

TOWN of ELGIN BOARD MEETING
Elgin Township Office
729 S. McLean Blvd. Elgin, IL
Meeting of October 14, 2025, Minutes

Supervisor Tepe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Clerk Swatscheno led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Trustees Janice Bennett, Ed Hanson, Juan Silva, Carl Strathmann, and Supervisor Vern Tepe were present. **Quorum was established.**

General Announcements Supervisor: Supervisor Tepe advised he had none.

A. Recognize Public Comments:

Claire Ollayos: She introduced herself as Dr. Claire Ollayos as former ECC board member and Elgin Township resident. She expressed her concern over ICE activity: the unconstitutional detentions, searches, and violence toward Hispanic-looking or Spanish-speaking residents, including U.S. citizens. She requested that the Township board to publicly acknowledge injustice, via proclamation or statement, within its jurisdiction. She cited examples: rapid-response teams, community flyers by YWCA, Centro de Informacion, Chicago Workers Collaborative. Noted other entities (City of Elgin, School District U-46, and ECC) have posted statements. Outcome: Board will draft a draft a suitable acknowledgement by next month's meeting.

B. Approval of minutes: Supervisor Tepe recognized the quality of the minutes. September 9, 2025, Town Meeting: Motion to approve made by Trustee Bennett and seconded by Trustee Strathmann. Vote taken Ayes: Trustees Bennett, Hanson, Silva, Strathmann and Supervisor Tepe. Nays: none. Motion carried 5-0-0.

C. Reports:

1. **Supervisor Tepe read Assessor Surnicki's report:** The office handles 35K parcel. The first round of assessment objections closed with 120 appeals. Second round of appeals open until end of October.
2. **Commissioner Krabbe reported the following:**
 - a. The joint paving project with the City of Elgin has been completed, and we are just waiting for the final invoice.
 - b. Final numbers for paving Hidden Hill Subdivision have been processed and we are just waiting for County approval for the final payout.
 - c. We started the final brush pickup of the season on Monday the 13th
 - d. Purchased a new striping machine at the year-end discounted price. Redid the parking stalls in our parking lot. We are planning to make some pavement repairs and have the parking lots sealed next year.
 - e. The next step in our solar project will be an in-depth site assessment.

- f. Cleaned carpets in 2 of the Supervisor's offices and gave Jeanette's office a fresh coat of paint.
 - g. The Road District roofing projects got underway on Monday the 13th. Work is being done by Weatherguard of Elgin
- 3. **Kane County Sheriff Department Representative:** Not present.
- 4. **South Elgin Police Department Representative:** Not Present.
- 5. **Elgin Police Department Representative:** Not present.
- 6. **Committee on Seniors Report:** Trustee Bennett reported on Sept. 25th meeting: new member Maureen Riley joined the committee, and Ket Herena from Chinese Mutual Aid Association attended the last meeting. The "Discussion and Discovery" presentation regarding AI drew 60 attendees. Upcoming programs: Elgin History Museum (Oct.), Kane County Health (Nov.). Upcoming bus trips: The Cheesecake Factory (Oct. 23, 14 signed up), Royal Buffet (Nov. 13), Goebert's Christmas Show (Nov. 18). TRIAD will host an AARP fraud presentation scheduled; ECC afternoon events launching. Pet food distribution to help seniors averaging 75 seniors/month; Lending Closet storage nearing capacity. Supervisor Tepe announced that he is the honorary chair of the October 19th Crop Walk. He is matching all donations made via "Vern's Team". He also reported that there is a home-based business workshop scheduled for October 18th. The session in Spanish is cancelled due to only one registrant.
- 7. **708 Community Mental Health Board Report:** Mike Warren, vice-chair, reported that the board received \$1 million in tax revenue, and major service agreements have been awarded to AID, Easter Seals, and Ecker Center. New emergency fund created for unbudgeted agency needs; additional \$50K+ grants planned. Recommended 2026 levy: \$2 M (up from \$1 M). Legislation has now removed the PTELL cap; mental-health line item shown separately on township levy. Structure: seven-member board, part-time expert consultant, same attorney as township, funds held in township account with separate accounting. He invited trustees to attend monthly CMHB meetings The next is Oct. 15th.

D. New Business:

- 1. Item 3 on the agenda pertaining to appointment of Ed Dring is tabled to the November meeting.
- 2. Resolution 25-06: A Resolution to Change Account Primary Contact/Signer – KCT Credit Union:
 Trustee Strathmann motioned to authorize both Trustee Bennett and Supervisor Tepe as signers for KCTCU. Motion seconded by Trustee Hanson. Vote taken Ayes: Trustees Bennett, Hanson, Silva, Strathmann and Supervisor Tepe. Nays: none. Motion carried 5-0-0.
- 3. Resolution 25-07: A Resolution to Change Account Primary Contacts and/or Signers - Elgin State Bank:

Trustee Hanson motioned to authorize both Trustee Bennett and Supervisor Tepe as signers for ESB. Motion seconded by Trustee Strathmann. Vote taken Ayes: Trustees Bennett, Hanson, Silva, Strathmann and Supervisor Tepe. Nays: none. Motion carried 5-0-0.

4. Social Service Funding proposals face a total pool of \$500K for allocation. Presentations will take place at the Monday, November 10th board meeting that has a special start time of 5:00. Anticipate 30 proposals with 3-minute pitches starting at 5:30PM (basement room) for presentations and allocation discussion. Pizza will be provided.

E. Unfinished Business - Supervisor

Review & Audit Bills/Funds: The billing reports were reviewed. Trustee Hanson motioned to approve the payments, seconded by Trustee Strathmann. Vote taken Ayes: Trustees Bennett, Hanson, Silva, Strathmann and Supervisor Tepe. Nays: none. Motion carried 5-0-0.

- F. Trustee Comments:** Trustee Bennett inquired as to the status of awarding scholarships. There is a question as to the legality of offering scholarships and Supervisor Tepe advised he would have the attorneys review this.

G. Supervisor's Comments:

- Home-based business workshop: finalizing presenters after sheriff's department reorganization.
- Outreach committee to plan mental-health resources event for late February.
- Facility improvements: carpeting and paint refreshed in main office, parking lot cones flagged, boardroom tables to be revamped with new logo, roof and solar planning moving ahead.
- Employee handbook outline under review by management, to be sent to attorneys.
- Assessor's archives to be digitized next year, freeing storage space.
- New website in development.

- H. Announcements:** The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday November 10, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. at the Township Offices, 729 S. McLean Blvd., Elgin, IL 60123.

- I. Adjournment:** Trustee Strathmann moved to adjourn meeting, seconded by Trustee Bennett. Vote taken Ayes: Trustees Bennett, Hanson, Silva, Strathmann and Supervisor Tepe. Nays: none. Motion carried 5-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Clerk Swatscheno

Lois Swatscheno, Town Clerk

Date: