

**OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRANT VALLEY TOWN BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING OF Thursday, SEPTEMBER 11th, 2025.**

The Grant Valley Town Board of Supervisors met for their regularly scheduled monthly business meeting on Thursday, August 14th, 2025 at the Grant Valley Town Hall.

Board Members present were, Chairman Hiltz, Supervisor Hiltz, Supervisor Eckman, Treasurer Slough, Clerk Stevens and Road Supervisor Christianson.

Chairman Hiltz welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order with the pledge to the flag at 7:00 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Supervisor Hiltz made a motion to approve the August 14th, 2025, Regular Meeting, Supervisor Eckman seconded the motion and it carried on unanimous roll call vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer Slough reported fund balances as General \$67,691.17, Road and Bridge \$1,156,546.23 Fire Fund \$74,264.38, with outstanding items of \$90.00 for a total cash on hand balance of \$1,298,591.78, Supervisor Eckman made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report subject to audit, Supervisor Hiltz seconded motion and it carried on unanimous roll call vote. There is a 10 cents difference, this is cleared up now.

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

The bills were reviewed and discussed. Supervisor Hiltz made a motion to pay bills as submitted, with a \$310 amount that will need to be credited back to the Township on the next bill from Vogt's Dirt Service, motion seconded by Supervisor Hiltz, passed unanimous roll call vote.

Discussion of a bill from Vogt's Dirt Service for class5 from Brinkman Dr (\$310.00) (not in our township). Clerk Stevens or Treasurer Slough will contact Vogt's for to set up a credit for the wrong amount of \$310.

VISITOR/CITIZEN COMMENT:

Gordy Peirce SR is present to discuss stop sign on Quincy and Kennedy and 30 MPH sign needs fixing on Quincy.

NEW BUSINESS:

OLD BUSINESS/CORRESPONDENCE:

Country Side Rd- Murray Surveying called Chairman Hiltz last week, the man that did the Survey in 2010 will come back and look at the land again see why he didn't finish it. On hold still until Township hears from Surveyor.

Fern Lake RD- Monday (9-15) start work. Discussion of placement of road signs (road work, and road closed sign). Lines have been marked. Discussion of culvert placement and ditches.

Remaining road projects- done

Bridge work- done

Mailboxes- Later date? Yes

Road Policies- grading follows schedule, snowplowing- tar first, start on the North side of the township and working south across the township. Plow tar roads after 1 inch and plow gravel roads after 3 inches of snow. If a major snow may need to hit it 2x in a day. Non frozen dirt roads will need 6 plus inches of snow to plow. Garbage cans- do not go around them. Clerk Stevens will update the snow and ice removal policy, with today's date. Mailboxes will be Thoring's responsibility if they are hit by the blade. If snow hits them and knocks them down it is the homeowners responsibility. While plowing Thoring's are encouraged to get as close as they to the mailboxes.

Calcium chloride- the township can decide to put in or not. Special assessments are also up to the township. Chad Blake is here on a follow up on the calcium chloride questions and would like to know what he can do to assist as a civilian to make this happen. He would like to address this formally and was told by the Board we could make a committee. He would like to follow up on making this happen. Discussion of the difference between residential and commercial. Chad's home is surrounded by "commercial properties". He would like to help this situation. Supervisor Eckman is agreeing that we need to update policies, and this would need to be done as a work session. Need to look at paving policy and special assessments. Chad noted- in May this was brought forward and everything the board just said is we are still determining that we are going to have a committee, as a chairman Hiltz has the ability to form a committee, the power to do it. Why didn't we do this in May? Why is this 5 months later? We checked with the attorney and since the storm the board has not had time to form this committee and look into this more. The board is needing to decide what they would like to do with paving policy and calcium chloride. If a development is paved, cars will go faster.

Chairman Hiltz question, how does the board go about setting up a committee? Discussion of the Board's committee process. Supervisor Eckman made a motion to begin the process of revamping some policies- black top, special assessment. Put on the web that we are looking for volunteers (need to be present at October meeting). The board wants a committee to assist in updating black topping policy, special assessments, and create a calcium chloride policy. Contact Clerk Stevens or Chaiman Hiltz for more

information. Clerk Stevens will put this in the Bemidji Buyline. Seconded by Supervisor Hiltz. Motion passed on unanimous roll call vote. Clerk Stevens will check with the association for more policies (examples)

Suggestion that when reconvening a meeting it is posted to the web. This can be done.

Supervisor Hiltz commented that he understands Chad Blake's frustration with the small number of residents that attend the meetings.

Discussion of population and voices of people.

Insurance- Discussion about the interior of the building, discussion of the value of the building. Supervisor Hiltz made a motion to increase the value of the building- seconded by Chairman Hiltz and passed on unanimous roll call vote.

Poll pad update- County called and we only have 1 poll pad that is out of date and needs to be renewed. The County is also updating 1 poll pad per township. Grant Valley doesn't need to spend any money on updating poll pads at this time.

Supervisor Hiltz made motion to adopt the resolution *calling a special election to ask a ballot question* (appoint of clerk by the town board) for the March 10th election, motion seconded by Supervisor Eckman, motion passed on unanimous roll call vote. *This is for the March 2026, Township election, the resolution that the Townships attorney sent names it as a special election, we will not be doing a special election.*

REPORTS:

Fire- Meeting in 2 weeks

Animal Control- Danny Ekre had a mild stroke, he is doing well and his wife is helping him out. Chairman Hiltz had a report of something living under a resident's house and eating her house, she doesn't have any extra money to pay to take care of this, Chairman Hiltz suggested contacting her neighbors. Tony Kennedy is also suggested for her to contact.

ROADS:

Grant Hills road-Big tree near mailboxes, already taken care of

Stop sign on Annalee rd, (next week).

Work is all done, bridge & culverts. Signs are next. Dale Vogt's bill updated to "storm damage"

Discussion of storm damage bills- need to collect all bills so the Township can be reimbursed. Clerk Stevens will work with Keith on compiling what is required.

No update from Joe Rininski (sp) about help for residents in removing storm damage debris. He contacted Supervisor Hiltz in the past and said he would have an update soon.

Ditch Mower- Josh Weiss was stung by bees bad, he was in ER for days. Chairman Hiltz received a statement, stating that he will not do the ditches for Grant Valley. Wade Thoring can do this for \$115/hour. This is per hour and Weiss was per job. Ballpark is 40-50 hours for Wade Thoring to complete this. Chairman Hiltz made a motion Wade Thoring to do the ditch mowing, accept his bid at \$115/hour for three-year contract for 2025, 2026, 2027 to mow the ditches, motion seconded by Supervisor Hiltz. Mowing to be done in the middle of August is requested. Clerk Stevens will make up a contract. Motion passed on unanimous roll call vote.

Supervisor Eckman would like to talk again about the polices- keep this in mind until the October meeting.

Shelly Baker requesting help with a stop sign for Altman Ct (private road)- she called the county and said the township needs to call them but then the township would have to pay for it. This is not the townships responsibility since it is not a township road but if we have a used one the township is okay with giving them an old stop sign.

Keith will go to the County and check with Brent from the County and get used posts if he can take them.

Wilton & Wade Thoring- when plowing down to the park make a loop and keep an eye on the big rocks and keep access open to the gate for Kathy, the park care-taker.

Discussion of the gate being locked on Quiet Pond RD. Discussion about the gate, the resident would like the gate up until next year when they live there. Discussion of why the gate was there in the first place.

As there was no further business, Supervisor Hiltz made a motion to adjourn at 9:20 PM , seconded by Chairman Hiltz and carried on unanimous voice call vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Kayley Stevens