**ECKLES TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES**

**AUGUST 15, 2017**

Present: Dennis Zeto, Don Hazeman, Mel Milender, Cory Wilson, Mary Lou Milender, and Sandy Burgoon.

Visitors present: Thore Thorson, Brent Rud, Dick Moore, John Schocker, Terry & Maryann Hanson, Dale Wilson, Fred Kelm, Gladys Hlavac, Joe Beer, Aaron Dougherty, Dennis and Cheryl Berglund, Matt Murray, Gary Coan, Joyce Thompson, and Reed Olson.

Motion by Mel Milender, seconded by Dennis Zeto to accept the Consent Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Dennis Zeto, seconded by Mel Milender to accept the Regular Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman, Don Hazeman and Clerk, Mary Lou Milender both received a resignation notice by email from Chad Schmidtke. Motion by Mel Milender, seconded by Dennis Zeto to accept Chads email as a formal resignation notice. The board then declared an immediate vacancy on the Board. Motion by Mel Milender, seconded by Dennis Zeto to appoint Aaron Dougherty to fill this vacancy until the March elections. Don Hazeman asked the public for their input. There was no public discussion. Aaron came forward and was sworn in by the Clerk.

Brent Rud, Beltrami County Environmental Services spoke about the problem in Deerfield 1st Addition. A lot was recorded and assigned a parcel number rather than be designated an out lot to be used as a holding pond. Now the county wants to have the township assume ownership. It was an error made 12 years ago. Mel Milender asked why it was not recorded as an out lot for storm water drainage. Motion by Mel Milender, seconded by Dennis Zeto to table the issue until the Board checks with legal attorneys. The county has not had legal counsel either.

Rick Schulke purchased the lots in a plat that Dale Wilson developed on the east side of Eckles Road. The board explained to him the road may be up to specs at this time, however, until the plat is filled to 70% Eckles Township will not accept the road because by then the road may not meet specs. The development also needs signs installed. The board also explained that they have been advised to not provide any recognition of completeness of the road until they are ready to accept and maintain it.

Matt Murray showed some elevations on Balsam Road going west to the curve from Eckles Road. In some locations, it is 6 feet higher and some places are too narrow to resolve. The board and Mr. Murray feel it should flow south along Eckles Road. The natural flow is to the south. It was discussed with Dennis Berglund whose land it would flow across.

Dale Wilson has Radar Road between Eckles/Nature project all built and ready to shape it for gravel.

We received several complaints about Eckles Road north of Mayflower Road with all the dust. Chloride might be in order for next year.

Cory is meeting with Freeberg and Grund regarding Deerfield Estates road warranty on the 17th of August. Hydro mulch and black dirt will be placed on the shoulders of the roads at the township’s expense.

Minnesota Energy Resources Corp (MERC) Natural Gas Project was discussed. Mel Milender had received 13 pages of maps and 20 pages of detail. Mel read an email he received from MERC on Tuesday morning. There are too many unanswered questions regarding this pipeline, therefore, we set up an informational meeting for Thursday, Sept 7th at 6:30 pm at the Eckles Community Center.

Border to Border Off-Road Vehicle Project was discussed regarding protection for our roads. This is a touring route using public gravel roads. It will stretch from the shores of Lake Superior to the North Dakota border through the Northern third of Minnesota.

Cory Wilson spoke with the Postmaster regarding moving the mailboxes from one side to the other on Eckles Road north of Birdsview Lane. Motion by Mel Milender, seconded by Cory Wilson to contact each homeowner informing them we are moving the boxes and reinstalling them with swing boxes.

Eckles Township received notification of the proposed annexation of the former Roy Antle property on July 24, 2017. Mel Milender researched the land records with Beltrami County, ROW maps with MNDOT and spoke with the MAT attorney. Motion by Cory Wilson, seconded by Mel Milender to oppose the annexation. Motion passed with a 3-2 vote. Milender, Wilson, and Hazeman voting yes, Zeto and Dougherty voting no.

SHOOTING SPORTS REPORT: There will be a family shooting skills festival on August 26 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. There is no cost for the event and all equipment will be provided. The students from the High School have been shooting. Rifle range should be going soon.

RURAL FIRE ASSOCIATION: A new tanker will be delivered in December or January. A new replacement for the Kodiak is also coming from the CIP. There was a discussion at the last meeting regarding a fire station in Northern Township. Approximately 45% of the fire equipment used by the City of Bemidji is titled to the RFA and is leased back to the City of Bemidji.

There is an informal meeting with Enbridge scheduled for August 21st at 9:00 a.m. at the Eckles Community Center.

MN Dot is having an open house on August 23rd from 3-6 to discuss Hwy 2 access management and redesign.

Reminder that District 12 annual meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 23, 2017 in Clearbrook. A tour of the Enbridge plant is scheduled for 4:00 pm. The meeting will start at 7:00 pm. at the Community Center.

Motion by Mel Milender, seconded by Dennis Zeto to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Lou Milender Don Hazeman

Township Clerk Chairman