

Bridgewater Township Board of Supervisors
County of Rice, State of Minnesota
July 8th, 2026, 5:00pm
Official Minutes

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Glen Castore, Nick Bolton, Andrew Ebling, Frances Boehning, Larry Alderks, Lori Noreen. Absent: Debbie Salaba

Introduction of Guests: Matt Stordahl, Marilyn Petersen, Ruth Malecha, Tony Rowan, Jeff Prudhon

Approval of Agenda

- It was requested to add "Computer Hack" and "Expenses for Sprayer" under New Business.
- Larry Alderks made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, Frances Boehning seconded, all approved.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

- Ruth Malecha brought to the Boards attention that her family has requested a "Hard of Hearing" sign to be placed in front of her son's home with no avail. It was noted that the Board will give the Road Superintendent direction to complete the task. If he is unable the Board approved having Safety Sign perform the work.

Approval of Minutes & Claims

- June 10th Meeting Minutes
 - Larry Alderks made a motion to approve the June 10th Meeting Minutes, Nick Bolton seconded, all approved.
- July Claims
 - Larry Alderks noted that it was good to see that the tires for the grader were finally purchased and put on.
 - Larry Alderks made a motion to approve the July Claims, Andrew Ebling seconded, all approved.

Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer's Report
 - The Clerk reviewed the Treasurer's Report with the Board, noting small interest changes in accounts. It was noted that the large deposit was the Road Reconstruction Bond money which was transferred into the Bond Money Market account.
 - It was noted that there have been a number of residents that have paid for their assessment portion of the Road Reconstruction Project which also was deposited into the Bond Money Market account.
 - Glen Castore questioned by the Bond was not on the Liability portion of the report as of yet with the explanation that the Bond had not yet been "Called In". Once the Bond has been called in the liability will show on the report.
- IRS Reporting
 - The Clerk noted that the reporting had been completed.

Roads

- Decker Ave LRIP Project
 - Matt Stordahl provided a packet showing the driveways that are along Decker Ave the Road Superintendent felt needed to be addressed before the project should proceed. He noted that after viewing the driveways he did not see the need for any work to them prior to the project proceeding.
 - Matt Stordahl stated that the next step in the project is to take the project proposal to the County and State to go into the Review Process & Approval.
 - It was noted that the bid process could occur as early as August.
 - Matt Stordahl stated that he was able to find performance standard specs wording acceptable.
 - Glen Castore stated that he spoke with Frandsen Bank & Trust regarding a potential short-term loan to cover the cost of the project until the grant money is received. The Township will have to pay for the project prior to receiving the grant money. Frandsen Bank & Trust is willing to work something out with the Township in order to cover the cost of the project.

- Paving Coe Ave
 - Glen Castore stated that he spoke with Dennis Luebke who requested permission to repave a section of Coe Ave where it has damage.
 - After review, Larry Alderks made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-11 Granting Rice County Permission to Pave Coe Avenue, Frances Boehning seconded, all approved.
- 140th St Survey
 - Glen Castore stated that Stantec still has not performed the survey. In the June meeting Stonebrooke was asked to quote the cost to perform the work. Stonebrooke estimated the cost to be \$16-23K. After explaining further what is needed to Matt Stordahl, he stated he would go back to Stonebrooke to better explain what is needed and come back with an updated cost to perform the Survey.
- Holding Pond Progress
 - The Road Superintendent was absent and unable to provide an update. Glen Castore stated he would contact Mike and obtain a status on any progress.
- Road Tour
 - It was determined to hold off on a Road Tour until late Fall.
- Shed Repair
 - In the absence of the Road Superintendent who could explain the need for the shed to be repaired it was determined to request an estimate of how much it would cost for the repair. Andrew Ebling stated he would speak to Mike to see what is needing repair and request and estimate.
- 5100 123rd St
 - It was noted to request further information from the Road Superintendent to explain what needs to be addressed at this location.

Planning & Zoning

- A&A CUP – Demo of House prior to Rebuild
 - The Board reviewed the Memorandum provided by the Zoning Administrator regarding the request to demolish an existing home located at 3426 130th St E prior to building a new home. The reason being there is a business being run on the property and a condition of the CUP is the house on the property must be continuously occupied. There would be a portion of time that this condition would be in violation.
 - After review, Larry Alderks made a motion the approve the recommendation to acknowledge that the property owner is constructing a new home and demolishing the existing home, and that the Town delay any enforcement of the condition requiring the home to be continuously occupied until August 30th, 2027, Frances Boehning seconded, all approved.
- 3645 Lonsdale Blvd. Inspection
 - It was noted that the Township Attorney spoke with the property owner and he is willing to allow Supervisors and the Building Inspector onto the property for an inspection.
 - Larry Alderks, Frances Boehning and Nick Bolton stated any 2 would be willing to inspect the property.
 - It was determined to try and find a date that works for everyone and then speak to the property owner.
- Planning Commissioner Seat – Andy Valentyn
 - It was noted that a resident of Bridgewater Township, Andy Valentyn, is interested in the open Planning & Zoning Commissioner Seat.
 - Glen Castore made a motion to appoint Andy Valentyn as a Bridgewater Township Planning & Zoning Commissioner, Andrew Ebling Seconded, all approved.

Old Business

- Weed Policy update Section 2
 - Larry Alderks provided an updated version of section 2 of the Weed Policy
 - It was discussed there have been concerns from the residents of Bridgewater Township regarding the new spraying system.
 - It was noted that the process needs to be managed better

- Larry Alderks will create an agenda to review at a work session with the Board and Weed Applicators.
 - Larry Alderks made a motion to approve Version 1.4 of the Bridgewater Township Weed Policy, Nick Bolton seconded, all approved.
- Purchase of Chemicals for Weeds
 - Larry Alderks noted he had inquiries if residents can purchase the chemicals to spray the weeds from the Township. It was determined that they could and they will be directed to speak with Mike Groth.
- Upper Oaks – Ben
 - Larry Alderks mentioned that he met with the residents of Upper Oaks and worked with them to find a solution to the spraying of weeds. He noted he will continue to work with the community on how to proceed with controlling any noxious weeds in their area.
- Weed Spraying County ROW and State ROW
 - It was noted that Steve Albers is still spraying in the County & State ROW's when it was determined the Township was no longer going to do so.
 - It was discussed that this, along with some other items have occurred and better management of the situation must occur.
 - It was determined that this topic will be further addressed at the work session regarding Noxious Weeds and the Weed Policy
- Update or Demo of Sprayer
 - It was determined that a list of items will be compiled to discuss with the Road Superintendent and this topic will be added to the list.
- Assessment Policy
 - The Board reviewed correspondence between the Township Attorney and Larry Alderks regarding the "similar properties" wording in the Assessment Policy. Discussion was held and determined that the Board is willing to consider amending the policy in a Resolution to update the wording to something more specific.
 - It was decided that Larry Alderks will reach back out to Peter Tiede to develop an amendment to better define the term "similar".
 - This topic will be added to review at the August meeting.

New Business

- Township District Meeting – August 5th
 - It was noted that Larry Alderks may attend the Township District Meeting.
- Bridgewater Awards
 - Larry Alderks noted that he is working on getting the awards prepared. He questioned what the terms were for those receiving an award.
- Combining Clerk and Treasurer Positions
 - Glen Castore brought to the Boards attention that the Township could place a question on the next Township Election Ballot to combine the Clerk and Treasurer's position. It was noted that the current Treasurer has stated she will not run for re-election in 2027.
 - Frances Boehning noted that her husband has expressed interest in becoming the Treasurer for the Township and may run.
 - It was determined place the Treasurer position opening in the next Newsletter.
 - If the question were to be added next year's ballot it would require a resolution by the November meeting.
- Computer Hack
 - It was noted that the Clerk email was hacked and a mass spam email was sent to numerous people. The Clerk worked to let all know it was a spam email and to disregard.
- Expenses of the Sprayer
 - Larry Alderks provided invoices from Freeway Fabricating for work performed on adding the sprayer to the Tractor as well as some other invoices for work performed. It was noted that it appears the cost of the sprayer is starting to add up.

Issues for future meetings

- July 22nd 5pm – 7pm – Capital Planning Work Session
 - The Board was reminded of the Capital Planning Work Session
- Newsletter ideas: Burning Garbage is Illegal -<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/88.171>
 - Larry Alderks asked if the topic of Burning Garbage be added to the next newsletter.
- Road Repaving Timeline
 - It was noted that the Road Repaving Project is tentatively scheduled to begin late July/early August.

Adjourn