

**Minutes**  
**EAGLES NEST TOWNSHIP**  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING**  
**June 12, 2024**

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

Sup David Chiabotti, Sup Richard Floyd, Sup Kurt Soderberg, Sup Jackie Monahan-Junek, Sup Frank Sherman, Clerk Keely Drange, and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Gwen Potter were in attendance. Treasurer Mary Beth Monte attended via zoom for medical reasons.

Unless otherwise noted, motions carried unanimously.

**Agenda**

Sup Soderberg moved and seconded by Sup Floyd to approve the agenda for the June 12, 2024 BOS Meeting as amended. Motion carried.

Additions to agenda included:  
Removal of the Constant Contact agenda item.  
Addition of Dorem Drive Beaver Dam to new business.

**Minutes**

Sup Soderberg moved and seconded by Sup Sherman to approve the minutes from the May 15, 2024 Board of Supervisors meeting. Motion carried.

**Communications List Approval**

Sup Floyd moved and seconded by Sup Soderberg to approve the communications list. Motion carried.

**Citizens' concerns**

None at this time.

**Reports**

**Clerk:**

Clerk Drange will attend a June 21 Clerk Election Training.

Treasurer Monte will create a list of businesses that we are tax exempt from.

**Treasurers Report:**

Payroll in the amount of \$4,801.30 with check numbers 11450-11470.

Claims in the amount of \$14,352.64 with claim numbers 4892-4906 and check numbers 11471-11475; 11477-11485. Payroll and claims total amount is \$14,352.64.

Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sup Floyd to approve payroll and claims. Motion carried. Sup Soderberg, Sup Sherman, Sup Chiabotti and Sup Floyd yea and Sup Monahan-Junek nay. Motion carried.

Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sup Sherman to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

**Building and Grounds:**

Both septic tanks were pumped and grease trap in fire hall was cleaned.

Sup Chiabotti will have the carpet in the hall shampooed.

Lower hall had leak in the past in the restroom and is leaking again. Sup Chiabotti will find the leak and have it repaired.

**Fire Report:** No report this month.

Full ENCEP report on file.

Mike Ostlund is working on the Firewise grant and the ARMER radio grant.

Sup Sherman moved, seconded by Sup Soderberg move that the board authorizes Mike Ostlund to submit a grant application for new ARMER radios that would cost as much as \$54,000 based on estimate for radios, charger and microphones. With the understanding that the township would have to initially pay the \$54,000 with a 95% reimbursement from The State of Minnesota and 5% match from the township. Motion carried.

**Roads:**

Signs will be installed on Spruce Street. The cost was \$700 and will be paid up front.

Roads were graded Swanson Shores, Moose Creek, Bobence, Norway, Minnesota Blvd, and Lake Four East.

There are residents at the end of Dorem Road, on Emery Lane, that are concerned about the beaver dam on Dorem Drive. Sup Floyd believes the new culverts should be able to handle the water from a beaver dam collapse. The Board agreed there is no need to try to manage the beaver dam near Dorem Drive.

Matt Goodman with St. Louis County has asked the township what they prefer to call what is noted on the plat as Swansons Shores Road. However, others have called it Swanson's and Swanson. The consensus ruled that the road will be called Swanson Shores Road. Rich Floyd will let Matt Goodman know of the change so it can be updated in the 911 system.

A contractor has been on Trygg Road for 2-3 weeks taking the problematic gravel off and applied new gravel. As of now it appears to be better than with the old sharp gravel.

**Land, website and broadband:**

Sup Soderberg showed photos of the Park Land. The Kromers have not requested a dock. Sup Soderberg has inspected their property and they have not removed two dock sections and a tire sandbox. Sup Soderberg will notify the Kromers that they need to remove these items or the removal of these items will be billed to them or assessed on next year's property taxes.

Sup Soderberg has received the encroachment agreement from the township attorney with all of the terms as discussed at the last board meeting. However, the attorney has informed Sup Soderberg that all the heirs to the Turner-Ryan estate need to sign the agreement. The Turner-Ryan estate has removed the metal dock sections (but not the cement stairs and railing), and they have signed the cabin as private property. They still need to remove the propane tanks. They have also have not paid the property taxes for this year.

Sup Monahan-Junek and Sup Soderberg have a Zoom meeting with Whitney Ridlon from the IRRRB and Brad Gustafson from St. Louis County to discuss broadband funding options

Tree House Broadband may be setting up a repeater on Lake One and expanding service in the township by teaming up with Northeast Service Co-op to use their fiber lines.

Sup Monahan-Junek and Sup Soderberg met with Commissioner McDonald about the ATV trail. Sup Monahan-Junek and Sup Soderberg went into the meeting with a concern regarding the larger meeting that hasn't happened due to Roger Skraba's schedule. Commissioner McDonald will try again to organize the larger meeting. The township has asked Commissioner McDonald to have consideration for residents along the northern route.

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

Brush drop off will happen in August and September. Chipping haul away in September on Bradach, Bobence, Victoria, Moose Creek and Grouse Ridge.

### **Outreach and Networking:**

Sup Monahan-Junek will work with Clerk Drange to get signed up for Constant Contact and get a postcard sent out.

August 29 is the MAT annual meeting at Grand Lake Township.

### **Old Business:**

**Burning Ban Signs:** The fire ban signs need to be strengthened against wind. John Kappenman will build a prototype. The township may need to print more signs if the signs are to be double sided as the signs will be backed with plywood to add more strength. John has said he believes that it will cost around \$800 for materials for the signs. This does not include the printing of new signs. It was decided that one sided signs would be a better option.

Supervisor Monahan-Junek moved, seconded by Sup Sherman to allow John Kappenman to move forward with building the signs and up to \$1000 in expenses and to bill time and mileage to the Fire Department. Motion Carried.

Sup Chiabotti will post Firewise Community Signs on the Smokey Bear sign and near Bear Head State Park Road near the Hall.

**4M Fund discussion:** Sup Soderberg will assemble the 4-M fund documents and prepare them for discussion at the next meeting.

Sup Monahan-Junek will discuss with Mr. Buckley at Frandsen Bank options to increase our interest earnings.

**Frontier Billing Dispute:** Sup Soderberg talked with a Frontier Rep who assured him that she would follow up on the supposed reimbursement that ZPDI has promised.

Sup Monahan-Junek Has contacted the claims agency to dispute claims department and sent them all the emails regarding the ZPDI rebate to Frontier. Sup Monahan-Junek spoke with Tod Kruse from Frontier and he has promised to look into this. If none of this is effective, the board will write a letter to the Attorney General regarding this matter.

**New Business:**

**Mattson Creek Beaver Dam:** There is a large Beaver Dam backing water up before Armstrong River. The power lines are in a flood zone which is a concern for the Township. They may not be easily repaired if the power lines went down. The DNR is not concerned with the beaver dam as there is nothing between the flooded spot and Lake Vermilion. They had mentioned that if the beavers are trapped they may come right back or the beavers could be starved out in the winter. The power company may be concerned if the flooding endangers the powerlines and may take action.

There is a dam upstream from Dorem drive. Sup Floyd explained if beavers are active they will upkeep the dam. He also explained that if the beavers are gone it may be of concern, but small amounts could be removed to slowly let the water out. Sup Floyd feels that the new culverts can handle a lot of water if the dam should break.

**Supervisor Concerns:**

Sup Floyd will resign at the end of the year. He feels that an announcement should be put on the website and Facebook advertising the vacancy. Sup Sherman announced he will not be running again as well.

Sup Sherman has suggested to Sup Monahan-Junek that she run for the four-year term and let a new person run for the two-year term.

Sup Soderberg is considering resigning but hasn't made that commitment yet.

Clerk Drange will post the official filing posting with township positions that will be on the ballot.

**Adjournment:**

Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sup Floyd to adjourn. Motion carried.  
The meeting adjourned at 7:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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**Keely Drange, Clerk**