



Regular Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, April 23, 2025, 7:00PM

The Orrock Township Board met in regular session, on Wednesday, April 23rd, 2025 at Orrock Town Hall, 26401 180th Street NW, Big Lake, MN.

In attendance were Chair Anne Felber, Supervisors: Paul Ellinger, Bryan Adams, Dalton Keiderling and Peter Owen, Treasurer Kellie McConville and Clerk Shelley Erickson. Also, in attendance were Sergeant Alex Dehn, Kevin Krueger - Town Engineer, 4 audience members and the Patriot News.

A quorum was present and the meeting was called to order by Chair Anne Felber at 7:00 PM.

Call Meeting to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Attendees were asked to rise and remove cover for the pledge of allegiance. Anne Felber acknowledged that it was Administrative Professionals Day and thanked the elected officials who do administrative work for their service.

Approval of April Meeting Agenda

Anne Felber proposed two additions to the agenda: 1) a request by the clerk and treasurer to discuss the audit and help with the audit, to be added under item 7f, and 2) a discussion about trails and the comp plan, to be added under 4A under the sheriff's report.

Motion to approve the April meeting agenda with the proposed additions was made by Bryan Adams and seconded by Peter Owen. The motion carried unanimously.

Approve Consent Agenda

Bryan Adams requested to pull the payroll item from the consent agenda and move it to the treasurer's business section.

Motion to approve the consent agenda, including routine claims with the exception of putting item B (payroll) to be moved to the treasurer's report, was made by Bryan Adams and seconded by Paul Ellinger. The motion carried unanimously.

Sheriff's Report

The sheriff's deputy reported that in March 2025, there were 140 calls for service in Orrock Township. Notable incidents included:

- Two stop arm violations, one resulting in a verbal warning and the other in a citation.
- A theft report of survey equipment that was later recovered.
- Three dog complaints, with one owner cited for ordinance violations.
- Four traffic complaints, including an incident in the sand dunes DNR state land.
- A garbage littering incident at a refuge lot.
- A large campfire incident at the Saint Francis River boat launch, resulting in citations for underage drinking.
- A suspicious activity call that was resolved without incident.

The deputy also reported 58 traffic stops and emphasized that most calls for service were proactive and deputy initiated.

Trails Discussion

Commissioner Gregg Felber discussed the issue of trails in the county's comprehensive plan. He explained that there are over 30 miles of potential trails planned, which could cost between \$30-40 million. Felber expressed concerns about the impact on habitat, recreational use of ditches, and the economic implications. He sought input from the board on whether they support these trail plans. Board members expressed concerns about the feasibility of some proposed trail locations, particularly along County Road 75. They discussed the potential impact on local businesses that rely on ATV and snowmobile traffic. The board had concerns about the trail development in the township.

Open Forum

There were no speakers for the open forum.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

March Monthly Meeting

Motion to approve the March monthly meeting minutes was made by Dalton Keiderling and seconded by Paul Ellinger. The motion carried unanimously.

Annual Local Board of Appeal and Equalization

Motion to approve the Annual Local Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting minutes was made by Peter Owen and seconded by Paul Ellinger. The motion carried unanimously.

Regular Business

Handyman Services Contract Renewal – Discuss/Action

The board discussed the renewal of Darryl Waletzko's handyman contract. Clerk Erickson explained that the contract didn't require any changes due to the amount being less than \$25,000. The board discussed clarifying who can give direction to the handyman, suggesting the addition of the clerk and road authority to those who can assign work.

Motion to approve the handyman services contract at \$65 per hour with Darryl Waletzko, with the addition of allowing the clerk and road authority to assign work, was made by Anne Felber and seconded by Bryan Adams. The motion carried unanimously.

Snowplow Renewal Amendment – Discuss/Action

The board reviewed the snowplow contract renewal for Darryl Waletzko. Some price changes were noted: pickup with V plows increased from \$90 to \$95, truck with plow and wing increased from \$100 to \$125 an hour, and salt and sand road trucks decreased from \$115 to \$100.

Motion to extend the snowplow contract for the subsequent season of 2025-2026, with the noted price changes was made by Bryan Adams and seconded by Dalton. The motion carried unanimously.

Technology and Data Security Updates – Discuss/Action

The board discussed obtaining quotes for IT services. Two proposals were presented: one from NetVPro and another from DATASuccess. After extensive discussion about the scope of services and costs, the board decided to have both companies provide initial consultations.

Motion to have Data Success and NetVPro come in for step 1 consultation, with a cap of \$500 for Data Success (NetVPro offered this service for free), was made by Dalton Keiderling and seconded by Anne Felber. The motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Compensation – Discuss/Action

The board reviewed the current compensation structure for supervisors and compared it to other Townships in Sheburne County. After discussion, they decided to increase compensation for the chair and road authority positions.

Motion to set compensation at \$175 per month for the chair and road authority, and \$150 per month for other supervisors, with the \$20 hourly rate applying only to trainings, beginning in the month of May 2025, was made by Anne Felber and seconded by Dalton Keiderling. The motion carried unanimously.

Prairie Restorations – What's Next in 2025? – Discuss/Action

The board discussed the maintenance requirements for the prairie restoration project. The proposal from Prairie Restorations included three site visits per year at \$925 per visit. Board members expressed concern about the high cost and requested more information before making a decision.

Gopher Bounty Resolution – Information

Anne Felber informed the board about the county's gopher bounty program. The township can now participate and receive reimbursement for gopher bounties paid. The process for collecting and reporting gopher feet was discussed.

ATV Complaints - Discussion

Bryan Adams reported receiving complaints about ATVs in ditches. The board reviewed regulations regarding ATV use in ditches, noting that they are closed from April 1 to August 1. The information is available on the township and sheriff's office websites.

Request for Audit Consultation

Clerk Erickson and Treasurer McConville requested that the Board finalize the terms of agreement and sign a consulting contract with the former Clerk Weber to assist with the final audit if assistance is

needed via email and phone call at the amount of \$50.00 per hour, in 15 minute increments up to \$500.00.

Motion was made by Paul Ellinger and seconded by Bryan Adams. Anne Felber opposed. The motion passed with majority vote.

Roads

West Eagle Lake Road Meeting Report – Discuss/Action

Kevin Krueger reported on the West Eagle Lake Road project meeting. The plan is to widen the road to a consistent 22-foot width, potentially using curb and gutter in steep areas to manage water flow. The board discussed concerns about tree removal and agreed that the road committee should be involved in those decisions. Kevin Krueger agreed to provide more details about tree removal plans at the next meeting.

Board Business/Updates – Committee Reports

Adams

Bryan Adams reported on the recent SCAT meeting, highlighting discussions on MAT increasing dues, a pending lawsuit, paid medical leave concerns, the Mississippi River Crossing study, and tornado siren maintenance issues.

Ellinger

Paul Ellinger attended a meeting with the township clerk and representative of NetVPro. He also indicated that he had spoken to the representatives of the city of Big Lake, Livonia Township, and Big Lake Township about their technology support.

Felber

Anne Felber reported attending various community events, including a commissioner dinner, a masquerade gala for a domestic violence crisis line, and a Wheels of Honor benefit for veterans.

Owen

Owen reported attending his first zoning meeting as a zoning representative.

Keiderling

Keiderling gave an update on the Ross family road question.

Treasurer Business

Cash Control Statement and Investment Update - Approve

The treasurer presented the cash control statement and investment update, showing balances in various accounts.

Motion to approve the cash control statement and investment update was made by Bryan Adams and seconded by Dalton Keiderling. The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report - Approve

The treasurer presented the report with details on various general ledger accounts.

Motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Paul Ellinger and seconded by Bryan Adams. The motion carried unanimously.

Report of March Sherburne State Bank Securities Pledge Validation - Review

The treasurer presented the monthly pledge report for Sherburne State Bank.

Payroll Approval

The board discussed changes to the payroll, including the removal of a \$40 charge for a meeting attendance.

Motion to approve the payroll with the discussed changes was made by Dalton Keiderling and seconded by Bryan Adams. The motion carried unanimously.

Announcements

- May Board Meeting – Wednesday, May 28th @ 7PM
- Recycle Day – Saturday, May 17th – 8AM-1PM – Town of Big Lake Maintenance Building
- Township Legal Seminar – Sept. 13, 2025 – 9AM – 4PM – Glen-Kimberly Town Hall - Aitkin County
- SWCD Rain Barrel Sale information was shared

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Peter Owen and seconded by Dalton Keiderling. The motion carried unanimously.

The April monthly meeting was adjourned at 9:19PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Shelley Erickson
Orrock Township Clerk

Accepted this **28th day of May, 2025**, by the Orrock Township Board of Supervisors.

Anne Felber, Chairperson

Attest: _____
Town Clerk