

HECKER VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

March 10, 2026

President Aaron Eckart called the March 10, 2026, regular Board meeting to order. After reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, the following members answered roll call: Aaron Eckart, Rich Happel, James Mueth, Deanna Louveau, Arnold Eckart, Gary Wittenauer, Charlie Kujawski, Eric Sutton, Lori Amann and Annette Schreder. Douglas Van Buren was absent.

James Mueth made a motion seconded by Gary Wittenauer to approve the February 10, 2026, Board Minutes: Voting all ayes, motion carried.

With the addition of bills from FSH, Ameren and Bank of America, Rich Happel made a motion seconded by James Mueth to approve the treasurer's report and pay all bills submitted for the month of March. Voting all ayes, motion carried.

President Aaron Eckart reported that he received a letter from Frieden’s UCC Church about putting a Blessin Box on their property. This would be a collection box to help those in need.

Committee Reports:

Economic Development: Information will be presented later in the meeting.

Public Works: Will be getting a cost estimate from Haier Plumbing on installing the valves for the water system. The process would involve shutting off the water in Hecker. Hoping to possibly do excavation work on a Friday. The following Monday morning the water would be shut off to install the valves with work to be completed and turning water back on early afternoon.

Charlie Kujawski presented the board with a water/sewer rate survey and Rate Assessment information and an ordinance to approve the increase. He explained why the Village needs to increase the rates and how it will be done over the next several years.

Arnold Eckart made a motion seconded by James Mueth to approve **Ordinance 26-01** Revising Rates for Water Service and for Sewer Service for Customers Inside and Outside of the Village of Hecker, Illinois. A roll call vote was taken:

Rich Happel—yes	Arnold Eckart--yes
James Mueth—yes	Douglas Van Buren—Absent
Deanna Louveau—yes	Gary Wittenauer—yes

Voting 5 Yes and 1 Absent, motion carried.

President Aaron Eckart spoke to the Board on the handouts for the Enterprise Zone—one was for an agreement between Moran Economic Development and the Village of Hecker and the other was for an Ordinance establishing an enterprise zone within the Village of Hecker.

Gary Wittenauer made a motion seconded by Arnold Eckart to approve an Agreement for Technical Services and Assistance Between the Village of Hecker and Moran Economic Development. A roll call vote was taken:

Rich Happel—yes
James Mueth—yes
Deanna Louveau—yes
Voting 5 Yes and 1 Absent, motion carried.

Arnold Eckart--yes
Douglas Van Buren—Absent
Gary Wittenauer—yes

Rich Happel made a motion seconded by Deanna Louveau to approve **Ordinance 26-02** Establishing an Enterprise Zone within the Village of Hecker. Said Enterprise Zone is within Randolph and Monroe Counties Encompassing Contiguous Portions of the City of Red Bud, the City of Chester, the City of Sparta, the Village of Evansville, the City of Columbia, the City of Waterloo, the Village of Valmeyer, the Village of Hecker and the Village of Ruma.

A roll call vote was taken:

Rich Happel—yes
James Mueth—yes
Deanna Louveau—yes
Voting 5 Yes and 1 Absent, motion carried.

Arnold Eckart--yes
Douglas Van Buren—Absent
Gary Wittenauer—yes

There will be a Village Shred Day on Saturday, April 18, 2026 from 10:00am-12:00pm.

Gary Wittenauer made a motion seconded by James Mueth to adjourn the meeting. Voting all ayes, motion carried.

Next meeting will be on April 14, 2026
Submitted by Annette Schreder, Village Clerk