

# EUREKA TOWNSHIP

Dakota County, State of Minnesota

## TOWN BOARD MEETING (Reorganization)

March 24, 2026 – 7:00 P.M.

### Call to Order

The Eureka Township Town Board meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Supervisor Mark Ceminsky and the Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Supervisors Present: Dan Ames, Cory Behrendt, Carrie Jennings, Mark Ceminsky, and Pete Storlie

Others Present: Liz Atwater

Zoom Attendance: Nancy Sauber, Ralph Fredlund, Julie, and Jeff Otto

### Approval of the Agenda

*Motion:* Supervisor Behrendt moved to approve the agendas presented. Supervisor Jennings seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

### Selection of the Town Board Chair

Supervisor Jennings nominated Cory Behrendt for Town Board Chair. Supervisor Behrendt accepted the nomination.

Supervisor Storlie nominated Mark Ceminsky for Town Board Chair. Supervisor Ceminsky accepted the nomination.

The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Behrendt- 2 votes- Supervisors Behrendt and Jennings

Supervisor Ceminsky- 3 votes- Supervisors Ames, Ceminsky and Storlie

Supervisor Ceminsky was selected as Town Board Chair.

### Selection of the Town Board Vice Chair

Supervisor Ceminsky nominated Pete Storlie for Town Board Vice Chair. Supervisor Storlie accepted the nomination.

Supervisor Jennings nominated Cory Behrendt for Town Board Vice Chair. Supervisor Behrendt accepted the nomination.

The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Storlie- 3 votes- Supervisors Ames, Ceminsky and Storlie

Supervisor Behrendt- 2 votes- Supervisors Behrendt and Jennings

Supervisor Storlie was selected as Town Board Vice Chair.

### Reorganization

Financials at New Market Bank

*Motion:* Chair Ceminsky moved to approve Resolution 2026-05 for Financials at New Market Bank. Vice Chair Storlie seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

### Financials at Genisys Credit Union

*Motion:* Vice Chair Storlie moved to approve Resolution 2026-06 for Financials at Genisys Credit Union. Chair Ceminsky seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

### Interactive Technology Attendance

Clerk Atwater informed the Board that Statute 13D.02 has changed the requirement for notice of regular meeting if using interactive technology. The statute no longer requires the previous five-day notice of the participant's location and address. It currently states that if interactive technology is used to conduct a meeting, it must be stated on the meeting notices. If the Board chooses to permit virtual attendance, this authorization must be included in the resolutions on establishing regular meeting schedules. She clarified that statutory requirements still apply, including that all participants must be able to see and hear one another, and the public must be able to attend. If technical issues occur, such as a loss of video, any remote participant would no longer be considered present for the meeting.

Board members discussed whether to allow remote attendance at meetings, with some expressing concern about technological limitations, lack of control over remote participation, and the importance of being physically present to conduct official business. Other members noted that virtual attendance can improve participation and continuity, citing its effectiveness in other public meetings, while acknowledging that technical failures would disqualify remote participants.

*Motion:* Chair Ceminsky moved to not allow the zoom participation. Vice Chair Storlie seconded the motion. *Motion carried 3-2 with Supervisors Behrendt and Jennings voting "Nay".*

### Schedule of Board Regular Meetings

*Motion:* Supervisor Behrendt moved to approve Resolution 2025-08 for setting and adopting regular Town Board meetings dates and times and presented. Supervisor Jennings seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

*Motion:* Supervisor Jennings moved to have the 2027 reorganization meeting one hour prior to the January 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. Supervisor Ames seconded the motion. Supervisor Jennings amended the motion to include removing the March 23, 2027, reorganization meeting. Supervisor Ames accepted the amendment. *Motion carried 5-0.*

### Schedule of Planning Commission Meetings

*Motion:* Chair Ceminsky moved to adopt Resolution 2026-09 setting the regular schedule of Planning Commission meetings. Supervisor Behrendt seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

### Round Table meeting between Town Board and Planning Commission meeting

Clerk/Treasurer Atwater will send out a poll to all Town Board and Planning Commission members to try to find a date that can work for the majority.

### Designate Polling Location

*Motion:* Supervisor Jennings moved to approve Resolution 2026-10 designating the Polling Location as 25043 Cedar Ave. Chair Ceminsky seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

Designate Posting Places

*Motion:* Chair Ceminsky moved to approve Resolution 2026-11 designating the public place for posted notices. Supervisor Ames seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

Designate Official Newspapers

*Motion:* Vice Chair Storlie moved to accept Resolution 2026-12 to declare that Dakota County Tribune and Sun This Week as a designated newspaper for official publication. Chair Ceminsky seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

Compensation and Reimbursement Policy for Town Officers and Commissioners

The Town Board removed the wording under 1.5 Meeting *“and actively engage in the proceedings.”*

*Motion:* Chair Ceminsky moved to approve Resolution 2026-13 establishing policy for the compensation and reimbursement of Town Officers as amended. Vice Chair Storlie seconded the motion. *Motion carried 4-1 with Supervisor Jennings voting “Nay.”*

Set Pay Frequency for Supervisors and Commissioners

- i. 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter: April 1- June 30, 2026,
  - 1. submit by: July 6<sup>th</sup>, Pay Date: July 14, 2026
- ii. 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter: July 1-September 30, 2026
  - 1. submit by: October 5<sup>th</sup>, Pay Date: October 13, 2026
- iii. 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter: October 1- December 31, 2026
  - 1. submit by: January 4<sup>th</sup>, Pay Date: January 12, 2027
- iv. 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter: January – March 31, 2027
  - 1. submit by: April 5<sup>th</sup>, Pay Date: April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2027

*Motion:* Vice Chair Storlie moved to approve the pay schedule for Supervisors and Commissioners as presented. Chair Ceminsky seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0.*

Town Board Liaison Assignments

	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>
<b>Building Inspector:</b>	Clerks	Cory Behrendt
<b>City of Farmington:</b>	Clerks	Pete Storlie
<b>Farmington Fire:</b>	Clerks	Pete Storlie
<b>City of Lakeville:</b>	Clerks	Pete Storlie
<b>Lakeville Fire:</b>	Clerks	Pete Storlie
<b>Compliance Official:</b>	Clerks	Cory Behrendt
<b>Dakota County Sheriff:</b>	Clerks	Dan Ames
<b>IT Consultant:</b>	Clerks	Cory Behrendt
<b>Town Hall:</b>	Clerks	Mark Ceminsky
<b>Vermillion Watershed:</b>	Clerks	Carrie Jennings
<b>Progressive Rail:</b>	Clerks	Carrie Jennings
<b>Attorney:</b>	Mark Ceminsky	Pete Storlie
<b>Professional Services:</b>	Pete Storlie	Carrie Jennings
<b>Roads:</b>	Mark Ceminsky	Dan Ames
<b>Road Committee:</b>	Mark Ceminsky	Clerks
<b>Weed Inspector:</b>	TBD	
<b>Wetlands/DNR:</b>	Carrie Jennings	

The Town Board discussed the role of Road Liaison and Road Supervisor, and how it has functioned since the previous road superintendent resigned. Concerns were raised regarding unclear role definition, including authority for decision-making, handling of emergency vs. non-emergency issues, and expectations for inspections and contractor communication. It was noted that emergency spending authority had been limited, while non-emergency work is brought before the Board. The need for a clear and consistent process for managing road issues and communication was emphasized. The Town Board agreed to further define the role and responsibilities and will place this item on the April agenda for additional discussion.

Currently there is not a Road Committee. The Town Board agreed that if the committee was reestablished, the Town Board would need to evaluate the purpose and expectations of the committee.

None of the Town Board members volunteered to be the Weed Inspector. The Town Board agreed to offer the position to the Planning Commission and discuss it at the Round Table meeting.

Airlake Airport (ALLAC) The Town Board was informed that a Township resident has previously expressed interest in serving on a committee and has relevant experience in aviation and airport operations. The Town Board directed Clerk/Treasurer Atwater to reach out to the individual to have them attend the April Town Board meeting. Supervisor Behrendt expressed interested in being part of this group. The Town Board will also engage with the Planning Commission at the Round Table meeting for any interest.

Supervisor Jennings expressed interest in serving as the watershed liaison. The Board discussed current representation, noting the Township has a designated manager and alternate, and that any changes should be communicated to those individuals. It was also noted that Commissioners Melanie Storlie and Brian Storlie will be informed that Supervisor Jennings will serve as the primary liaison, while they are welcome to continue attending meetings.

#### Conflict of Interest

The Town Board discussed the conflict of interest (C6000) from the MAT website. It was clarified that the Township is governed by law and statutes regarding Supervisors who have a financial interest in a proposed contract with the Town. The Supervisor must recuse themselves from the vote and the remaining Supervisors must a resolution with a unanimous vote.

#### Board Policies

The Town Board reviewed the following policies: Attorney Engagement Policy, Citizen Complaint Policy (Ordinance), Complaint Policy Against an Employee, Policy on Citizen Input and Conduct at Township meetings, Eureka Township Policy on providing access to the Town's Public Information, Policy on Dumping on Town Property, Rebuild in case of Destruction, Policy on Meeting Recordings, and Financial Policies.

#### Opinion Statement

The Town Board reviewed and understood the Opinion Statement.

Designation of Township Attorneys

The Town Board agreed to continue with Town Law Center as their general counsel and violation litigation attorneys.

Training Opportunities

MAT has classes on various subjects and MAT University is online for free.

List of Officers

Clerk/Treasurer Atwater will send the form to MAT.

Agenda and Consent Items

The Town Board discussed placing routine items such as meeting minutes, recommending applications from the Planning Commission, and certain CUP/IUP reviews on the consent agenda to streamline meetings. It was agreed that any Board member may remove an item from the consent agenda if questions or concerns arise. Staff will notify applicants that their item will be placed on the consent agenda, attendance is not required, but they may be asked to attend a future meeting if questions do arise.

Township Emails

The Town Board reviewed an option to use generic email addresses (e.g., "supervisor1") instead of individual names to assist with future transitions. The Board expressed a preference to maintain the current process using individual email accounts and did not support making a change.

**Adjournment**

*Motion:* Vice Chair Storlie moved to adjourn the meeting. Chair Ceminsky seconded the motion.  
*Motion carried 5-0.*

The meeting adjourned at 8:32pm.

Respectfully submitted, \_\_\_\_\_



Liz Atwater, Town Clerk

Minutes Officially Approved By: Mark Ceminsky on: 4-14-24  
Town Chair Date