

ECKFORD TOWNSHIP of CALHOUN COUNTY

October 21, 2019

Supervisor Rapp called the regular meeting of the Eckford Township Board to order at 7:00 p.m. Others in attendance were Clerk Hinkley, Treasurer Baylis, Trustee Cornell, D. Malloch, M. Frohm, A. & L. Blight, Commissioner T. Miller and J. Schragg.

ABSENT: K. Lawrence

Supervisor Rapp led the group in the pledge and Treasurer Baylis gave the invocation.

CLERK MINUTES

A copy of the minutes have been sent to the board by Clerk Hinkley. A motion was made by Trustee Cornell to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2019 Regular Meeting and supported by Treasurer Baylis. **CARRIED**

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Supervisor Rapp gave the financial statement for September.

RECEIPTS	\$ 7,664.38
DISBURSEMENTS	\$14,873.35
BILLS TO PAY	\$ 9,984.67

Trustee Cornell made a motion to accept the financial report and pay the bills. Clerk Hinkley seconded the motion. **CARRIED**

HOMER AREA FIRE AUTHORITY REPORT

Given by B. Rapp, no report

MARENGO FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief A. Blight, Eckford has 10 runs year to date.

MARSHALL FIREFIGHTERS AMBULANCE

Given by W. Cornell, Eckford had 9 runs in August and 8 runs in September. The runs have been pretty steady for the fiscal year. The new ambulance should be here in April 2020. The budget is looking good so far this fiscal year as well.

ZONING ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

Given by D. Malloch, there were 4 permits this month, 831 Orchard Drive for the Bush resident. A permit for 18315 F Drive S, for a front porch. Groskopf for a deck and Blowers for a coverage porch.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER REPORT

Given by D. Malloch, he has been in contact with the township's attorney and he said the township can issue citations for blight to J. Hulling, B. Mull, and M. Butler properties. For those who are in violation of the Noxious Weeds Ord. we can do the clean-up and charge it on their property taxes. This would be the Newsome and Hulling properties. D. Malloch will give Mr. Newsome and Mr. Hulling 10 more days to comply. Mr. Stewart states that he is moving out of the township and that he is going to clean-up his property. Otherwise, Mr. Stewart will get a citation as well. Benny Creighton's place on Division Drive has been sold at the Sheriff Sale. A Mr. Boggess has been living in a camper on the property. D. Malloch will go see him and let him know he can't live in the camper and he needs to clean-up the property. Mr. Cunkle, on J Drive South, has started his pole building without any permits within the six (6) months from his variance. The board is giving Mr. Cunkle 30 days to comply with the Building Inspector guidelines or Mr. Cunkle will have to re-apply for his variance and pay the fee for starting a project without any permits. Mr. Percival says he will be sleeping in his shop in Tekonsha Twp. until he can build his pole barn and put an apartment inside the pole barn. Mr. Percival was

directed to talk to the Building Inspector Steve Buller. Mr. Malinowski on Division Drive has already started his pole barn. He needs a variance because it is too close to the property line. He states that it is an agriculture building but as of this time, he isn't using it for agricultural. Trustee Cornell stated that the Jason Blackburn property has now been littered with his son's property since Mr. Blackburn's passing.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Given by M. Frohm, their next meeting will be in November.

LIBRARY REPORT

Given by M. Frohm, there have been no issues with the middle school kids so far this school year during after school hours. They know that if they come into the library they need to be using it for its intended purposes. The library has 25 computers, 2 printers and wireless internet for members to use. They will be having a Veteran's Celebration on November 12th.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Commissioner T. Miller shared with our board the 509 Policy that the County Board of Commissioners want's to pass. The concern is that the township's with large millages will get all the funding and small township's like ours won't getting any of the money. The Parks Millage that the county is looking to put on the ballot would, if passed, give a portion of the money to all entities but it would have very specific uses. Not something that would work, it seems, for the residents of Eckford Township at this time. Homer Road from Division Drive to B Drive South was paved by the CCRD. Our township was not expecting this section to be done this year, so we were very surprised and thankful for this section getting some much needed attention.

COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk Hinkley shared that the AV data from the August election shows that AV's were up 18% from May's numbers. This is an indication that these numbers will continue to rise with the passing of Proposal 3 and No Reason AV's.

OLD BUSINESS

Roads for 2020, we need to figure out which roads we need to do for next year and then contact the county to see what their plans are for 2020 and what kind of funds they may have for us.

County GIS mapping flyover for 2020. Trustee Cornell made a motion to approve the Calhoun County GIS mapping plan for 2020 and the funds to pay for this will come out of the Assessor's Expenses category. Motion seconded by Treasurer Baylis. **CARRIED**

Plumbing Inspector Randy Bushee, has been been talking unfavorably about the township board to our residents. He also unloaded a very rude and uncalled for conversation to our ZA Dave Malloch. This type of behavior cannot take place in our township. Supervisor Rapp will start looking for someone to replace Mr. Bushee as soon as possible.

Treasurer Baylis asked Trustee Cornell how the MTA on the Road meeting was that he attended? He stated that the meeting was ok. They discussed roads and that township's aren't really responsible to pay for roads and exactly what really is road maintenance?

NEW BUSINESS

Stuart Lake Association Weeds, Clerk Hinkley talked with Commissioner G. Tompkins, as he is on the Homer Lake Association Board. He explained how it works for their association. Clerk Hinkley asked Commissioner Tompkins if he would speak to Roger Graves of the Stuart Lake Assoc. and explain to him how their assessment works. Commissioner Tompkins stated that he would be glad to share it with him. Clerk Hinkley gave Roger Graves the information of Commissioner Tompkins and explained that the township board would be glad to meet with members of the Stuart Lake Assoc. and with Commissioner Tompkins to explain how the Homer Lake Assoc. assessments works. From what Clerk Hinkley understands from Commissioner Tompkins and what Treasurer Baylis understands from our Assessor Dan Brunner's experience with it as well, that the

township has very little to do with this type of assessment, that the Stuart Lake Association would like to implement to clean up the weeds in the lake.

Division Drive property was discussed above under Code Enforcement.

Freed property at Stuart Lake, the son has inherited the property now that Mrs. Freed has recently passed. He no longer wants to rent the properties out and would like to sell them to the individual lessee's of each property. Supervisor Rapp has been in contact with Mike at Kebs Land Survey and he is concerned that the township may have to do a subdivision for those properties. These lots are not a standard build-able lot sizes. We will continue to work with Kebs and Freed's at this time to see what can be worked out for these properties.

Treasurer Baylis shared that the County Drains for this next year will be about \$6000 for the township's part of drain costs for 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

Was made at 8:04 p.m. by T. Baylis and seconded by K. Hinkley.

Respectfully submitted by,

Kimberly A. Hinkley
Eckford Township Clerk

Bruce Rapp
Eckford Township Supervisor

APPROVED