

Minutes
EAGLES NEST TOWNSHIP
Board of Supervisors Meeting
September 17, 2025

Call to Order

Supervisor Chiabotti called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Sup Brian Harrington, Sup Jackie Monahan-Junek, Sup David Chiabotti, Clerk Keely Drange, Treasurer Mary Beth Monte and Gwen Potter were in attendance.

Unless otherwise noted, motions carried unanimously.

Agenda

Sup Harrington moved, seconded by Sup Monahan-Junek to approve the agenda for September 17, 2025. Motion carried.

Agenda amended to include new business items:

Changes to open meeting law for zoom

Tower Recreation Board Meeting joining

Tower Ambulance commission

Declare a vacancy after Sup Soderberg resignation

Newspaper subscription

Supervisor Responsibilities

Minutes

Sup Monahan-Junek moved, seconded by Sup Harrington to approve the Minutes for the August 20, 2025 BOS Meeting. Motion carried.

Communications

Sup Chiabotti moved, seconded by Sup Harrington to approve the communications list. Motion carried.

Citizens' concerns

None at this time

Reports

Clerk

Clerk Drange has stated that she will resign on December 31, 2026.

Treasurer

Treasurer Monte stated that she will not seek reelection in 2026.

Sup Harrington moved, seconded by Sup Monahan-Junek to approve the payroll and claims. Motion carried.

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

Payroll Check numbers 12042-12060. \$6,269.14

Claim numbers from last month from automatic withdrawal that cleared in August is 5172; 12041. Check Numbers 12042-12060. Claim Numbers for September 5156, 5173-5189 and check numbers 12061-12072; 12074 for a total of \$8,063.88.

The total for payroll and claims is \$14,33.02.

Building and Grounds

The parking lot seal coating and painting has been completed and Sup Chiabotti thinks it was well done.

Sup Chiabotti confirmed that Aaron Nickerson will plow the hall parking lot this winter.

Fire: See report.

Roads:

Aaron Nickerson will continue to plow the township roads that he plowed last year.

Sup Chiabotti has received the St. Louis County Plowing contract for 2026.

Sup Chiabotti will drive the roads to identify areas for spot grading on township roads.

Land, Website and Broadband

Nothing at this time

Emergency Preparedness and Water

Keely Drange has stated that she will resign from the Firewise coordinator position on December 31, 2025.

Two weekends of the brush drop have been completed and there will be one more drop off weekend on September 20 and 21.

The brush pick up will begin the week of September 29th on Trygg, Peninsula, Klondike, 6 mile and Sunshine Lane.

Outreach and Networking

In August Sup Monahan-Junek and Sup Harrington attended the MAT district meeting and met with the district representative and the MAT Director and asked their position on bills from the last legislative session, and how does their legislative agenda work.

Sup Monahan-Junek or Sup Harrington may attend the Arrowhead Coalition of Trails on September 29.

Sup Harrington attended a MAT legislative event in Mankato. Sup Harrington explained that there were different lobbyists that present and they talked about what they have accomplished and new issues they will be taking up at the capital. One of the legislative agenda items is to get townships to be considered on the same level as counties and cities.

Old Business

Emergency Operations Plan

Sup Monahan-Junek has nothing at this time as Micheal Ostlund is working on updating the Emergency Operations. Discussion on the changes will take place at a later date.

New Business

Resignation from Kurt Soderberg

Sup Soderberg sent an email resigning from the board on September 7th.

Sup Monahan-Junek moved, seconded by Sup Harrington to accept the resignation from Kurt Soderberg. Motion carried.

Sup Harrington moved, seconded by Sup Chiabotti to appoint Sup Monahan-Junek to the position of board vice chair. Motion carried.

Sup Monahan-Junek moved, seconded by Sup Chiabotti to declare a vacancy for the Supervisor D position. Motion carried.

Supervisor Responsibilities

Sup Monahan-Junek will take on Land responsibilities.

Sup Harrington will take on Website and Broadband with Kurt Soderberg willing to be on a Broadband Committee.

John Kappenman will provide assistance with the Broadband discussion.

Update regarding discussion with Sarah Ciochetto, Deputy Director, St. Louis & Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority.

Sup Monahan-Junek discussed issues in the township with Sarah Ciochetto that come about from having the bike trail cross through the township. Ms. Ciochetto will give the issues some thought and provide feedback at a later date that will ensure safety of the riders and township residents.

Resolution 09-25-05 for the acceptance of ENFEA \$10,000 donation to the Township

Sup Harrington moved, seconded by Sup Monahan-Junek for the acceptance of \$10,000 donated by the Eagles Nest Fire/EMS Auxiliary for the purchase of Fire Department equipment.

Tower Recreation Board

Sup Harrington explained that the scope of the Tower Recreation board is expanding to include regional trails and trying to coordinate with all interested parties for a regional trail system.

Sup Harrington would like to draft a resolution for the next meeting and Ren Graham volunteered to attend the meetings.

Sup Monahan-Junek would like to see the updated Joint Power charter agreement.

Tower Ambulance Commission

Sup Monahan-Junek will replace Frank Sherman as the township representative for the Tower Ambulance commission. The ambulance commission is only looking at the replacement of the Tower Ambulance rather than additional issues and items.

Sup Monahan-Junek would like the Tower Ambulance Commission to be a topic on next month's agenda.

Subscription to Mesabi Tribune

Sup Monahan-Junek would like to purchase a digital subscription to the Mesabi Tribune for township supervisors to view. Sup Monahan-Junek feels the subscription would be valuable to find out news on items of interest to the township.

Rules changes to Supervisors attending Board of Supervisor meetings via ZOOM open meeting

During the 2025 MN Legislative Session changes were made to the Minnesota Open Meeting Law regarding remote attendance at meetings. Members of public bodies who participate in meetings via interactive technology no longer need to do so from a location "open and accessible" to the public, the location of the remote attendance is not required in meetings notices, and the three-meeting exception for military service and health-related conditions has also been removed (from the law). .

When holding meetings using interactive technology, the Township must give notice of the regular meeting location and state that some members may participate remotely. This statement will be included on all Township meeting agendas.

Supervisor concerns

None at this time

Adjournment

Sup Harrington moved, seconded by Sup Chiabotti to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.
The meeting adjourned at 6:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Keely Drange, Clerk