

**ECKLES TOWNSHIP
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 10, 2020**

1. Meeting called to order at 8:15 p.m. by Mary Lou Milender, Township Clerk.
2. Pledge of Allegiance was conducted.
3. Motion by Ervin Blom to have Don Hazeman be the Moderator. Motion by Don Hazeman to have Mel Milender be the Moderator. A vote of hands for the two of them was taken with Mel Milender receiving the most votes.
4. Motion by Cory Wilson, seconded by Gary Coan to accept the minutes dated March 12, 2019 as presented. Motion carried unanimously
5. The 2019 Annual Treasurer's Report was read. Motion by Dennis Zeto, seconded by Ervin Blom to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. Motion carried unanimously.
6. The clerk prepared to read the Annual Audit Report however, a motion was made by Dennis Zeto, seconded by Gary Coan to have the report posted for personal review. Clerk did post the report. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Cory Wilson presented a Road Report. He informed the township residents of what we had accomplished in 2019 and what is proposed for roads in 2020. There was an abundance of snow plowing in December and through February of 2020. The grading done in 2019 was under the projected budget.

Several of the residents are interested in having Eckles Township appropriate for paving projects. Bonding was discussed. There will be a special meeting for discussion in June.
Dennis Berglund approached the board with his method for analysis.
8. Mel Milender presented the Rural Fire Association Report.
9. Russ Gustafson informed the board that Scotty Allison has helped identify the veterans in the Eckles Cemetery.

10. Recommended Budget & Tax Levies for the calendar year 2021 were reviewed and set at follows:
 \$40,500.00 was set for the General Fund; \$420,000.00 was set for the Road & Bridge Fund; \$75,000.00 was set for the Fire Fund; and \$3,000.00 was set for the Cemetery Fund. Motion by Ervin Blom, seconded by Russell Gustafson to approve the levy. Motion carried unanimously.
11. Motion by Gary Coan, seconded by Dennis Zeto to set the next Eckles Township Annual Meeting for March 9, 2021, at 8:15 p.m. at the Eckles Community Center. Motion carried unanimously.
12. Motion by Cory Wilson, seconded by Dennis Zeto to keep the posting places at the Community Center and Pete's Place West as well as the Web Site and to publish in both the Bemidji Pioneer and the Buyline. Motion carried unanimously.
13. Election Results were announced as follows:
 Supervisor A = Mel Milender – 23 votes
 Supervisor D = Darren Bumgardner – 23 votes
 Clerk = Mary Lou Milender – 10 votes
 Treasurer = Mary Lou Milender -1 vote & Kandina Paddock-1 vote
 Option "B" providing for the appointment of the clerk and treasurer by the Town Board, be adopted for the government of the town = Yes = 22 votes, No = 3 votes
14. Announcements:
 Board of Review is scheduled for Tues, April 28, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. at the Eckles Community Center.
 Road clean-up is scheduled for Wednesday May 13th.
15. Motion by Don Hazeman to recess/reconvene on June 8th 2020 at 6:00 p.m. seconded by Laura Rock at 10:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Lou Milender

Mary Lou Milender
 Township Clerk

Mel Milender
 Mel Milender
 Moderator

Eckles Township Meeting
August 10, 2020
Continuation of Annual Meeting on March 10, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mary Lou Milender, Township Clerk.

The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted.

Supervisor Mel Milender, moderator, informed the residents any subject could come forward. This is a continuation of their meeting and it is important the board members listen to their concerns.

Supervisor Cory Wilson talked about our long-range plan. He indicated a lot of people wanted their roads tarred, however; others do not want to pay for roads they don't use. Cory informed the residents that we want to rebuild Balsam Road from Eckles Road to Cty 9, and Eckles from Balsam to Jackpine based on the growth of new homes in the area. Motion by Lori Rock, seconded by Nick Traski to agree with the supervisor's road plan based on the fact of oppositions to rebuild until money is available for tarring. Motion carried.

A motion by Jim Sparky, seconded by Mitch Johnson to rebuild Jackpine from Eckles to Cty 9, and complete the entire loop around the new developments. Motion carried.

Gary Coan feels the road that has the most usage should be tarred first.


27 of the 46 residents present want us to go forward with the rebuilding of the roads so we do not have to raise the levy. We will move forward with our plan on the tarring. This discussion closed at 7:30.


The next discussion was the possible exchange with Beltrami County of Balsam Road east of CSAH 9 in Eckles Township for Scribner Road (also known as 515) which is a paved county road. Joe Beer wants to create a dead-end line at the Town Line. We cannot do this because it is a multiple jurisdictional road. Our portion of Balsam is a 1.25-mile gravel road that connects with another 1.25 mile portion of road in Northern Township and the City of Bemidji.

This topic will be brought up at our next board meeting on Wednesday August 12, 2020 when the board will have more information on the costs of maintenance from the county.

Motion by Cory Wilson, seconded by Thore Thorson to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Mary Lou Milender
Township Clerk


Mel Milender
Moderator