

**OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRANT VALLEY TOWN BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING OF Thursday, July 10th, 2025.**

The Grant Valley Town Board of Supervisors met for their regularly scheduled monthly business meeting on Thursday, July 10th, 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 June 12th, 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 \$34,054.00, Road and Bridge \$1,072,651.17 Fire Fund (\$14,781.28), with outstanding items of \$90.00 for a total cash on hand balance of \$1,092,013.89, 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 will be fixed.

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

The bills were reviewed and discussed. Discussion of the Road Supervisor Christianson's bill. The hours look great, but will need more detail information of the work done. Possible that this will go through through FEMA, the Board has a meeting on Monday to learn more. Discussion of the payment to Keith- coming out of wages. Keith will run this bill through KC's Bobcat and submit to Treasurer Slough; the total will stay the same. Treasurer Slough will fix the claims numbers. Supervisor Hiltz made a motion to pay bills as submitted, motion seconded by Supervisor Eckman, passed unanimous roll call vote.

VISITOR/CITIZEN COMMENT:

Shamrock Ct residents are here and wondering what can they do with the piles of debris. They are currently being advised to take to the station behind Target or the demolition site. The Board will know more on Monday; they are attending a meeting that the County called. This meeting is with the city, Townships and Beltrami Co, if a certain dollar amount is met FEMA may step in and match some money or the State possibly will match. Lengthy discussion of tree removal and contractors.

NEW BUSINESS:

Christison will pick up water softener sat and spray for insects/ants.

Propane- Chairman Hiltz will check prices

Battery storage- An outfit from Texas has a battery storage facility and they buy batteries from the power companies; this would be on a 10 Arce site is in mind. The batteries are lithium. They buy power from Midcoda and then sell back the power, this is on 4584 Grant Valley Rd. Chairman Hiltz would like to check with the CO and see what they have about this. This company will be reminded to check with JAYAZB and Headwaters/Upper Mississippi. The Board has no planning and zoning; Chairman Hiltz will touch base with the outfit from Texas. We have no restrictions but if it is something hazardous, we may need to contact Jason Hill, the Township Attorney.

Chairman Hiltz made a motion for Clerk Stevens to get ahold of the Township Association insurance, there are shingles in the grass from the June 21, 2025 storm, give them Chairman Hiltz number, motion was seconded by Supervisor Eckman and carried on unanimous roll call vote.

OLD BUSINESS/CORRESPONDENCE:

Country Side Rd- Matt Boyer, Russ Hiltz met 2x on Fern Lake RD today. They would like us to leave the road where it is. The issue is Jamie Listenbarger getting access to her house/property, the DNR proposed the Township buy the property between the road and the house. Grant Valley would then be able to grant an easement on the cartway for Ms. Listenbarger. If the parcel in the back ever sells (Kimmus) the road may need to be wider. We would need a \$2000 permit, Murray to survey the land, then the DNR would charge us to buy the land, if we did anything to the road is it then up to the Board. The DNR can't grant her an easement to her house. This would be considered a road so no property taxes would be needed to be paid. This would cost approx. \$5,000-\$6,000.

Discussion of the road width, and options. Supervisor Hiltz is making a motion to fill out a permit/paperwork through the DNR, also to inquire about buying land from existing south side of the road up to her property, hire Murray Surrey, to work with the DNR to fix this road issue, the motion is seconded by Supervisor Eckman, motion passed unanimous roll call vote.

Fern Lake- Chairman Hiltz is asking Supervisor Eckman if she knows of any *Road Order*, from the 1900's. The Board thinks they may have found the Road Order, it was filed in 1917. Discussion of width of road, permit will be needed to get the width.

Question for attorney, this was a Cartway, then plowed and maintained. It was not DNR land in 1917. Discussion of when the DNR obtained the road.

Discussion of scanning the papers and files in the office and putting onto a cloud or jump drive- add to August agenda

Chairman Hiltz needs to meet with Matt Boyer show him the Road Order from 1917 and update him on these findings and ask questions... There is a Road Order for Fern Lake Rd and Country Side Rd, in 1917 Fern Lake Rd & Country Side were private owners, maintained since 1917. DNR road now. 33 feet now? Do we need a permit?

Road Tour update- Charlie Worms permission to remove branches from Schroeder rd was received and signed by Charlie Worms and Chairman Hiltz. Road Supervisor Christianson is checking if he should still do the road tour work, yes finish. Wade imputed that gravel could be used on Whisper wood and Stone Lake Rd- Stacy Rich area.

Mailboxes- August

Beltrami County Amendment for Rate Change- Motion to sign by Supervisor Hiltz, seconded by Chairman Hiltz and carried on unanimous roll call vote. Clerk Stevens will mail in.

Road Policies- The Board can make a policy and do whatever we would like to do with Calcium Chloride. The Board needs to make policy, even if the policy is no calcium chloride.

Discussion on Calcium Chloride or paving on Oak Ridge and Monarch area, Chad Blake is present and volunteering to help with that area.

Discussion on the Attorneys response to the Township's blacktopping policy and calcium chloride application. The Board needs to review these and make some decisions.

Notice of Hearing was received from State of Minnesota for Northern Township.

Brett Rude from the County was contacted by Supervisor Eckman about Schroeder Rd and the fluids being drained out of the vehicles before they were crushed. He did say that he has not been out there this year though.

REPORTS:

Fire- Not putting in for the SAFER Grant, Chief did not realize that there were changes. Meeting at the end of this month. Chief still wants 3 more fire fighters. Discussion of the need for more fire fighters, dormers and POC filling shifts. Rural coming up
Animal Control- Meeting at end of the Month, 1st citation wrote out about a dog in Archery area, Officer Christan excited, a lot of lost dogs from the storm but the animals have been returned to their owners, he has not needed to bring a dog to Danny in Clearbrook.

ROADS:

Wait on Fern Lake. Roads cleaned up to a point, blading everything.

What are we doing with everything in the ditches???

Chairman Hiltz has some numbers for cleanup of trees and brush from the road, discussion of what to do with the mess. Many residents have been calling asking about removal and clean up.

Chairman Hiltz will attend the meeting on Monday, discussion of what the Township has spent and will be spending due to the June 21st, 2025 storm.

At 10:12 PM Chairman Hiltz made a motion to reconvene on July 24th, 2025 at 7:00 PM, motion was seconded by Supervisor Eckman and carried on unanimous roll call vote.

RECONVENE: JULY 24TH, 2025

The re-convening of the July 10, 2025 Board Mtg was held July 24, 2025 at the G.V. Town Hall beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Board members present were Chairman Russ Hilt, Sup. Bob Hiltz & Sup. Marlys Eckman.

Chairman Hiltz opened the mtg with his report on the status of info gleaned, held with Matt Boyer, DNR, regarding our desire to identify & establish the location of Countryside Road, which has been in question for many years.

Chairman Hiltz provided Mr. Boyer with the original Road Orders & stated our desire to move forward.

Mr. Boyer informed Chairman Hiltz of the needed steps which are:

1. Prepare & submit a permit application accompanied with a check in the amount of \$2000.
2. Prepare, adopt & submit a resolution indicating our intent to purchase additional land owned by the State of MN which would then provide the necessary right of way easement.
3. A survey of said location of road & desired land acquisition.

A motion was offered by Supervisor Hiltz to authorize the preparation & submission of the required permit, allowing us to proceed with improvements needed to shape & align Countryside Road & proceed to with planned road work & improvement of Fern Lake Road going south.

Motion was seconded by Sup. Eckman & unanimously approved.

A motion was offered by Sup. Hiltz to prepare & adopt the following resolution to purchase / authorize the necessary road land purchase from the State of MN between the existing township road & the home located there.

The motion to adopt said resolution was seconded by Sup. Eckman & unanimously approved.

A motion offered by Sup. Hiltz to authorize the survey of said area utilizing Murray Surveying, as they have been doing survey work in the area & familiar with location. Motion seconded by Sup. Eckman & approved unanimously.

Chairman Hiltz reported on the recent mtg he attended with County & state staff to learn requirements needed to qualify for some reimbursements of cost related to clean up from the June storm. A preliminary estimate of said costs was compiled & submitted.

We will need to submit invoices of all work completed as well as pictures. Ditch cleanup will qualify & we can expect a 75% reimbursement. There was discussion on how to proceed with all the trees & brush that is now in our ditches. It was consensus that it could not remain there due to deemed hazardous.

Chairman Hiltz also reported we experienced some shingle loss to both the town hall & garage & that he would be mtg with our insurance rep the next morning of 7/25

Supervisor Bob Hiltz reported on a phone call he received from Joe Rozinski (need to check spelling) of the DNR, regarding possible funds that would be available to homeowners who experienced loss to trees in forested land, but not at the home site.

It was first thought town hall mtg would be held to share said info to interested parties. However later determined a Zoom (internet) beginning in September. He will be in contact with Sup Hiltz as more details become available.

Further discussion held regarding how to best proceed to remove the debris in our ditches. It was determined that Road Sup Christianson will gather estimates of equipment best chosen to do the work in order to proceed accordingly.

With no further business a motion was offered by Sup Hiltz, seconded by Chairman Hiltz & the mtg adjourned at 8:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Marlys Eckman

Kayley Stevens

Grant Valley Township Resolution NO 25-2

Authorizing the Necessary Land Purchase from the State of Minnesota

WHEREAS, Grant Valley Township has identified the need to acquire certain land located between the existing township road, Countryside Road, and the residence at 4593 Countryside Road SW; and

WHEREAS, the property is legally described as follows:

WHEREAS, the purchase of said land from the State of Minnesota is deemed to be in the best interest of the public to ensure proper access, maintenance, and use of the township road; and

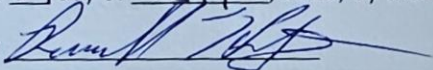
WHEREAS, the Township Board has determined that securing this property will serve the public welfare, safety, and convenience;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Grant Valley Township Board hereby authorizes the purchase of the above-described land from the State of Minnesota; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Chair and Clerk are authorized to take all necessary actions, sign all required documents, and complete the transaction on behalf of the Township.

Adopted this 24th day of July, 2025, by the Grant Valley Township Board of Supervisors.

Chairperson



Township Clerk

