

Town of Black Earth  
Minutes of Town Board Meeting  
Monday, March 9, 2026

1. Meeting call to Order. Town Chair Tom Turk called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM. Supervisors Barb Parrell, Joann Bennett, Treasurer Brenda Kahl, and Clerk Stephanie Zwettler were present. Also in attendance: Steve Parrell, Chris Knipfel, and Vern Wendt.
2. Proof of Posting. An affidavit of posting was provided.
3. Approval of the Agenda. Barb Parrell moved and Joann Bennett seconded the motion to approve the agenda. Motion carried.
4. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting – February 3, 2026. Joann Bennett moved and Barb Parrell seconded the motion to approve the minutes from February 3, 2026, as presented. Motion carried. 3-0
5. Comments by Town residents – non-agenda items. Resident Vern Wendt recommended avoiding black granite on town roads and voiced his concerns that the town’s assessor is not capturing all of the recent home sales in the assessment roll.
6. Financial Report.
  - a. Money Market: \$483,683.22                      Checking: \$25,795.86
  - b. Approval of written checks. Barb Parrell moved and Joann Bennett seconded the motion to approve written checks numbered 12719-12747, including direct deposit paychecks. Motion carried.
7. Plan Commission.
  - a. Andrew Mast, north of 5250 John Wilkinson Rd – driveway construction permit. Plan Commission Chair Steve Parrell presented the Plan Commission’s recommendation to approve the driveway construction permit. Tom Turk moved and Barb Parrell seconded the motion to approve the driveway construction permit as submitted by Andrew Mast. Motion carried. 3-0
  - b. Land Use Plan amendments – updating language for Transfer of Development Rights program, Conditional Use Permits, Accessory Dwelling Units. Joann Bennett presented the Plan Commission’s discussion of the proposed amendments and its recommendation to postpone until further research can be conducted.
8. Patrolman’s Report. Clerk Stephanie Zwettler reported that Patrolman Jason Handel said roadside and brush mowing will begin on March 30.
9. DOT Road salt contract – 2026-2027. Clerk Stephanie Zwettler announced that the salt contract will be available next week.

10. Dane County bridge inspection agreement – 2026-2027. Barb Parrell moved and Joann Bennett seconded the motion to approve the Dane County Bridge Inspection agreement for 2026-2027. Motion carried. 3-0
11. Transportation Resolution – resolution for state funding of local roads. The Town Board reviewed a resolution supported by the Wisconsin Towns Association that aims to fund reconstruction, preservation, and safety investments on state and local roads. Joann Bennett moved and Barb Parrell seconded the motion to adopt Transportation Resolution No. 2026-1, as prepared. Motion carried. 3-0
12. Horribly Hilly Hundreds – event permit. The Town Board reviewed the event permit application submitted by the event organizer scheduled for Saturday, June 13, 2026, on certain roads in the Town of Black Earth. Barb Parrell moved and Joann Bennett seconded the motion to approve the Horribly Hilly Hundreds event permit, as presented. Motion carried. 2-1
13. TDS Telecom – utility work request for fiber optic cable installation at various town addresses. Barb Parrell moved and Joann Bennett seconded the motion to approve the TDS utility work permit requests at 1705 County Rd KP, 5142 and 5144 Mickelson Rd, 9533 Kahl Rd, 10712 Fesenfeld Rd, and 5364 County Rd F. Motion carried. 3-0
14. Reeve Rd bridge – update. No update this month.
15. EMS Board Report. The next meeting is Thursday, March 12, 2026.
16. Fire Board Report. The next meeting is Thursday, March 12, 2026.
17. Future agenda items.
18. Adjourn. Barb Parrell moved and Joann Bennett seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stephanie Zwettler, Town Clerk