

ECKLES TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MINUTES – October 8, 2024

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

Others present: Sheriff Jason Riggs, Reed Olson, Dale Wilson, John Schocker, Gary Coan

Community Center Camera – Chair, Hazeman checked into its capability. It is motion activated and has sound but clarity isn't good.

Consent Agenda – 9/10/24 minutes from regular board meeting, 10/6/24 minutes from road tour; Claims 6762-6772 = \$442,356.25; payroll 6773 - Motion by Sup. Milender, second by Sup. Hendricks to approve the minutes and pay the claims. M/C

MN House 2A Candidate – Reed Olson introduced himself as the DFL candidate for the seat. He is hosting a meet/greet at the Eckles Community Center from 4-6 on Sunday.

Beltrami County Sheriff – Jason Riggs provided guidance on security measures for the 11/5/24 General Election. County plans to have additional staff to respond as needed if called upon. There are 30 polling locations in the county. Election judges should call 911 if serious issues occur.

Sheriff Riggs was asked about abandoned vehicles posing a potential safety issue. County does not have a policy but deals with this on a case/case basis.

He was also asked about the upcoming deer season and shooting close to residences. Should call if problems arise.

Clerks Report – Website domain name is set to expire on 3/26/24 under GoDaddy. Account was setup with former clerk's credit card & needs to be updated. Sup. Milender took the information to follow up.

Clerk Oestreich, reviewed proposed equipment of an exterior microphone and pdf software for an estimated cost of \$200. Sup. Milender requested the treasurer to explore options for a debit/credit card for administrative use.

General election is scheduled for 11/5/24. Proposed slate of judges is Rebecca Larson, Kandi Paddock, Julie Zeto, Sharon Frees, Doreen & Ralph Felts, Deb Larson and Colleen Oestreich. Motion by Sup. Bumgardner, second by Sup. Hendricks to approve of the slate of judges. M/C

Treasurers Report – Deb Larson provided a status summary of accounts.

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Sosua Road Resolution– Motion by Sup. Milender, second by Sup. Bumgardner, to approve to resolution #211. M/C

Board listened to input from resident regarding the road. Road Sup. Bumgardner will discuss concerns with the engineer. Additional stop signs may also be needed.

Wild Rose Project – several rough transitions were found during the road tour; off Hwy 2, church entrance, intersection with Birdview and Sosua. These uneven transitions will need to be corrected.

Road Tour – Sup. Bumgardner provided a summary of findings including:

- Eckles/Balsam – shoulder may need crushed concrete
- Ironwood – hole needs to be fixed
- Minimum Maintenance roads need 1/x pass
- Radar/Eckles – tree blocking stop sign
- Nuthatch – board member will provide support to contractor when brushing is completed

Snow plowing – timing of plowing/sanding/service are up to contractor & road supervisors to determine the most efficient route.

Oakridge Development – board discussed current status & what owners may propose.

Airport Zoning – Sup. Milender reported that the zoning passed. There will be a board of review for any proposed variances. Sup. Bumgardner serves as the Eckles Twp representative.

Rural Fire – Sup. Milender provided a summary. Two SAFER grants were submitted; one for 4 FTE and another requesting \$250K for radios. Both failed. A quarterly meeting is scheduled of 10/24. Costs for fire protection is expected to increase.

Meetings/Mail Review

- Beltrami County HWY Dept sent a notice of maintenance rates
- Tax Forfeited Property – Parcel #12.00891.00; Sup. Milender will draft a letter response
- Opioid Steering Committee Annual Meeting 10/15/24
- BATO Meeting 10/29/24 at 6:00; Rep. Steve Green will attend
- Eckles Township Board Meeting – conflicts for scheduled date; therefore, board moved date to 11/19/24

Adjourn – Motion by Sup. Milender, second by Sup. Hendricks to adjourn at 8:25 pm. M/C

Colleen Oestreich, Clerk

Don Hazeman, Chairman