

ECKLES TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
January 11, 2022

Present: Vice Chair, Cory Wilson Supervisors, Mel Milender, Elizabeth Hendricks, Darren Bumgardner Treasurer, Debra Larson and Clerk Mary Lou Milender.

Public Attendees: Dale Wilson and Gary Coan.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice Chair, Cory Wilson. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Consent Agenda: Motion by Supervisor Milender to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by Supervisor Hendricks. Motion passed unanimously 4-0.

Approval of Agenda: Supervisor Hendricks made a motion to approve the January 11, 2022. Agenda with the additions. Second by Supervisor Milender. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

ROAD REPORT:

Eckles Road from Balsam to Jackpine was discussed in December as a potential reconstruction project in 2022. However, no approval was made to accept Freeberg & Grund to do the engineering. Motion by Supervisor Milender, seconded by Bumgardner to have Freeberg & Grund be the engineers. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

John Schocker didn't have a place to put the snow when he went by North Central Service, Inc. located by Sosua and Wild Rose.

Also, on Dove Court, a resident left their automobile on the road because his driveway was not cleared, therefore John had to drive around it. Consequently, the owner of the automobile should be notified and if he does not move it off the ROW, we will have their vehicle towed.

We need to write a policy for those leaving their cars in the road ROW in the winter.

Cartway Drive is a road that is difficult for John to clear. He is unable to wing it anywhere since the road is not wide enough. Cars are not able to meet on Cartway.

OTHER:

There was a discussion on the Digital sign as to who is going to make the rules for the signs. We met with a member of the Community Center board and she was going to write up a set of rules that they want. We should have them by the next meeting. The township wrote our wishes in November.

We received a second check from ARPA in December. We can use it for anything other than PERA or debt payments. LRIP Funds have not been decided yet in 2022. Townships across the state generated enough demand to prove to the State we need more funding.

SHOOTING SPORTS REPORT:

Supervisor Wilson informed the board they had good information at the meeting.

Some of the residents are still not happy with the noise. Hopefully public service announcements from the Sheriff and an email list for residents in specified area for notification will be used. This will be a long-range work in progress.

Bemidji Area Shooters Association (BASA) will have 4 dates for a 3-gun shoot, they will have 4 hunter safety field days and 2 rim fire leagues.

There was discussion about Law Enforcement Officer qualifying shootings in October/November. This is required training for them and must be done in low light, cold weather gear. The 4 agencies that shoot are: Beltrami County Sheriff, Bemidji Police Department, BCA/FBI, and Red Lake Police. Discussion was about trying to combine these groups. Bemidji Trap and Skeet Club (BTSC) will have Bemidji School shooting Monday evenings. Estimated 70 to 100 kids. Bagley students are shooting during open trap night. Estimated 30 to 50 students, approximately 15 from Bagley and from the Home School Coop shooting will practice during open trap night.

The United Way Shoot made \$15,000.00 as a fundraiser for the Shooting Sports Facility.

The Well-Armed Women is being renamed to Armed Women of America by the National organization.

There are always long-term plans if funding is found. Hope to add 600-yard range, maintenance shed, and maybe a couple more trap houses.

The board members are: Bob Naylor, President; Pete Milli, Vice President; Mary Forseth, Secretary; and Dave Smith is Treasurer.

Next meeting is April 11, at 4:30 at BASA building.

RURAL FIRE ASSOCIATION REPORT:

Two new trucks have been ordered. A contract with the vendor has been prepared. The first payment due February 1 will be for 50% of the equipment.

January 27th is the annual meeting of the BRFA board. February 24th is the Annual Joint Meeting of township and city elected officials. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

The fire department is having difficulty recruiting and retaining firefighters.

REMINDERS:

There was not a quorum at the Wilton City Council Chambers on Jan. 10th. The annexation hearing was postponed until February 10, 2022 @6:30 P.M. We need to find out what the City of Wilton are giving and we can't. We may have to hash out an agreement for road maintenance on Scribner Road. A commercial shop will be put up on the land to be annexed.

A Budget meeting and the Annual Audit will be held at the Community Center on Wednesday, February 2, 2022 at 6:30.

Motion to adjourn by Supervisor Milender, seconded by Supervisor Hendricks. Motion carried unanimously. 4-0.
Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Lou Milender
Township Clerk

Cory Wilson
Vice Chairman