

**Eckles Township Board of Supervisors
Monthly Meeting Minutes
December 12, 2023**

PUBLIC ATTENDEES: Anya Farder, Gary Boyer, Dennis and Cheryl Berglund, Troy and Crystal Baker, Brandon Erickson, John Schocker and Gary C.

PUBLIC HEARING: Public Hearing was held at 6:30 pm to formally establish a Subordinate Service District (SSD) to pave Sousa Road NW. No one offered any opposition to the project. Another public hearing will be held in 60 days (Feb 2024) meeting to allow for anyone to oppose the project. There is an average of 75% parcels of land in which 25% of total landowners would have to oppose the project for the results of public hearing to change. If there continues to be no opposition the Resolution will then be recorded. Mel reminded everyone a grant has been applied for which would possibly offset the cost to the land owners for this and additional projects. However, it will not be determined until April if grant is received.

REGULAR MEETING:

The regular Eckles Township Board Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Acting Chair Cory Wilson, Supervisors Mel Milender, Beth Hendricks were also present. Bumgardner and Hazeman were unable to attend. Also, present were Becky Moe, Clerk, Mary Lou Milender, Clerk and Deb Larson Treasurer. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Milender, seconded by Hendricks to approve the minutes of November 14, 2023. Approved.

Approval of Agenda and Consent Agenda: Motion by Hendricks and seconded by Milender to approve the agendas for the evening with a couple of additions: Sick Time and Cash Control Approved.

Visitors:

Gary Boyer who lives on Sullivan Road brought forward a concern regarding the completion of the road once again. He was advised that the Engineer who inspected the project had stated there was no mistakes made in the completion of project and everything was up to specs. Mr. Boyer is not convinced and requested the Board of Supervisors provide him with a letter stating the above. Milender made a motion to compile a letter that explains the work completed on his driveway. Hendricks seconded. Motion was approved. Mel will get together with Mark Fuller at Freeberg and Grund and get the letter to Mr. Boyer as soon as possible.

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Treasurer Deb Larson reported on the sick leave process for all employees of the Township. The Township will now have to abide by the new MN State law passed pertaining to an employee who may average over 80 hours per year should be paid sick leave. The only two employees involved would be the Clerk and Treasurer. A motion by Milender, seconded by Hendrick and approved to allow 8 hours for Treasurer and 12 hours for Clerk a year to use these hours for sick time. This will be addressed in the upcoming budget for the new year 2024.

Deb also reported she is going to be “cleaning” up the cash control statement so it is easier to work in CTAS program we use. It is simply a matter of closing out and transferring monies to more appropriate categories. Milender made a motion to approve the changes, 2nd by Hendricks and passed.

Road Report:

Supervisors in attendance at MAT Conference which was held December 7th – the 9th in St. Cloud was somewhat of a disappointment with some good points and some negative findings.

Cartway Rd. Speed limit signs are up and work has started on Gilbertson’s driveway.

Cory stated he would be purchasing more signs to be used throughout the Township. He will be ordering weight restrictions sign that say 7 tons per axel.

Palomino Turn around at the Thoring property does not meet expectations and more clean out is necessary to clean out easement.

Fire Report: Mel reported the city is entertaining hiring two additional full-time firefighters. The rural fire board does not approve of this hiring. Mel was going to be attending a Rural Fire meeting on December 13, 2023 and budgets were going to be reviewed. Mel warned the Township that fire budget will more than likely increase.

John Schocker and Cory have been continuing to work on the brushing around the Township and will keep on until the weather no longer allows. They also reported the Township follows the timelines of Beltrami County when plowing and salting.

Motion by Hendricks, seconded by Milender and approved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Cory Wilson, Acting Chair

Becky Moe, Clerk