

TOWN OF EASTON, MARATHON COUNTY, WI
BOARD OF REVIEW AND REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Monday, May 12, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

1. Board of Review called to order by Chairman Beck

Chairman Beck called the Board of Review to order at 7:07 p.m.

2. Roll Call for Board of Review

<u>Board Members</u>	<u>Present</u>
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Dean Beck	Yes
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Susan Kurth	Yes
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Mark Pingel	Yes
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Also present were Treasurer Melanie Neuendank, Clerk Sherry Weinkauff, Mark Schlund, and Fire Chief Dustin Merriam. There were also 6 other audience members present.

3. Adjourn Board of Review until Wednesday, September 3, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

Beck explained that the Town is going through a reassessment process, and this is the reason for adjourning the Board of Review. ***Motion by Supervisor Kurth, seconded by Supervisor Pingel to adjourn the Board of Review until Wednesday, September 3, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.***

4. Meeting called to order by Chairman Beck

Chairman Beck called the regular meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

5. Roll Call

<u>Board Members</u>	<u>Present</u>
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Dean Beck	Yes
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Susan Kurth	Yes
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Mark Pingel	Yes
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Also present were Treasurer Melanie Neuendank, Clerk Sherry Weinkauff, Mark Schlund, and Fire Chief Dustin Merriam. There were also 6 other audience members present.

6. Approval of April 14, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion by Supervisor Kurth, seconded by Supervisor Pingel to approve the April 14, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes. All in favor. Motion carried.

7. Public Comments

At this point Beck moved down to item 11a. Solar Update.

8. New Business

a. Request by Nathan Schulz to hold a one-day wrestling event outside at the Q&Z Expo. Center

Beck explained he spoke with the Town attorney, and this would require a change to the liquor license opening up the entire premise to allow for serving and selling alcohol. There was a short discussion regarding picnic licenses. No action was taken.

b. Purchase of laptop for Public Works Lead Operator

Clerk Weinkauff explained that Public Works Rob Weinkauff would like to purchase a laptop for the shop. He would like to have his own Town of Easton email address, be able to search for things he needs to purchase, as well as manage diggers hotline tickets. ***Motion by Supervisor Kurth, seconded by Supervisor Pingel to approve the purchase of a laptop with help from the Clerk. All in favor. Motion carried.***

c. Presentation of bills for approval

Motion by Supervisor Kurth, seconded by Supervisor Pingel to approve and pay the bills as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

9. Reports

a. Treasurer

Neuendank reviewed the Treasurer report with the Board. There was also a short discussion on the purchase of generators.

b. Fire Department

Merriam said he received a quote from McQueen for air packs. The total quote is \$102,364 which includes a \$18,000 discount. They will hold the price until tomorrow. ***Motion by Supervisor Kurth, seconded by Supervisor Pingel to move forward with accepting the quote for the air packs and adapter. The Board will take action on the actual expense at a future meeting.***

c. Clerk

- **Election Update**

Weinkauf explained that the voting machines will be taken up to Marathon County in July for maintenance.

- **Licensing Update**

Weinkauf reported the liquor license applications have been sent out and are due on May 19th. There was a short discussion about liquor licenses for wedding barns.

- **SLFRF Report Update**

Weinkauf reported that the SLFRF report was filed on time with the U.S. Department of Treasury.

d. Public Works

Public Works Rob Weinkauf was absent but did provide a report for the Board to review.

10. Remarks from Supervisors

Pingel asked about blacktopping. Beck said he is working on getting some numbers. He is also looking into grant money.

11. Remarks from Chairman

a. Solar Update

Beck explained that the solar companies are looking to use land that has 1,000+ acres. They want to be able to produce 100 megawatts of solar power. The Town does not have any say. They can try to negotiate with landowners. He gave an update on a meeting he had with the Public Service Commission (PSC). If solar farms are 100 megawatts or larger they require approval from the PSC. The solar companies should contact the Town to develop a developers agreement. Beck has received a lot of phone calls regarding this issue. This seems to be very unpopular in rural areas. Solar companies are interested in putting solar power up in Wisconsin because of the lower costs. There was a short discussion on the batteries used for solar power. There was also a short discussion regarding the tax implication. The solar companies must make annual payments into a utility aid fund which is shared between the County and the Town.

12. Adjourn

Motion by Supervisor Kurth, seconded by Supervisor Pingel to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.