 and north to the Township line was formerly a county road (Cty. 62). Anchor Ave. is now designated a Township Road. During the road reversion process executed by Chisago County, there were negotiations between the Township Board and the County Board. Chisago County agreed to a gravel road enhancement process called Otta-Seal. Otta-Seal has worked successfully in other Townships throughout the state. The process was researched by the Township Board and the County Engineer and appeared to be good option to help reduce the cost of maintenance and dust control. Chisago County agreed to apply the Otta-Seal process to Anchor Ave. prior to the Township taking over maintenance. Unfortunately, the Otta-Seal process was unsuccessful. Because of this, Chisago County offered the Township a cost-share paving project. The County would pave the gravel portion of Anchor Ave. if the Township agreed to pay 1/3 of the cost. The Township did agree to the project and our share will be approximately \$212,000 and of this amount 75% will be allocated as an assessment to residents. The assessment district for this project is: Anchor Ave. beginning at Cambridge Drive; north to the Township line; East to Goose Lake as well as a portion of 460th Street and Badger Blvd. Those affected residents have been notified and the improvement hearings has been held. Nessel Township was offered this same arrangement for their portion of Anchor Ave. and declined, keeping the Otta-Seal and having it seal coated. The Fish Lake Board agreed because

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### Broadband Committee

A committee of Township residents has been formed to explore the possibility of bringing Fiber to the Home Broadband Internet to all of Fish Lake Township. Although CenturyLink currently offers internet to a portion of residents, it is not available throughout the whole Township. Grant funding is available through the State of MN Border to Border Broadband Development Grant Program to assist in the cost of improving and adding infrastructure to unserved areas, such as Fish Lake Township. The Border-to-Border Broadband Development Grant Program funds the expansion of broadband service to areas of Minnesota that are unserved or underserved.

During the 2017 session, the legislature included \$20 million in funds for the Border-to-Border Broadband Grant Program. The legislative focus of this grant is to provide state resources that help make the financial case for new and existing providers to invest in building infrastructure into unserved and underserved areas of the state. Infrastructure has been its primary focus. The grants can provide up to 50 percent of project development costs, and the maximum grant amount is \$5 million.

This committee is working with Township Officials, Chisago County HRA-EDA Officials and CenturyLink to obtain the necessary information to apply for the grant and possibly bring Fiber to the Home Broadband internet service to EVERYONE in the Township, this would include those who already have CenturyLink DSL available in their area. Fiber to the Home is fast, reliable, dedicated internet. Having Fiber to the Home Broadband may

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*(Continued from page 1) Anchor Ave. Paving Project*

Anchor Ave. is the heaviest traveled road in the Township with over a 200 average daily traffic count, the cost would never be this low again, and it will save the Township in maintenance fees. A 20-year cost comparison was prepared by the engineering firm retained by the Township and the savings is \$23,687.76 per year for a bituminous road vs. a gravel road.

*(Continued from page 1) Broadband Committee*

reduce congestion due to multiple households and their devices simultaneously accessing the network in your neighborhood and improve speed because it is fiber-fast directly to your home.

Recently, a mailer was sent out to Township residents to take an on-line survey regarding this project. We had a great response but some of you may have missed the mailer or do not have internet service to take the on-line survey. If you have not taken they survey, you're in luck, please do so by filling out the enclosed survey and returning it to Fish Lake Township, 2170 Brunswick Road, Harris, MN 5503. You may also access it on-line at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/FishLakeInternet](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FishLakeInternet) **ONLY ONE SURVEY PER HOUSEHOLD**

Your responses will be instrumental in assisting the Township Board make a decision whether or not to move forward if grant funding is awarded.

For more information a Facebook group has been created for residents to ask questions and follow the progress at: [www.facebook.com/groups/255375664957156/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/255375664957156/) Fish Lake Township Broadband Committee. Information is also available on the Township website at that can be found at [www.fishlaketownship.com](http://www.fishlaketownship.com)

We need volunteers to help get the word out about the High Speed Internet Survey. To volunteer contact Lisa Mix at 763-689-6533 or [nurse420@hotmail.com](mailto:nurse420@hotmail.com)

## Public Lake Access Road Paving

You may have seen quite a bit of road projects this summer in Fish Lake Township. Last year the Township applied for and was awarded grant funding from the Minnesota State Park Road Account Program. This is an account managed through the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and exists to help local governments improve access to public recreation facilities. It provides financial assistance to improve county state-aid, county, township, and city roads which provide access to state parks, outdoor recreation units as defined in [Minnesota Statutes 86A.04](#), public lakes, rivers and state campgrounds. Eligible projects include the reconstruction, improvement, repair and maintenance of county, township and city roads providing access to public lakes. Three Township Roads were awarded funding, Cedarcrest Court-\$58,700; Bending Avenue-\$217,800 and Skogman Lake Road-\$350,800 for a total of \$627,300! This grant provided 100% construction funding. The Township was required to only pay testing and engineering costs that totaled approximately \$65,000. Skogman Lake Road crosses into Cambridge Township where the public access is located. Because our portion of the road was not paved and the only access from the north, the road still qualified for grant funding. Additionally, Chisago County applied for a federal grant and was awarded funds for the realignment of Skogam Lake Road to Acacia Tr./Cty. 4 at Stark Road/Cty. 10. A turn lane from Stark Rd/ Cty. 10 to Skogman Lake Road was also added during the county project.

<b>NOTICE</b>		<b>GOOSE LAKE NARROWS ROAD</b>
	<b>No parking</b>	
<p>Fish Lake Township Ordinance No. 2 Regulating Parking on Goose Lake Narrows. It shall be unlawful to park any vehicle on Goose Lake Narrows Road from Bear Road to Goose Lake Lane.</p>		



**Stark Summer Stroll**

The SSS was a huge success. Because of a limited time factor the raffle, silent auction, and other fun things were not provided. Next year, however, the committee will strive to provide them. Speaking of the committee, volunteers are always welcome. Our first meeting will be January 9<sup>th</sup> of 2018.

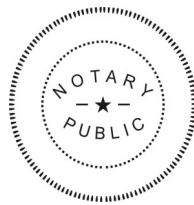
**Township Hall Rental**

The next time you are having a special occasion or family get together consider renting the town hall. The hall is available to rent daily for residents at \$125 and non-residents at \$250.

Tables and chairs are available for use during the rental day. There is also a full kitchen with appliances and basic dishware, utensils, men and women's rest-rooms and air conditioning/heat; a covered pavilion with outside electricity, charcoal grill, park and playground equipment. Please note that the Township no longer allows alcohol on the premises.

Pictures available at: [www.fishlaketownship.com](http://www.fishlaketownship.com).

Call Andrea Nekowitsch at 320-358-3924 for availability.



**Notary Services**

Fish Lake Township Clerk, Andrea Nekowitsch, is a licensed notary public and is available to notarize personal documents **FREE** for

Township residents during regular office hours. Office hours: Thursdays 10:30 am.-12:30 pm.

**Township Road Right of Way**

The Township has taken a proactive approach for the removal of objects within the road right-of-way of township roads. Residents will be notified by mail if the township has determined that objects in the right of way could potentially cause damage to equipment or pose a risk to safety; this includes but is not limited to, rocks, trees, fences, vehicles, etc. Most of our Township roads have a right-of-way of 33 feet from the centerline of the road, it is in this area that Minnesota Statute 160.2715 Right-Of-Way Use; Misdemeanors applies. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



**Prohibition during Winter Months**

No person shall park any commercial motor vehicle, vehicle, trailer or semitrailer or other object upon any portion of a town road right-of-way at anytime after two inches or more of snow has accumulated on any

public street, avenue, alley or other public way, whether the accumulation is due to new fallen snow or the drifting or blowing of snow from previous snowfalls. Further, it shall be unlawful to parking any commercial motor vehicle, vehicle, trailer or semitrailer or other object upon any portion of a town road right-of-way until public snow removal activities have been completed on that town road right-of-way.



**Driveway Permits Required**

An access to your property from a Town road requires a permit application. You can pick one up at the Township Office or Print online at [www.fishlaketownship.com](http://www.fishlaketownship.com)

### Fish Lake Township Meeting Schedule

All regularly scheduled meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at 6:00 pm at the Fish Lake Town Hall Office unless otherwise noted. Agenda appointments begin at 7:00 pm. Contact the town clerk one week prior to a meeting to be placed on the agenda.

Chisago County Assn. of Twps. Meetings: Last Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm at the Senior Center in North Branch.

Special meetings will be posted on the Township Office door.

Driveway permits are obtained at the Fish Lake Town Office during normal office hours or from [www.fishlaketownship.com](http://www.fishlaketownship.com)

**Township Office Hours:** Thursday 10:30 am to 12:30 pm

If you need immediate assistance you may call the town clerk at home at 320-358-3924

**Township Office & Garage Phone:** 651-674-7709 • Gary Guse, Road Maintenance Cell: 651-775-9122

**Website:** [www.fishlaketownship.com](http://www.fishlaketownship.com)

**Email:**

Andrea Nekowitsch, Clerk: [clerk@fishlaketownship.com](mailto:clerk@fishlaketownship.com)

Gary Guse, Road Maintenance: [garyguse@fishlaketownship.com](mailto:garyguse@fishlaketownship.com)

Diane Larkin, Board Chair: [dianelarkin@fishlaketownship.com](mailto:dianelarkin@fishlaketownship.com)

Corey Johnson, Board Supervisor: [coreyjohnson@fishlaketownship.com](mailto:coreyjohnson@fishlaketownship.com)

Bruce Fitzwater, Board Supervisor: [brucefitzwater@fishlaketownship.com](mailto:brucefitzwater@fishlaketownship.com)



Please **DO NOT** plow across public roads. Plowing snow from your property across the road is a Misdemeanor and could potentially cause a windrow that could be dangerous to passing

motorists. It is unlawful to obstruct any highway or deposit snow thereon or to plow or perform any other detrimental operation within the road right-of-way. Please refer to Minnesota State Statute 160.2715 for more information.

PRSR STD  
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