

**Indian Creek Water and Homeowners Association - Minutes for the
Annual Meeting
March 2, 2017
Towanda Community Center**

President: Barb Leathers
VP/Secretary: Barbara Ulbrich
Treasurer: Dave Schulthes
Water Chair: Bob Hancock
Grounds Chair: Fred Walk
Newsletter: Kathy Dumler

- I. Greeting and Introductions – President.
- II. Minutes of 2016 Annual Meeting were read and approved. VP/Secretary
- III. Internet Service.

Mike Nelson, Director of Operations at Frontier, spoke to residents. Dean Munter, Frontier tech, also spoke briefly. Frontier will be getting faster internet service to Towanda and Indian Creek, likely by the end of March 2017. A concrete pad was placed near subdivision and an "H" frame will be put up. Fiber is being used, which should result in better speeds. Frontier will offer a "bundled" discount for those who have both internet and land line service. The farther away a house is from Route 29, the more copper wire Frontier must use. This helps explain why Bent Tree residents seem to have the poorest experience with the internet service. Frontier will install the new service for free however if a resident adds a jack inside the house, it will cost. Frontier will provide a Modem (2200 D or 2250). If a have high speed, then a resident should be sure to update equipment (for example modems) inside the house.

Frontier will let Fred Walk know when the service is ready to go live. Frontier will "cut" customers over to the new service. The rollout to the homes will take 2 weeks.

IV. Fire Department.

Brett Lueschen, Volunteer Fire chief and Jeff Showalter, Asst. Chief spoke to residents. The Fire Department has 4 captains and 20 members. Firefighters devote over 150 hours to regular fire training. 911 calls are dispatched to appropriate agency (Police or Fire). Response time is only a few minutes. Ambulance service is from the Town of Normal; their response time is 7-8 minutes. Town of Normal Ambulance is paramedic service with advanced life support. The Fire Department provides Basic Life Support (BLS). Towanda Fire Department covers 76 miles of coverage including Merna, Indian Creek, and beyond. In the past, there were more fires; nowadays most emergencies are medical emergencies. Over 80% of firefighters in US are volunteers. \$10 per call. 160-180 calls per year, on average. The biggest challenge in Indian Creek is Bent Tree Lane because it is a one lane narrow road.

Guests were then excused and the business portion of the meeting commenced.

V. Treasurer's Report. Indian Creek has \$121,185 in savings. Interest rates are now coming up to 1% interest rates on CD. Water tower maintenance is a significant expenditure. The charge for the water operator and chemicals is approximately \$14-15K per year. We are adding on average \$10K per year to our treasury, so we should be on track to cover the maintenance and repaint in 3-5 years. We should expect to pay \$100-\$110K for painting next time.

VI. Water Report. Water usage has been same. Most days we use 16-17K per day. Sometimes in the summer that increases. Still have yellowish water and still have low pressure. Last year, we had 1 boil order (Sept 2016). As to expenses, we had some increase in chemical costs (which are over \$600/month; however testing costs went down by \$90. It costs \$800 to test 20 samples to send to EPA. As to the "Locates" of water, houses have plastic line, so the only item the service can locate is the shutoff. In some homes, for example on Bent Tree Lane, none of the shutoffs were where the map indicated. However, some of the maps were drawn before the subdivision was totally established.

VII. Grounds Report. Fred and several volunteers built a new trail just north and east of the bridge and spread mulch on the trail. Jim Russell, Mary Ann Boyd, Linda Garbe, and Fred spearheaded the effort to have a new sign designed. It was made by Prairie Sign. Jim Russell, Bob Hancock and Fred installed it, which saved \$1000. Greg Beneze and Fred moved river rock to landscape around the sign. Keith Whittum, Greg Beneze, Jim Ferrier, and Fred cut down ash trees near bridge and road and cleared out honeysuckle. There'll be a spring work day –it is yet to be scheduled. The original trail has benches. We discussed that it would be nice to have benches on the new trail.

There's a huge brush pile and we will need to have a "burn day". Fred would like to have trees that were identified by a former resident Sue Arnold to have new signage put up on those. The common area has birdhouses and these need some maintenance. We are fortunate to have many species of birds living in the subdivision. The Audubon Society has done bird counts here.

We had a discussion about Homeowners using chlorine tablets in their chlorinators to purify their wastewater. Homeowners can read more about this on the Indian Creek website in Greg Beneze's article: Your Septic System.
