



**Village of Staplehurst**

155 South 3<sup>rd</sup> PO Box 174

Staplehurst, NE 68439

Hours: Saturdays 8AM-12PM

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## **VILLAGE OF STAPLEHURST**

### **MEETING MINUTES, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026**

The Village Board of Trustees met in regular session on March 31st, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at the Staplehurst Village Hall. Notice of this meeting was given in advance by posting in three designated places.

Chairperson Frank called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and announced that the Open Meetings Act is posted on the north wall of the meeting room for public review.

#### **Roll Call:**

Present: Chairperson Frank, Trustees Stava, Wilken, Benedict, Novotny

#### **Approval of Village Claims**

The Village Board reviewed and approved claims for the period of February 18, 2026 through March 29, 2026, totaling \$21,878.65 from Jones National Bank. Claims approved included: Farmers Cooperative \$56.28; Nebraska Public Health Environmental Lab \$31.00; Midwest Laboratories, Inc. \$141.85; Constellation NewEnergy-Gas \$685.82; CNA Surety Direct Bill \$100.00; Farmers Alliance \$125.00; Seward County Independent \$66.70; Farmers Cooperative \$307.81; Chris Eckles \$400.00; Constellation NewEnergy-Gas \$392.73; Crouchs Farm and Hardware \$87.54; Black Hills Energy \$206.55; Svehla Law Offices, P.C. \$646.00; Waste Connections of Nebraska \$140.11; Northeast Neb Tele Co \$59.89; Chris Eckles \$830.59; Bobbi McVey-Blath \$232.94; Seward County Independent \$104.38; Midwest Laboratories, Inc. \$183.90; Beaver Hardware \$100.70; Farmers Cooperative \$77.65; Nebraska Public Health Environmental Lab \$15.00; Black Hills Energy \$55.08; Chris Eckles \$400.00; Norris Public Power District \$1,414.45; Norris Public Power District \$1,261.45; When I Work \$288.00; Post Office \$80.34; Deluxe Forms \$334.17; Avery \$29.46; One Call Concepts Inc. \$6.13; Staples \$233.65; and payroll payments to Chris Eckles \$2,741.61, Bobbi McVey-Blath \$1,046.42, Wayne Regnier \$1,623.90, Chris Eckles \$2,181.42, Bobbi McVey-Blath \$1,381.39, Chris Eckles \$2,184.84, and Wayne Regnier \$1,623.90. Motion by Stava, seconded by Benedict, to approve the Village claims. All in favor: Wilken, Frank, Stava, Benedict, Novotny

#### **Sheriff's Department Report**

The board reviewed the report from February, no action needed.

#### **Fire Department Claims**

The Fire Department approved claims totaling \$253.92 for operational expenses and equipment. Motioned by Wilken, seconded by Stava, all in favor, Benedict, Frank, Wilken, Stava, Novotny

## **Fire Department Report**

The Fire Department reported 12 calls with 3 of them Rescue and the remainder Fire. Workman's Comp was presented and needs to be reimbursed in the amount of \$1,409. 6 new lockers have been installed. The Compressor will need a three-phase power supply. Trustee Stava will discuss in detail with Fire Chief Strong.

## **Women's Club**

No one present, moved to April meeting

## **Candidate for District 3 Commissioner:**

Tyler Dickinson introduced himself and would make himself available to answer questions after the meeting.

## **Maintenance Report**

Tree Planting was requested by the Women's Club, it was discussed on where to put it. More information is needed but can be planted. Chris passed his Waste Water Examination, Wayne Reinger will now go to on-call service for \$750 a month a raise for Chris will be presented at April's meeting.

2025 Annual Water Quality Report/Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) is being worked on.

Flow meter calibration is needed-services is \$510 for effluent/UV lights go in.

Miller & Associates will work with Chris to locate water stops this summer. In addition they need the board to decide on what we want on the new water tower (color, design, etc.) We are to have to Reed by April's meeting. Existing wells may struggle to fill new water tower, this as well as electrical service will be checked by NPPD, Chris will contact.

Ball Park, now has new keys & locks, the bathroom needs fixed.

Weed Eaters will be purchased at the estimated price of \$895.

Motion to approve Wayne Reinger's new fee of \$750; Stava, seconded by Wilken, all in favor; Wilken, Frank, Benedict, Stava, Novotny

Motion to approve cost of weed eater; Wilken, seconded by Novotny, all in favor; Wilken, Novotny, Frank, Benedict, Stava

## **Clerk Report:**

Funding has been approved by the EPA for the structure of the new water tower.

Audit Waiver results with one correction due to filing of the Wages, passed.

Kliment Building Permit was for record purposes only, moving in a shed. No vote needed.

Nuisance properties that are vacant will be contacted by the village attorney. It was discussed by the board that the properties should be condemned and they both fall under Nuisance and Dangerous building ordinance. Next steps will be discussed with attorney to proceed with certified letters.

## **Trustee Wilken:**

Trustee Wilken updated the board that the grant application has been resubmitted for well & wastewater treatment. Miller & Associates have been working with companies to ensure the grant.

## **Residents Comments:**

Kaley Eberspacher-Candidate for District 3 Commission introduced herself and would stay after the meeting for any questions.

Megan Eckles-Seward County Emergency Manger introduced herself and notified the board of her roll and her goals moving forward in regards to response and training.

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Benedict, seconded by Novotny. All in favor: Wilken, Frank, Stava, Benedict, Novotny

Meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Next Meeting, April 28th at 7pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Bobbi McVey-Blath  
Village Clerk