

Turtle Lake Township Regular Meeting Minutes

January 5, 2026, 19143 Lake Julia Dr. NW Bemidji, MN

The regular meeting of the governing body of Turtle Lake Township, Beltrami County MN was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Michelle Anderson. Also in attendance are Vice Chair Kenneth McBride, Supervisors Leigh Sovde, Mark Haugen, Corey Wright, Treasurer Christine Malterud, Road Supervisor/Zoning Administrator Kelly Booge and Clerk Lynn Johnson. Supervisor Haugen left the meeting early.

Public Attendees

Tony Johnson, Dave Close and Kristy Roberts.

Approve Agenda

Chair Anderson asked to add Cemetery under old business. Motion to approve agenda with addition by Chair Anderson, second by Vice Chair McBride. Motion carried 4-0.

Approve Regular Meeting Minutes of December 1, 2025

Motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of December 1, 2025 by Vice Chair McBride, second by Chair Anderson. Motion carried 4-0.

Approve January 5, 2026 Treasurer's Report

Motion to approve treasurer's report of January 5, 2026 by Chair Anderson, second by Supervisor Sovde. Motion carried 4-0.

Approve and Sign Claims and Payroll

Motion to approve claims and payroll by Chair Anderson, second by Supervisor Wright. Motion carried 4-0.

OLD BUSINESS

General Road/Zoning Update

Road Supervisor/Zoning Administrator Booge reported there were two division requests in January and both were straight forward. Roads are in good shape for winter. He also met with Matt Murray about the cost of surveying a portion of Black Lake Road for recording purposes. He has not received an estimate yet. The bid schedule for Old Long Lake Road was reviewed.

Archaeologist Report

The Board received an electronic copy of the archaeologist report. Nothing of significance was found.

Durand Road Agreement

Road Supervisor Booge attended the last Durand Township meeting to discuss entering into a maintenance agreement between the two townships for Julia Way NW. Turtle Lake would maintain the road and bill Durand on an annual basis. Durand's board was unsure if the road was one of theirs and will check at the recorder's office for clarification. The road needs gravel now and should be on a ten-year plan after that. Road Supervisor Booge and Clerk will meet to draft an agreement. This will be revisited at the February 2nd meeting.

Cemetery

Sexton Anderson informed the Board that there will be a funeral on Friday February 9th. Normally burials are not allowed in the winter because of the cost of snow removal and ground thawing but the family has agreed to arrange for, and to cover the costs for these requirements so Sexton Anderson granted them permission.

NEW BUSINESS

Black Lake Road

Black Lake Road is one of the top seven roads recognized by the Board as needing work. This road needs to be surveyed and the right-of-way established and recorded. How the road is impacted by thirty-three feet from the center line will be shown by the survey. There is an original road order from the Siems property south to CSAH 22.

MAT Annual Meeting

Vice Chair McBride attend this year's meeting. Transportation funding, broadband access and annexation fairness were top topics. There are five million miles of township roads in Minnesota, with \$47,000,000.00 in state aid for local road improvements. The amount allocated for Beltrami County is less that \$15.00 per person. Broadband is not an issue in our area and neither the House nor the Senate have shown interest in discussing annexation fairness.

Construction Status Inquiry Turgi Hill Road

Johnson Construction's bond holder sent a form to be filled out with the information concerning the project's completion. This will be completed and returned as requested.

Resolution Establishing Absentee Ballot Board

Motion by Chair Anderson to approve establishing an absentee ballot board for the March 10, 2026 elections, second by Vice Chair McBride. Motion carried 4-0.

Set Date for Board of Audit

Motion by Chair Anderson to set the date for the Board of Audit meeting for February 2, 2026 at 5:30 p.m., second by Vice Chair McBride. Motion carried 4-0.

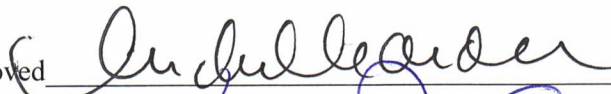
Correspondence

Christmas cards received from 1st Responders, Freeberg & Grund and Anderson Contracting. Donation request from 1st Responders.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 8:04 p.m. by Chair Anderson, second by Supervisor Sovde. Motion carried 4-0.

Approval of these Minutes from the January 5, 2026 Regular Township Meeting

Approved  Date 2/2/2026
