

**DOUGLAS COUNTY BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT**  
**Wednesday, June 28, 2023, 10:00 a.m., Government Center Board Room 201**  
**1316 North 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Superior, Wisconsin**

Meeting called to order by Chair Bob Martin.

**1. ROLL CALL**

Present – Bob Martin, Sam Jones, Larry Luostari, Larry Kappes. Absent – Gary Saari. Others present – Terri Luebbe, Robin Schaffer, Zach DeVoe, Ashley Strabel, Marissa Hanson, Scott Sorenson, Jim Giffin, Deb and Mark Fredrickson, Jonathan Thrawlow, Austin Johnson, Emily Cahill (Committee Clerk).

**2. ANNOUNCEMENT/CONFIRMATION OF PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS**

Role and conduct of the Board and confirmation read. The Zoning Office confirms that state law and Douglas County Ordinance procedural requirements for this hearing have been met. This includes proper advertisement and notification to the towns and adjoining property owners.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Kappes, second Luostari, to approve April 26, 2023, minutes. Motion carried.

**4. PUBLIC HEARING**

**#23-06: Mark & Deborah Fredrickson, Duluth, MN – Area Variance to allow construction of a new dwelling within the 75-foot Ordinary High Water Mark setback of Lake Minnesuing – PT GOV'T LOT 3, SECTION 16, T46N-R11W, DESC 263 DP 325, 451 RP 35 EX 263 DP 323 (BE-004-00150-00, 10748 E Efaw Ln), Town of Bennett:** Applicants present; proposal to construct new dwelling within the 75-foot Ordinary High Water Mark setback; applicant to place utility room within setback; repair of existing structure is not feasible because of cracked foundation; no space for utility room in current redesign of home; DeVoe stated that a neighbor called addressing concerns but was unable to attend meeting; no objections from town.

**ACTION:** Motion by Jones, second Kappes, to deny application because unnecessary hardship is not present and is not due to the physical limitations of the property. Roll call vote taken and passed with 3 – Yes, 1 – No, 1 – Absent. Voting no – Luostari. Absent – Saari. Variance request denied.

**#23-07: Jonathan Thralow, Brule, WI – Area Variance to allow a walkway(structure) to remain within the 75-foot Ordinary High Water Mark setback of the Brule River – S-1/2 N-1/2 N-1/2 SE SW E OF BRULE RVR, SECTION 14, T47N-R10W (BR-006-00220-00, 5925 S Ranger Rd), Town of Brule:** Applicant present; proposal to allow a walkway (structure) to remain within the 75-foot Ordinary High Water Mark setback of

Brule River; pathway is necessary to provide access to river and protect applicant's home; no objections from town.

**ACTION:** Motion by Jones, second Martin, to deny application with condition to restore area to initial project guidelines, because unnecessary hardship is not present and is not due to the physical limitations of the property. Roll call vote taken and passed with 3 – Yes, 1 – No, 1 – Absent. Voting no – Luostari. Absent – Saari. Variance request denied.

**#23-08: Austin Johnson and Rachael Gardner, Hermantown, MN – Area Variance to allow for an access driveway within 300 feet of an existing access driveway on the same side of the road on a Class B Highway (County Road FF) – E-330' OF W-990' SW SE, SECTION 18, T48N-R10W (MA-020-00296-00, Address To Be Determined), Town of Maple:** Applicant present; proposal to allow for an access driveway within 300 feet of an existing access driveway on the same side of the road on a Class B Highway (County Road FF); no objections from town.

**ACTION:** Motion by Martin, second Luostari, to approve application because unnecessary hardship is present and is due to the physical limitations of the property. Roll call vote taken and passed with 4 – Yes, 0 – No, 1 – Absent. Absent – Saari. Variance request approved.

## 5. INFORMATIONAL ITEM

**Monetary compensation for board members:** Jones spoke regarding monetary compensation for committee members; recommended increase in pay per application at \$25 per meeting, \$25 per site visit, and reimbursement for mileage. DeVoe addressed concerns regarding compensation and stated committee went over budget by \$357 last year.

## 6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No applications submitted at this time.

## 7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Luostari, second Kappes, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:44 a.m.

Submitted by,

Emily Cahill  
Committee Clerk