

# **Township of Breitung Agenda-Regular Board Meeting**

**Township of Breitung Regular Board Meeting 06/22/2023**

**Breitung Community Center 12:00pm**

- Call the meeting to order/Roll Call
- Acceptance of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes
  - 06/14/23 Special Board Meeting
- Approval of May 2023 Treasurer's Report
  - Checks Written 47653-47741
  - Total Disbursements-\$114,786.53
  - Fund Balance-\$128,081.66
  - Voided Checks-None
- Correspondence
  - Bois Forte-Open Enrollment for Early Childhood Programs
  - LCP-Capital Credit Allocation
  - Minnesota State Demographer
  - DNR-Prospectors Loop Trail System
  - Central Pension Fund
  - Minnesota Rural Water
  - LMC-\*Dues Increase and Upcoming Events
  - MAT-\*Town Law and \*June Newsletter
  - IRRR-\*June 13<sup>th</sup> Rural Transit Options, \*June 14<sup>th</sup> Ranger, \*June 21<sup>st</sup> Communication
- Public Input

## **Reports:**

- Police-See Attached
- Fire-See Attached
- Road and Bridge-See Attached
- McKinley Park
- Recreation
- Wastewater Board
- Ambulance Commission

Acceptance of Reports

## **Old Business**

- Infrastructure Projects
- Broadband
  - McKinley Park
  - Update from Supervisor Tuchel
- Outdoor Recreation Project-McKinley Park
  - Resolution 2023-18 Apply for and Accept Funds
- Blight
  - Jasper St Quote
  - Ordinance-does it need updating again
- Care Crossings Update
- Police Department-Updates
  - Impounded Vehicle-2015 KIA Truck
  - Goombaz Security Proposal Update
  - Increase in Fraud Calls Area Wide

## **New Business**

- Pay Bills as presented

**Next Regular Board Meeting-**Thursday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023 @ 12Noon Breitung Community Center

**Community Picnic-**Sunday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 12Noon-3pm @ the Breitung Recreational Area

## **Adjourn**

## **Township of Breitung Regular Board Meeting 06-14-23 at 5:30pm. In Person Meeting at the Breitung Community Center**

### **Present In Person:**

**Board Members:** Chairman Tim Tomsich, Supervisor Chuck Tekautz, Supervisor Matt Tichel, Clerk Dianna Sundahl, Treasurer Jorgine Gornick

**Public:** Stephanie Ukkola-Timberjay, Tom Gorsma-Public Works, Terry Sundahl, Greg Dostert, Daniel Reing-Police Chief, Angela Zavodnik-Youth Program Coordinator, Amber Salmela, Jenny Nevala, LuAnn Zaudtke, Debbie & Dan Wiirre, Anthony Zavodnik, Polly McDonald, Keith Mattila, Dana Anderson, Michelle Anderson, Linda and Larry Folstad, Adrienne DeVries, Scarlet Stone, Cathy Harvieux-Care Crossings, Lisa Roberts-Care Crossings, Corrine Hill, James Palo, Mary Batanich, Mike Skorich, Terry and Jill Wagoner, Susan Ellis, Kathy and Jeff Johnson, Genelle and Dave Bjorgo, Allen Anderson, Trudy Hendricks, Nick Bjorgo, Tianna Rosezak, Dave Archambault-guest, Anthony Sikora

Call to Order @ 5:36pm by Chairman Tim Tomsich

### **Acceptance of Agenda**

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to accept the agenda as presented

2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Tichel

Motion Passed 3-0

### **Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Supervisor Tichel to approve the minutes of the 05/25/23 Regular Board Meetings presented

2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion passed 3-0

### **New Business:**

**Care Crossing North Project-**Vermilion Park Inn is being sold to run the Care Crossing North Project. Cathy Harvieux from the Sober House Project came to do the presentation included in the packet and to answer questions from the public. The Presentation took approximately 35 minutes, and the public asked questions for 35 minutes. Cathy stated she grew up in Aurora, has owned her own business for 20 years, and has been involved in Care Crossings for 3 years. Cathy states that the City of Ely had approached her to partner with them for services in the area. She states the safety of her clients and the residents of the area is very important. Residents and their guests are subject to background checks. Level 1 sex offenders are allowed in the program, there will be many services offered at the center, residents can be either voluntarily admitted or court ordered to attend. This type of treatment is covered by health insurance. Cathy stated that she did not know of a requirement for a conditional use

permit to run the center, but according to a letter from the St. Louis County Planning and Community Development, it would be required, which requires a meeting that is open to the public. Supervisor Tuchel requested a letter be sent to St. Louis County asking that the hearing be held at the Township should a Conditional Use Permit be applied for.

At 6:40 when the Presentation and Q & A was over, the majority of the resident and public left. The remaining in attendance were:

Board Members: Chairman Tim Tomsich, Supervisor Chuck Tekautz, Supervisor Matt Tuchel, Clerk Dianna Sunsdahl, Treasurer Jorgine Gornick

Public: Stephanie Ukkola-Timberjay, Tom Gorsma-Public Works, Keith Mattila-Public Works, Trudy Hendricks-Housekeeping, Valeda McDonald, Anthony Sikora

Juneteenth as a Holiday-Per the Federal, State and County government now recognizes Juneteenth as a Holiday

Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to recognize Juneteenth as a paid Holiday and to approve MOU from LU 49 and LOU from LU 346

2<sup>nd</sup> by Chairman Tomsich

Supervisor Tuchel abstained due to conflict of interest as his paid position is in LU 49

Motion passed 2-0

Establish 2023 Mowing Rate-Discussion that the Township does not want to be in the mowing business, that we have mowed in the past due to blight properties. Public Works department has neither the time and or resources to continue.

Motion by Supervisor Tuchel to set the mowing rate at \$100/hour to cover all costs incurred by the Township

2<sup>nd</sup> by Chairman Tomsich

Motion passed 3-0

### **Old Business**

Culture and Tourism Grant-Update-Chairman Tomsich contacted the playground equipment company and the earliest the company could install equipment would be in the spring of 2024.

Blight-Chairman Tomsich stated he gave a list to Chief Reing of 6 properties in Soudan that need blight letters. Residents of 3 Jasper St have been notified that the next step is for the township to hire a company to come in and clean up the property. Chief Reing to notify the owners Douglas and Gloria Ahlgren.

Motion by Chairman Tomsich to have Chief Reing find a company to come and clean up the property at a cost of no more than \$2500.00

2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Tuchel

Motion passed 3-0



**Next Regular Board Meeting**-Thursday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 @ 12N Breitung Community Center

**Adjourn**

Motion by Supervisor Tichel to adjourn the meeting @ 7:10pm

2<sup>nd</sup> by Supervisor Tekautz

Motion passed 3-0

Respectfully Submitted

Dianna Sunsdahl

Clerk, Breitung Township

# TOWNSHIP OF BREITUNG

May-23

GENERAL	4,176.28
ROAD & BRIDGE	(916.67)
FIRE	12,874.88
PARK	46,810.49
RECREATION	(5,573.13)
POLICE	28,353.27
PROJECTS	(2,152.20)
WATER DEPT	44,508.74
ARPA	0.00
TOTALS	128,081.66

For Pre-enrollment  
form, please contact  
Christine Lundemo  
or Sarah Howe at  
(218)757-3261, opt. 3

*Bois Forte*  
*Early Childhood*  
*Programs*

*Fun!*

*Quality*  
*Care!*

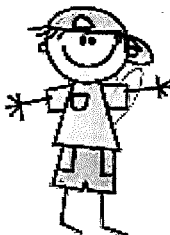
*Affordable!*

*Enrollment*  
*Now Open*

*Enrollment Dates:*

Nett Lake  
Tuesday July 18th  
Tuesday Aug 1st  
Vermilion  
Thursday July  
20th  
Thursday Aug 3rd  
9:00 am to 3:30  
pm

**AGES 6 weeks-5**  
Application will not  
be accepted without  
the side information



- PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING
- Household Proof of Income
- Birth Certificate
- TANF/MFIP Numbers
- Food Stamps/ Commod Numbers
- Health Insurance Card
- Child Up-to-Date Immunizations
- Child's Physical & Dental Exam



Cohasset Service Center  
26039 Bear Ridge Drive  
Cohasset, MN 55721

9347 1 AB 0.507  
TOWN OF BREITUNG  
C/O JORGINE GORNICK  
PO BOX 56  
SOUDAN MN 55782-0056

5 9347  
C-23



## Notice of Capital Credit Allocation

**Year: 2022**

**Member Number: 1578200**

**Total Capital Credit Allocation: \$860.71**

**Division of Allocation total: Lake Country Power - \$704.34  
Great River Energy - \$156.37**

### **THIS IS NOT A BILLING: DO NOT PAY**

We are pleased to inform you that your share of Lake Country Power's margin for 2022 is \$860.71. You may not apply any part of this allocation to your electric bill or as payment for any other cooperative related service.

General Retirements are paid only upon the approval of the Lake Country Power Board of Directors.

Should you discontinue service with Lake Country Power and/or change your current mailing address, you should notify LCP as future correspondences relative to capital credits will require a current mailing address.

Thank you for your continued commitment and loyalty to your electric cooperative. Please refer to the back side of this notice for an explanation of capital credits or visit our website at [www.lakecountrypower.coop](http://www.lakecountrypower.coop).

**Your un-retired Capital Credits to date are \$15,349.43**

**Please look on the back for more detailed capital credit information.**

Cohasset Service Center  
26039 Bear Ridge Drive  
Cohasset, MN 55721

Mountain Iron Service Center  
8535 Park Ridge Drive  
Mountain Iron, MN 55768

Kettle River Service Center  
4065 Hwy 73  
Kettle River, MN 55757

1-800-421-9959

Energy that Powers Our Lives

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



**DATE:** June 1, 2023  
**TO:** Dianna Sundahl, Clerk  
Breitung Township  
**FROM:** Susan Brower  
Minnesota State Demographer  
**SUBJECT:** 2022 Population and Household Estimates

Your April 1, 2022 population estimate is 525.

Your April 1, 2022 household estimate is 262.

If you have any questions or comments about these estimates, please contact the State Demographic Center, 300 Centennial Office Building, 658 Cedar Street, St. Paul, MN 55155, phone (651) 201-2473 or send an e-mail to [local.estimated@state.mn.us](mailto:local.estimated@state.mn.us). All challenges must be submitted in writing. Please refer to the enclosed sheet for details.

300 Centennial Office Building  
658 Cedar Street  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
Telephone: 651-201-2473  
TTY: 651-297-4357



Dianna Sundahl, Clerk  
Breitung Township  
PO Box 56  
Soudan, MN 55782

Dear Clerk:

The State Demographer is required by law to produce annual population and household estimates for each of Minnesota's cities and townships. Enclosed you will find a sheet containing the April 1, 2022, population and household estimates for your jurisdiction.

These estimates are being sent to you now for review and comment. It's important that our estimates are accurate, as they are used to distribute state aid to cities and townships. If you have questions about how our estimates impact a specific program, please contact the state agency responsible for that program.

The enclosed figures represent estimated population and household changes since the 2020 Census. The number of households corresponds to the number of occupied housing units. A household may be a single family, one person living alone, or any group of people who share the same living area. While we believe that our estimates are usually accurate, we realize there may be occasional problems. For this reason, we value your comments. We may not be aware of such changes as housing demolitions, the gain or loss of group quarters (like college dormitories, nursing homes, etc.), construction of public housing and the gain or loss of mobile homes.

Please note that our estimates:

- pertain to one year ago, not the present;
- have also been sent to your county auditor for review;
- are subject to change and are not considered final until they are released to the Minnesota Department of Revenue in July.

If you are satisfied with our estimates, it is not necessary to contact us or provide any further information. If you wish to challenge our estimates, please send us the appropriate data described in the enclosed challenge guide by **June 24, 2023**. Questions or comments should be directed to Eric Guthrie by email or at the address listed on the letterhead. **The best way to reach us is by e-mail at [local.estimates@state.mn.us](mailto:local.estimates@state.mn.us).** You may also try to reach us by phone at (651) 201-2473.

Thank you for taking time to review these estimates.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Susan Brower', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Susan Brower  
State Demographer

Enclosures

**From:** Horton, Becky (DNR) <becky.horton@state.mn.us>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 16, 2023 3:30 PM  
**Subject:** Prospectors Loop Trail System Phase 2 (Connect Four) EAW - Notice of extension of determination of need for an EIS

Dear Parties on the EIS Distribution List and Other Interested Parties,

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) prepared and issued an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) for the proposed ATV trail segments and connecting spur as part of the greater Prospectors Loop Trail for off highway vehicles, located in St. Louis, County Minnesota. The review and comment period on the EAW started on April 4, 2023 and ended May 4, 2023.

During the comment period, a substantive comment was received regarding phased and connected actions related to trail developments that have previously occurred but were not discussed in the EAW. This issue is currently being investigated by DNR and additional information will be incorporated into the forthcoming Record of Decision that will support DNR's determination on whether the proposed project has the potential for significant environmental effects and requires an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Therefore, pursuant to Minnesota Rules 4410.1700 Subpart 2a, the DNR is postponing the decision on the need for an EIS for 45 days to add this missing information to our Record.

Sincerely,

Becky

**Rebecca Horton**  
Planner Principal | Division of Ecological and Water Resources

**Minnesota Department of Natural Resources**  
500 Lafayette Road N  
St. Paul, MN 55155-4025  
Phone: 651-259-5122  
Email: [becky.horton@state.mn.us](mailto:becky.horton@state.mn.us)  
[mndnr.gov](http://mndnr.gov)





## Annual Funding Notice



for the

### CENTRAL PENSION FUND OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS AND PARTICIPATING EMPLOYERS

#### Introduction

This notice includes important information about the funding status of your multiemployer pension plan (“the Plan”). It also includes general information about the benefit payments guaranteed by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (“PBGC”), a federal insurance agency. All traditional pension plans (called “defined benefit pension plans”) must provide this notice every year regardless of their funding status. This notice does not mean that the Plan is terminating. It is provided for informational purposes and you are therefore not required to respond in any way. This notice is required by federal law. This notice is for the plan year beginning February 1, 2022 and ending January 31, 2023 (“Plan Year”).

#### How Well Funded Is Your Plan

The law requires the administrator of the Plan to tell you how well the Plan is funded, using a measure called the “funded percentage”. The Plan divides its assets by its liabilities on the Valuation Date for the plan year to get this percentage. In general, the higher the percentage, the better funded the plan. The Plan’s funded percentage for the Plan Year and each of the two preceding plan years is shown in the chart below. The chart also states the value of the Plan’s assets and liabilities for the same period.

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
Valuation Date	2/1/2022	2/1/2021	2/1/2020
Funded Percentage	107.3%	102.6%	97.8%
Value of Assets	\$23,140,852,091	\$21,112,844,382	\$19,372,378,089
Value of Liabilities	\$21,561,813,554	\$20,575,755,404	\$19,805,150,179

#### Year-End Fair Market Value of Assets

The asset values in the chart above are measured as of the Valuation Date. They also are “actuarial values”. Actuarial values differ from market values in that they do not fluctuate daily based on changes in the stock or other markets. Actuarial values smooth out those fluctuations and can allow for more predictable levels of future contributions. Despite the fluctuations, market values tend to show a clearer picture of a plan’s funded status at a given point in time. The asset values in the chart below are market values and are measured on the last day of the Plan Year. The chart also includes the year-end market value of the Plan’s assets for each of the two preceding plan years.

Plan Year-End	1/31/2023	1/31/2022	1/31/2021
Fair Market Value of Assets	*\$23,457,771,985	\$24,923,482,418	\$22,282,373,357



\*Note: The January 31, 2023 market value of assets is an estimate based on the most accurate unaudited financial information available at the time this notice was prepared.

### **Endangered, Critical, or Critical and Declining Status**

Under federal pension law, a plan generally is in “endangered” status if its funded percentage is less than 80 percent. A plan is in “critical” status if the funded percentage is less than 65 percent (other factors may also apply). A plan is in “critical and declining” status if it is in critical status and is projected to become insolvent (run out of money to pay benefits) within 15 years (or within 20 years if a special rule applies). If a pension plan enters endangered status, the trustees of the plan are required to adopt a funding improvement plan. Similarly, if a pension plan enters critical status or critical and declining status, the trustees of the plan are required to adopt a rehabilitation plan. Funding improvement and rehabilitation plans establish steps and benchmarks for pension plans to improve their funding status over a specified period of time. The plan sponsor of a plan in critical and declining status may apply for approval to amend the plan to reduce current and future payment obligations to participants and beneficiaries.

The Plan was not in endangered, critical, or critical and declining status in the Plan Year.

### **Participant Information**

The total number of participants and beneficiaries covered by the Plan on the valuation date was 210,020. Of this number, 87,051 were current employees, 81,546 were retired participants and beneficiaries receiving benefits, and 41,423 were inactive vested participants retired or no longer working for an employer and have a right to future benefits.

### **Funding & Investment Policies**

Every pension plan must have a procedure to establish a funding policy for plan objectives. A funding policy relates to how much money is needed to pay promised benefits. The funding policy of the Plan is to maintain funding levels adequate to meet all statutory and legal requirements by aligning projected benefit liabilities with projected contribution and investment income, as recommended by the Fund Actuary.

Pension plans also have investment policies. These generally are written guidelines or general instructions for making investment management decisions. The investment policy of the Plan is to broadly diversify the Plan's investments among various asset classes, in order to preserve the principal, while recognizing the need for investment income and appreciation, and to do so while incurring a minimal amount of risk.

Under the Plan's investment policy, the Plan's assets were allocated among the following categories of investments, as of the end of the Plan Year. These allocations are percentages of total assets:

<b>Asset Allocations</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
1 Interest-bearing cash	0.0%
2 U.S. Government securities	6.9%
3 Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities): Preferred	2.9%

All other	6.3%
4 Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):	
Preferred	0.1%
Common	16.5%
5 Partnership/joint venture interests	20.8%
6 Real estate (other than employer real property)	0.0%
7 Loans (other than to participants)	0.0%
8 Participant loans	0.0%
9 Value of interest in common/collective trusts	44.5%
10 Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	0.9%
11 Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities	0.0%
12 Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g. mutual funds)	1.0%
13 Value of funds held in insurance co. general account (unallocated contracts)	0.0%
14 Employer-related investments	
Employer securities	0.0%
Employer real property	0.0%
15 Buildings and other property used in plan operation	0.0%
16 Other	0.1%

For information about the Plan's investment in any of the following types of investments-common/collective trusts, pooled separate accounts, or 103-12 investment entities - contact Joseph J. Shelton, Chief Executive Officer at 4115 Chesapeake Street, NW, Washington, DC 20016-4665, telephone 202-362-1000.

### **Right to Request a Copy of the Annual Report**

Pension plans must file annual reports with the US Department of Labor. The report is called the "Form 5500." These reports contain financial and other information. You may obtain an electronic copy of your Plan's annual report by going to [www.efast.dol.gov](http://www.efast.dol.gov) and using the search tool. The Plan sponsor's Employer Identification Number and Plan number can be found below in the section labeled Where to Get More Information. Annual reports also are available from the US Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration's Public Disclosure Room at 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room N-1513, Washington, DC 20210, or by calling 202-693-8673. Or you may obtain a copy of the Plan's annual report by making a written request to the plan administrator. Annual reports do not contain personal information, such as the amount of your accrued benefit. You may contact your plan administrator if you want information about your accrued benefits. Your plan administrator is identified below under "Where to Get More Information."

### **Summary of Rules Governing Insolvent Plans**

Federal law has a number of special rules that apply to financially troubled multiemployer plans that become insolvent, either as ongoing plans or plans terminated by mass withdrawal. The plan administrator is required by law to include a summary of these rules in the annual funding notice. A plan is insolvent for a plan year if its available financial resources are not sufficient to pay benefits when due for the plan year. An insolvent plan must reduce benefit payments to the highest level that can be paid from the plan's available resources. If such resources are not enough to pay benefits at the level specified by law (see Benefit Payments Guaranteed by the PBGC, below), the plan must apply to the PBGC for financial assistance.

The PBGC will loan the plan the amount necessary to pay benefits at the guaranteed level. Reduced benefits may be restored if the plan's financial condition improves.

A plan that becomes insolvent must provide prompt notice of its status to participants and beneficiaries, contributing employers, labor unions representing participants, and PBGC. In addition, participants and beneficiaries also must receive information regarding whether, and how, their benefits will be reduced or affected, including loss of a lump sum option.

### **Benefit Payments Guaranteed by the PBGC**

The maximum benefit that the PBGC guarantees is set by law. Only benefits that you have earned a right to receive and that cannot be forfeited (called vested benefits) are guaranteed. There are separate insurance programs with different benefit guarantees and other provisions for single-employer plans and multiemployer plans. Your Plan is covered by PBGC's multiemployer program. Specifically, the PBGC guarantees a monthly benefit payment equal to 100 percent of the first \$11 of the Plan's monthly benefit accrual rate, plus 75 percent of the next \$33 of the accrual rate, times each year of credited service. The PBGC's maximum guarantee, therefore, is \$35.75 per month times a participant's years of credited service.

*Example 1:* If a participant with 10 years of credited service has an accrued monthly benefit of \$600, the accrual rate for purposes of determining the PBGC guarantee would be determined by dividing the monthly benefit by the participant's years of service ( $\$600/10$ ), which equals \$60. The guaranteed amount for a \$60 monthly accrual rate is equal to the sum of \$11 plus \$24.75 ( $.75 \times \$33$ ), or \$35.75. Thus, the participant's guaranteed monthly benefit would be \$357.50 ( $\$35.75 \times 10$ ).

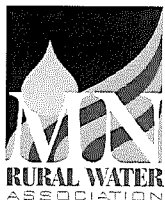
*Example 2:* If the participant in Example 1 has an accrued monthly benefit of \$200, the accrual rate for purposes of determining the guarantee would be \$20 (or  $\$200/10$ ). The guaranteed amount for a \$20 monthly accrual rate is equal to the sum of \$11 plus \$6.75 ( $.75 \times \$9$ ), or \$17.75. Thus, the participant's guaranteed monthly benefit would be \$177.50 ( $\$17.75 \times 10$ ).

The PBGC guarantees pension benefits payable at normal retirement age and some early retirement benefits. In addition, the PBGC guarantees qualified preretirement survivor benefits (which are preretirement death benefits payable to the surviving spouse of a participant who dies before starting to receive benefit payments). In calculating a person's monthly payment, the PBGC will disregard any benefit increases that were made under a plan within 60 months before the earlier of the plan's termination or insolvency (or benefits that were in effect for less than 60 months at the time of termination or insolvency). Similarly, the PBGC does not guarantee benefits above the normal retirement benefit, disability benefits not in pay status, or non-pension benefits, such as health insurance, life insurance, death benefits, vacation pay, or severance pay.

### **Where to Get More Information**

For more information about this notice, you may contact Joseph J. Shelton, Chief Executive Officer for the Plan, at the Fund Office located at 4115 Chesapeake Street, NW, Washington, DC 20016-4665, telephone number is 202-362-1000. For identification purposes, the official plan number is 001 and the plan sponsor's employer identification number or "EIN" 36-6052390.

**From:** Minnesota Rural Water Association <nicole.melaas@mrwa.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 31, 2023 1:15 PM  
**To:** clerk@breitungtownship.org  
**Subject:** Urgent: Legal Action Required in Response to Kidde Fenwal Bankruptcy



## Minnesota Rural Water Association Wants To Inform You About:

Dear Rural Water Member,

I hope this email finds you well amidst the challenges we are all facing in these unprecedented times.

I am writing to you with a critical update that requires immediate attention and action. The company, Kidde Fenwal, a well-known manufacturer of fire protection and suppression systems, has recently filed for bankruptcy.

Kidde Fenwal has been associated with the use and disposal of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), resulting in significant contamination to water supplies across the U.S.

The water systems potential liability and cost to clean up PFAS contamination will be substantial. Many water systems may have a legitimate claim against Kidde Fenwal for contributing to this situation.

Due to the bankruptcy filing, the process and timeline for lodging claims against Kidde Fenwal will approach quickly. Bankruptcy proceedings often involve establishing a deadline by which all claims against the bankrupt entity must be filed. Once this "bar date" is established, no late claims will be entertained. **We recommend you register with the NRWA firm Napoli Shkolnik at this link: <https://www.napolilaw.com/nrwa-pfas/>**

By signing up your water systems will be eligible to recover current and future costs associated with the multidistrict litigation, not just the Kidde Fenwal bankruptcy.

It is important that your water system secures legal representation to protect your system's interests. This representation will ensure that your water system's potential claims are recognized, accounted for, and not discharged or diminished due to the bankruptcy proceedings.

This situation is complex and the legal ramifications can be challenging to navigate, but by acting promptly, your system can ensure the best possible outcome for your customers and the communities they serve.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter. If you have any questions or require further clarification, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

To view more information about PFAS and the NRWA Cost Recovery Program [click here..](#)

For more information contact: Lori Blair, Minnesota Rural Water Association at 800-367-6792 or Sam Wade, Napoli Shkolnik Water Consultant and former NRWA CEO (580) 917-1425

**Register here now!** <https://www.napolilaw.com/nrwa-pfas/>

Minnesota Rural Water Association | 217 12th Avenue SE, Elbow Lake, MN 56531

[Unsubscribe clerk@breitungtownship.org](mailto:clerk@breitungtownship.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by nicole.melaas@mrwa.com in collaboration with





May 22, 2023

Breitung Township  
Attn: Township Clerk  
PO Box 56  
Soudan, MN 55782-0056

Dear Mayors and Administrators,

Greetings from all of us at the League of Minnesota Cities! Over the course of the past five and a half years, I've had the chance to get to know many of you in my travels around the state or at an event through my service as deputy director at the League. Today, I'm writing to you in my very first day in a new role – executive director. I'm deeply passionate about the work of our organization and greatly value the partnership that we have with you and our 836 member cities across Minnesota.

I'm writing to let you know that at its most recent meeting, the League's Board of Directors approved a preliminary maximum dues schedule increase of 4.5 percent for the fiscal year 2023-2024 that runs from September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024. Dues are used to support the League's mission which is to promote excellence in local government through effective advocacy, expert analysis, and trusted guidance for all Minnesota cities.

Setting the maximum dues schedule increase is similar to a city setting its preliminary levy increase, in that the final dues schedule increase to be approved by the League Board cannot exceed the preliminary approved increase. The Board will formally discuss and approve a final dues schedule increase along with the League's fiscal year 2024 budget at its scheduled August meeting.

If you have questions or want additional information on the League's dues and budget, please feel free to contact me at (651) 281-1279 or [lfischer@lmc.org](mailto:lfischer@lmc.org).

Also, we want to see you soon and would like to invite you join us in Duluth June 21-23 for the League's Annual Conference for city officials. To learn more about the Conference and register, visit [lmc.org/ac23](http://lmc.org/ac23).

The League board and staff takes seriously our responsibility to carefully manage member assets, and we thank you for your continued support of the work we do on your behalf.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Luke Fischer", is written over a horizontal line.

Luke Fischer  
Executive Director

**From:** League of Minnesota Cities <members@lmc.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 2, 2023 10:00 AM  
**To:** Dianna Sundahl  
**Subject:** Upcoming Events & Learning: June 2023

[View this email in your browser](#)



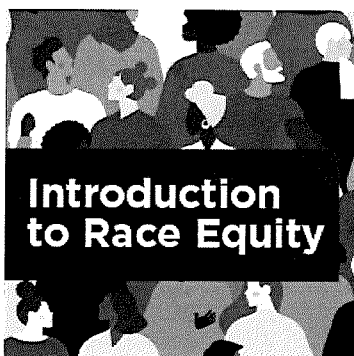
## Upcoming League Events & Learning



### LMC Annual Conference

*June 21-23 — Duluth*

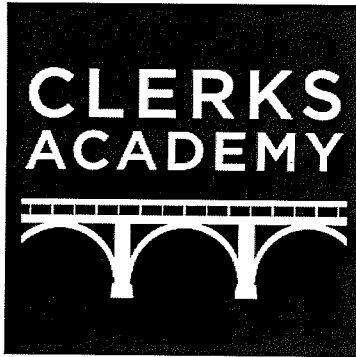
Show love for your city at our biggest event of the year! Join us for informative speakers and presentations, opportunities to network with other city officials, an exhibit hall where you can learn about new products and services, and much more.



### Intro to Race Equity

*July 13 — Marshall*

Join fellow city officials in exploring the history of race and the role of local government in advancing equity for all residents. Come ready to discuss implicit and explicit bias, different types of racism, and ways to take action in your community.



## **Clerks Academy - *More details coming soon!***

*Sept. 7-8 — St. Paul*

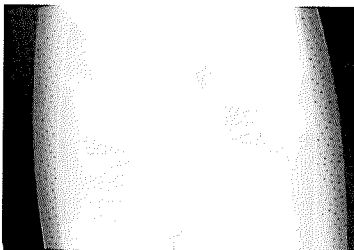
*Sept. 14-15 — Staples*

This blended-learning program designed to help new city clerks navigate their complex role. Clerks Academy combines on-demand, online coursework with in-person sessions to explore current legal requirements, issues, and challenges that city clerks face.

## **MemberLearn Online Learning**



**NEW COURSE!** Looking to learn more about diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) work and how it can be applied your city? Find the information you need to get started through a new online course available through the League's **MemberLearn online learning platform:**



### **Introduction to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**

This 35-minute course will help you gain an understanding of the terminology and basic concepts that are at the core of DEI efforts and your role in advancing DEI in your city.

Interested in other topics? MemberLearn offers an array of online courses for city officials on important topics such as the budget process, land use regulations, best practices for social media, tips for seasonal hiring, and more. **Explore the full MemberLearn library of courses on the League's website.**

## **Did You Miss a Webinar?**

If you couldn't take part in a live webinar, or you want to rewatch one, you can view recent webinar recordings and presentation slides through our MemberLearn platform. Please



note that you need a MyLMC account to access MemberLearn; if you don't have one, [learn how to create a new MyLMC account](#).

[View recent webinars](#), including:

- 2023 Legislative Recap
- How can FMCSA's Clearinghouse Benefit Your City's Highway Safety?
- Financial Scams and Fraud Control
- Creative Staffing Strategies



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**From:** Minnesota Association of Townships <info@mntownships.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 6, 2023 10:32 AM  
**To:** clerk@breitungtownship.org  
**Subject:** Town Law Review - June 14



### **Town Law Review: June 14**

The Minnesota Association of Townships Town Law Review will be held **June 14, 2023**, at the Best Western Nicollet Inn – Burnsville.

The Town Law Review is an educational event with presentations by MAT attorneys focused on the more-complex issues of township governance. Township officers attending this training tend to engage in city-like activities like land use management, hiring staff, complying with the Data Practices Act, operating water utilities, and operation of other public amenities.

**REGISTER here for the Town Law Review:** <https://bit.ly/2023TownLawReview>.  
Pre-registration is open until Thursday, June 8. On-site event registration is also available.

**DATE:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023

**TIME:** On-site registration opens at 8:30 AM. The event begins at 9:00 AM and ends in the afternoon.

**LOCATION:** Best Western Premier Nicollet Inn in Burnsville, 14201 Nicollet Ave, Burnsville, MN 55337

**COST:** \$65 per officer, which includes breakfast, lunch, and printed materials.

**AGENDA: (full description on the MAT website here)** Topics include Land Use 101: How to Properly Process Applications, Handle the Public Hearing, Create a Defensible Record, and Make Findings; Employment Hot Topics; From Hire to Retire; Public Sector Labor Law; Data Practices Act: A Survival Guide; Drawing a Line in the Sand;

Annexation and Strategies to Protect the Town's Boundaries; Cannabis is Coming to Town and There Isn't Much You Can Do About It.

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Minnesota Association of Townships | 805 Central Ave East, P.O. Box 267, St. Michael, MN 55376

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**From:** Minnesota Association of Townships <info@mntownships.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023 3:37 PM  
**To:** clerk@breitungtownship.org  
**Subject:** June 2023 Newsletter



## June 2023 Newsletter

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Dear Township Officers,

Please read through the various news and opportunities included below. We hope you are enjoying the month of June! As always, reach out to MAT staff with any questions.

Sincerely,  
Jeff Krueger, Executive Director  
Minnesota Association of Townships

### **"Township Tuesday" conference calls**

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Please join MAT staff for a casual update on the most recent township information, with question and answer time on any topic.

1st Tuesday of the month: 10 AM  
3rd Tuesday of the month: 10 AM

**Participate via Zoom meeting via computer (preferred):**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88491131671>**

Meeting ID: 884 9113 1671

OR participate via phone, (646) 558-8656 passcode 88-49-113-16-71#

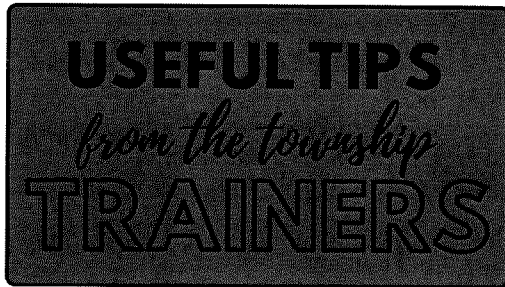
Recordings and details of past calls [can be found on the MAT website here.](#)

### **Township financial reports**

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Township financial reports were due to the State Auditor's Office on April 1st, 2023. If you have not submitted your report and/or have questions or need assistance, please contact one of our MAT Trainers.

## Trainer Tips



Take note! The following **Clerk and Treasurer Organizational Tips** were shared by officers during our 2023 Spring Short Courses trainings:

**Create a three-ring binder** for each Officer. Include pages such as:

- a township map,
  - Officer contact list,
  - township roads list,
  - calendar of monthly events,
- township budget,
  - copies of policies,
  - contractor contact list,
  - password list / account numbers,
  - master key list,
  - website resource list,
  - meeting agendas and minutes,
  - payroll,
  - tax receipts,
  - town hall or storage unit inventory list,
  - bonds and reserves,
  - road sign inventory,
  - agreements with other townships,
  - latest annual report, and
  - CTAS chart of accounts.

Always remember to **back up permanent documents** on an electronic hard drive.

**Email passwords** to yourself.

If all officers have laptops, **create email accounts** that remain permanent. Example: Supervisor1@YourTownship.com, Clerk@YourTownship.com

**Use acid-free paper** for printed documents (it lasts longer).

## Juneteenth - June 19 and doing business

Session Laws Chapter 5, amended Minn. Stat. § 10.55 & Minn. Stat. § 645.44 subd. 5. Relevant to townships—645.44 subd. 5 does three things. First it defines "Holiday" as including "Juneteenth, June 19." Second, it provides that "No public business shall be transacted on any holiday, except in cases of necessity." Finally, it provides that in cases where June 19 is a Saturday, the preceding day is a holiday and in cases when June 19 is

a Sunday, the following day is a holiday. (For the record New Year's Day, Independence Day, Veterans Day, and Christmas have the same day-shifting mechanism.) Ordinarily under Minn. Stat. § 645.02, the effective date of new laws is August 1 following final enactment. However, in this case in Section 115 of Chapter 62 of 2023's session laws—the effective date for this change was set to “the day following final enactment.” Chapter 62 was signed by the Governor on May 24—so Juneteenth is a state holiday upon with “no public business shall be transacted” except “in cases of necessity” this year.

That said, there's not a lot of authority out there telling us what “necessity” means. There's persuasive authority to support the proposition that the ordinary duties of first responders automatically qualify. Op. Atty. Gen., 276, Jan. 16, 1957 “Duties of firemen and policemen are within the exception “in cases of necessity” within meaning of the fifth subdivision of this section.” There is also persuasive authority to support the proposition that the town board is allowed to determine whether a “necessity” exists. Op. Atty. Gen. 1934, No. 499, p. 770 (“The test whether public business by town board is necessary within this section is in the discretion of the public body transacting the public business.”) Finally, our proceedings have a strong presumption of regularity—that is someone challenging a township decision to meet on a holiday would have to show that there was no “necessity.” *Ingelson v. Olson*, 199 Minn. 422, 431, 272 N.W. 270, 275 (1937). Since our townships have been given less than a month's notice that the holiday will start this year, and given things like the Prompt Payment Act, I suspect that reviewing courts will be generous in their interpretation of what counts as “necessary” this year, but **any township that feels like it has to meet on June 19th should be careful to make a record of why it thinks it meets the “necessity” standard.**

## U.S. Debt Limit Deal

The United States Senate approved the debt limit deal and sent it to the President to sign into law in advance of the June 5 deadline. View a report from the National Association of Towns and Townships: [\*\*NATaT Special Report: U.S. Debt Limit \(PDF\)\*\*](#)

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates that the legislation will reduce deficits by about \$1.5 trillion through FY 2033. Notably, the Fiscal Responsibility Act does not rescind any funding from the following:

- The American Rescue Plan Act's (P.L. 117-2) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF)
- The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act/Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58)
- Clean energy tax credits authorized within the Inflation Reduction Act (P.L. 117-169)
- \$3.1 billion in funds for the Department of Transportation's Transit Grants Administrative Pay-As-You-Go (PAY-GO)

## MATIT: CLC Renewals Wrap Up for the Year



The final 2022-2023 renewal invoices for consolidated liability coverage are in the mail. This concludes the Trust's renewal cycle for this year.

Historically, MATIT has handled the renewal process in three cycles with one-third of members renewing in November, March and July. With the software conversion MATIT compressed this process into two cycles for the current coverage year AND now provide members an estimate of cost for their next year's CLC coverage based upon the schedules on file with MATIT. Members are encouraged to update their schedules so the final invoice reflects their actual exposures. This also reduces the amount of work needed by MATIT to send endorsements after the coverage is renewed.

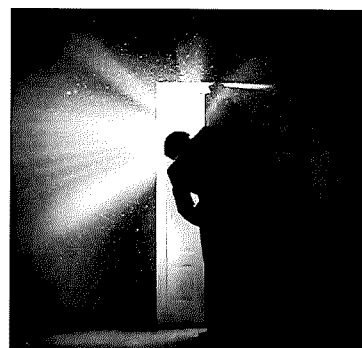
Effective for the coverage year that starts July 1, 2024, ALL members will renew at the same time.

Special thanks to members that reviewed the schedules provided in the renewal proposal and updated the information. Having a schedule that is current ensures that the member can be "made whole" subject to the terms and conditions of the coverage document when a covered loss occurs.

## MATIT: What's Trending in Losses - Break-Ins

MATIT has seen an increase in reports from members regarding "break-ins" and subsequent thefts. If you are a victim of this type of incident:

- Report the incident to local law enforcement.
- Immediately replace any broken locks or windows to protect your property.
- Survey the damage to identify any property, equipment, etc. that may be missing. Call and update the police report anytime you notice missing items (even if it seems insignificant).
- Report the loss to MATIT.
- Keep a constant watch for things you notice that are missing and make note of the items.
- Eliminate any weak spots to prevent future break-ins, such as:



**1. Secure doors and windows.** It may be time to replace locks if the whereabouts of keys are unknown. Double-check doors and first-floor windows to make sure they're all secured.

**2. Upgrade your door locks.** Exterior doors are best protected with deadbolt locks. This requires that door frames and hinges are strong enough to handle the job. Keyless entry systems which can be reprogrammed and updates may be an option.

**3. Consider installing a security system** - This can be an effective deterrent but the cost of its purchase and maintenance must be a consideration. Fortunately, there are several

systems that can be installed on a budget, much like those used in home security. Remember, intruders don't like to be caught on camera.

**4. Safeguard valuables.** Maintain important records in a locked file cabinet or room. A safe may be appropriate for the most valuable information (check stock, payroll records, cash, etc.) .Remove or hide expensive items so as not to invite a break in. Window treatments (blinds/curtains) that obstruct an intruder's view may reduce the risk of a break in.

**5. Install/enhance outdoor lighting.** Consider improving outdoor lighting. Motion sensitive lights that illuminate when they sense motion will generally catch an intruder off guard and scare them off.

Remember: you can start small and build on enhancing your security strategies each year. Every improvement further safeguards against a break-in or theft of your property. The work needed to deal with property damage (repair or replacement) of a building or its contents has its own price tag – time of that the clerk, treasurer or supervisors that are responsible to handle the incident, which can be used for other township business.

For questions contact MATIT at 763-497-2330.

## Minnesota LTAP trainings and news



View LTAP's online training offerings—including self-paced courses, webinars, and videos— they can be taken anytime and anywhere. Many are eligible for Roads Scholar Program credit, PDHs, and other professional development credits. **[Browse the online training library](#)** at your convenience!

Register and view the **[full Minnesota LTAP Schedule of Trainings](#)** to meet your needs in the coming year to enhance your skills in AutoCAD, leadership, pavement preservation, or other areas.

### Fall 2023 Schedule

- **Transitioning into Leadership: Essential Skills for Supervisors**
- **Management Operations and Maintenance Fundamentals**
- **Writing that Works! Communications Skills for Construction**
- **AutoCAD Software Skills and Construction Concepts**
- **Minnesota's Best Practices for Traffic Sign Maintenance and Management**
- **Truck-Weight Education Training**

### Spring 2024 Schedule

- **Introduction to Civil 3D Practical Application**
- **Asphalt Pavement Rehabilitation: Products, Processes, and Strategies**
- **Gravel Roads Maintenance and Design**
- **Work-Zone Safety**
- **Minnesota Roadway Maintenance Training and Demo Day**
- **Transitioning into Leadership: Essential Skills for Supervisors**
- **Management Operations and Maintenance Fundamentals**
- **Introduction to Surveying and Leveling**



- Introduction to Angles and Mapping
- Introduction to Construction Staking
- Truck-Weight Education Training

## Grant Opportunities

### DOE Energy Improvement in Rural or Remote Areas

Description: This Funding Opportunity Announcement is for the Energy Improvement in Rural Areas Program for a total of \$50M and is targeted to smaller, rural projects with most awards at \$5M and under. This will be a different type of DOE FOA as its goal is to target rural and remote communities to participate in federal funding by reducing the application burden with no federal cost share and easier applications. [Read More](#)

### Safe Streets and Roads for All

The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Safe Streets and Roads for All grants is live on Grants.gov and open for applications. The purpose of SS4A grant program is to improve roadway safety by significantly reducing or eliminating roadway fatalities and serious injuries. The deadline for applications is Monday July 10, 2023. [Read More](#)

### Wildlife Crossings

The Department of Transportation has released FY 2022-2023 solicitations for the Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program. The funding agency seeks to fund projects that provide substantial safety benefits and advance safe, efficient transportation under the program. Applications are due by August 1, 2023. [Read More](#)

## Minnesota Association of Townships

[www.mntownships.org](http://www.mntownships.org)

CONTACT US



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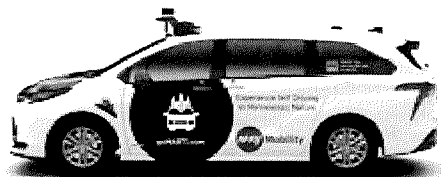
**From:** Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation <IRRRB@public.govdelivery.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 13, 2023 10:55 AM  
**To:** clerk@breitungtownship.org  
**Subject:** Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation receives \$9.3 million to expand the region's rural transit options

## DEPARTMENT OF IRON RANGE RESOURCES & REHABILITATION

June 13, 2023

### **Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation receives \$9.3 million to expand the region's rural transit options**

The Department of Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation was awarded a \$9.3 million federal Advanced Transportation Technology and Innovation Program (ATTAIN) grant to expand and extend the goMARTI pilot deployment in Grand Rapids, Minnesota.



goMARTI (Minnesota's Autonomous Rural Transit Initiative) launched operations in September 2022 and consists of five self-driving vehicles, three of which have ADA-compliant wheelchair ramps. The vehicles provide free, on-demand transportation to approximately 70 pick-up and drop-off points in a 16.5 square mile area. The operations are provided by leading autonomous vehicle (AV) technology provider May Mobility and TransitTech software provider Via with rides booked using an on-demand smartphone application or the local call center 211. The demonstration project is in partnership with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) and local partner funding. The goals of the project are to increase accessibility and transportation options for residents and visitors of the Grand Rapids area, advance and inform the AV technology in rural and winter conditions, foster community engagement and provide economic and workforce development opportunities.

Through the federal ATTAIN funding, the goMARTI expansion will incorporate advanced mobility options through a mixed fleet of on-demand, autonomous and electric vehicles, with the goal of providing increased access to essential services (including employment, education and healthcare), improving accessibility and providing exposure to new technologies and autonomous vehicle research in a rural environment. goMARTI's operations will expand to include the community-requested stops east and south of the current area, such as Minnesota North College - Itasca, Second Harvest North Central Food Bank and Walmart. The plan for the ATTAIN funding is to add an additional autonomous vehicle to the fleet, as well as three fully electric (non-autonomous) vehicles that will serve the Grand Rapids and nearby communities of Cohasset and La Prairie. The majority of the fleet of vehicles will be wheelchair accessible, a desperately needed option in the region.

"Connecting residents with these rural community destinations will allow for equitable access to critical services in the region through a convenient and reliable shared mobility option. We are excited about continuing the state's interagency collaboration between the Iron Range and MnDOT in the state's transition to shared, electric and automated transportation," said Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation Commissioner Ida Rukavina. "With the new ATTAIN goMARTI project award and EV infrastructure planning underway, northeastern Minnesota is well positioned to help create a better future for rural transportation."

The new ATTAIN project will also expand MnDOT's trip planning platform in partnership with the Transit App, currently deployed in southern Minnesota, to Arrowhead Transit and the goMARTI project. Now, goMARTI will appear in the Transit App as an option for users planning journeys that can be served by the deployment. The new funding also includes continued research from the University of Minnesota Center for Transportation Studies and workforce development efforts with Minnesota North College. Minnesota North College will be developing curriculum to leverage the project creating student experience opportunities, new curriculum opportunities and career pathways in new technology.

"Expanding goMARTI to Minnesota North College - Itasca is a big win for our current and prospective students. Reliable transportation is a barrier for many people, and this free and convenient shuttle option will make college much more accessible to those who don't live on or near campus. This project also presents an opportunity for our college to prepare our future workforce by exposing students to emerging technologies and careers in the transportation industry," said Dr. Michael Raich, president of Minnesota North College.

The PLUM Catalyst, with its experience in community-driven transportation projects and workforce development strategies, will serve as the project manager for the ATTAIN goMARTI project. PLUM has a proven track record of bringing

together diverse stakeholders to develop and implement successful transportation projects that benefit communities. The goMARTI project vision was born out of the need for people with wheelchairs and other disabilities in rural communities to be able to safely, reliably and conveniently travel around the Iron Range region, while taking advantage of new technologies and autonomous vehicles. The goMARTI project will benefit from the PLUM's expertise in collaborative, community-focused inclusive planning and implementation of the vision.

Project partners of the current goMARTi pilot project include: MnDOT, city of Grand Rapids, The PLUM Catalyst, May Mobility, Via, Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation, Itasca County, University of Minnesota, Arrowhead Transit, Mobility Mania and many others.

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**The PLUM Catalyst Contact:**

Michelle Scheuermann, External Communications Director

920-342-9281. [michelle@theplumcatalyst.com](mailto:michelle@theplumcatalyst.com)

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**From:** Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation <IRRRB@public.govdelivery.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023 8:27 PM  
**To:** clerk@breitungtownship.org  
**Subject:** The Ranger - June 14

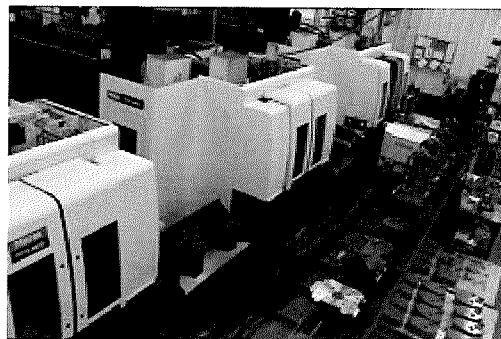


## The Ranger

*June 14, 2023*

### **Northland Machine in Grand Rapids sees great growth potential**

Reynolds Manufacturing and Reynolds Enterprises utilized bank participation loans from Iron Range Resource & Rehabilitation to purchase the assets and real estate of Northland Machine, Inc. in Grand Rapids. There are currently two buildings with 32,000 total square feet of floor space that house Northlands' state-of-the-art CNC machines used for large capacity, high-speed, high-efficiency and automated parts handling.



John Reynolds is the founder of both Reynolds Manufacturing and Reynolds Enterprises. His purchase of Northland Machine secured the retention of the existing staff and kept the company whole and operating for its existing and new customers that he brought on.



Northland Machine is a manufacturer of products comprised of materials such as plastic, steel, stainless steel, castings, forgings, aluminum, brass, bronze and exotic alloys. Its services include CNC machining; inspection via quality lab with CMMs and a state-of-the-art hand-held CMM, welding/fabrication, assembly, painting, prototyping, 3D modeling, detailing, fixture design and fabrication. The products manufactured in Grand Rapids are

sold and delivered to customers throughout the state of Minnesota, much of the Midwest and Canada.

"The industry demand for precision machined parts is strong, and we are building to meet that demand for existing and new customers," said Matthew Ollestad, Northland Machine's general manager and vice president. "We have a seasoned staff of 29 full time equipment operators, machinists and welders, managers, and could potentially hire an additional seven to nine more production employees in the near future. The new ownership combined with our technically skilled trained staff presents great growth potential for the company."

Northland Machine was founded in 1980. The company has been successfully operating in northeastern Minnesota for over forty years. It is currently a veteran-owned business under John Reynolds.



[Learn more about Northland Machine.](#)

Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation supported this project with bank participation loans totaling \$1.01 million. Total project investment was \$3.12 million. The agency's business loans are funded through taxes paid by Minnesota's mining industry. [Email Scott Sundvall](#) for more loan information or call him at 218-735-3015.

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## **Business Energy Retrofit grant helps The Freeze acquire new ice cream dipping equipment**



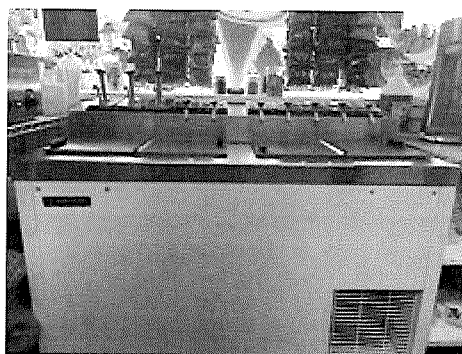
Small business owner John Dickinson utilized a Business Energy Retrofit (BER) grant to acquire an energy efficient ice cream freezer and dipping cabinet for The Freeze, a 400-square-foot food and ice cream stand located in the city of Virginia. The new stainless-steel freezer has the capacity to hold more barrels, as well as other frozen treats. Urethan insulation keeps the cabinet energy efficient.

The Freeze has been an iconic favorite in the Virginia community since 1956. Dickinson and his wife Kimmy purchased it in 2018. The Freeze offers a menu of American favorites such as chili dogs, burgers, sandwiches, tacos, fries, onion rings, cheese curds, soft serve ice cream and other frozen desserts. There is walk-up service and outdoor

seating.

John is employed fulltime at Cleveland Cliffs. Kimmy is a secretary at Rock Ridge School District and operates The Freeze during the summer months when school is out of session.

"The BER grant enabled us to acquire new equipment that not only creates a better product but can also reduce our utility bills," said Dickinson. "The cost savings will be very beneficial to our small business."



The Freeze is open every day 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. June, July and August. It employs about 30 people during the summer months; many are local teenagers from nearby school districts.

[Learn more about The Freeze 32 Degrees.](#)

Since BER's inception in 2013, over 624 grants have been awarded to help small businesses with energy efficiency upgrades that can result in reduced utility bills, improved building

aesthetics and increased building life. The program is funded by Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation and administered through a partnership with Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency (AEOA).

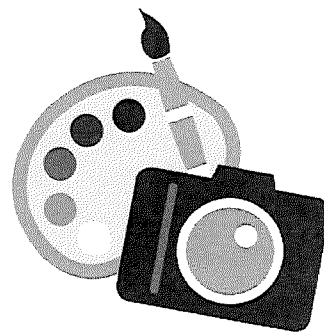
[Email Erik Bennett](#) at AEOA or call him at 218-322-6512 to learn more about BER.

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**Over \$310,374 in Culture & Tourism grants awarded across northeastern Minnesota**



Arts, culture, history, tourism and recreational activities are essential to the quality of life and economy of our region. Twenty-one projects were recently awarded Culture & Tourism grants.



- **Aitkin County Friends of the Arts: \$29,537** to develop an outdoor terrace for community events.
- **American Bear Association: \$15,000** to construct a three-season building.
- **Breitung Township: \$18,000** to improve two outdoor recreation areas.
- **City of Aitkin: \$3,000** to replace community welcome signs.
- **City of Aurora: \$10,000** to surface the parking lot for the splash pad, rink and activity courts at Pine Grove Park.
- **City of Buhl: \$11,084** to renovate a community park.
- **City of Kinney: \$10,000** to renovate a community playground.
- **City of Virginia: \$20,000** to improve the aesthetics, accessibility and safety of the entry and exit points to Olcott Park.
- **Crow Wing County Land Services: \$30,000** to add a fishing pier, swimming beach and picnic shelter to Little Emily Lake Park.
- **Friends of the Finland Community: \$7,500** to construct a community outdoor hearth at Clair Nelson Center.
- **Goodland Township: \$30,000** to renovate and expand a community park and playground.
- **Hibbing Dylan Project: \$3,000** to upgrade the city of Hibbing's downtown speaker and sound system to accommodate community events.
- **Iron Range Off-Road Cyclists: \$21,250** to launch a collaborative advertising campaign that promotes the region's mountain bike trails: Redhead, Cuyuna, Tioga and Giants Ridge.
- **Itasca County Agricultural Association dba Lights in the Pines: \$8,903** to launch a marketing campaign and purchase supplies for a winter lights drive-thru at the Itasca County Fairgrounds.
- **Jim Gillach Memorial: \$15,000** to renovate existing tennis courts into pickleball courts.
- **John Beargrease Sled Dog Marathon: \$4,000** to update the event's website.
- **Iron Range Partnership for Sustainability: \$2,500** to construct a concert stage shelter at Virginia Market Square, a local farmers market.
- **Kootasca Community Action: \$30,000** to develop a new playground at an early childhood hub.
- **Lake County Historical Society: \$8,600** to replace the Two Harbors Lighthouse beacon.



- **Laurentian Arts & Culture Alliance: \$3,000** to purchase portable audio and lighting equipment for music, theatre, arts, civic, cultural and educational programs at the Lyric Center in Virginia.
- **Wabana Township: \$30,000** to enhance the community park and outdoor recreation complex.

Does your community have a project that improves the region's arts, culture or recreation? [Email Danae Beaudette](#) for Culture & Tourism grant information or call her at 218-735-3022.

[Learn more about Culture & Tourism grants.](#)

Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation funds Culture & Tourism grants through taxes paid by Minnesota's mining industry.

## Mineland Vision Partnership celebrates 25 years



Mineland Vision Partnership (MVP) celebrated its 25th anniversary today, marking a quarter century of local stakeholders working together to shape future land use in northeastern Minnesota.

MVP is a regional collaboration of mining, business, government and community interests who represent Minnesota's Iron Range. The group works to help identify lands for economic, recreation and resource-based uses that meet mining and community goals. Iron Range

Resources & Rehabilitation is a member of MVP. The agency convenes the partners and hosts quarterly meetings where topics are explored such as cutting-edge reclamation practices and land use planning.

"Mining has shaped our region into what it is today, and the industry has and will be for many years the economic driver for our communities," said Stephanie Skraba, Chisholm's city administrator. "The unique landscape created by mining has provided the opportunity to capitalize on creating dynamic reclamation projects. The Redhead Mountain Bike Park and Bruce Mine Headframe Park, which is scheduled to open in 2023, are both located in Chisholm and show residents and visitors the breathtaking landscape that the region offers because of mining. The projects allow us to share this landscape and create an outdoor adventure for all."



Since the late 1800s, Minnesota's Iron Ranges have supplied most of America's iron ore that is used for building materials, automobiles, home appliances, and national defense machinery and equipment. More than a century of iron ore and taconite mining has

resulted in a changed landscape. MVP works to ensure that the land is restored and shaped for the betterment of the region as mining progresses.



The MVP website showcases some of the region's mineland reclamation projects, including Eagle Ridge Golf Course (Coleraine), Hull Rust Mine Mahoning Mineview (Hibbing), Judson Mine Recreation Area & Disc Golf Course (Buhl) and Redhead Mountain Bike Trail (Chisholm).

[View the interactive map with 16 reclamation projects located throughout the region.](#)

Congratulations MVP – on 25 years of making the region a better place for us all to live, work and play.

*The Ranger is a publication of Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation. Our mission is to invest resources to foster vibrant growth and economic prosperity in northeastern Minnesota.*



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This email was sent to [clerk@breitungtownship.org](mailto:clerk@breitungtownship.org) using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of: Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation · 4261 Highway 53 South · Eveleth, MN 55734



**From:** Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation <IRRRB@public.govdelivery.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 21, 2023 12:11 PM  
**To:** clerk@breitungtownship.org  
**Subject:** IRRR Board Meeting Recap - June 21

x

**June 21, 2023**

---

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Sheryl Kochevar, Communications Director  
218-735-3021, [Sheryl.Kochevar@state.mn.us](mailto:Sheryl.Kochevar@state.mn.us)

---

## **Businesses, communities and outdoor recreation in northeastern Minnesota receive over \$3.8 million in economic development funding**

At today's Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation Board meeting, approximately \$920,000 in loans, \$2.35 million in infrastructure grants and \$568,000 in trails grants were approved to advance projects in northeastern Minnesota. Agency total investment for all projects combined is approximately \$3.8 million. Total project investment is approximately \$29.9 million. The projects are expected to increase the regional tax base, retain jobs and create construction jobs, provide essential services and expand outdoor recreation. The loans are anticipated to impact 90 jobs. The infrastructure projects are projected to impact 66 jobs and create 150 construction jobs.

### **Participation Loans: \$922,000**

Agency Investment \$922,000 | Total Investment \$1,851,500

- **Reynolds Manufacturing, Grand Rapids: \$420,000** to purchase four pieces of equipment that will replace aging and outdated machines. The new equipment will help to increase productivity, increase efficiencies and attract new business. Reynolds Manufacturing owns and operates Northland Machine, a precision machine shop and parts manufacturer.
- **Rapid Technologies, LLC, Cohasset: \$154,000** to purchase new machining equipment and consolidate existing loans into one payment. Rapid Technologies is a machine shop and prototype manufacturer with extensive experience in fixture development.
- **RSF Industries, Inc. dba Range Steel Fabricators, Hibbing: \$78,000** to purchase one new piece of equipment that will replace an outdated and inefficient machine. The new equipment will decrease production time and increase finished product quality. RSF machines and fabricates steel and aluminum components for local companies who use them to assemble their products.
- **Lamppa Manufacturing, Inc., Tower: \$150,000** to provide working capital to help bring a new furnace model to market. The capital will be used for testing, marketing, initial inventory and training. Lamppa Manufacturing is a leading provider of wood-burning furnaces and has the world's only EPA-certified furnace.
- **Activ8ed, LLC dba East Dhu River Sawmill, Iron Junction: \$120,000** to purchase the assets of East Dhu River Sawmill, Inc., East Dhu is a custom sawmill that utilizes local logger-supplied raw lumber and saws it into a variety of wood products including wood timbers, pallet wood and custom blocking for industrial customers, custom builders, contractors and homeowners.

#### **Development Infrastructure Grants: \$950,000**

Agency Investment \$950,000 | Total Investment \$9,300,000

- **Crane Lake Township: \$950,000** to construct infrastructure and site work for a new 5,150-square-foot visitor center and campground at Crane Lake's entrance to Voyageurs National Park, the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and Quetico Provincial Park. The project will also rebuild an access road and public boat landing.

#### **Community Infrastructure Grants: \$1,400,000**

Agency Investment \$1,400,000 | Total Investment \$13,926,163

- **City of Chisholm: \$600,000** to construct phase II infrastructure and site work for the construction of a new 23,000-square-foot public safety building that will house fire, police and ambulance services. The facility will

serve 63 emergency personnel staff and provide services to the city and surrounding townships.

- **City of Hibbing: \$400,000** to renovate and upgrade two buildings into homeless shelters with a combined 54 units that will serve veterans as well as families fleeing domestic abuse.
- **City of Virginia: \$400,000** to construct infrastructure and site work for a 4,700-square-foot emergency housing fourplex that will serve families in need. The facility will be owned and operated by Range Transitional Housing.

**Regional Trails Grants: \$568,655**

Agency Investment \$568,655 | Total Investment \$4,866,935

- **Crow Wing County: \$50,000** to develop a new a new multi-use park with three miles of hiking trails and an Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) trailhead in the city of Emily on the east side of Little Emily Lake. The trailhead and parking lot will serve over 400 miles of OHV trails, including the Emily-Outing, Emily Blind Lake, Moose River Soo Line and Blind Lake.
- **City of Ely: \$280,000** to construct the new Ely Regional Trailhead facility, connection trails and amenities. The trailhead facility will function as a rest stop and tourist information center and serve the David Dill Taconite Snowmobile Trail, Prospector's Loop ATV Trail and Mesabi Trail.
- **Friends of Sax Zim Bog: \$55,000** to create over one mile of six-foot-wide gravel walking trails near and along the Whiteface River, and to complete the Gray Jay Way loop on a year-round bog boardwalk at the Sax Zim Bog welcome center. The project includes off-road parking and interpretive signage.
- **City of Eveleth: \$43,775** to complete phase II of the Fayal Pond paved community trail which includes reconstructing and rerouting trails on the pond's north and west sides.
- **Iron Range Tourism Bureau (IRTB): \$64,880** to fund the Northern St. Louis County Trails Task Force Small Trail Projects grant program. The program is administered by IRTB and provides grants to cover costs related to trails and trail facility/amenity projects in the region.
- **Voyageurs Trail Society: \$75,000** to reconstruct trails, repair two existing bridges, build nine new bridges install two gates and purchase a new 2023 Tucker Sno-Cat Grooming Tractor for the snowmobile trail network located between Voyageurs National Park and the David Dill/Arrowhead State Trail.

Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation is funded through taxes paid by Minnesota's mining industry. The projects approved at today's board meeting support the agency's FY23 spending plan which focuses on leveraging capital,



improving the quality of life and retaining and creating well-paying jobs. The agency supports businesses, communities and workforce development projects that make northeastern Minnesota a desirable place to live, work and play.

### **Fiscal Year 2024 Budget & Spending Plan**

The FY24 Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation budget and spending plan was approved at the June 21 board meeting. The \$68 million investment plan reflects the agency's commitment to making its service area a better place to live and work. Through grant and loan programs, the agency strives to ensure that local businesses, communities and schools have the resources they need now to grow and prosper.

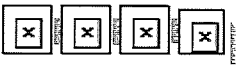
Strategic priorities and funding include:

- Improve conditions for economic growth with \$34 million of resources in community and workforce development. Funds include a new \$5 million pilot program to promote the preservation, rehabilitation and investment in regional housing stock and neighborhoods.
- Support public works infrastructure and business and industry with spending of \$23 million, 34% of the budget. Infrastructure funding assists communities in modernizing, redeveloping and replacing foundational assets in order to attract business investment and expansion.
- Invest funds in natural and recreational assets, Giants Ridge and regional trails to generate diversification and economic impact while contributing to the quality of life in the region.
- Produce a fiscally sound spending plan that includes reserve funds for unforeseen future needs.

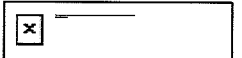


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# **BREITUNG POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**SERVING BREITUNG TOWNSHIP, THE TOWN OF SOUDAN, AND THE CITY OF TOWER**

**PHONE: (218) 753-6660**

**41 1<sup>ST</sup> AVE • P.O. BOX 6**

**DANIEL REING**

**FAX: (218) 753-2407**

**SOUDAN MN 55782**

**CHIEF OF POLICE**

## **May 2023 Police Report**

**Calls for Service (ICRS): 129**

**Arrests: 2**

1 adult male arrested for DWI

1 adult male arrested for Domestic Assault

**Citations: 8**

1 citation for speed 76/60.

1 citation for speed 83/60.

1 citation for speed 82/60.

1 citation for speed 79/60.

1 citation for speed 83/60.

1 citation for speed 85/60. TZD

1 citation for expired registration (2 years expired.) TZD

1 citation for No Seat Belt (TZD shift)

**Parking Enforcement Citations: 1**

**Community Engagements: 5**



## **BREITUNG POLICE DEPARTMENT**

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**FAX: (218) 753-2407**

**SOUDAN MN 55782**

**CHIEF OF POLICE**

May went by so fast. We were very busy. There were events and incidents occurring every day. We were able to attend several events this month to engage with community members. This has been an ongoing goal for our department throughout the year. Our Officers attended Kids, Cops, and Cars. This is an annual event for area law enforcement to interact with the Iron Range communities. This year's event was held on May 16<sup>th</sup> in Hibbing. I also made a visit to the Northwood's 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class. I had a Q and A session with the students and they were given a tour of the squad. Many of the students were unable to attend the event in Hibbing that evening.

Numerous Breitung Township and Tower residents had notified us of their concern of speeding on our area roads. We have stepped up enforcement and will continue to do so. Speed limits will be strictly enforced. Traffic increases greatly during the summer months; drivers need to be aware of foot traffic as well.

We have also received numerous complaints of dirt bikes and ATVs driving fast through the area. Please wear a helmet, obey all traffic laws including speed, and do not operate on the Highway without a driver's license. Follow local ordinances as well. Please be courteous of other drivers and pedestrians.

I want to take the time to thank Breitung Officers Jim Battin and Officer Brad Roy for assisting and participating in the Mock Crash that we completed in Soudan on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. The event was a great success. I also want to thank everyone involved; it was a total team effort. The video is posted on a link to YouTube so that you may view it at your leisure. This link is posted on the Breitung Township website. Due to Youtube's content restrictions, a sign in is required. It has become an in-demand video, numerous high schools have already shown the video to their students.





# **BREITUNG POLICE DEPARTMENT**

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**SOUDAN MN 55782**

**DANIEL REING**

**CHIEF OF POLICE**

I would like to thank the following people and organizations for help. Without your assistance the Mock Crash would never have been completed. All your contributions made it as successful as it was.

Chloe Anderson  
Ashton Cook  
Alyssa Costello  
Haedyn Miller  
James Scholz  
Tyler Wiegman  
Amber Salmela  
Valorie Turnbull  
Northern Light Salon  
RMS  
St. Martin Women's Group  
Tower Ambulance  
Towe Fire Department  
Vermilion Country School  
Mather Recycling  
Vermilion Park Inn  
Zup's of Tower  
Midwest Medical Examiner's Office and Jules Long  
Ely Ambulance  
Life Link  
St. Louis County Sheriff's Office including Dispatch  
Timberjay  
Breitung Fire Department



## **BREITUNG POLICE DEPARTMENT**

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**DANIEL REING**

**FAX: (218) 753-2407**

**SOUDAN MN 55782**

**CHIEF OF POLICE**

Breitung Township Maintenance Crew  
Breitung Police Department  
The families of our actors and actresses.

Karla Lundstrom and family, thank you for the hard work and effort. This turned out very well.

I would like to thank my family, including my wife Ivette Reing for the help. Despite her busy schedule, she was an actress for our presentation.

Sincerely,

Daniel Reing  
Chief of Police  
Breitung Police Department

**Breitung Fire & Rescue**  
**Box 337**  
**33 1<sup>st</sup> Ave.**  
**Soudan, Mn. 55782**

**May Fire Dept Report**

Our regular monthly fire department meeting was held on 5/10/2023.

This month's training consisted of Fire Boat Operations on Vermilion

We received our replacement SCBA Packs which will replace our aging old packs and will be in service when we are properly trained on the pack operation.

We participated by conducting a vehicle extrication in the mock car accident drill at the Soudan Park with Tower Ambulance and the Breitung Police Department.

We received four calls for the month of May which consisted of a out of control permit burn, Assisted Law Enforcement with our fire boat, an overturned vehicle accident and a single vehicle accident with injuries.

# Road and Bridge Report

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May 2023 Report

Mowing and Trimming

Preparing the Baseball Field and Hosting games

Repairing Gravel Roads

Flushed Hydrants

Televised Sewer Laterals

Weed Control applied to Baseball Field, Monument, Soccer Field and Entrance's to Soudan

Painting Curbs and Handicap Signs

Maintenance on Equipment

Tom Gorsma

Maintenance Supervisor



United States Department of Agriculture

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Avenue SW  
Washington, DC 20250  
[www.rd.usda.gov](http://www.rd.usda.gov)

# News Release

Contact:  
[press@oc.usda.gov](mailto:press@oc.usda.gov)

## **Biden-Harris Administration Announces Over \$700 Million to Connect People in Rural Areas to High-Speed Internet**

### *Funding Part of Investing in America Agenda*

**WASHINGTON, June 12, 2023** – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced \$714 million in grants and loans to connect thousands of rural residents, farmers and business owners in 19 states to reliable, affordable high-speed internet. Connecting all communities across the United States to high-speed internet is central part of President Biden's *Investing in America* agenda to rebuild our economy from the bottom up and middle out by rebuilding our nation's infrastructure, which is driving over \$470 billion in private sector manufacturing investments and creating good-paying jobs.

"High-speed internet is a key to prosperity for people who live and work in rural communities," Secretary Vilsack said. "Thanks to President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, we can ensure that rural communities have access to the internet connectivity needed to continue to expand the economy from the bottom up and middle out and to make sure rural America remains a place of opportunity to live, work, and raise a family."

Under the President's Investing in America agenda, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law includes \$65 billion to connect everyone to high-speed internet through the *Internet for All* initiative. USDA is connecting more people to high-speed internet in this fourth funding round of the ReConnect Program. Since the beginning of the Biden-Harris Administration, the Department has invested in 142 ReConnect projects that will bring high-speed internet access to 314,000 rural Americans.

Today's announcement includes \$714 million in USDA investments in Alaska, Arkansas, Arizona, California, Georgia, Idaho, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah and Washington. Some examples include:

#### In the South:

- The Home Telephone Company is receiving a ReConnect Program grant to connect nearly 4,000 people, 49 businesses, 46 farms and two educational facilities to high-speed internet in Berkeley County, South Carolina.
- The Decatur Telephone Company will connect 5,400 people, 257 farms, 74 businesses and four educational facilities to high-speed internet in Benton County, Arkansas.

#### In the West:

- The North-State Telephone Co. will deploy a fiber-to-the-premises (FTTP) network connecting 1,490 people, 64 businesses and 43 farms in Wasco County, Oregon, to high-speed internet.
- The Cal-Ore Telephone Company will connect 757 people, 45 businesses, 14 farms and four educational facilities to high-speed internet in Modoc and Siskiyou counties in California.
- Both companies will make monthly internet service affordable by participating in the Federal Communications Commission's Affordable Connectivity Program.

In the Midwest:

- Missouri's Goodman Telephone Company Inc. will connect nearly 7,000 people, 206 farms, 140 businesses and two educational facilities to high-speed internet in McDonald and Newton counties.
- The Craw-Kan Telephone Cooperative Inc. in Kansas will connect 4,189 people, 821 farms, 149 businesses and three educational facilities to high-speed internet in Bourbon, Cherokee, Crawford, Labette and Neosho counties.

A full listing of projects from today's announcement can be [found here](#).

### **Background: ReConnect Program**

Applicants to ReConnect Program funding must serve a rural area that lacks access to service at speeds of 100 megabits per second (Mbps) download and 20 Mbps upload. Applicants must also commit to building facilities capable of providing high-speed internet service with speeds of 100 Mbps (download and upload) to every location in the proposed service area. Additionally, to ensure that rural households that need internet service can afford it, all awardees will be required to apply to participate in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law's Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). The ACP offers a discount of up to \$30 per month towards internet service to qualifying low-income households and up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal Lands.

### **Background: Bipartisan Infrastructure Law**

President Biden forged consensus and compromise between Democrats, Republicans and Independents to demonstrate our democracy can deliver big wins for the American people. After decades of talk on rebuilding America's crumbling infrastructure, President Biden delivered the [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law](#) – a historic investment in America that will change people's lives for the better and get America moving again.

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law provides \$65 billion to ensure every American has access to affordable, reliable high-speed internet through a historic investment in broadband infrastructure deployment. The legislation also lowers costs for internet service and helps close the digital divide, so that more Americans can take full advantage of the opportunities provided by internet access.

To learn more about investment resources for rural areas, visit [www.rd.usda.gov](http://www.rd.usda.gov) or contact the nearest [USDA Rural Development state office](#).

USDA Rural Development provides loans and grants to help expand economic opportunities, create jobs and improve the quality of life for millions of Americans in rural areas. This assistance supports infrastructure improvements; business development; housing; community facilities such as schools, public safety and health care; and high-speed internet access in rural, tribal and high-poverty areas. For more information, visit [www.rd.usda.gov](http://www.rd.usda.gov).

To subscribe to USDA Rural Development updates, visit the [GovDelivery subscriber page](#).

###

*USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.*

USDA Rural Development  
ReConnect Round 4 Awards

June 12, 2023

States	Senators	Representatives	Program	Grant Amount	Loan Amount	Recipient	Project Description
KY	Mitch McConnell Rand Paul	James Comer (01)	ReConnect Grant	\$24,963,158		Duo County Telephone Cooperative	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to provide high-speed internet. This network will benefit 897 people, eight businesses and 121 farms in Cumberland County, Kentucky. Duo County Telephone Cooperative Corporation Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the Federal Communications Commission's Lifeline Program and Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), as well as offer an additional discount on its standard residential broadband pricing of 20 percent for those customers in the service areas that qualify for Lifeline or ACP. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in Cumberland County.
MN	Amy Klobuchar Tim Smith	Pete Stauber (08)	ReConnect Loan and Grant Combination	\$7,916,408	\$7,916,408	Johnson Telephone Company	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to provide high-speed internet. This network will benefit 949 people, 30 businesses and 13 farms in Cass County, Minnesota. Johnson Telephone Company will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Lifeline and Affordable Connectivity Programs.
MN	Amy Klobuchar Tim Smith	Brad Finstad (01)	ReConnect Loan and Grant Combination	\$6,838,539	\$6,838,539	MidEnergy Cooperative	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to provide high-speed internet. This network will benefit 1,017 people, nine businesses and 148 farms in Fillmore County, Minnesota. MidEnergy Cooperative will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Lifeline and Affordable Connectivity Programs.
MN	Amy Klobuchar Tim Smith	Michelle Fischbach (07)	ReConnect Grant	\$19,039,348		Meeker Cooperative Light & Power Association	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to provide high-speed internet. This network will benefit 438 people, 16 businesses, 124 farms and one educational facility in Kandiyohi, Meeker and Stearns counties in Minnesota. Meeker Cooperative Light & Power Association will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Affordable Connectivity Program.
MO	Josh Hawley Eric Schmitt	Eric Burlison (07)	ReConnect Loan		\$29,516,120	Goodman Telephone Company Inc.	This Rural Development investment will be used to deploy a fiber-to-the-premises network to provide high-speed internet. This network will benefit 6,889 people, 140 businesses, 206 farms and two educational facilities in McDonald and Newton counties in Missouri. Goodman Telephone Company Inc. will make high-speed internet affordable by participating in the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Affordable Connectivity Program. This project will serve socially vulnerable communities in McDonald and Newton counties.



**Resolution 2023-18**  
Breitung Township  
Of St Louis County, Minnesota

**A RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT THE CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUND ESTABLISHED UNDER THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT**

**WHEREAS**, since the first case of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) was discovered in the United States in January 2020, the disease has infected over 32 million and killed over 575,000 Americans (“Pandemic”). The disease has impacted every part of life: as social distancing became a necessity, businesses closed, schools transitioned to remote education, travel was sharply reduced, and millions of Americans lost their jobs;

**WHEREAS**, as a result of the Pandemic cities have been called on to respond to the needs of their communities through the prevention, treatment, and vaccination of COVID-19.

**WHEREAS**, city revenues, businesses and nonprofits in the city have faced economic impacts due to the Pandemic.

**WHEREAS**, Congress adopted the American Rescue Plan Act in March 2021 (“ARPA”) which included \$65 billion in recovery funds for cities across the country.

**WHEREAS**, ARPA funds are intended to provide support to state, local, and tribal governments in responding to the impact of COVID-19 and in their efforts to contain COVID-19 in their communities, residents, and businesses.

**WHEREAS**, \$20,000 has been allocated to Breitung Township pursuant to the ARPA (“Allocation”).

**WHEREAS**, the United States Department of Treasury has adopted guidance regarding the use of ARPA funds.

**WHEREAS**, the Township, in response to the Pandemic, has had expenditures and anticipates future expenditures consistent with the Department of Treasury’s ARPA guidance.

**WHEREAS**, the State of Minnesota will distribute ARPA funds to the Township because its population is less than 50,000.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BREITUNG TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BREITUNG, MINNESOTA AS FOLLOWS:**

1. The Township intends to collect its share of ARPA funds from the State of Minnesota to use in a manner consistent with the Department of Treasury's guidance.
2. Township staff, together with the Chairman and the Township Attorney are hereby authorized to take any actions necessary to receive the Township's share of ARPA funds from the State of Minnesota for expenses incurred because of the Pandemic.
3. Township staff, together with the Chairman and the City Attorney are hereby authorized to make recommendations to the Township Board for future expenditures that may be reimbursed with ARPA funds.

Adopted by the Township Board of Breitung, St Louis County Minnesota this 22<sup>nd</sup>, day of June, 2023.

Ayes \_\_\_\_\_

Nays \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Timothy Tomsich, Chairman

Attested:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dianna Sundahl  
Township Clerk

BB Services/ Tyler Tedrick

819 7<sup>th</sup> st S

Virginia MN 55792

3 Jasper St

Soudan MN 55782

Bid for grass cutting and blight removal. Grass will be cut to 3 inches, will weed whip and leaf blow clippings. All garbage that is causing blight will be removed, bagged and hauled away to St. Louis county land fill in order to get said property compliant with the towns ordinance.

2-3 workers

1 riding lawnmower

1 push mower

2 weed wackers

1 leaf blower

6x12 trailer

Misc. Rakes, bags, gas, supplies

Land fill fee

30 yd roll off dumpster \$651.00 to rent

Total: \$5,200

**ORDINANCE NO. 88-01**

**AN ORDINANCE TO PREVENT, REDUCE OR ELIMINATE BLIGHT, BLIGHTING FACTORS OR CAUSE OF BLIGHT WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP OF BREITUNG; TO PROVIDE FOR THE ENFORCEMENT HEREOF; AND TO PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION HEREOF.**

The Township of Breitung does ordain as follows:

**Section 1. Causes of Blight or Blighting Factors.** It is hereby determined that the uses, structures, and activities and causes of blight or blighting factors described herein, if allowed to exist, will tend to result in blighted and undesirable neighborhoods so as to be harmful to the public welfare, health, and safety. The purpose of this ordinance is to protect the character and stability of the properties within the Township of Breitung and to avoid blight and blighted conditions. The owner and occupant shall comply with the regulations contained herein.

**Section 2. Exterior Property Areas; Vacant Properties.**

**a. Sanitation.** All exterior property areas and vacant areas shall be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition, safe and free from any hazard or dangerous condition, and free from any accumulation of refuse or garbage.

**b. Free from noxious weeds and pests.** All exterior property areas and vacant areas shall be kept free from species of weeds or plants growth, rodents, vermin, or other pests, which are noxious or detrimental to the public health.

**c. Junk automobiles.** In any area not zoned for junkyards or salvage yards, the storage of junk automobiles is prohibited. For the purpose of this ordinance, the term "junk automobiles" shall include any motor vehicle, part of a motor vehicle, or former motor vehicles, stored in the open, which is not currently licensed for use upon the highways of the State of Minnesota, and is either: a) unusable or inoperable because of lack of, or defects in component parts; or b) unusable or inoperable because of damage from collision, deterioration, or having been cannibalized; or c) beyond repair and therefore not intended for future use as a motor vehicle; or d) being retained on the property for possible use of salvageable parts. This regulation is in addition to any zoning regulations.

**Section 3. Exterior of Structures.**

a. The exterior of all structures and accessory structures including detached garages, shall be maintained in a workmanlike state of maintenance and repair.

b. Every exterior wall shall be free of holes, breaks, loose or rotting boards or timbers, falling or loose stucco or substantial amounts of peeling paint.

c. All doors and windows shall be maintained in good repair, fit reasonably well within their frames, and be free of open breaks or holes.

Section 4. Interior areas of structures, including residential dwellings.

a. The interior of every structure shall be maintained in clean and sanitary condition, free of accumulations of garbage and refuse.

b. The interior of every structure shall be maintained free from infestation of noxious insects, rodents, and other pests.

c. All plumbing systems shall be properly installed, connected, and maintained in good working order, and must be kept free from obstructions, leaks, and defects.

d. The storage of excessive or unreasonable amounts of hazardous, flammable liquids shall be prohibited in areas not zoned for such use.

Section 5. Vacated structures; vacant properties. The owner of any dwelling which is unfit for human habitation, as determined by the enforcement officer in good faith, and the owner of any structure which has been vacant for a period of Sixty (60) days or more, shall make same safe and secure so that it is not hazardous to the health, safety, and welfare of the public, and does not constitute a public nuisance. Any such structure open at doors and windows, if unguarded, shall be deemed to be a hazard to the health, safety, and welfare of the public, and a public nuisance within the meaning of this ordinance. The owner of vacant lands shall make said lands safe and secure by barricading or fencing the property or the like, or by placing said lands in their natural unimproved condition and removing all dangerous conditions. Upon failure of the owner to comply, the Township of Breitung may have such structure or vacant property made safe and secure or remove the dangerous condition, and assess the cost to the owner by certifying such cost to the County Auditor as a special assessment against the property involved.

Section 6. Enforcement Officer. The Township Board Chairperson of the Township of Breitung is appointed as the enforcement officer, and it is the enforcement officer's duty to enforce the provisions of this ordinance.

Section 7. Inspection of structures, vacant properties, generally. The enforcement officer shall be authorized to make or cause to be made inspections to determine the condition of structures and premises and vacant properties in order to safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of the public. The enforcement officer, or the enforcement officer's designated representatives shall, with the permission of the owner, be authorized to inspect any vacant areas and the exterior areas of any premises, and the interior areas of structures at any reasonable time for the purpose of performing his duties under this ordinance. If the owner, operator, or person in possession of the structure shall refuse to consent to the inspection, or not be located after reasonable effort to do so, and there is probable cause to believe that a violation exists on that premises, a search warrant may be obtained.

Section 8. Compliance Order (Citation). Whenever the enforcement officer determines that any structure or the premises fail to meet the provision of this ordinance, the enforcement officer may issue a compliance order (citation) setting forth the violations of the ordinance and ordering the owner, occupant, operator, or agent to correct such violations. The compliance order (citation) shall:

- a. Be in writing;
- b. Describe the location and nature of the violations of this ordinance;
- c. Establish a time for the correction of such violation, which shall be at least Ten (10) days;
- d. Notify of ability to appeal to the Township Board;
- e. Be served upon the violator; either the owner, occupant, operator, or agent. Such notice shall be deemed to be properly served upon the violator if a copy thereof is:
  1. Served upon him personally, or
  2. Sent by registered or certified mail to that person's address or to the property address.

Section 9. Variance and appeals. Appeals of interpretation or requests for a variance shall be made in writing to the Township Board, and shall be filed with the Township Clerk within Ten (10) days after receipt of the compliance order (citation). The Township Board, in its discretion, may elect to hear appeals or requests for variance when made more than Ten (10) days after the receipt of the compliance order (citation), but such action by the Township Board is completely discretionary, and shall not delay or prevent criminal prosecution or other enforcement actions, unless the Township Board grants the appeal or grants the variance prior to the completion of the enforcement activities. The Township Board may grant variances in instances where the strict enforcement of this ordinance would cause undue hardship because of circumstances unique to the individual property under consideration, when it is demonstrated that such action will be in keeping with the spirit and intent of the ordinance.

Section 10. Enforcement and penalties. Violation of any provision of this ordinance shall constitute a misdemeanor. Each day that a violation is allowed to exist shall constitute an offense after a reasonable time has been allowed to affect compliance. Further, the provisions of this ordinance may be enforced by specific performance.

Section 11. Effective Date of Ordinance. The effective date of this Ordinance is MARCH 1, 1988

By Timothy S. Tansik

Attest Margaret Litya

## **ORDINANCE 88-01A**

### **Amendment to Ordinance No 88-01**

**An Ordinance to prevent, reduce or eliminate blight. Blighting factors or cause of blight within the township of Breitung; To provide for the enforcement hereof: and to provide penalties for the violation hereof:**

**The Board of Supervisors of the Township of Breitung ordains:**

The following sections shall be changed to read as follows, according to the Town Meeting dated 11/03/2022 under Minn. Stat, 365.10, subd. 17 General Welfare Ordinance in rural towns.

**Section 6. Enforcement Officer. A chosen Supervisor of the Town Board will be appointed yearly as the Enforcement Officer, and it will be the duty of the Enforcement Officer together with local Law Enforcement to enforce the provisions of this ordinance.**

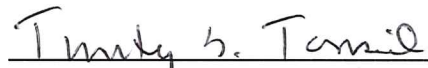
**Section 8. Compliance Order (Letter). Whenever the Enforcement Officer determines that any structure or the premises fail to meet the provision(s) of this ordinance, the Enforcement Office may issue a Compliance Order (Letter) setting forth the violations of the ordinance and ordering the owner, occupant, operator, or agent to correct such violations. The compliance Order (Letter) shall:**

- a) Be in writing;
- b) Describe the location and nature of the violations of this ordinance;
- c) Establish a time for the correction of such violation, which shall be at least Ten (10) days;
- d) Notify of ability to appeal to the Township Board; **If an appeal is received after Compliance Order Letter received, the township shall schedule a meeting with the letter recipient within 10 days of appeal request.**
- e) Be served upon the violator; either the owner, occupant, operator, or agent. Such notice shall be deemed to be properly served upon the violator if a copy thereof is:
  1. Served upon him/(her) personally, or
  2. Sent by registered or certified mail to that person's address or to the property address or to the property address.
- f) **If after 10 days the township has received no response and/or the violation remains in place, a Blight Ordinance Citation shall be issued.**
- g) **Section 10. Enforcement and Penalties. Violation of any provision of this ordinance shall constitute a petty misdemeanor. Further, the provisions of this ordinance may be enforced with a Blight Ordinance Citation and the fee shall be \$30.00. If the citation has not been paid within 30 days an additional \$10 late fee shall be added.**

Ordinance No 88-01A was passed by the Township Board of the Township of Breitung, St Louis County Minnesota on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of November 2022.

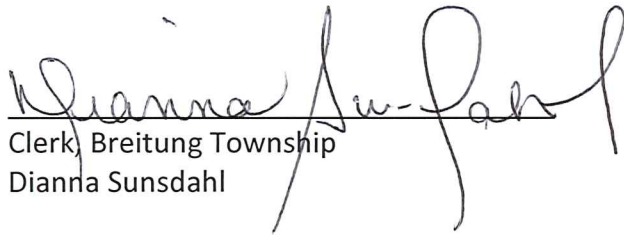


Ayes: 3  
Nays: 0



Chairman, Breitung Town Board  
Timothy Tomsich

Attest:



Clerk, Breitung Township  
Dianna Sunsdahl

Published in the Tower News on: November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
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