Minutes
EAGLES NEST TOWNSHIP
Board of Supervisors Meeting
August 19, 2026

Call to Order

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

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

Unless otherwise noted, motions carried unanimously.

Agenda

Sup Harrington moved, seconded by Sup Carlson to approve the agenda for the August 19, 2026 Board of Supervisors meeting with additions. Motion carried.

Additions to August agenda:

Minutes for the July 24, 2026 Special Meeting

New Business; Email from Minnesota Wildlife Group

Minutes

Sup Harrington moved, seconded by Sup M-J to approve the July 15, 2026 Board of Supervisors minutes and the July 24, 2026 Board of Supervisor Special Meeting. Motion carried.

Communications

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

Citizens' concerns

Nothing at this time.

Reports

Clerk
The September meeting will be the last meeting on Zoom. Treasurer Monte has cancelled Zoom last day is September 19. Mary Beth will need to be part of the Microsoft account to get it on her fire computer to make a link for meetings.

Treasurer
Payroll Check numbers 12434-12453. $12,440.54.

Claim Numbers 5368-5389 and check numbers 12454-12460; 12462-12467; 12469-12471; 12474-12475 for a total of $32,259.64.

Check number 12403 was a claim that cleared last month.

The total for payroll and claims is $32,259.64

Sup Monahan-Junek asks what the hourly reimbursed rate for firefighters on the wildfires is. She feels that the extra rate the Township receives as reimbursement for assisting with the recent fires, above

the hourly rate the township pays the firefighters, should be paid to the firefighters. Treasurer Monte will check into what the hourly firefighter rate is on the wildfires above equipment reimbursement costs is.

Sup Carlson moved, seconded by Sup Harrington to approve the payroll, claims and Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Building and Grounds
Sup Monahan-Junek suggests that Lake Country Power will come out and do a free Energy Audit on the township hall to identify areas where energy efficiency could be improved.

Fire:
See report.

The fire department is interested in getting new lockers as the old wooden ones are starting to rot. The fire department will provide a quote on the lockers to the board at a later date.

Th board requests an itemized wish list for fire department needs before the next budget workshop.

Roads:
Roads were spot graded. They may be graded again before freeze up.

Within the township there are platted roads (not township roads) which are up to 66 ft wide which are owned by the abutting landowners to the center line until they are accepted by the township. The township does not maintain the right of ways of platted roads and will be owned by a property owner until the township accepts that road. If the township decides that it will accept a platted road turning it into a township road, the abutting landowners give up their in fee ownership of that side of the road.

Sup Carlson explained MN Statute 160.232 which explains the timing and where on right of way mowing may take place on township roads.

A woman called on how she would access property of off Bradach Road. The woman wanted to know if the township would put in a road to her property. Sup Carlson explained that the township would not do that and he asked if the property was off of a platted road. If so, she would need to work with the abutting landowner to make the platted road an actual road. Without working with the adjacent landowner and putting in a road would mean trespassing.

St. Louis has a road material crushing project. However, the locations of the crushing are too far away to be feasible and cost effective for the township.

Land:
Sup Monahan-Junek sent invoice to Turner-Ryan for taxes due in 2026. The township has not received payment at this time. Sup Monahan-Junek will send the invoice via registered mail to ensure the Turner-Ryan estate has received the invoice. The next step if we are not paid, would be to have St. Louis County certify the amount to the taxes on the Turner-Ryan estate.

The Kromer's dock and boat lift is encroaching on the accepted Park Land. The township will ask The Kromer's to remove their dock from Park Land. The township may reach out to the DNR to have the Kromer's remove their dock from the Park Land. The township may revisit a dock lease on Park Land in February 2027.

At a later date, the board may also revisit the Park Land memo from former Supervisor Kurt Soderberg to address some of the Park Land Issues such as the property stakes that were removed and garbage left on the Turner portion of the Park Land.

Bob Streetar will have a proposal for the township in October regarding short term rentals.

The permit from St. Louis County for the cutover and west to Trygg road has not been approved and may end up going to the county board.

Work on the OHV enforcement policy is nearing completion and Sup Monahan-Junek will be calling a special meeting in the future to discuss the rules.

Website and Broadband:

Working with Clerk to put election information the on the website.

Verizon's plan to end copper service at the end of October. It may be in the township's interest to call the Minnesota Public Utilities Commissioner and that ending copper service for this community is a safety issue as many people do not have ither forms of internet available to them. Sup Harrington will follow through to get more info Frontier ending copper phone service through Verizon.

Emergency Preparedness:
Mike Ostlund will not be taking on the ENCEP Coordinator. Mike is interested in volunteering and helping where he can but is not able to take on that roll. Mike is interested in continuing as the Emergency Manager as a volunteer role.

This weekend is the first weekend for the Brush drop. Austin will not be available for off-loading as he is helping with the wildfires but he will come back later to compact and stack the brush for burning this winter. The volunteering will do their best to assist and stack as best they can. John Kappenman will help with the setup, gather the resident data and lock up at the end of the day.

There need to be a few more volunteers for the last weekend in September.

September 27th is the brush pick up.

Outreach and Networking:
There is a MAT district meeting on August 27 that Sup Monahan-Junek will try to make.

Sup Monahan-Junek will try and make the legislative group in September.

Finance:
Sup Monahan-Junek followed up with MAT to make a few corrections on the insurance policy, such as correcting us having a loan rather than a lease on the engine.

There is no coverage for township volunteers. MAT currently does not offer volunteer insurance in its current policy. Sup Monahan-Junek will ask MAT at the District meeting for more information regarding volunteer liability insurance and why they don't offer.

There is an insurance gap where fire personnel vehicles going to emergency locations. Personal Auto insurance does not cover damage on an incident.

Old Business

Town Hall Rental Agreement updates
There are additional changes to make to the rental policy and a few questions regarding fees that are collected outside of the township. The rental policy will be updated and discussed at a later date.

New Business

How to handle future requests for emergency support (use of the townhall, etc.)
SLC sheriff's department wanted to use the hall in the event that Ely was in the "set" evacuation.

The chairman may, at their discretion or in the chair's absence the vice chair in the event of an emergency, allow the town hall to be used for emergency purposes this will only apply for the next thirty days. Sup moved Harrington, seconded by Sup Carlson. Sup Harrington, Chiabotti and Carlson aye. Sup Monahan-Junek nay. Motion carried.

Sup Monahan-Junek explained that there should be a policy or potentially in the Emergency Operations Plan regarding the use of the hall in the event of an emergency. A policy will be drafted

and voted on at the next meeting. Sup Harrington will draft a policy for the next meeting.

Constant Contact and how to improve communications with the township
Sup Harrington believes there is an issue with communicating with the township residents. Sup Harrington will look into the capabilities of constant contact and what types of collaborations we can do other with other organizations. Sup Harrington will report at a later date on the information he finds out regarding this matter.

Option B: Communication with the township explaining option B
A member of the public reached out regarding the option B ballot language sent out via Constant Contact, stating they thought it was confusing and suggested our explanation was bias. Sup Harrington suggested we promote option B more. However, Sup Monahan-Junek explained that our township attorney says that we have to remain neutral regarding our opinion of option B. Our attorney helped us to draft a neutral explanation of option B.

MATIT Insurance policy
This topic was covered above in the Finance section.

Electronic Funds Transfer Policy
A resolution needs to be updated every year regarding EFTs. Sup Monahan-Junek moved, seconded by Chiabotti to accept the EFT policy as presented. Motion carried.

Minnesota Wildlife Group Sup Monahan-Junek received an email to be included in a letter of support to Representative Stauber for continued federal support for Great Lake Restoration. Sup Monahan-Junek recommends not responding to the email.

Sup Concerns
Sup Harrington asks about Township PERA and how to find information regarding that account.

Sup Chiabotti would like to thank the Fire Department for their work on the wildfires this summer.

Adjournment

Sup Carlson moved, seconded by Sup Chiabotti to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Keely Drange, Clerk