

# Township of Eagles Nest Resolution of the Board of Supervisors

## Resolution Adopting Policy on Gifts from Outside Sources

Date: April 19, 2022

Resolution # 04-22-07

**Whereas**, the Township is committed to promoting an ethical workplace free of improper influence;

**Whereas**, gifts to Township officers or employees from vendors, contractors and others with Township business may undermine trust in local government; and

**Whereas**, the Township believes the use of a policy describing what are prohibited gifts from outside sources will help prevent illegal or unethical conduct and provide guidance to Township officers and employees,

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved** that the Township Board of Eagles Nest Township, Saint Louis County, Minnesota, adopts the attached Policy on Gifts from Outside Sources.

Adopted this 19th day of April, 2022.

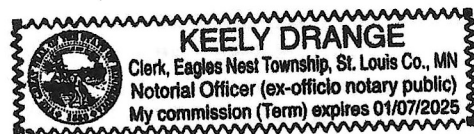
Chairman Richard Floyd Aye  
Vice Chairman Kurt Soderberg Aye  
Supervisor DeAnn Schatz Aye  
Supervisor Frank Sherman Aye  
Supervisor Dave Chiabotti Aye

State of Minnesota  
County of St. Louis  
Township of Eagles Nest

Richard Floyd  
Chairman  
Kurt Soderberg  
Chairman  
DeAnn Schatz  
Supervisor  
Frank Sherman  
Supervisor  
Dave Chiabotti  
Supervisor

I, Keely Drange, Clerk of the Township of Eagles Nest, swear that this is a true and correct copy of the resolution, Vice adopted April 19, 2022 in Town of Eagles Nest. Witness my hand and seal in the Township of Eagles Nest this 19th day of April, 2022.

Keely Drange  
Keely Drange, Clerk



## Township of Eagles Nest

### Policy on Gifts from Outside Sources

A Township officer or employee may not solicit or accept a gift given because of his official position or from a prohibited source to include anyone who:

- Has or seeks official action or business with the Township;
- Is regulated by the Township;
- Has interests that may be substantially affected by the performance of an officer or employee's official duties; or
- Is an organization composed mainly of persons described above.

A "gift" does not include items such as:

- Discounts and prizes available to the public, or opportunities and benefits to a class consisting of all Township officers and employees;
- Commercial loans on terms generally available to the public;
- Modest items of food and non-alcoholic refreshments, such as soft drinks, coffee and donuts, offered other than as part of a meal;
- Items of little intrinsic value and intended primarily for presentation, such as plaques, certificates, trophies and greeting cards;
- Items associated with official duty presentations on speaking days;
- Anything accepted by the Township on statutory authority; or
- Anything for which market value is paid by the officer or employee.

Although the following are "gifts," they may be accepted as exceptions to the gift rule:

- Gifts based on a personal relationship when it is clear that the motivation is not the officer or employee's official position and gift is paid for personally by the family member or friend;
- Gifts of \$20 or less per occasion, not to exceed \$50 in a year from one source;
- Opportunities and benefits that are offered to members of a group unrelated to Township employment;
- Awards (but these require prior approval of a Supervisor).

The above exceptions cannot be used in the following circumstances, however:

- Gifts are being given in exchange for being influenced in the performance of an official act;
- The officer or employee's official position is being used to solicit or coerce the offering of a gift;
- Acceptance of gifts from the same source on a basis is so frequent that a reasonable person would be led to believe the officer or employee is using their public office for private gain;
- Acceptance of the gift would violate a statute or Township regulation.

An officer or employee should consider declining otherwise permissible gifts where a reasonable person with knowledge of the relevant facts would question the officer or employee's integrity or impartiality as a result of accepting the gift, considering relevant factors such as:

- The gift has a high market value.
- The timing of the gift creates the appearance that the donor is seeking to influence an official action.
- The gift was provided by a person who has interests that may be substantially affected by the performance or nonperformance of the officer or employee's official job duties.

An employee should return gifts not meeting the appearance considerations or the exceptions, or contact a Supervisor on how to dispose of them. Perishable items may be given to charity or shared in the Township office, with approval.