

BELLEVUE TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES

SUPERVISOR: Don Chase
CLERK: Lisa Lawitzke
TREASURER: Vickie Madry

TRUSTEE: Kyle Lang
TRUSTEE: Don Malinowski

DATE: September 16, 2025

Bellevue Township Election Commission Meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m. by Lisa Lawitzke.

Present: Don Chase, Lisa Lawitzke

Absent: Vickie Madry

The list and schedule of Election Inspectors for the Nov. 4, 2025, election, and the date and time of Oct. 13, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. for the Public Accuracy Test for that election were presented. **A motion was made by Lawitzke, seconded by Chase, to appoint the listed Election Inspectors and approve the date and time for the Public Accuracy Test for the Nov. 4, 2025, election. The motion passed unanimously.**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Bellevue Township Board Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Don Chase.

Present: Don Chase, Kyle Lang, Don Malinowski, Lisa Lawitzke

Absent: Vickie Madry

Guests: Lynn Etson (Library Director), Dan Brunner (Tax Assessor), Ryan Wilkinson (Eaton Co. Emergency Manager), Jim Mott (Eaton Co. Commissioner), Ken Winwright, Alan Szydlak

New Business: Eaton Co. Emergency Manager Wilkinson spoke about the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan (MHMP) and answered questions from the Board. **A motion was made by Lang, seconded by Chase, to approve Resolution 2025-8 to Authorize the Acceptance and Adoption of the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan (MHMP) Update. A roll call vote was taken with Malinowski, Lang, Lawitzke, and Chase voting Aye. There were no Nay votes. The motion passed unanimously.**

County Commissioner: Mott reported that at the end of September, the Planning and Zoning Dept. will cease serving the 11 townships for whom they currently administer planning and zoning services. He expects that the Zoning Ordinances will be repealed at the Eaton Co. Public Works meeting at the beginning of October. Eaton Twp. has decided to take over their own planning and zoning administration. The rest of the 11 townships would still prefer to have a contract with the county. If those townships collectively sign an agreement to pay the county for these services until they can arrange for their own P&Z departments, the Board of Commissioners will consider the temporary continuation of the department under a short-term contract. The Parks Dept. is still

planning to complete the Keehne Boardwalk project over the next couple years. Malinowski asked if renovation of the pavilion at Keehne park can be added to the list of future improvements. Mott suggested he contact the Parks Dept. director about it. The department is still looking for a mason to complete work on the Dyer Kiln project. Lawitzke mentioned that the new sign at Butler Park looks nice.

Public Comment: None.

Assessor: The transfer list for August 2025 was submitted. There were 12 transfers. Five of them were related to the same sale, with the total price and acreage duplicated in all 5. Property prices seem to be coming closer to the realistic value of properties. Chase asked if there is a way to determine who owns the driveway next to the property on Main St. that's up for auction due to tax foreclosure. A survey would probably be needed to make that determination based on the property description.

Minutes: **A motion was made by Lawitzke, seconded by Chase, to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2025, board meeting. The motion passed unanimously.**

Treasurer: A list of Bellevue Twp. bank account balances as of August 30, 2025, was submitted

Expenses: September Bills to be Paid report was submitted. **A motion was made by Chase, seconded by Malinowski, to approve the expenses for September 2025. The motion passed unanimously.**

Old Business: Resolution 2025-7 to Authorize the Eaton County Drain Commissioner to expend funds in excess of \$10,000 for the maintenance and repair of the Coburn and Martens Drain was taken up after being tabled at the August meeting. **A motion was made by Chase, seconded by Lawitzke, to approve Resolution 2025-7. A roll call vote was taken with Malinowski, Lang, Lawitzke, and Chase voting Aye. There were no Nay votes. The motion passed unanimously.**

Library: The new pencils inscribed with "Bellevue Twp. Library" and "Go Broncos!" arrived and are being handed out to patrons. The Libby service, which allows patrons to borrow e-books, has expanded to make e-books from a network of other libraries available. Library volunteers will be appearing in the Homecoming Parade on Friday and Etson will be a judge for the student float awards. The BCS superintendent has approved Etson's request to bring a laptop to school events to allow attendees to sign-up for Library cards on site. The old library email address was being discontinued by the Monroe library that created it. The new library email address is BellevueMiLibrary@gmail.com.

The auction of the tax-foreclosed property adjacent to the Library is scheduled for Thursday, August 18. A discussion was held among the Board and remaining visitors regarding the pros and cons of acquiring the property for potential expansion of the Library. The consensus among the Board was that it will not bid on the property but will express interest in acquiring it from the county or village if it is not sold at the auction. Malinowski and Lang will bring up the question of how the property could be used to the best community benefit at the next meeting of the community entities group on Sept. 30.

Fire: No report.

Roads: No report.

Supervisor/ Cemetery: Chase and Winchell are still looking into the cost of a “false set-up” for the cemetery, which would create a centrally located cement pad on which to hold all burial services at the cemetery. This would not only prevent damage from heavy equipment moving vaults and caskets around multiple times on soft ground, but it would also be a safety measure for visitors attending services, so they don’t have to walk around on the uneven ground near burial plots. Chase asked Lawitzke to look into whether a ParPlan grant might be available to cover the expense from a safety standpoint.

Clerk/Correspondence: Lawitzke asked if she should request that the Historical Society share the cost of the new HVAC system at the Library at the same 25% that they pay towards the Consumers bill and the insurance. The consensus was that since they shared the cost of the HVAC replacement the last time it occurred, it’s appropriate to make that request again.

Public comment: None.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Submitted by Lisa Lawitzke
Bellevue Township Clerk