

SWARM - annual meeting
August 24, 2025
28501 Skyview Road – Pelfry property

All residents of the SWARM road area were invited a month in advance by mail to attend the annual meeting on August 24th at the residence of Brownie Pelfry on Third Gate. Potluck refreshments tables were set by 1pm. Residents arrived to share food and informal conversation.

The business meeting was opened by the president John O’Claire at 2:15 pm. Board members Paloma Hill, and Laura Corben were present. Twelve other residents were present.

John O’Claire gave a summary of the work that was completed by the long awaited grant last fall. A total of nine new culverts were installed, seven on the longest road, Third Gate, and two on Second Gate. A number of rolling dips were also implemented, but some of them became damaged in the winter storms and had to be repaired. The total cost of the roadwork was close to \$150,000 and SWARM contributed \$37,000. Repairs cost SWARM and additional \$6,700. No work was done through the grant on the First Gate/Pinecrest section. It was decided by the board in February to cancel any further grant funded projects. Instead, money that had been saved for the grant was used in the spring to do much needed road maintenance on all of the roads.

The road maintenance included delivery of materials as well as grading done by Beda Garman and his crew. This year watering the road surface and using a compactor was also done to ensure the roads would last longer. Total costs were approximately \$40,000. \$27,000 remains in SWARM accounts at this time.

Minor roadwork will be done in the fall after the first rains as needed. Since road dues billings go out in February so there should be sufficient funds by April to grade and repair the roads again. There was discussion concerning raising the road dues as the cost of living increases, and mention of unpaid members who need to catch up on past dues.

As always, fire is a concern and residents need to be sure that their sections of the road are not overgrown with brush and trees. Keith Rutledge is planning a program in 2026 regarding shaded fire breaks.

Communication was another topic that was discussed. Paloma Hill uses Telegram to alert residents and John O’Claire use telegram and during the road construction. First Gate has a cell phone text group. Hopefully we will have a new web page in the near future that could also be used to inform residents.

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm

Two new board members were on the ballot: Paula Geroux, 3rd Gate and Karl Fisher, 1st Gate