

**Minutes**  
**EAGLES NEST TOWNSHIP**  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING**  
**May 17, 2023**

Vice Chair Soderberg called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.  
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Sup Kurt Soderberg, and Sup David Chiabotti, Sup Jackie Monahan-Junek Sup Frank Sherman, Treasurer Mary Beth Monte and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Gwen Potter were in attendance. Clerk Keely Drange attended via Zoom. Sup Floyd observed unofficially via Zoom.

**Agenda**

Sup Chiabotti moved and seconded by Sup Sherman to approve the agenda for May 17, 2023 as amended. Motion carried.

Addition of approval of the minutes from the special meeting of May 4, 2023 and Tower Ambulance commission under new business.

**Minutes**

Sup Sherman moved and seconded by Sup Chiabotti to approve the minutes from the April 19, 2023 Board of Supervisors meeting. Sup Sherman abstained. Sup Chiabotti, Soderberg and Monahan-Junek approved. Motion carried.

Sup Soderberg moved and seconded by Sup Monahan-Junek to approve the minutes from the May 4, 2023 Board of Supervisors special meeting. Sup Chiabotti and Sherman abstained as they were not in attendance. Acceptance of minutes postponed until next meeting as there is not a quorum to approve.

**Communications List Approval**

Sup Chiabotti moved and seconded by Sup Sherman to approve the communications list. Motion carried.

**Citizens' concerns**

Beaver problem in creek between lakes 3 & 4. Sup Soderberg will speak to the DNR about possibly having the beavers trapped.

**Reports**

**Clerk:**

Friends of the Boundary Waters would like to use the hall and kitchen for a bike event on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Clerk will reach out to the group to have them fill out the rental application, see what the hours of the event are and what the usage of the kitchen will be.

August 2<sup>nd</sup> bike event will have liability insurance.

Agenda item will be added for next month to discuss if staffing is needed for all day events such as bike events where a large number of nonresidents will be moving in and out of the hall.

**Treasurers Report:**

Treasurer Monte reported claims in the amount of \$ 13,788.79 claim numbers 4637-4654 and check numbers 10921-10942.

Payroll in the amount of \$4,885.19 and check numbers 10943-10953; 10955-10957; 10959-10960.

The total amount for payroll and claims is \$18,673.98

Voided Checks 10954 & 10958

Sup Monahan-Junek would like our Minnesota Association of Township dues to go directly to MAT rather than through the third party of St. Louis County Association of Townships as she is unsure if it is an organized business or non-profit. As a steward of public funds, she would like to pay MAT directly which MAT has said can be done as well. Sup Monahan-Junek questioned the value of paying dues to SLCAT just to get minutes.

Sup Chiabotti moved, seconded by Sup Sherman payroll and claims. Sup Chiabotti, Sherman and Soderberg in favor and Monahan-Junek opposed. Motion carried.

Sup Chiabotti moved, seconded by Sup Monahan-Junek to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Board approves of Treasurer paying Frontier bill with the credit card to avoid late fees from check being sent in the mail.

Typo under ENCEP budget. 41130-219 it says \$400 but it should say \$4000. It doesn't change the levy only the bottom line of the budget. Treasurer Monte will make the correction.

#### **Building and Grounds:**

Andy Urban and Sup Chiabotti ran the dishwasher and it works fine. Faucet in the ladies will be replaced before next meeting.

#### **Fire:**

Report on file.

Sup Sherman moved, seconded by Sup Soderberg for the purchase of an engine intake valve in the amount of \$1150. Motion carried.

SCBA Tanks will need to be replaced and a complete inventory list will be discussed for approval next month.

#### **Roads:**

Trygg Road and other township road were graded. Dust abatement will be applied in June.

Sup Floyd sent a letter to St. Louis County about the portion of Trygg road that does not receive dust abatement. The county responded that they will consider applying dust abatement but did not fully commit to doing so.

#### **Land, website and broadband:**

The Frontier NDA was sent back with requested changes and Sup Soderberg will sign it and return to Frontier.

Senior dinner and events will be posted on the website.

#### **Emergency Preparedness/water:**

ENCEP meeting will be moved to May 30<sup>th</sup>. Meet the Chief event will be at the hall June 10<sup>th</sup> at noon.

MN Department of health rapid assessments for pesticides available on the MN Dept health website. It is recommended to not use pesticides near the lakes.

**Legislative Liaison:**

Nothing to report as duties have not been approved.

**Old Business:**

**STR update:**

Documents have been created by Lisa Kappenman of the Short-Term Rental Committee for renters and owners of short-term rentals for review. Matthew Johnson, Director of Planning and Development, has resigned from the county. Primary staff person with the St. Louis County Jenny Bourbonnais has left for the city of Virginia. North Star and Eagles Nest township have had conversations with the new St. Louis County representative, Donald Rigney and he has been very responsive.

Mr. Rigney has stated that the county will be getting a better handle on short term rentals. The board does not want to establish a planning and zoning committee There has been discussion of an overlay district over the township with conditions applicable to our township. Mr. Rigney with the county will better educate himself on STR issues.

**Review of Supervisor Duties:** Board members will draft and review all supervisor duties at the next meeting.

**Conflict of Interest Resolution:** Sup Sherman will write up a draft for the conflict of interest for Sup Chiabotti on building and grounds for next meeting based on his fire department conflict of interest resolution. Clerk Drange will draft monthly conflict of interest affidavit form on the back of the time sheet.

**4M fund resolution** Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sup Sherman authorizing the approval of the resolution to enroll in the 4M fund. Motion carried

**Tower Area Ambulance Service:** Eagles Nest may want to participate in a joint powers board to run the ambulance service. Action needs to be taken by the end of June. One or more board members should to participate in the next phase of the process. Sup Sherman is willing to continue on the TAAS during the development phase.

**New Business:**

none

**Supervisor Concerns:**

There is a large amount of commercial signs on the roads right of ways. Sup Floyd pulls signs off township roads. County should be removing signs from county roads but have not been. Only election signs in right of ways during a certain time period are allowed.

Supervisors zooming can only be done in a private location if under a state of emergency. Up to three times a year an individual can Zoom due to military deployment or for a medical reason with a doctors note. Otherwise Zooming must be done in a place that is accessible to the public with proper notice and address posted.

**Adjournment:**

Sup Chiabotti moved, seconded by Sup Soderberg to adjourn. Motion carried.  
The meeting adjourned at 5:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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**Keely Drange, Clerk**