

ECKLES TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MINUTES – January 14, 2025

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

Others present: Gary Coen, Joyce Thompson

Agenda – Added 7f payroll, 8e CD, 8f Budget/levy meeting- motion by Sup. Wilson, second by Sup. Bumgardner to approve agenda with changes. M/C

Consent Agenda – 12/10/24 minutes from regular board meeting, Claims 6816-6828, EFT1.14.25 =28,493.00; payroll TBD Motion by Sup. Milender, second by Sup. Wilson to approve the minutes and pay the claims. M/C

DNR Representative – tabled for February meeting

Property tax question – Joyce Thompson had questions regarding Eckles Township property tax on recent statements from the county. Board explained process.

Township Election – Clerk Oestreich did not receive any affidavits for candidacy for the 3-year supervisor position. Election will be held from 4-8 pm on March 11, 2025.

Draft 2025/2026 Calendar – board reviewed dates. Will finalize at a future meeting. Motion by Sup. Milender, second by Sup. Hazeman to schedule the reorganization & regular meeting to March 18, 2025 starting at 6:30 pm. M/C

Treasurers Report – Deb Larson provided a status summary of accounts. Motion by Sup. Wilson, second by Sup. Milender to approve payment of \$105,000 to Koda Bank loan and \$2,346.64 to 1st National Bank loan. M/C

CD Rates – Board reviewed current rates/terms. Motion by Sup. Wilson, second by Sup. Hazeman to rollover CD with Koda & request that no penalty is assessed if withdrawn early. M/C

Outstanding Muller Invoice – Sup. Bumgardner will follow-up.

Eckles Township Roads –Sup. Bumgardner will follow-up with list sent out by County.

MAT Annual Conference – held 12/13-14/2024. Sup. Milender and Sup. Hazeman attended.

Eckles Draft Comprehensive Plan – Sup. Milender provided a summary statement & showed the draft maps for review. Board had a few edits. Motion by Sup. Wilson,

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second by Sup. Bumgardner to hold a public hearing on March 24th from 6:30 – 8:30 pm. Publish in Pioneer, Buyline and website. M/C

Sick Leave Policy – tabled

Payroll Timing – Motion by Sup. Milender, second by Sup. Wilson to lag board member’s payroll one month starting in February. 3 votes to approve, Sup. Hazeman abstained. M/C

Road Report – Sup. Wilson acknowledged that road conditions were icy, needed some snow to improve. He explained how the main entrance/exits are plowed & timed to make efficient use of contractor’s route. Board discussed residents placing excess snow on township easement. Sup. Wilson will send out the cover letter to board to be used as needed.

2024 Lammers LGU – Clerk Oestreich sent invoice of \$3,849.57 to Lammers Twp share of maintenance. Invoices for costs were included.

Rural Fire – Sup. Milender provided a summary. Next meeting will be held on 1/23/25. Motion by Sup. Wilson, second by Sup. Hazeman to approve resolution 2025-1 which appoints Sup. Milender as primary representative; and Sup. Bumgardner as secondary representative to the Bemidji Area Rural Fire Association. M/C

2024 Yearend Reports – Clerk and Treasurer are working on the reports.

Headwaters Shooting Sports Federation – Sup. Wilson provided a summary of activity including dates and groups using the site. They have been awarded grants for improvements.

Budget/Levy Work Session – set for February 4th at 6:00 pm.

Meetings- Eckles Township Board Meeting & Audit – 2/11/25 @ 6 pm, Eckles Community Center

Adjourn – Motion by Sup. Milender, second by Sup. Hazeman to adjourn at 8:40 pm. M/C

Colleen Oestreich, Clerk

Don Hazeman, Chairman