

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

The Grant Valley Town Board of Supervisors met for their regularly scheduled monthly business meeting on Thursday, December 11th, 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 November 13th, 2025, Regular Meeting, Supervisor Eckman seconded the motion and it carried on unanimous roll call vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer Slough read Treasurer Slough report of fund balances as General \$49,102.72, Road and Bridge \$834,231.23 Fire Fund \$15,943.97, with outstanding items of \$8,812.27 for a total cash on hand balance of \$908,090.19, 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. Clerk Stevens will add weed control pricing to the agenda in May.

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

The bills were reviewed and discussed. Supervisor Eckman made a motion to pay bills as submitted, motion seconded by Supervisor Hiltz, passed unanimous roll call vote.

VISITOR/CITIZEN COMMENT:

Brian Merschman, supervisor of Bemidji Township, also BATO rep and HRDC member- is here to share information about Regional Development Act of 1969, going through state statues- the city of Bemidji has a contract that states *comprehensive plan*, but according to the Regional Development Act of 1969, this is violating state statues.

Brian is asking if we would like to be involved in the process of going through these statues along with the City's 20 year plan. The members agree, yes, we should be involved in this process- townships need to stay united.

Once Brian Merschman knows more, he will be keeping the board members involved.

Tommy Brown, asking about raising his mailbox, should he do this? Wade Thoring (plow operator) and said yes, please.

Postmaster off of Archery Rd talked to Lori Follis and reported Archery, Mid-valley, Averi Circle Dr exceed 25 mailboxes down after this last snow storm and the plow being out. The Board is also aware of a mailbox on Quincy that is down- the one off of Quincy is down from the snow. Wade Thoring stated that he did not hit the ones that the Postmaster reported, the snow knocked them down. If the snow hits the mailboxes, the landowner (owner of the mailbox) is responsible for fixing the mailboxes. If the operator knocks them, he is responsible. Wade asked about garbage cans, what if the garbage can hit the mailbox and breaks the mailbox?

Chairman Hiltz made a motion to send letter and email to Waste Management and Jon's Refuge stating that we would appreciate them to notify their customers that their garbage containers cannot sit on the road right of way must be on their driveways. Motion seconded by Supervisor Eckman, and carried on unanimous roll call vote. If garbage containers are on the road surface, the snowplow might plow snow into/next to the garbage containers and push them off the road surface.

Motion by Supervisor Eckman to send Letter to the Buyline, and add to website, statue relating to road right away MN State Statue 160.2715, including garbage containers, and mailbox policy for Grant Valley. Seconded by Chairman Hiltz and carried on unanimous roll call vote.

Question- if the speed from the plow, pushes the snow, and the impact of the snow hits the object, is the homeowner responsible to repair the object? Yes, the homeowner is responsible. If the operator hits the object/mailbox, they are responsible, the mailbox would show damage and paint from the operator.

Discussion of the operator slowing down a little bit, Wade said yes, she could.

NEW BUSINESS:

N/A

OLD BUSINESS/CORRESPONDENCE:

Country Side Rd- Chairman Hiltz has a letter from Murray Surveying explaining their findings.

Are we okay with his findings and process- yes. Murray will get it ready for the township attorney to approve that we are doing this correctly. Matt will be next meeting with paperwork. Permit needs to be taken care of.

Clerk Stevens will ask Jason Hill about sharing the letter with Jamie Listebarger.

Chairman Hiltz made a motion to send copies of drawings, letter of findings, Road orders (2) for Fern Lake and Country side. What is our road responsibilities? To Countryside and Buchanan, we have maintained part of Countryside rd and we haven't maintained part of it approx. E ¾ mile, and we haven't maintained Buchanan going off of Countryside. Call or text chairman Hiltz for question, seconded by Supervisor Hiltz, and carried on unanimous roll call vote.

Road Improvement Policy-

Chad Blake asking- what would it take for the 90* corner at 16th St and Monarch Dr changed to a stop sign? That would be up to the board. Chad would like to inquire about reshaping the corner to a stop sign, where the drivers have to slow down. The road has been established in the plat. There is a legality of where the road where can be, it is surveyed out. We would need to look at the plat and see if the road could be redone, and reshaped. Chad Blake is making a request that we start with a stop sign, leveling the road, reshaping the elevation of the road. This would be a spring project.

Insurance- Check received, need someone to do men's bathroom ceiling, and find someone to do shingles in the Spring.

Chair Hiltz made a motion to send letter to BP Weeds to contact us next year before starting, please verify your service is needed for the summer of 2026, Contact Clerk Stevens in the Spring please. Seconded by Supervisor Eckman, carried on unanimous roll call vote.

The Monthly meeting dates were reviewed, they will continue to be the 2nd Thursday of the month, except for March due to the Annual Meeting and election. This will be posted outside of hall, on the website and in the Bemidji Buyline.

The Board looked over the Wages and Rates of Pay for 2025, a few edits were made but no change to wages/rates.

REPORTS:

Fire- City got a grant for \$450,000 approx. to remodel the living quarters and dorm area in station 1. Approved budget for 2026 isn't sent out yet. We need this for our budget. Discussion of budget, rates, next Thursday is long range planning, another meeting in Jan, hopefully we will get budget soon.

Animal Control- financial stuff is about done, meeting next Tues, fee's structure should be about same as last year.

ROADS:

Hummingbird Ln was missed; Wade will get it. Was Red Rose plowed? Yes, looks like it was plowed but could be widen. Discussion of garbage cans.

Clarify the where the roads are salted and sanded. Look over snow and ice removal policy for where to sand and salt the roads. The board would like just intersections, and corners sanded/salted. Unless otherwise stated. ADD TO SNOW AND ICE POLICY. Bring back to Jan meeting.

As there was no further business, Supervisor Hiltz made a motion to adjourn at 9:26 PM , seconded by Supervisor Eckman and carried on unanimous voice call vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Kayley Stevens