

TURTLE RIVER TOWNSHIP
BELTRAMI COUNTY, MINNESOTA
MINUTES OF THE March 12, 2026
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

Chris Justice called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

Officers in attendance: Chris Justice, Jerry Illies, Rita Chamblin, Roger Hellquist, Joe Bungart, Tanya Hanson, and Nora Illies.

Citizens Present: Jan Johnson, Kent Porter, and Kelly Booge

I. Town Board

A. Citizen Input- There was no citizen input.

B. Town Consent Agenda- February Regular Town Board Meeting Minutes, 2/23/2026 Levy Meeting, March Planning and Zoning Committee Minutes.

Roger Hellquist made a motion, seconded by Joe Bungart, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

C. Treasurer's Consent Agenda- Treasurer's Report and Payment of Bills and Claims- Roger Hellquist made a motion, seconded by Joe Bungart, to accept the following February Treasurer's Report and pay the bills- Motion carried 5-0.

1. Receipts for the month totaled \$28,449.05 and disbursements were \$13,968.20

2. The township checking account balance totaled \$350,632.43.

3. Bills and claims for the month of March, #11994 to #12018 were presented for approval and payment in the amount of \$18,912.60.

II. Administrative Items

A. Newsletter- Chair Chris Justice will type up the next newsletter.

B. Website domain name change- The work to switch to a .gov domain name has been started. The process is currently on hold due to the government shutdown.

C. Certify 2027 levy- Roger Hellquist made a motion to set the fire levy at \$106,000, seconded by Joe Bungart. Motion carried 5-0. Roger Hellquist made a motion to set the general levy at \$104,000, seconded by Joe Bungart. Motion carried 5-0. Roger Hellquist made a motion to set the road levy at \$250,000, seconded by Joe Bungart. Motion carried 5-0. Roger Hellquist made a motion to set the cemetery levy at \$800, seconded by Joe Bungart. Motion carried 5-0.

For a total of \$460,800.

D. Concordia Fire Contract- Jerry Illies spoke with Concordia Language Village regarding the 10% fire dues that Concordia pays to the township. At this point Jerry was of the understanding that the agreement will continue.

E. Records Retention Document Destruction- Roger Hellquist made a motion to accept the Records Retention Destruction report given by Carol Beck and give permission to destroy the records listed in the report. Joe Bungart seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

F. Regular Meeting Schedule- Joe Bungart made a motion to set the Board of Supervisors Regular Town Board Meeting for the 4th Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m.. Seconded by Jerry Illies, motion carried 5-0.

G. Update compensation schedule- Joe Bungart made a motion to create two categories for tree removal. Project tree removal will be set at \$30 and hour. Regular maintenance tree removal is set at \$20 an hour. The treasurer position will be raised an additional \$50 a month and the clerk position will be raised an additional \$100 a month. Rita Chamblin seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

H. The board re-organization for duties- Rita Chamblin made a motion to set the supervisor duties as followed. Chair person- Chris Justice, Vice Chairman- Jerry Illies, BRACO/Small animal-Joe Bungart, Fire-Jerry Illies, BATO-Roger Hellquist, Town Hall- Chris Justice, Roads- Rita Chamblin. Jerry Illies seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

I. Joe Bungart made a motion to allow up to \$8,000 for surveying of easements. Rita Chamblin seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

III. Roads

A. Rita Chamblin informed the Board regarding the potential Beltrami County Highway Department strike. The County has reached a settlement, and a strike will not occur. Snow removal services will continue as usual.

B. Rita Chamblin reported that some landowners continue to push snow across roadways.

C. Rita Chamblin discussed crack sealing for Tall Pines Road. The plan is to complete approximately \$10,000 worth of crack sealing. Rita Chamblin made a motion to hire Pitch Black Seal Coating to perform the crack sealing work on Tall Pines Road this year. Joe Bungart seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

D. Rita Chamblin discussed the updated grading rate. The rate has increased from \$160 to \$165 per hour, with the potential for additional increases if fuel costs continue to rise. She requested that any future fuel-related increases from Johnson Construction to be held outside of the standard hourly rate. Rita Chamblin made a motion to accept Johnson Construction's rate of \$165 per hour for grading for the current season, with any increases beyond that to be addressed separately at a later date. Joe Bungart seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Chris Justice adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chairman Chris Justice

Clerk, Tanya Hanson