

ECKLES TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES – July 9, 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, Cory Wilson, Beth Hendricks, treasurer, Deb Larson clerk, Colleen Oestreich via zoom and deputy clerk, Doreen Felts were present.

**Others present:** Dale Wilson, John Schocker, Chris Pollock, Brandon Erickson, Anya Farder, Gary Coan.

**Agenda Revised** – claims removed from consent agenda to be discussed under new business, added Koda Bank payment, shooting sports, Kari Howe’s visit rescheduled to August meeting. Motion by Supervisor, Hendricks, second by Supervisor, Wilson to approve the revised agenda. M/C

**Consent Agenda** – 6/11/24 minutes from regular board meeting; 6/24/24 minutes from continued board meeting. Motion by Sup. Wilson, second by Sup. Hendricks to approve of the consent agenda. M/C

**Rural Fire** – Sup. Milender reported that they have held long range planning meeting. Tomorrow they will meet with the City of Bemidji to negotiate a new contract. City approved applying for a SAFER grant; 3-yr grant for 4 FTE. Still looking at the option to form a Fire District. Next meeting is scheduled for 7/16/24.

**Sosua Road** – Clerk, Oestreich reported that 83 letters were sent after final edits from Supervisor, Milender. Board discussed specific parcels and whether they need to be included. 3-5 parcels may be dropped from the SSD. Board discussed specific wording on the deeds regarding out lots, retention pond outlets, buildable lots and whether township/county could prevent development without an ordinance/zoning in place. Board reviewed paving policy and how it pertains to this SSD.

Actual interest rate charged to financed project is still unknown. It is dependent on the amount needed and the rate charged Eckles Township.

Board decided to table inclusion and interest rate discussion to August meeting.

**Koda Bank** – Motion by Sup. Milender, second by Sup. Hendricks to pay \$15,750 loan payment. M/C

**Claims** – board discussed compensation for clerk and treasurer. Sup. Milender outlined the estimated time commitment of 30 hours/month for clerk duties and 20 hours/month for treasurer duties - additional time is paid on hourly basis. Special projects such as SSD, Sosua; workload outside of normal duties should be tracked and these administrative expenses should be billed to the SSD/special project. Motion by Sup. Milender, second by Sup. Wilson to compensate staff for hours worked on SSD and charge the administrative costs back to the special project. M/C

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**Motion by Sup.** Hendrickson, second by Sup. Wilson to pay the claims 6705-6712 \$39,267.53, payroll 6713-6719 \$1,939.83, 6720-\$116.79 M/C

**Road Report** – Sup. Wilson reported that a tree came down on Memorial LN during the 7/1/24 storm. Site has been cleared. Contractor, Shocker is grading roads. Mowing will commence soon and address a thistle issue on Eckles Road. Culverts will be ordered with a change, 30’ length for driveways. Berglund & Josh will be pay for their culverts.

**Primary Election** – scheduled for August 13<sup>th</sup> at the Eckles Community Center. Clerk, Oestreich proposed the following judges: Kandina as head judge, Julie Zeto, Sharon Reese, Deb Larson, Doreen and Mr. Felts. Motion by Sup. Wilson, second by Sup. Hendricks to approve the slate of judges. M/C

**MAT Annual Government ID cards** – have been received and will be distributed in September. MAT also sent a notice requesting ARPA documentation. Sup, Milender will follow-up.

**MAT District Meeting** – will be held in Waubun, MN on August 22<sup>nd</sup>. *\*\* Note: Correct date is August 27, 2024.*

**Shooting Sports** – Sup. Wilson provided an update. They are submitting 2 grant proposals to DNR for upgrades/improvements to the shelter. Access road is categorized as parks/recreation road therefore has minimum maintenance. Could be an issue due to the heavy traffic and use. New manager, Shane Foley has started. Plan to invite him to a future meeting.

**Wildrose Road** – question came up on the depth of gravel being applied. Sup. Wilson said it will have 8” of gravel and be a 10T road. Board expects to have bids by 8/9/24 to be reviewed at August board meeting.

**Adjourn** – Motion by Sup. Milender, second by Sup. Wilson to adjourn at 9:10 pm. M/C

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Colleen Oestreich, Clerk

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Don Hazeman, Chairman