

CBT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 2021

The Regular Meeting of the Coleraine, Bovey, and Taconite Joint Wastewater Commission was held on Wednesday, February 10th, 2021 at 4:00 P.M. in the gym of the Taconite Community Center.

Members present: Chairperson Odden, J. Troumbly, Trbojevich, M. Troumbly, Casey, Tok and Bertram. . Absent: Pollard and Savich, Also present: Plant operator Brist, Assistant Plant Operator Deselske.

Moved by Bertram and supported by Tok to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting held January 13, 2021 as read by Casey. Ayes: All. Nays: None Motion carried.

Moved by Trbojevich and supported by Bertram to approve claims 1148 – 1184 in the amount of \$28,541.48 and also approve the Jan 2021 Financial Statement with total available funds of \$111,827.99 and file for audit as read by Chairperson Odden. Roll Call Vote Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried

Plant Operator Chuck Brist presented the plant monthly report. Had some problems with pretreatment electrical system requiring main feeder breaker to be replaced. Replaced leaking propane generator fittings on Lift Station 2 generator. Chlorinated three times in January to control filamentous bacteria. TSS oven failed twice causing temps to be out of range 22 days in January. Ordered replacement screens for press at a cost of \$2,167.63. Actuator for air supply in blower room failed. Ordered a new one for \$377.99. Brist reported that With 31 days of data wastewater flows for Coleraine 48.31%, Bovey 38.85%, and Taconite 12.84%.

Moved by Trbojevich supported by J. Troumbly that in order to keep our lab certification we purchase a new Total Suspended Solids Oven from North Central Labs for an estimated cost of \$2,037 with funding to be paid from the Replacement Fund. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: All Nays: None Motion Carried

Moved by Tok supported by Bertram to make O&M operating transfers of \$1,003.70 from Coleraine and \$1,678.42 from Bovey to Taconite for incorrectly MN PEIP fund disbursements from November and December of 2020 as found by auditor during 2020 audit. Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried.

Moved by J. Troumbly supported by Bertram that treasure subtract 8 hours in the calculation of Kelly Dezelske February sick leave payment due to incorrect calculation from 2020 as found by auditor. Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried.

Moved by J. Troumbly supported by Tok that due to there being no on-line Type 4 Waste Water training to have Dezelske attend his Type 4 waste operators training and testing in New Ulm this April April. Ayes: All Nays: None. Carried

Minutes of February 2021 Regular Meeting Continued:

Kelly updated commission on his Class B driver's license testing. Kelly will use Coleraine's truck for testing on March 13th in Virginia, MN. Harry will drive the truck to testing and will also have the truck put on a system diagnostics tool while in Virginia.

Moved by J. Troumbly supported by Bertram to adjourn at 4:35. Vote Ayes: All Nays: None Passed.

Kevin Odden, Chairperson

Bob Tok, Secretary

PUBLIC UTILITIES FINANCIAL STATEMENT

January 31, 2021

	BEGINNING BALANCE	REVENUE RECEIVED	EXPENSE PAID	BALANCE
Fund 600	-\$139,312.90	\$46,723.52	\$44,279.44	-\$136,868.82
Fund 161	\$187,906.81	\$7,015.05	\$0.00	\$194,921.86
TOTAL	\$48,593.91	\$53,738.57	\$44,279.44	\$58,053.04

REVENUE	January	YEAR TO DATE
Residential Water	\$20,830.97	\$20,830.97
Commercial Water	\$1,881.63	\$1,881.63
Residential Sewer	\$21,752.81	\$21,752.81
Commercial Sewer	\$2,204.35	\$2,204.35
Sales Tax	\$53.74	\$53.74
Water Connection Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00
Late Fees	\$0.02	\$0.02
Hawkins Av Assessment	\$0.00	\$0.00
Water treatment plant surcharge	\$7,015.05	\$7,015.05
CBT to Coleraine Reimbursement	\$0.00	\$0.00
Misc Refunds	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$53,738.57	\$53,738.57

DISBURSEMENTS

Salary	\$3,619.78	\$3,619.78
Retirement/Soc Sec/Medicare	\$535.85	\$535.85
Chemicals	\$0.00	\$0.00
Workman's Comp Insurance/liability insurance	\$0.00	\$0.00
Training/Training Mileage	\$0.00	\$0.00
Security and Fire Protection	\$288.00	\$288.00
Telephone	\$143.06	\$143.06
Postage	\$0.00	\$0.00
Electric	\$2,386.06	\$2,386.06
Heat	\$402.22	\$402.22
Sewer	\$15,500.00	\$15,500.00
Other Maintenance & Repair	\$19,171.05	\$19,171.05
Building Maintenance & Repair	\$0.00	\$0.00
Equipment Maintenance & Repair	\$0.00	\$0.00
Water Line Repair	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sewer Line Repair	\$0.00	\$0.00
Water Connection Fee	\$0.00	\$0.00
Pumphouse/lift st. maint	\$0.00	\$0.00
Dues	\$0.00	\$0.00
Water Permit	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sales Tax/Annual Solid Waste Tax	\$181.00	\$181.00
Auditing/Accounting Service	\$0.00	\$0.00
Publications	\$0.00	\$0.00
Supplies - Water	\$499.75	\$499.75
Supplies - Sewer	\$0.00	\$0.00
office supplies/computer support	\$827.77	\$827.77
Water Sampling	\$119.50	\$119.50
Water License	\$0.00	\$0.00
Motor Fuel	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bonding Admin.	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other Equipment	\$550.00	\$550.00
PFA Interest	\$0.00	\$0.00
PFA Principal	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bond Principal	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bond Interest	\$0.00	\$0.00
Engineering/Consult Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00
Gopher State One Call	\$55.40	\$55.40
Major Improvements	\$0.00	\$0.00
Centennial Acres	\$0.00	\$0.00
Hawkins Ave Project Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00
Contractor	\$0.00	\$0.00
Refund - Sewer/Water	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$44,279.44	\$44,279.44



Membership Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 17, 2021
www.ireamn.org

The mission of the IREA is to create a collaborative environment for economic prosperity in Northeast Minnesota by providing leadership, fostering partnerships and employing professional economic development strategies.

Attendees

Anna Tanski	Visit Duluth	Lauren Sorgaard	UMN Extension
Arik Foresman	MN Power	Ida Rukavina	Senator Klobuchar's Office
Barrett Ziemer	Range Regional Airport	Linda Jurek	Visit Cook County
Betsy Olivanti	Northland SBDC	Laura Kircher	Enbridge
Brad Gustafson	St. Louis County	Mary Somnis	Cook County EDA
Briana Anderson	City of Coleraine	Matt Shermoen	APEX/IEDC
Char Conger	Entrepreneur Fund	Matt Sjoberg	IRRR
Danae Baudette	IRRR	Megan Christianson	Visit Grand Rapids
Elissa Hansen	Northspan	Nancy Norr	MN Power
Erik Holmstrom	Laurentian Chamber	Ryan Malich	IRRR
Ida Rukavina	Sen. Amy Klobuchar	Sara Carling	CEDA/IEDC/Itasca Co
Janelle Greschner	IRRR	Scott Sundvall	IRRR
Jeanie Collis	Aitkin Growth	Scott Zahorik	AEOA
Jeff Borling	Great River Energy	Shawn Herhusky	DEED
Jennifer Sterbenz	City of Two Harbors	Stephanie Skraba	City of Chisholm
Jennifer Tarnowski	Balkan Township	Steve Peterson	Entrepreneur Fund
John Bennett	UMN Extension	Vicki Hagberg	Northland SBDC
John Eloranta	Congressman Stauber's Office	Whitney Ridlon	IRRRB
John Fedo	Ely EDA	Kelsey Johnson	Iron Mining Assoc
Karl Schuettler	Northspan/ERJPB	Kirstie McPherson	IEDC
Kate Ferguson	Duluth Seaway Port Authority	Lana Fralich	City of Silver Bay
Kelly Asche	Center for Rural Policy & Development		

9:00 Welcome

9:05 IREA Administrative Business

Called meeting to order, 903

Minutes from November 18, 2020, Moved by Olivanti, second by Somnis

Financial Report Moved by Ferguson, second by Kircher

Looking for someone to take minute and translate the information shared into a newsletter, which will be a good start for newsletter development. This could be a paid effort. Please let Whitney know

Next Meeting: June 16, 2021: Legislative Update – Location TBD

Save the Date for 2021:

- 9/15/2021: TBD
- 11/17/2021: Legislative Update

9:10 **Rural Workforce during the Pandemic**
<https://www.ruralmn.org/>
<https://www.ruralmn.org/pandemic-paints-a-different-employment-picture-in-rural-minnesota/>
Kelly Asche, Center for Rural Policy kashe@ruralmn.org
Shawn Herhusky, DEED shawn.herhusky@state.mn.us

Discussion was about the research into job vacancy rates, comparing data before and after the COVID pandemic. Data carved out some of the seasonal work, and overlaid typical unemployment versus people participating in the workforce today. Northeastern MN was really impacted over 2020, nearly 5% less people participating in the labor force when comparing 2019 and 2020 data. We are still seeing quite a large job vacancy rate. In our areas, we see Healthcare Practitioners and Technical as the number one job posting needs. There are surpluses in some sectors of work, however the shortages and the surpluses do not overlap in skills. There are challenges connecting workers to services, things like Broadband, face to face training, and organizations being stretched thin. This is a long term issue, this is not something that is solely due to the pandemic, it will take a while to retrain and reenergize this labor pool. The presentation is attached to the email.

Key findings were as follows:

Findings #1: There is a potential pool of labor to tap that didn't exist before in rural Minnesota.

Findings #2: Job vacancies continue to be high in rural Minnesota despite high unemployment.

Findings #3: The projections show continued workforce surpluses in food prep and serving related, sales and related, and office and administrative support while also continued workforce shortages in occupations that require training, education or certification.

Findings #4: Workforce Development investment is crucial right now due to this unique situation.

9:40 **Tourism Updates**

Visit Duluth, Ann Tanski anna@visitduluth.com

Iron Range Tourism Bureau, Beth Pierce beth@ironrange.org

Visit Cook County, Linda Jurek linda@visitcookcounty.com

Visit Grand Rapids, Megan Christianson megan@visitgrandrapids.com

Anna from Visit Duluth used a questionnaire to ask about comfort levels of people to come visit Duluth. The survey had tremendous engagement. The survey dove into what would impact people traveling, safety, events, timing. Link to survey results: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-9CY7WLW57/>
Website: <https://www.visitduluth.com/>

Betsy Olivanti talked about the Iron Range Tourism. She highlighted some new projects that will increase visitors to come to the area. Things like the Bob Dylan monument at Hibbing HS and the completion of new mountain biking trails at Redhead and Giant's Ridge. Presentation Attached.
Website: <https://ironrange.org/>

Linda Jurek talked about how Visit Cook County runs, and all the different players who participate in seeing this group be successful. COVID impacted Visit Cook County in a major way as the economy really is based on tourism. It was impacted in a POSITIVE way! Cook County saw more tourism than the year previous. There is a lot of business energy to see a great year. There is a large construction project happening in Grand Marais, and they are working on elevating business awareness as they navigate the way the construction could impact traffic. Link to the Visit Cook County Guidebook and the Community Assessment Portfolio (marketing): <https://www.visitcookcounty.com/resources/media-room/marketing-documents/>
Website: <https://www.visitcookcounty.com/>

Megan Christianson from Visit Grand Rapids talked about how collaborations and networking helped them through the last year. They are down about 26% in revenue. Resorts certainly saw people interested in renting cabins, and still be able to work. However, it was evident visitors were not utilizing local stores for groceries, eating out, etc. They secured quite a bit of CARES money to help invest in new technology and website development. Visit Grand Rapids is using new technology to help drive group sales, market the safety of the area, and the great options for outdoor recreational spaces.
Website: <https://visitgrandrapids.com/>

10:10 **State of Mining Update**

Frank Ongaro, Mining Minnesota fongaro@miningminnesota.com
Kelsey Johnson, Iron Mining Association kjohnson@taconite.org

IMA rolled out an economic impact study this year, and again, the mining industry is the top private employer in MN. MN remains a top 5 mining state yet again. Kelsey talked about the success of the funds that help to educate MN students. Kelsey talked about the sulfate and wild rice standard and have already taken positive steps in that area. Kelsey talked about energy rates and bills increasing 90% in the past five years. They are MN Power's largest customer, and the work at the State Capitol seeks to make this increase even higher. <https://www.taconite.org/>

Frank Ongaro said it is an exciting time in the mining community, there is a lot of discussion about the copper nickel mining operations. As we transition to more of a green energy, the deposits we have here in MN are even more of a player for us to transition to that renewable energy base. Frank works hard to remind people who want renewable resources more how the work we do in MN helps to support this effort. Attached a handout **The Proof is in the Permit**.
Website: <http://www.miningminnesota.com/>

10:25 Enbridge Line 3 Update

Laura Kircher, Enbridge laura.kircher@enbridge.com

Discussion was about the Line 3 Replacement Project and its status. Work is underway in MN, with over 5,000 skilled workers active in MN. Laura shared photos of construction and talked about the timing of the project. Consider attending the virtual open house on February 25, 2021 (Invitation Included in Email).

10:35 NE MN Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Update

Elissa Hansen, Northspan ehansen@northspan.org

The CEDS is a cornerstone for Economic Development Administration (EDA) in strategy development <https://www.eda.gov/ceds/>. Since 1998, over 27 Million in grants have been distributed to the NE MN region as a part of this project. So far, 305 people have registered for participation and 221 have completed the pre-session survey. Participants get to identify their background, and that is showcasing a great diversity of participants. Elissa talked about how the CEDS works to be inclusive in participation, and to enable community members to participate in its creation. Please register for community engagement session and complete the survey at the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CEDSRegistration?fbclid=IwAR2fzTL1hy3UTybacYxusnM1yP01MrB6CGK28jaYXDTtnWpMtandIGR7gXU>

10:40 Arrowhead Intelligent Region Update

Whitney Ridlon, IRRR whitney.ridlon@state.mn.us

If the pandemic has taught us anything, it is that when it comes to broadband, access denied is opportunity denied. This effort continues the partnership with IRRR and Blandin Foundation. This approach combines an understanding that broadband is essential infrastructure, while emphasizing that communities' use of broadband drives economic competitiveness. It builds on and brings to regional scale the Intelligent Community framework used to date by 10 Iron Range communities to develop and implement projects that deliver on the promise of a broadband-fueled economy. Blandin Foundation and Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation are committing funds to create a grant pool for regional projects emerging from this process. Link to more information including report, webinars, and meeting information: <https://blandinfoundation.org/programs/broadband/arrowhead-intelligent-region/>

10:45 Launch MN NE Regional Hub

Kirstie McPherson, IEDC kirstie@edeveco.com

IEDC was awarded a grant from DEED to become the NE MN Launch HUB. IEDC, along with a team of NE MN stakeholders, will be working together on efforts to support the entrepreneurship/innovation ecosystem.

10:50 Member Updates

Brad Gustafson talked about the work St. Louis Co is doing to award cities and township with CDBG funding. There will be an additional round of CDBG funding. Details can be found: <https://www.stlouiscountymn.gov/departments-a-z/planning-development/community-development/community-development-block-grant-cdbg#5048512-applications--forms>

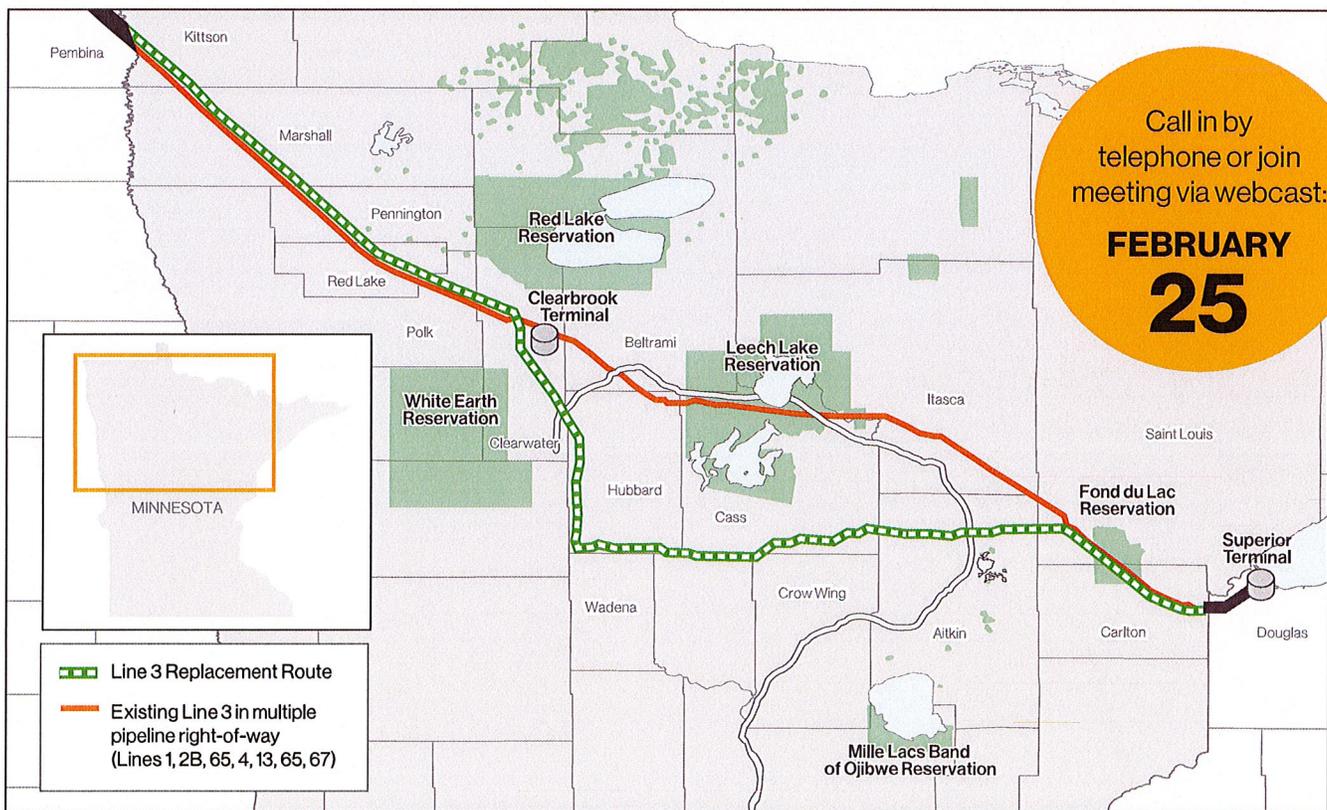
Ida Rukavina talked about some of the new legislation Senator Klobuchar is working on. She introduced legislation to keep Americans working. She is also working to get CARES funding out further to help more.

John Eloranta talked about the work Stauber is doing in the mining atmosphere and saving America's mines. Stauber is also working with broadband access as well.

Line 3 Replacement Project in Minnesota

Virtual Open House with Enbridge

The Line 3 Replacement Project in Minnesota is now under construction. Please join our virtual open house for an update on the pipeline construction.



Enbridge is hosting a virtual open house that will have telephone or webcast options. Once you register at enbridgeopenhouse.com/feboh, you will receive a link providing you with meeting details.

Meeting date: **Thursday, February 25 at 5 p.m.**

You can also visit our virtual open house any time at: enbridgeopenhouse.com/line3.

THE PROOF IS IN THE PERMIT



In Minnesota, modern mining and environmental stewardship go hand in hand because there is a **comprehensive science-based environmental review and permitting process already in place.**

Make no mistake, the proposed legislation SF59/HF148 is a moratorium on new mining. The bill is unnecessary. It does nothing to improve the environment. Its only purpose is to stop the mining industry from providing needed domestic sources of critical metals before it gets started. It also chases investment away from Minnesota.

If a company demonstrates it will meet all state and federal standards, then it will not harm the environment. The proof is in the permit.

HERE'S THE PROOF.

1 130+ YEARS OF MINING

Minnesotans know how to mine. More importantly, we know how to mine safely while also protecting the environment we so cherish. Northeast Minnesota is home to 6 active iron mines and arguably the cleanest water in the state. Regulators – both state and federal – have extensive knowledge of the industry and the environment.

PROVEN

2 SUCCESS AT FLAMBEAU MINE

We look to our neighbors in Wisconsin for proof that nonferrous mining can be completed successfully without causing pollution.

- Produced copper, gold and silver in the 1990s
- Completed reclamation and revegetation activities
- Ongoing monitoring
- Site converted into a recreation area with 10 acres of wetlands
- Wisconsin DNR lists Flambeau as a successful operation and closure
- Proof

3 CLEAN OPERATIONS AT EAGLE MINE

Michigan's Eagle Mine project is the first nonferrous mine permitted under their state's new Non-Ferrous Mineral Mining Law, and it has been operating safely since 2014.

- Permitted in 2007 and operating in 2014
- Site expanded in 2017
- Solid environmental track record
- 24/7/365 operation monitoring
- Progressive reclamation practices
- Direct Community involvement in monitoring and review
- Proof

MINNESOTA, PROVING IT FOR YEARS

Our comprehensive, science-based environmental review and permitting processes are proof. Nonferrous mine permits are difficult to obtain. Decades of review and testing inform permits, which outline strict regulatory standards for water, air and soil quality. Minnesota mines can (and do) operate safely while safeguarding the environment. We have an opportunity to lead the nation in providing the critical minerals needed for a greener and more sustainable future.

TOMORROW'S FUTURE

Minnesota has what it takes to support the green economy. Our state holds world-class copper, nickel, cobalt, and platinum group metals deposits necessary for building our sustainable future. We have a hard-working, knowledgeable workforce—ready to get started—and our well-established and well-tested permitting process and world-class existing mining operations prove that we will do it right.

MINNESOTA DIFFERENCE

Life depends on metals and minerals, and responsible mining is essential for a green economy. Recycling alone cannot produce the amount of material needed to build clean energy and infrastructure — and Minnesota's world-class deposits contain 95% of USA's domestic resource of nickel, and 88% of our domestic resource of cobalt. We should not export our jobs and environmental conscience to mines in foreign countries with few protections for workers or the environment. We should mine here, supplying needed materials with protection for workers and the environment.

THE PROOF IS IN THE PERMIT.

MINNESOTA'S world-class deposits contain 95% of United States' domestic resource of NICKEL, and 88% of our domestic resource of COBALT.

DEMAND for NICKEL for energy technologies will be 99% of current global production by 2050.

– World Bank Group



MINING MINNESOTA

RESPONSIBLE DEVELOPMENT OF MINNESOTA'S
RICH COPPER-NICKEL DEPOSITS

www.miningminnesota.com

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GREEWAY JOINT RECREATION ASSOCIATION

Jan. 18, 2021
Barb Gibeau- Secretary

George Delich
Casey Venema
Dwight Kessler
Barb Gibeau
Todd Akkanen
Dan Andrews
William Guyer
Bob Lawson
Brian Ekholm
Pat Guyer
Eric Troumbly

Coleraine- President
Lawrence Lake Twp.-Vice President
Trout Lake Twp.- Treasurer
LaPrairie-Secretary
Greenway Twp.
Marble
Taconite
Bovey
Nashwauk Twp.
Director
Asst. Director

Motion made by W. Guyer second by Ekholm to accept the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion made by Kessler second by Venema to accept the minutes from the Dec. 21 meeting. Motion carried.

Treasurers Report: As of Dec. 31 there was \$110,464.11 in the account. Receipts were \$111,170.22. Disbursements were \$24,539.48. Outstanding checks were \$2,112.84.

Discussed the change in mileage.

Motion made by Lawson second by Ekholm to pay the treasurer 56 cents a mile and accept the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Old Business:

New Business: Someone asked about the vending machines being filled. Gibeau said they will be fill this week.

Director Report:

Live Barn online broadcast. Pat has sent Live Barn pictures and measurements of our arena and are waiting for them to give us a date of installation.

Hockey and figure skating began again on the restart and all is going well. Rescheduled over 100 games. New date for skating show is March 27 and March 28. All our home hockey tournaments have been canceled. Following state guidelines for attendance to games and practices.

Pat talked to superintendent Dave Pace last week and youth basketball is still on hold as we are waiting for the ok to use the gym facilities in the schools.

We had to do over \$3500 in truck repairs but Mackley's Auto Repair are able to turn around and donate \$2000 to the Joint Rec. The truck is rusted bad underneath.

Motion made by Ekholm second by Andrews to allow Pat and Rock to start looking for a different truck. Motion carried.

The family of Rian Tellor, who passed away, had funds sent to the Greenway Rec. on his behalf to go towards Greenway youth sports. To date we have received just over \$500. The board discussed thoughts on using the gift. Tellor's interests were youth hockey and football.

Electric bill for the month of throttling back was just over\$2700. This was about 1/3 of the normal bill for this time of year.

Motion made by Lawson second by Venema to adjourn.

Barb Gibeau/Secretary

**GREEWAY
JOINT REC
ASSOCIATION**

BOARD MEETING

**Feb. 15, 2021
7:00 p.m.**

**At The
ARENA**