

**ECKLES TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MINUTES – August 20, 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, Darren Bumgardner, treasurer, Deb Larson clerk, Colleen Oestreich via zoom and deputy clerk, Doreen Felts were present.

Others present: Dale Wilson, John Schocker, Mark Fuller, Brandon Erickson, Senva Gkcs, Lori Warner Klisch, Gary Coan, Anya Farder, Linda Knapp. Mary Lou Milender, Crystal Baker, Troy Baker, Kari Howe,

Agenda Revised – added cemetery maintenance under new business. Motion by Sup. Wilson, second by Sup. Hendricks to approve of the revised agenda. M/C

Consent Agenda – 7/9/24 minutes from regular board meeting; Corrections include the addition of Sup. Milender under attendance and name spelling errors. Claims 6723-6732 and two ACH = \$200,853.77; payroll TBD Motion by Sup. Bumgardner, second by Sup. Hendricks to approve the minutes with the noted corrections and pay the claims. M/C

Beltrami County Commissioner Candidate – Kari Howe introduced herself as a candidate for District 3. She provided an overview of her background and platform. Questions included future support from Beltrami County with road issues and fire protection; communication issues with County Road 9 previously installed paving and multi-housing developments needing emergency access corridors.

Sosua Road – work is progressing on schedule. Board discussed utility notification requirements and written notification with a reasonable amount of time to move utility i.e. 30/60 days should be sent when bid notice is published.

Wild Rose Road – two bids were received for paving; Knife River = \$372,750 and BBI = \$379,600. Sup. Milender provided an overview of the current financial position of the Eckles Township Road/Bridge account.

Road/Bridge Account	\$756,833.81
Sosua Expenses Tally	\$167,506.95
Balance	\$589,326.86
Sosua Paving Estimate	\$250,000.00
Balance	\$339,326.86
Sosua Paid SSD	\$71,650.00
Balance	\$410,976.86
Wild Rose Expense Tally	\$50,000.00
Estimated Working Balance	\$360,976.86

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Other Projected Assets	
Koda CD - 2/11/25 Mat Date	\$206,000.00
Fall Tax Income	\$260,000.00

Current Debt Approximate Balances	
Koda	\$800,000.00
1st National	\$24,594.00
1st National	\$28,158.00
Balance	\$852,752.00

Board discussed cash flow and how much should be held in reserve; pros/cons of delaying paving project and whether to obtain a bond to fund projects.

Motion by Sup. Milender to accept the low bid from Knife River and pave Wild Rose this fall without bond funding. Motion was seconded by Sup. Hendricks. Roll call vote – resulted in Supervisors Hazeman, Hendricks and Milender voted yes; Supervisors Wilson and Bumgardner voted no. M/C

Primary Election – Held on August 13th. Clerk, Oestreich reported that all went smoothly and Eckles had 110 voters.

Rural Fire – Sup. Milender reported that they have held their 2nd meeting on contract negotiations with the city. Will have a special meeting in October to review the proposed by-law changes. City is purchasing a new pumper at cost of about \$800K. There is a 2.5 year turnaround on purchasing new vehicles.

Road Report – mowing is being completed. Storm blew through and any damage has been dealt with. The road from County Rd 89 – Jackpine is rough and should be graded.

Cemetery – Don Wilson provided a deed application for processing. Eckles Township has received a check for payment.

Flowers – caretakers, Georgia Halverson and her daughter, Denise donated the flower containers and volunteered to paint the emblems on the gate. Chairman, Hazeman requested clerk to send a thank you note in appreciation of their service.

Gate maintenance – may need to sandblast/repair/paint the gate. Cemetery fund currently has a balance of approximately \$11K. Sextons can move forward with cemetery maintenance projects without prior board approval.

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MAT District 12 Meeting – will be held in Waubun, MN on August 27nd. Sup. Hazeman, Sup. Milender and Treasurer, Larson plan to attend.

Eckles Twp Meeting – September 10, 2024 at Eckles Community Center; 7 PM

Adjourn – Motion by Sup. Wilson, second by Sup. Bumgardner to adjourn at 9:05 pm.
M/C

Colleen Oestreich, Clerk

Don Hazeman, Chairman