

TURTLE RIVER TOWNSHIP  
BELTRAMI COUNTY, MINNESOTA  
MINUTES OF THE April 28, 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: Gary & Judy Cater, Jim Galloway, Kelly & Margaret Booge, Randy Westhoff, Hakon Strande, Jim DeWinter, Stan Knudsen, Rod Jurkovski, Jason Cota, Keaton Nostdahl, Larry Krantz, Adam Bardwell, John Bastier, Margaret Batchelder, David Kloha, Laura & Ben Carlton, Jan Johnson, Patrick Erickson, Brad Kennedy, Tim Donaughe, Gail & Jim Conway, Olha Finnely, Gardners, John Filardo, Ginger Johnson, Dwight Lewis, Heidi Thomas, Tim Larson, and Paul Benshoof. VIA zoom- Ryan, and Benjamin Pope.

### **I. Town Board**

A. Citizen Input- Paul Benshoof, Kelly Booge, and Hakon Strande all shared their thoughts on the need for the approval the Little Bass Lake Road grant, other citizens brought up additional thoughts to the conversation.

B. Town Consent Agenda- Roger Hellquist made a motion to approve the township consent agenda, containing the March Regular Town Board Meeting Minutes and April Planning and Zoning Committee Minutes. Joe Bungart seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

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

1. Receipts for the month totaled \$10,968.40 and disbursements were \$19,630.26
2. The township checking account balance totaled \$335,157.18.
3. Bills and claims for the month of March, #12019 to #12056 were presented for approval and payment in the amount of \$112,963.02.

### **II. Administrative Items**

A. Newsletter- Treasurer Nora Illies will prepare the next newsletter.

B. New laptops- Jerry Illies made a motion to purchase new laptops for the Clerk and Roads Supervisor, at the cost of \$1300 each, plus an additional \$200 for the Microsoft Office program. Roger Hellquist seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

C. Update Website Domain- Roger Hellquist made a motion to adopt [www.turtlerivertownshipmn.gov](http://www.turtlerivertownshipmn.gov) as the new domain name for the township website, Joe Bungart seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

D. 2026 Levy Info for Townships in Beltrami County- Rita Chamblin shared a document showing Beltrami County Property Tax Rates for taxes payable in 2026.

E. Emergency Management Meetings with Beltrami County- Jerry Illies will attend the Emergency Management meetings with Beltrami County.

F. Appoint Tanya Hanson as clerk- Joe Bungart made a motion to appoint Tanya Hanson as Township Clerk, Rita Chamblin seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

G. Appoint Jan Johnson as deputy clerk- Joe Bungart made a motion to appoint Jan Johnson as Deputy Clerk to Tanya Hanson, Rita Chamblin seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

H. BRACO- Joe Bungart gave an update regarding the BRACO ordinance. The wording in the ordinance will need to be updated at an upcoming meeting.

I. Rod Jurkovski noted that the townhall parking lot is not always plowed in a timely manner, one rental group had to plow it themselves. The next time the group rents the town hall will be free of charge. Jerry Illies will touch base with Concordia Language Villages regarding their plowing schedule.

### **III. Roads**

A. Snow Removal- Rita Chamblin gave an update regarding snow removal on township roads.

B. Signage at Strawberry and Elliot- Rita Chamblin updated the board regarding the new signs.

C. Mowing- Joe Bungart made a motion to hire Travis Weiss to mow the township ditches at \$110 an hour, Roger Hellquist seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

D. Road Tour- Rita Chamblin made a motion to set the road tour for Monday, May 11, 2026 at 8:00 a.m., Roger Hellquist seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

E. LBL easements- Jerry Illies updated the board regarding the easements along Little Bass Lake Road.

F. Little Bass Lake Road Project Grant- Rita Chamblin presented information regarding the grant and answered questions from residents and board members. The board discussed funding for both the initial project and its ongoing maintenance. Rita Chamblin made a motion for the board to support the project with the project cost in excess of the grant being paid by landowners in that area through a Subordinate Service District. The township would cover the cost of the first chip seal. Jerry Illies seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0. Joe Bungart abstained due to conflict of interest.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Chairman Chris Justice

Clerk, Tanya Hanson