

Town of Black Earth  
Minutes of Town Board Meeting  
Tuesday, May 6, 2025

1. Meeting call to Order. Town Supervisor Joann Bennett called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Supervisor Barb Parrell, Treasurer Brenda Kahl, and Clerk Stephanie Zwettler were present. Town Chair Tom Turk was excused. Also in attendance: Jason Handel, Chris Cole, Peter Wood, Bob and Jan Paiva, and Peter Weil.
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. 2-0
4. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting – April 10, 2025. Barb Parrell moved and Joann Bennett seconded the motion to approve the minutes from April 10, 2025, as presented. Motion carried. 2-0
5. Comments by Town residents – non-agenda items. Town residents Jan and Bob Paiva discussed traffic on Sutcliffe Road, including traffic patterns, speed, and blind spots at the end of Deneen Road. Resident Chris Cole echoed these sentiments regarding the traffic and added that walking along the town road has become dangerous. The Town Board will include this discussion on next month’s agenda.
6. Financial Report.
  - a. Money Market: \$487,194.94                      Checking: \$16,713.27
  - b. Approval of checks written. Barb Parrell moved and Joann Bennett seconded the motion to approve written checks numbered 12597-12605, including direct deposit paychecks, but excluding Oakhill Cemetery. Motion carried. 2-0
7. Patrolman’s Report. Town Patrolman Jason Handel reported that Scott Construction will be sealcoating Fesenfeld Road in May and has not yet received a schedule from Boehnen’s for the ditch work on Reeve Road.
8. Reeve Rd bridge – review draft State Municipal Agreement. The Town Board reviewed the draft SMA from WisDOT. Joann Bennett moved and Barb Parrell seconded the motion to approve the agreement and authorize Clerk Stephanie Zwettler to sign the document electronically. Motion carried. 2-0
9. Oakhill Cemetery Association – contribution. Barb Parrell moved and Joann Bennett seconded a motion to approve the contribution change to the Oak Hill Cemetery from \$600.00 to \$1000.00, which was approved by the electors at the 2025 Annual Meeting. Motion carried. 2-0

10. Fesenfeld Rd – speed board results, draft speed limit ordinance. Town Board members discussed the speed board results and the analysis provided by Dane County Sheriff Deputy Jodi Hager. Supervisor Barb Parrell concurred with the deputy's opinion that an ordinance to reduce the speed limit is not needed at this time, and commented that yellow cautionary signs could be installed to signal that a slower speed limit is recommended. The Town Board directed Clerk Stephanie Zwettler to inquire whether the speed board could be moved to Sutcliffe Road to determine if additional cautionary signs are required there as well.
11. Noise disturbance – Fesenfeld Rd – update. Clerk Stephanie Zwettler reported that Town Chair Tom Turk plans to contact the property owner for an update on the noise situation.
12. Board of Review – appoint alternates. Joann Bennett moved and Barb Parrell seconded the motion to appoint Dayna Dreis to serve as alternate for the Board of Review. Motion carried. 2-0
13. Election Security Email Domain Subgrant - .wi.gov email domain transition. The Town Board reviewed the correspondence and proposals from the technical companies offering to assist with the email domain transition. Barb Parrell moved and Joann Bennett seconded the motion to contract with Momentum Computer Solutions to set up the town's .wi.gov email domain. Motion carried. 2-0
14. Broadband internet service – TDS fiber optic cable installation project. Joann Bennett moved and Barb Parrell seconded the motion to approve the TDS Utility Work Permit to bury fiber in the right-of-way on Kahl Road north of US Highway 14.  
  
Dane County Broadband Taskforce member Peter Weil reported that he contacted TDS's State Government Affairs Representative, Angie Dickinson, for clarification of the coverage areas to be included by the AECOM grant, and is awaiting her response.
15. EMS Board Report. No report this month.
16. Fire Board Report. Supervisor Barb Parrell reported that the fire board continues to discuss purchasing a new truck, which is 4 to 6 years away.
17. Discussion of future agenda items. Fesenfeld Rd/Sutcliffe Rd speed boards, signs; Fesenfeld Rd noise complaint.
18. Adjourn. Joann Bennett moved and Barb Parrell seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stephanie Zwettler, Town Clerk