

ECKLES TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES – October 14, 2025

**Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order by Chairman, Mel Milender at 7:00 pm. Supervisors Beth Hendricks, Darren Bumgardner, treasurer, Deb Larson, clerk, Colleen Oestreich were present. Sup. Milender led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Others present:** John Schocker, Dale Wilson

**Agenda** – USPS Box renewal to claims; 8a – Blashill driveway, topo for Balsam/Wildrose were added. Motion by Sup. Hendricks, second by Sup. Bumgardner to approve the revised agenda. M/C

**Consent Agenda** – 9/9/25 minutes from regular board meeting, Claims 6950-6964, CO reimbursements =\$9,929.07. Motion by Sup. Hendricks, second by Sup. Bumgardner to approve. M/C

**Clerks Report** – Colleen Oestreich provided information on pros/cons of moving to .gov website. Name of “Eckles” is unique therefore board could consider many options for their name. Motion by Sup. Bumgardner, second by Sup. Hendricks to use: “Ecklestownship.gov” M/C

Board considered paid leave resolution and policy with estimated hours for appointed staff. Motion by Sup. Milender, second by Sup. Bumgardner to approve resolution 2025-02. Motion by Sup. Bumgardner, second by Sup. Hendricks to approve the sick/safe time policy. M/C

Clerk, Oestreich provided an update to the Family leave requirements. Notification letters have been sent to all employees who were not at the September board meeting. Next step would be to identify the administrator. Motion by Sup. Milender, second by Sup. Bumgardner to have Treasurer, Deb Larson be the administrator. M/C

**Treasurers Report** – Deb Larson provided a status summary of accounts. CD will renew soon. Current rate offered by Koda Bank is 3.78% for a 9-month CD. Actual rate may be different when the CD renews. Motion by Sup. Hendricks, second by Sup. Bumgardner to renew with Koda. M/C Board requested a payoff amount for the loan held by First National Bank for the November meeting.

Board discussed yearend reports. Treasurer, Larson will order forms needed and complete the W2s.

**ETB Vacancy** – An ad was published and posted asking for candidates for the open supervisor position. No one has come forward. Board decided to postpone fulfillment of the vacancy until the March, 2026 election cycle.

**BRFA Meeting** – was held on 9/25/25. Number of calls has increased significantly over past years.

**Road Report** – Beltrami County sent an amendment for the township to consider. Amendment outlines billing by the mile for contracted work. Motion by Sup. Bumgardner, second by Sup. Hendricks to approve the amendment. M/C

Board discussed an erosion issue at the Blashill driveway. Sup. Wilson & Sup. Bumgardner will review for possible solutions.

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Board discussed Eckles/Balsam/Wild Rose area. To facilitate decision making – a topographic analysis is needed. Motion by Sup. Bumgardner, second by Sup. Hendricks to coordinate with Freeberg/Grund to obtain the topographic analysis on the south half of Eckles Rd between Wild Rose & Balsam. M/C

Storm clean-up continues. Chris Gilbertson will do some of the work.

**Payroll** – timesheets collected were circulated to supervisors for review.

**Eckles Township Regular Board Meeting** – 11/18/25, Eckles Community Center @ 7 PM;

**MAT Annual Conference** 12/11-13/25; St Cloud, MN

**Correspondence** – received flyer from Carr’s Tree Service, Northern Township Incorporation Petition – boundaries were corrected. Motion by Sup. Bumgardner, second by Sup. Hendricks to accept corrected boundary. M/C SBA sent out information on services available to address storm damage.

**Adjourn** – Motion by Sup. Bumgardner, second by Sup. Milender to adjourn at 8:15 pm. M/C

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Colleen Oestreich, Clerk

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Mel Milender, Chairman