

**ECKLES TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES**  
**JULY 19, 2021**

**Present:** Chairman, Donald Hazeman, Supervisors, Cory Wilson, Mel Milender, Elizabeth Hendricks and Darren Bumgardner. Treasurer, Debra Larson and Clerk Mary Lou Milender were also present.

**Public Attendees:** Richard Moore, Mark Fuller, John Schocker, Gary Coan, Reed Olson, Dale Wilson and Joel Johnson.

**Meeting called to order at** 7:00 p.m. by Chairman, Don Hazeman. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Approval of Consent Agenda:** Motion by Supervisor Milender to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by Supervisor Wilson. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

**Approval of Agenda:** Supervisor Wilson made a motion to approve the July 19, 2021 Agenda with the additions. Second by Supervisor Milender. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Reed Olson did not have the full information to discuss the assessments the county puts on a ditch. He will return to our next meeting and give us the full report.

Richard Moore distributed an area map to all the board members regarding the School Forest and what they hope to change with Solway School. The Solway school has been using a tax-forfeited parcel along U.S. Highway 2 as a school forest since the 1950's but the parcel was never conveyed to the district as a school forest. Recently a new 17-acre site has been identified and agreed upon in Eckles Township immediately southwest of Grant Creek Horse Camp where there are toilets, water and picnic tables. Superintendent Tim Lutz and Brian Stefanich are in favor of the switch. Motion by Supervisor Milender, seconded by Supervisor Wilson to agree to support the transfer of the School Forest if the School Board agrees and has it done by Labor Day. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Richard Moore informed the board of the delivery of the bugs being shipped the end of August so the board could spread them on the roads most needed. The township is paying \$500.00 for these bugs hoping they will kill the weeds along the roads.

**ENBRIDGE TAX COURT DECISION:**

Supervisor Milender informed the board that the State legislature approved paying overpayment of taxes to Enbridge.

**ROAD REPORT:**

Wild Rose will have traffic counts done after Labor Day.

Joel Johnson informed Supervisor Wilson of a 4-wheeler path on both sides of the road bed on Jackpine Road which he just finished. He indicated he could build it up with several yards of reclaimed material he has used on other roads. The board authorized him to build it up.

Mark Fuller has put the ad for quotes in the paper for construction work on Balsam Road (Eckles to 9). Quote opening will be Tuesday, August 10, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. at the offices of Freeberg & Grund and presented at the Board meeting that evening. Final completion no later than November 5, 2021.

Mark made a suggestion to change Class V requirements from 8" to 6" because this is a 10-ton situation. Supervisor Wilson moved to go forward with this project. Second by Supervisor Milender. Motion carried unanimously. 5-0.

Chairman Hazeman made a motion to have Mark Fuller gather all the estimates and engineering for Deerfield 1<sup>st</sup> Addition. Second by Supervisor Bumgardner. Motion carried unanimously.

Wild Rose needs more material on the ¼ mile that did have chloride placed.

**CEMETERY REPORT:**

Sealcoating has been applied.

**RURAL FIRE ASSOCIATION**

The next meeting is July 29<sup>th</sup>. There will be a vote to increase the levy for the purchase of a tender and a pumper for Station #4.

**OTHER:**

Chairman Hazeman suggested the board put a thank you in the Pioneer and Buy-Line for the Bemidji and Solway Fire Departments, Beltrami Sheriff's Department, DNR and its extensive air and land crews and all the contractors who brought in heavy equipment from the residents of Eckles Township. Chairman Hazeman offered to write the letter. Motion by Supervisor Wilson, seconded by Supervisor Hendricks to put the thank you in the papers.

Resolution #197 ARP was passed unanimously.

The townships are eligible to receive Federal dollars through the state from the American Recovery Plan (ARP). The funds must be applied for prior to August 10, 2021 for commitment prior to 2024 and used before 2026. These funds may be used for numerous purposes including some road maintenance.

Discussion on who is the owners of the picnic tables on the grounds. The Community Center Board claims the tables belong to Eckles Township; therefore, our position is to sell them through Bernard Green and we will donate money for new tables.

Supervisor Milender informed the board that MAT will work the American Recovery Plan (ARP) if our township does not want to go through all the forms. MAT will charge \$30.00 for the first hour of time spent registering the Town. If the registration process exceeds one hour, the Town needs to pay a rate of \$10.00 for each additional 15 minutes of time, billed as a full \$10.00 for each 15 minutes block of time. Contact person needs to be identified tonight. Chairperson is Donald Hazeman, Authorized person is Mel Milender and Contact person is Mary Lou Milender.

Motion by Supervisor Hendricks, seconded by Supervisor Wilson to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Lou Milender  
Township Clerk

Donald Hazeman  
Chairman