

**OECKLES TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES**  
**August 10, 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:** Dale Wilson, John Schocker, Andy Eichstaedt, Chris Gilbertson & wife, Russ Gustafson, Dawn and Terry Himesh, Jeff Lind, Paul & Cheryl Cronemiller, Chriss Smith, Jorge Prince, Jacquelyn Chrisman, and Gary Coan.

**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 Bumgardner. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

**Approval of Agenda:** Supervisor Wilson made a motion to approve the August 10, 2021 Agenda with the additions. Second by Supervisor Milender. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Mayor, Jorge Prince attended our meeting tonight. He mainly indicated that some of the townships surrounding Lake Bemidji are discussing services around the lake. Finding a compromise will not be easy. It will raise their taxes.

**ROAD REPORT:**

Motion by Supervisor Milender, seconded by Supervisor Wilson to award Johnson Construction the contract on Balsam Road (Eckles Rd to County Hwy 9). Joel Johnson had the lowest quote and is able to get the road work done before October 29/November 5, 2021. Motion passed 4-1.

**CARTWAY ROAD RESIDENTS:**

The residents of Cartway Road were in attendance at the Town Board to discuss any/all possible solutions for improvement requested for Cartway Road.

Dawn Thiersch informed the board she has a licensed daycare in her home and because of the rough road, she had two families quit coming to her home.

Jeff Lind informed the board he has lived on the road for 13 years and has not seen any gravel placed and he has lost car parts due to the rough road. He is fine with giving up his ROW.

Jackie Crisman feels Cartway is a residential street and would like a speed limit sign placed. She indicated the road has been off center for years when Paul Cronemiller built the road. She does not want the road improved.

Andy Eickstadt informed the board he has been to these meetings three times and he still would not give up his ROW. He also feels no gravel road should be less than 55 mph.

Christopher Gilbertson and Paul Cronemiller would like to see the road improved. They were informed the road would have quality work done and the approximate cost, however, the township would need 66 ft. ROW before we can start work. Some of the trees will need to come out in order to make ditches. The board would improve approaches and install new mailboxes.

Jacob Lindahl wants to know why we would bother to fix it.

A show of hands from the residents showed 3 residents were against it. Therefore, there will be no advance on needed improvements.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Clerk had contacted Waste Management and Jon's Refuse. We have some problem areas regarding the garbage containers not being put far enough away from the roads. Clerk will put announcement in the newspapers.

There are several stumps on Jackpine Road ROW that should be dug out from approximately ½ mile west of Eckles Road to Hwy 89 on both sides of the road. Dale Wilson will give us a quote.

Several people are very concerned regarding safety issues on County Road 9 and 2. Some of the Town Board members are receiving phone calls to see if this can be changed.

Chairman Hazeman thanked Enbridge for keeping Scribner Road so clean and for their concern for safety on the road.

The township is still getting assessed for ditches. We did not get removed from ditch assessment when the ditch was abandoned. Motion by Supervisor Milender, second by Supervisor Wilson to move forward to get it abandoned. Motion carried unanimously. 5-0.

All of the gravel roads are rough now. Without rain they cannot be graded. Motion by Supervisor Milender, second by Chairman Hazeman to not place any water on the roads at this time because it is not cost effective. Motion carried unanimously. 5-0.

**OTHER:**

Motion made by Supervisor Milender, second by Supervisor Wilson to purchase a new message board box to replace the one outside the Eckles Community Center. Motion carried unanimously. 5-0

Chairman Hazeman informed the board that the Knot Weed Weevils were placed on the South end of Coyote Rd, Werner Rd and the field on Mac Court off of Nature Road.

ARPA Funds will be disbursed to the township.

**RURAL FIRE ASSOCIATION REPORT:**

Supervisor Milender informed the board the Rural Fire Association and City of Bemidji Fire Department arrangement is one of the best relationships in the state. CIP is raising funds back to \$159,000.00 a year. Newly ordered engine/tender will be delivered in 2022. Station #4 is a lease for 15 years. It is not being paid by CIP funds but by operational funds.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

District 12 Director, Mel Milender is having his District Meeting on August 24 by Zoom.

Enbridge's virtual open house on August 25<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Lou Milender  
Township Clerk

Donald Hazeman  
Chairman