

MINUTES OF ARBELA TOWNSHIP REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

January 12th, 2026

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Edward Hunt at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Present –Beth Duet, Jody Hunt, Tim Anderson, and Ed Hunt Absent: Gary Woelzlein

MOTION: By Jody Hunt to approve the minutes of the December 8th, 2025 meeting

SUPPORT: Tim Anderson, motion carried

MOTION: By Tim Anderson to approve the payment of bills and payroll

SUPPORT: Beth Duet, motion carried

Supervisor, Ed Hunt, gave the fire report. Next meeting is January 20, 2026. There have been 2 major house fires recently so the budget has not been worked on recently but it will be worked on soon.

Supervisor, Ed Hunt, gave police report. There were 41 traffic stops in the month of December with 12 citations issued. 2 traffic violations were motorists were driving 80mph or more on Birch Run Rd. 1 criminal charge as a result of a criminal investigation upon making a traffic stop. There were 2 arrests for outstanding warrants as a result of other traffic stops. 1 felony arrest was made in the month of December. There were several other non-criminal calls for service, including responding to traffic hazards, responding to a residential alarm, assisting local medical and fire services and reuniting a lost dog with its owner. There were 5 crash investigations with 2 being property damage crashes with no occupants injured. 1 personal injury crash, with a motorist failing to yield to another motorist at Bray and Birch Run Rd. 1 car vs deer crash and 1 no damage accident with a car in the ditch. 2 of these crashes were during a period of time with inclement weather. Deputy Fini encourages motorists to remember to use increased caution when driving on the roadways during winter months with snow and ice covered roads to avoid going off the roadway or colliding with other vehicles.

Supervisor, Ed Hunt, gave a road report. The Gunnel Road ditch project will be taking bids on Drainage Design on January 15th, 2026. The Wilkinson project will be on the February Agenda. The reimbursement form for the 2025 mowing was sent off for the township to get back.

Supervisor, Ed Hunt, gave an update on building and grounds. Nothing specific at this time other than the items that are already on the agenda to be discussed further down.

NEW BUSINESS:

Carbon Monoxide Detectors: The township had Sonitrol quote us for 4 carbon monoxide detectors. They returned the quote to us for 4 detectors in the amount of \$2,294.92 for instal. This monitoring will

be covered by the existing Sonitrol monitoring that we currently have for the alarm system. Discussing was had that this would be an optimal idea because the township has rentals in here, and the township would not like anything to happen while a large group of people were present in the building.

MOTION: By Jody Hunt to have Sonitrol to install 4 Carbon Monoxide detectors for the amount of \$2,294.92

SUPPORT: Tim Anderson, motion carried.

Insulation proposal: Ed called 4 different companies to come out and give us quotes regarding installing insulation in the office and entrance areas of the township building.

1 he called, they called back and was never heard from again

1 he called, they scheduled to come out, but never showed up

1 he called, and they declined to give the township a quote instead they wanted to just put the township on the schedule to be installed.

1 he called, they came out, looked at the building and asked what our needs were and gave an estimate.

They would prefer to have done blown insulation, however, we do not have the correct infrastructure in the ceiling to support the blown insulation. Discussion was had that putting more insulation will ease the burden on the aging furnace. New insulation would also help with the ice damming on the roof and keep things warmer in the offices.

MOTION: By Beth Duet to Accept the estimate from Advanced for \$7,745.21 for work on the township hall

SUPPORT: Jody Hunt, Roll call vote; Tim Anderson, yes; Jody Hunt, yes; Beth Duet, yes; Ed Hunt, yes, motion carried.

Road and Budget Meeting Date: Discussion was had that the next township meeting is February 9, 2026 and 2 weeks later would be February 23, 2026 which would give the township enough time to get the meeting notification published in the newspaper

MOTION: By Tim Anderson to set the Road and Budget meeting date for February 23, 2026 at 6:00 pm

SUPPORT: Jody Hunt, motion carried.

Holiday Closures 2026: The proposed holiday closure schedule was reviewed and discussion was had to include Juneteenth, but was ultimately decided that the township would not include that in the closure schedule. Ed included all the holidays on the schedule even if they fell on Saturdays so that those would not be forgotten the following year.

MOTION: By Jody Hunt to approve the holiday closure schedule as printed

SUPPORT: Tim Anderson, motion carried.

Meeting Dates 2026: The proposed schedule of Township board meeting dates were looked over, none of the dates occur on any major holidays

MOTION: By Beth Duet to accept the meeting schedule as printed

SUPPORT: Tim Anderson, motion carried.

Gas Milage Rate 2026: Discussion was had about the gas milage rate fluctuating during the year, 2025 rate was \$.70 per mile the current federal rate is \$.72 ½ per mile for 2026.

MOTION: By Jody Hunt to follow the new feral gas rate of \$.72 ½

SUPPORT: Tim Anderson, motion carried.

Board of Review Poverty Exemption Guidelines: Discussion on the guideline resolution for poverty exemption was had. These are the same standards as the township has had in the past. It follows the federal poverty guidelines.

MOTION: By Jody Hunt to adopt the Guideline Resolution For Poverty Exemption

SUPPORT: Tim Anderson, Roll call vote; Tim Anderson, yes; Jody Hunt, yes; Beth Duet, yes; Ed Hunt, yes, motion carried.

Solar Escrow Bills: Ed read emails from Hope Winkler about solar escrow reimbursement and some of the charges they would be disputing. Then Ed read some emails from Kyle from FSBP about the directions that can be taken by the township. Ed read his reply to Kyle about what Ed thinks about the charges and that the options would be discussed at the January board meeting.

MOTION: By Jody Hunt to proceed with presenting Ranger Power for the disputed charges for \$4,732.50.

SUPPORT: Tim Anderson Roll call vote; Tim Anderson, yes; Jody Hunt, yes; Beth Duet, yes; Ed Hunt, yes, motion carried.

Bill Lutz County Commissioner: The county commissioners are adamant that the Road Commission makes intersection changes and makes them immediately and that there were talks about disbanding the Road Commission. Ed wanted Bill to show up to the township meeting to explain what is going on and how it would impact the township, because our road contract is with the Road Commission and not the County Commission. However, Bill called Ed on Friday evening explaining that he was not going to be able to make it to the township meeting.

Citizen Comments:

Merrie Whiting inquired if the township had heard anything from Ranger Power about them applying to the state yet. The township has not.

MOTION: By Jody Hunt to adjourn at 6:43pm

SUPPORT: Tim Anderson, motion carried

Beth Duet

Arbela Township Clerk