

**Minutes**  
**EAGLES NEST TOWNSHIP**  
**Board of Supervisors Meeting**  
**April 16, 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 Kurt Soderberg, Sup David Chiabotti, Clerk Keely Drange and Treasurer Mary Beth Monte were in attendance.

Unless otherwise noted, motions carried unanimously.

**Agenda**

Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sup Harrington to approve the agenda for April 16, 2025. Motion carried.

Add to new business, how supervisors can send letters of support for legislation

Move Treehouse Broadband proposal after Frontier business.

**Minutes**

Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sup Chiabotti to approve the Minutes for the March 19, 2025 BOS Meeting. Motion carried.

April 9, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes will be approved at next month's meeting.

**Communications**

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

Clerk will reach out to Suzi Ruper to provide a township contact for NESC Telecommunications

**Citizens' concerns**

None at this time.

**Reports**

**Fire**

Fire Chief Ted Krueger gave the fire report. See report on file.

Updated quote on skid pump unit is \$21,000 and will give the township 20-25 years of service.

A surplus ATV from MN DNR will be between \$4,000-\$8,000.

There are many new updated OSHA standards and in order to be in compliance, the township may need to update equipment to be in compliance with new standards.

**Clerk**

Disposal of old laptops at Voltz will be a new agenda item.

## Treasurer

Payroll Check numbers 11844-11862 \$4,324.34

Claim numbers 5078; 5079-5081; 5083-5098, Check Numbers 11863-11875, 11878-11879, 11881-11882 for a total of \$8,090.05. (5063 is Superior Fuel check from the previous month) for a total of \$11,055.79.

Payroll and Claims for a total of \$15,380.13

Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sup Harrington to approve the payroll and claims. Motion carried.

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

## Building and Grounds

There are issues with the well. At times there is no water pressure possibly due to the well running dry. This could be due to a leak somewhere in the system. Sup Chiabotti is troubleshooting the issue and will call Peterson Well Drilling if necessary.

Sup Chiabotti has found options online for outdoor cameras. H&S Electric has given a quote of \$650 to install an outside outlet for the camera.

Sup Chiabotti moved, seconded by Sup Soderberg to spend up to \$1,000 to install outlet and purchase camera, SD cards and have outlet installed. Motion carried.

## Roads

Sup Chiabotti emailed Vic Lund and the county will replace the Trygg Road sign.

Road grading will take place after the frost is out of the ground.

A speed limit sign on the Bearhead State Park Road has been knocked down. Sup Chiabotti will work with the county to put that sign back up.

## Land, Website and Broadband

Sup Soderberg will contact St. Louis County about removing the solid waste fee on one of the township parcels property tax statements.

Shawn Turner has shown proof the property taxes on the cabin on parkland have been paid for 2026. Shawn Turner has said he will be taking the cabin down. If he does not remove the cabin, it will be removed by the township.

## Emergency Preparedness and Water

There is an ENCEP meeting on May 15. Discussion includes alternate evacuation routes, new data collection forms and future meetings.

Sup Harrington spoke with MN DNR and they will be doing fish surveys and walleye stocking on Lakes One, Two, Armstrong and possibly Lake 3.

Sup Harrington noticed on the Polaris Ride Command site that the main ATV route through the township as closed it is unknown why. Sup Harrington said that Jeff Mogush will follow up and figure out why the trail is closed and will report back.

The cutover between Bearhead State Park Rd. and Trygg has another year or two on the access permit. Sup Harrington proposes contacting the new authorized person to see if that permit can be not renewed. The ATV subcommittee will look into this.

Sup Harrington contacted the wildlife person with the DNR and she would be willing to come to the township and give a talk on chronic wasting disease and why feeding deer is an issue.

### Outreach and Networking

There is a group called Range Association of Municipalities and Schools (RAMS) which have many legislative connections in St. Paul. Sup Monahan-Junek proposed that Eagles Nest join RAMS to expand the township's voice on many issues. Paul Peltier the director of RAMS has offered to come and have a conversation with the board at one of the upcoming meetings.

Sup Soderberg has talked with a RAMS representative in the past, and he mentioned that RAMS is in support of copper nickel mining. Sup Soderberg feels that by joining RAMS it is saying that we support copper nickel mining which is in opposition to many of our residents.

Sup Monahan-Junek would like to Paul Peltier to have a conversation with the township and questions regarding the support of copper nickel mining can be asked during that conversation.

Sup Harrington attended a town hall with Senator Grant Hauschild at VCC. Some of the topics discussed were rural ambulance and hospitals, funding for townships, mining, and train or bus systems from Ely to Duluth.

### Old Business

#### Supervisor Compensation Policy

Sup Monahan-Junek moved, seconded by Sup Harrington to take no action on implementing a Supervisor Compensation Policy. Motion carried.

### New Business

#### Skid unit for Wildland Fire Truck

Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sup Harrington to approve \$21,160.00 for the skid unit for wildland truck. Motion carried.

#### Surplus ATV from MN DNR

Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sup Harrington to approve between \$4,000 to \$8,000 to purchase a surplus ATV from MN DNR. Motion carried.

#### Discussion of Financial reports from the Treasurer

The Treasurer will continue to provide the four reports that are currently being sent.

#### Setting up an Amazon Business account for the Township

MAT has partnered with townships for an Amazon Business account with no sales tax. Treasurer Monte would like to set up an account for the township.

Sup Soderberg Moved, seconded by Sup Harrington to set up Amazon Business account with the understanding that we also look to purchase from local vendors. Motion carried.

#### Automatic EFT payments

Treasurer Monte would like to set up some monthly reoccurring bills as electronic funds transfer payments (EFTs). PERA and Minnesota withholding now prefer electronic payment. The Clerk and Treasurer will come up with a list of other monthly bills that can be paid electronically for approval at next month's meeting.

Sup Monahan-Junek moved, seconded by Sup Harrington to approve state and federal withholding and PERA payments for EFT. Motion carried,

#### Frontier Grant Application letter of support

See Supervisor Soderberg's draft letter of Support to be provided to Todd Kruse for Sup Chiabotti to sign in support of the BEAD grant for the Frontier broadband expansion proposal.

Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sup Chiabotti to send a letter of support from the township for the BEAD Frontier broadband grant. Motion Carried.

#### Treehouse Broadband Proposal

Issac Olson will update the Treehouse Broadband proposal for the township due to the Frontier broadband proposal. Discussion on the Treehouse proposal will take place at a later date.

#### How Supervisors send letters of support for legislation

Sup Monahan-Junek feels that supervisors should not send letters of support or against legislation as a supervisor, unless the board has collectively voted to support or disapprove that legislation. However, supervisors may send individually send letters of support or disapproval of legislation not as a supervisor but as a resident of the township.

If any member of the board sees legislation that may be of interest to the township, they may send it to the board so it can be voted on and then a letter may then be sent as a township board.

#### Laptop Disposal

Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sup Monahan-Junek to bring the four decommissioned clerk and treasurer Acer brand laptops to Voltz for disposal. Motion carried.

#### **Supervisor Concerns**

Sup Monahan-Junek will work with Clerk Drange to send out a constant contact to the township advertising the vacancy.

Sup Chiabotti moved, seconded by Sup Monahan-Junek to accept the lease agreement on a 1000-gallon propane tank from Superior Fuel to replace the current 500-gallon tank. Motion Carried.

#### **Adjournment**

Sup Soderberg moved, seconded by Sup Harrington to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.  
The meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Keely Drange, Clerk