

Meeting Minutes of the Town of Dewhurst Regular Supervisors Meeting
Tuesday, March 4, 2025 – 7:00 PM (CST)
Town of Dewhurst – Town Hall

Board members present: Bill Kolve, Chairman; Bruce Delaney, Supervisor 1; Troy Wyss, Supervisor 2; Kelly Errthum, Clerk

Town of Dewhurst Employees present: Don Subke

Citizens present: Gene O'Brien, Chuck & Marie Kaufman, Nate Vandeberg, Dave & Shirley Baumeister, Paul Stearns, Diana Laufenberg, Tim Marek, Don Subke, Steve Errthum, Richard Johnson, Duane Gjersteth, Paul Sullivan, Steve Kunes, (Note: if you did not sign in (or your name was illegible), your attendance will not be documented.)

Call to Order: Bill Kolve called the Regular Monthly Supervisors meeting to order at 7:00 PM (CST).

Approval of Agenda:

*Motion to approve the agenda by Troy Wyss; second to the motion: Bruce Delaney

*Motion carried: 3/0

Approval of Minutes:

Meeting minutes from 2/11/2025 – Monthly Supervisor's Meeting

*Motion to approve the minutes from the 2/11/2025 – Monthly Supervisor's Meeting by Troy Wyss; second to the motion Bruce Delaney

*Motion carried: 3/0

Treasurer's Report: Kelly read in the current numbers for the accounts as follows:

Beginning Balance:	\$1,117,666.74
Deposits:	\$ 249,483.46
Interest Deposit:	\$ 781.84
Transfers	\$(1,019,100.00)
Disbursements:	\$(1,029,675.49)
Ending Balance:	\$ 338,505.12

*Motion to approve the Treasurer's report by Bruce Delaney; second to the motion: Troy Wyss

*Motion Carried: 3/0

Camera Update: Bruce indicated that a meeting needs to be set up with Chris Wruck to go over the install and technology. This would allow everyone to get on board with it and understand what is needed. Bill Kolve asked if a meeting should be set up to have Chris come to the Town Hall and go over everything. Bruce also addressed the fees that would be associated with the recordings that it can only be the amount of money that the township would incur (actual cost). Troy Wyss had a question regarding the internal cameras that they were talked about and wanted to confirm if the item while discussed, was actually voted on and approved. He wanted to know if it needed to be readdressed and voted on? Bill indicated that it was voted on at the previous meeting as it was listed in the notes. Troy, then stated that he didn't see it. Troy then clarified that the meeting/inquiry would be for the operational side of how the cameras work. Bruce clarified operational and the meeting broadcast. Troy remembered that there were fees and it was clarified that it was for the purchase/install of the indoor camera. Troy then stated that he remembered the fee and that if the fee was approved then the concept was also approved. Bill clarified that the approval to move forward with the cameras earlier after a few people from the township lunged at the board. Troy asked if it was the same meeting. Bill stated it was a different meeting. Troy remembers approving it but not voting on it and got it in the minutes. Bruce remembers it being in there with the cost. Troy just wanted to ensure that it was in the meeting minutes. Troy then asked if it is installed and the use is unclear at this time. Bill stated we have to walk through it. Bill stated that Kelly Errthum is the only one that has been down at the town hall. Kelly then stated that she has met with Chris and gone over the technology. She indicated that there is a conflict with it was it would split the screen and that there would be less viewing space for the actual attendees. She would like to work with Chris to manipulate that so that we would still gain all of the space for viewing and not lose the access to GoogleMeet to avoid potential issues. Bill then clarified that Kelly was talking about the camera mounted on the TV and that is different than the camera located in the middle of the room for surveillance. The one on the TV will split the screen for streaming the meeting/showing items to the audience. Bill stated that the camera may need to move to the back/center of the room to see the board. The inside camera, will review the entire room much like the cameras on the outside of the building. The inside camera just has video there is no audio. Troy asked if a meeting should be set up with Chris to come early to the next meeting or after the next meeting as there could be a shift in board members. He indicated that his seat would definitely have a change and to teach him to use the cameras wouldn't do any good. However, teaching the next guy to use the cameras would make much more sense. Kelly stated that she believed that the intent to get Chris here was to further the documentation to make a smooth transition. Bruce reminded the board of the requirement to hold the recordings for 90 days. Troy indicated that the cost discussed at the last meeting of \$300 (some odd bucks) was for the larger DVD to hold the recordings. Bruce asked if we have him come after the April 1st election or before? Troy indicated it would make more sense after April 1st as then we would know who to train. Bruce stated not so much 'training' but how the system works. Troy stated that it will be training as also Kelly will not be in the position after the April meeting as both will be replaced. Bill stated he will set something up potentially the week before the election. Bill is going to stop over and talk to Chris and will set something up between the 7th and 11th of April and invite all new board members. Troy asked if it would be shut down for voting. Bill stated that it will be fully shut down during the voting. Troy asked if someone knows how to do that or if Chris does that. Kelly indicated that she knows how to do that and will make sure it is done. Bill asked if there was any voting needed and Troy confirmed that the action item on that was to set up the training.

Junk Ordinance (attachment 1): Bill Kolve gave the floor to Diana Laufenberg who let attendees know if they wanted copies of the ordinance, Kelly Errthum had some at the table for them. She then stated she would not read the entire document. She then outlined what the document contains such as the definitions of what qualifies as junk, what happens when you are in violation, and the flow of notice, given 30 days to correct, if you do not either fix it or make a plan with the board within those 30 days there is a fine structure that starts to go into effect. The fees are \$500 for the first after 30 days and no action has taken place or no plan has been into play, after that it is \$1,000. The ordinance is an attempt to be proactive so that we are not put in situations like we are currently in down on Riviera that has been years long. It is meant to be proactive. This is meant to help the community understand the expectations within the community and to meet them. Rather than to get “managed by not meeting them”. She indicated that the ordinance has been passed by the lawyer on two different occasions and he provided the “legal-eze” to allow the ordinance to be enforceable and legal. The committee met four (4) different times to work on various parts of the document. They have met the last two (2) times with the new members (Randy and Ralph) and everyone kicked this around to make sure it was clear and concise. Diana then presented the document to the board. She stated she was unsure on the ordinance numbering. It was clarified that it would be year first and then numeric numbering. In this instance it would be 2025-01. Troy stated that the committee has spent a lot of time on this and it has come down to a three (3) page document and that it looks reasonable and enforceable to him. Bill stated that prior to approval, the board needed to come up with a date with a leeway on it. Bruce stated that in instances where an ordinance contains a “fine” that a minimum of 30 days has be provided. For instance, if it was passed today, it would not be effective until 30 days after. Diana is that is why the ‘effective date’ was left blank on the document. The committee is open to whatever the board would like to choose. She indicated that it makes sense during the annual/bi-annual scan of the roads to include this as part of the “observation” and make note of any properties that may have issues. Troy asked for a start date on the document, put it in the paper and have a May 1st effective date? Bill agreed that this should go to the paper as soon as possible. Bill also stated that there are a few properties that should be given notice that there are some things that need to be cleaned up. Bill was considering putting it in the paper asap. Troy suggested May 1st as that would give them a month and a half after the paper? Diana stated then they would have another 30 days past that to potentially make a plan as someone may see the notice and reach out to make a plan knowing they could not meet the deadline. Diana indicated that this isn’t meant to feel that “we are guns loaded”. It is more here’s awareness and then someone may just come proactively that they know they won’t meet the May 1st deadline and can we work on a plan? Here is why this isn’t going to work in the short time as they may need to have someone trained, vehicles moved, etc. Troy also stated that they may only be able to haul so much at a time etc. Diana stated that this provides a function for someone who cannot make the 30 days to allow them to proactively come to the board and propose a plan rather than wait. Bill then opened up the floor to citizen input on the effective date. Steve Kunes stated that it was his concern at the ordinance committee that we are going from nothing to “quote Diana ‘guns loaded’”. He suggested July 1st to allow a good amount of time to be aware of the ordinance, plan in their own heads what they could do, and then plan on if they could do it. Troy indicated that this would also allow folks to get past the “sloppy fields” and whatnot. Steve indicated that it should go on the website, anywhere it can be published where everyone can look at it. Marie Kaufman indicated that there are a lot of ways you can look at it as a lot of them have known this for years. She agreed with a certain amount of leeway

however; at some point they just need to be done with it. Troy stated giving them time to get it out of the wet/frozen ground does make sense. Bruce suggested June 1st with the idea that they would then have the 30 days or beyond that with a plan to correct. Bill stated that prior to the meeting he had put a date down and he agrees with Steve that July 1st seems reasonable. But prior to July 1st Bill would like to see copies of the ordinance sent out to folks in the area that already have issues in case they missed it in the paper. This would give them notice ahead of time to ensure they are aware of it. Diana asked if it could be mentioned again at the upcoming town meeting in April for awareness. Bill agreed that it could be brought up and by then it should be in the paper as well. Bill stated that it probably wouldn't hurt to bring it up at every meeting for a while to mention the new junk ordinance and it will be enforced July 1. Bill asked that it be put at different locations such as the board by the dump etc.

*Motion to approve the junk ordinance with an effective date of July 1, 2025 by Troy Wyss, second to the motion Bruce Delaney

*Motion carried: 3/0

Emergency Operations Plan (attachment 2): Troy Wyss indicated that he has spent some time to figure out what would happen in the event of an emergency. There was a plan put together for the town of Mentor that was brought to his attention and he took some time to modify and adjust to our information. The whole idea of the emergency operations plan to have this published and available to the public on the website is so that if there is something that is considered an emergency/problem going on, there is a chain of command on who has to notify whom, phone numbers, who the people are in the county/within the town, name of the fire chief etc. There is also a grid on the escalation points. There is also a listing of radio station is that would be used for updates and believe it is WWIS and WEAU for tv station. This is a plan for what we would do if all the right people were here in town however, the right people are not always going to be in town. Things are going to change on the board as he won't be on the board and so on. So, he put together a multi-page plan that goes through and pretty much lays out a complete and cohesive plan that can be followed in the event of an emergency. It may not go that smoothly based on the emergency but, at least all of the information would be in one place. It would list the type of equipment that would be available from the township but, also from the county as another section. So, as the town of Mentor had a nice document, he took it and modified it using the information he had for our township. He has sent it back and forth between the group to try and get the information together. There are still a few things that have to be decided if they want to be included like emergency contacts but overall, his recommendation is it is ready to be published knowing that it will be a living document that will have changes. For instance, next month some of the contacts will change, adjustments to roadways etc. may change. it shouldn't be a lot of upkeep.

*Motion to adopt and publish the Emergency Operations Document to the website so that others in the community know what should be happening in case of emergency and so that the town board and others named in the document know what their expectations/responsibilities are by Troy Wyss; second to the motion: Bruce Delaney

*Motion carried: 3/0

Community Wildfire Protection Plan (attachments 3 & 4): Troy introduced the fact that he has been working with the DNR and the county to come up with something from previous meetings in our ability to behave/respond/be ready to minimize the threat of fire danger in our community. He has previously going down the path for the Community Wildfire Protection Plan because there was one done in 2010 when Helen was the representative of the town. He stated that six or seven people met a few times and kicked out an 83-page document that Levis adopted but didn't maintain. So, they have dropped off that as well. At that time the town of Dewhurst decided not to adopt their plan. So, he was going down the path to get that updated and Dewhurst included within that. All was going well until yesterday when he spoke to Amy Penn from the DNR that they are not going to do the Community Wildfire Preparation Planning for Dewhurst. However, what they would like to do is expand the Hatfield Wildfire Preparation Plan to include Dewhurst if the board thinks it is a task worth doing. So, Troy shared that the Lake Association was a key player in the creation of the document and Ralph is named as a participant within the document. The people who live on the roads right along the lake are currently included within the plan. But it doesn't include the rest of the town. So, there is a map within the document, that indicates the very small distance of the lake. The Lake Association was interested in making sure that those homes around the lake were included in the plan. But they didn't expand at that time to reach beyond that. There were actions that they had set up for instance going door to door to ensure that folks didn't have firewood stacked up next to their house. Troy indicated that Amy actually attended a meeting about a year ago to discuss this but, he didn't put it all together until Amy's recent conversation. She further explained that they aren't doing the "large 83" page document that is difficult to maintain and are going with the other 20+ page document if Dewhurst is interested, they would like to expand to include Dewhurst and not just the Lake Association roads etc. Diana Laufenberg asked if the current plan included Jackson County. Troy explained that the Lake Association does go into Jackson County just a bit. It surrounds the lake so for this instance, "Hatfield" was reference as the houses around the lake including Clark and Jackson counties. Amy is very interested if "we" are interested to expand this to all of Dewhurst. Troy does feel that in his opinion it is worth pursuing as there are little things you can do to make sure your neighbors don't burn you down even if they are not on the lake. He did feel that this would be worthwhile to do. This would be another document to put on the website for people to look at/review. This smaller document would be a lot less invasive on time for people and people could leverage the previous document to include Dewhurst. He likes the plan that was recently presented versus the one that he has had for the last few months,

Prior to the motion second, Bruce Delaney asked what would Dewhurst responsibilities and expectations be for someone to take this on. Troy indicated that a person or two would need to spend a couple of meetings with the DNR and the county, talk about what has been done previously, review action items that were put together with the people on the lake, expand or contract it for the town of Dewhurst. This would require some meetings and a few hours and then have that shared/ published with the public. Bruce indicated that it is a lot of our "outlying" areas of town. Troy indicated that it didn't come to the town hall. The town hall is listed as a place where things could get done but, not listed on the plan. Most of the work that has been done in the Hatfield plan is fairly recent. The plan was done in 2022/2023 and not a lot of updates have been done since then. If Ralph Johnson was available, he would maybe be able to provide further updates. However, as this just came up over the last 24 hours, he was not able to get in contact with Ralph. Troy will get back to Amy and let her know that the board is

interested in pursuing the addition of the Dewhurst into the document. Troy indicated that they (the DNR) are busy during the 1st and 2nd quarter of the year getting ready for the fire season so, there will be new people on the board and work can be done after the election. But it made sense to set the stage to move forward.

*Motion to Dewhurst to work with the DNR to include Dewhurst in the Hatfield Firewise Protection Plan by Troy Wyss; second to the motion by Bruce Delaney

*Motion carried: 3/0

Land Use Permit: Bill Kolve introduced that a land use permit application was received within the last week.

Road Report: Bill asked Don Subke if there were any updates to be provided. Don stated that the roads are in pretty good shape. The weight restriction will be going on next Tuesday, March 11th. Troy indicated that surrounding communities have already put theirs into place. Don stated that he talked to Bill and he confirmed the date. Don indicated that the property with the junk on Riviera has tires all the way out to the road. He asked if they should push them back onto their property. Bill indicated that they should be pushed back to the right-a-way of the road. Troy asked if they were put there to load them or have, they been sitting there for a while? Don indicated that they have been there all winter. Don indicated that when he has plowed, he has had to pull out and go around them to avoid hitting them and damaging the wing. Bill reconfirmed that they should be pushed back.

Dump Report: Don Subke indicated that he will see what happens tomorrow with the projected snow if he can get the dump cleared by 3pm. He will try to get it plowed by then. Diana Laufenberg asked if the dump hours were going to be changing for Wednesday? She indicated that in the past, the hours have changed with the time change. Bill indicated that there would be no change at this time. The hours will remain 3pm-6pm for now. Don stated that the town of Levis requires an annual fee of \$40 and users of the dump must present their laminated dump card for access. Bill indicated that Dewhurst currently has a “green card” that was distributed.

Citizens’ Concerns:

Diana Laufenberg – Wanted to update the LIRF – the process does start this summer and that this is a cost sharing reimbursement program from the state for the municipalities to get up to 50% reimbursement on road projects that are pre-approved through this process. The process will kick in starting this summer and be due by November which is the window for action. She does think it would be a good idea to start thinking of what projects we would like to identify and be in a cost sharing situation. Again, the project has to be paid for initially and then be reimbursed. She was unsure where the finances were in order to front the projects. That could play into how large of a project would be considered. They run on a two (2) year cycle so, every two (2) years you can apply for a new project. Troy asked what the size limit would be. Diana stated that she didn’t know if there is a specific limit. She stated that over \$2M in projects were approved in the last cycle for Clark County. Levis and Mentor got monies from this program. Some were very small in size \$10-20k and some were over a \$1M. Troy stated that communities would maybe have to “gamble” if they were going to get the money? Diana stated that the reimbursement is pretty well laid out and that she wasn’t as worried about that as she would be about detail that would be involved in the planning process. Once the money has been paid out and you have the “ducks in a row”, she felt it was just a clerical situation and didn’t think it was super difficult.

She has not heard of any concerns with the payment process. The issue is more about how you are keeping diligent records so that when it comes time to submit for reimbursement, all of the required documents are there. Bruce asked if this was for 2025? Diana went on to explain that the process is based on fiscal years (July 1-Jun 30) so, they are finishing up the current fiscal year. So, the process would be for the 2026/2027 projects. That is for the “approval”/funding cycle. There is more time allotted to complete the project. She also wanted to bring up a concern from the ordinance committee as they revisited the “campground site” on the far side of the lake over off of Resewood. They are encouraging the board to once again reach out to the owners of the property as she stated they have advertised for campground spots on his property. The advertisement is still up on the Facebook page for a campground situation. There have been conversations among the committee that this is a clear violation of the zoning they would like to ask the board to get something in writing that they are not going to be operating that property as a campground. It is entirely likely that they initially thought they were going to do that and have heard that they cannot. However, as the advertisement is still present, it is a clear violation of residential property use.

Steve Kunes – Steve stated that he asked to be added to the agenda and was denied. He wanted to clear up some statements made to and about him in the last few months. Mr. Delaney reprimanded him for not fulfilling his commitment to the town of Dewhurst by resigning his clerk position back in November 2024. Obviously, you did not listen or read the minutes from the meeting on January 4th when he stated and he quoted “the November 2024 statue violation was the last straw in a number of times he attempted to keep the Chairman and the board consistent with state law and statutes. This was my commitment to the taxpayers in this township. Disregard for state law and my ethical values would not allow me to continue as clerk.” At this point, the Chairman cut me off. There are some misstatements and lies being told around the community. Mr. Kolve said at the March board meeting that the computer guy that some files were destroyed from the township computer. This is a misstatement. That is unethical and untrue. The only documents that were deleted were redundant, outdated, unusable. For example, notes to myself, meeting notices, non-relevant or old emails. That he wants to hire a constable at the tax payer expense. Another lie. I would however like to have appropriate county sheriff presence in Dewhurst at the appropriate time. I was told that I have suggested that Riviera Ave. should be closed down to walkers, ATV/UTV traffic and re-routed. Another lie. If you review the January 25, 2025 board minutes you will see that suggestion was made by Joe Kish. The destruction of Dewhurst files is the most concerning. This reflects on my character and borders on defamation of my character, liable, and slander.

Marie Kaufman – stated that she has seen posts on the Town of Dewhurst post them as anonymous. If you are ashamed of your name or what you are requesting, you shouldn’t be asking. This is the third time that she has seen posts with anonymous and they shouldn’t be posted until you are ready to post with your name.

Paul Sullivan – stated that he may have missed it but, wanted to know what the monthly cost of the cameras will be once they are all installed. Bruce stated that there is a yearly IT fee. However, the amount could not be remembered. The board will follow up.

Barb Kunes – Barb asked the board “Do you guys work for us or do we work for you?” Bruce asked if there was a citizen concern in that? Bill stated that we work for you. Troy reiterated the statement in saying ‘we work for you’. Bruce also stated that he works for the community. Bill

asked what was the point. Barb stated “ I hope you remember that”. Bill responded “ I hope you remember that too because I do”. Bruce stated “I certainly do as well”. He asked Barb if she had some sort of point. Asked if she could see him ok as she was pointing her camera in his direction. Bruce again asked her if she had a question.

Supervisor Reports

Bruce Delaney – Bruce didn’t have much. He spoke with Mark Radcliff (legal counsel) regarding some of the camera and junk ordinance. He was also out of town.

Troy Wyss – He had some requests for absentee ballots and stated that he didn’t do all the work but that Kelly provided the information. She has provided forms and links to the website.

Chairmans Report – Bill will be going to meet with Chris and will see how they run their meetings with their tv screens to see how it works. He will talk to Chris about setting up a meeting and coordinate a date with his schedule. Bill takes great pride in working with the community. So, if there is something that is out there, you can always give him a call. He can’t always guarantee the answer you are looking for every time. But he can look into it.

Approve and sign checks

*Motion to approve and sign checks was made by Bill Kolve; second by Troy Wyss

*Motion carried: 3/0

Adjourn

*Motion to adjourn was made by Bruce Delany; second by Troy Wyss

*Motion carried: 3/0

The meeting was officially adjourned at 7:50 PM (CST)

Minutes submitted by: Kelly Errthum, interim Town of Dewhurst Clerk