

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
TOWN OF MARION
SEPTEMBER 8, 2025**

1. **Call to Order:** Jerrod Waterman, Chairman, called the regular Board meeting for the month of September to order at 6:29 p.m.
2. **Roll Call:** Present at the meeting were: Jerrod Waterman, Chairman; Tom Haile, Supervisor; Jonathan Knowles, Supervisor; Judi Boughton, Clerk; Laurie King, Treasurer.

Citizens who were in attendance of the meeting were: Lonny and Laurayne Fischer, Mary and Ray Kirschbaum, Theresa Hollinger.

3. **Approval of Agenda:** A motion was made by Tom Haile to leave the agenda items in the order posted. Jonathan seconded the motion. Motion carried.
4. **Proof of Publication of Meeting Notice:** Notice of the September 8, 2025, board meeting was published in the Boscobel Dial on Thursday, September 4, 2025. Notice of the September board meeting and agenda were posted at the town shop and on the town website on September 4, 2025.
5. **Minutes of Previous Meeting:** The Minutes of the August 11, 2025, board meeting and the August 21, 2025, special meeting were distributed to all who were present and, after everyone had a chance to review the minutes, a motion was made by Jonathan to approve them. The motion was seconded by Tom. Motion carried.
6. **Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's report was prepared by Laurie King and read by Laurie as follows:

People's State Bank Accounts:

Checking	\$	12,366.80
Equipment fund savings		101.85
Red school house restoration		133.99
People's Money Market		<u>51,613.95</u>
Total People's State Bank Accounts:	\$	64,216.59

Local Government Investment Pool Account:

General	\$	627.49
LGIP Equipment		11,628.25
LGIP Red School		5,007.16
LGIP Building		<u>26.33</u>
LGIP Accounts Total	\$	17,289.23

Total Monetary Assets	\$	81,505.82
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Expected Revenue for remainder of 2025:

Early October (Transportation Aid from DOT Qt 4)	\$	27,285.32
Mid-November (Wisconsin Shared Revenue)	\$	70,134.75
Peer Rd LRIP Project #16979 (Approved Reimb.)	\$	30,443.66
<i>(Timeframe for Reimbursement for Peer Rd Unknown)</i>		

- 7. Citizen Input:** Theresa Hollinger was present at the meeting as a followup from last month's meeting regarding a complaint of her neighbor (Travis Ward) rerouting water away from the creek bed and causing damage to her lower lying property. She presents with a letter dated August 29, 2025, addressed to the Township of Marion regarding "Unlawful Culvert Obstruction – Enforcement Required Under Wisconsin Law." The letter is from Nick Hollis and Theresa Hollinger and states they are the owners and occupants of property located at 15859 Dry Hollow Road, Boscobel, Wisconsin. The letter states on August 18, 2025, they issued a formal written notice to Travis Ward (15811 Riley Road, Boscobel) advising him to immediately cease and desist from obstructing the culvert on his property, stating the obstruction has caused flooding and damage to their property. The letter further cites Wis. Stat. sec. 88.90(1) and requests the following from the Town Board:

- Acknowledge receipt of the notice to the town board and enclosed certified letter to Travis Ward via email to T.Hollinger@Outlook.com.
- Follow up with Travis Ward to confirm removal of the obstruction within the statutory period.
- Confirm compliance with them or take enforcement action if Travis Ward fails to comply as required under Wis. Stat. sec. 88.90.

A copy of the letter to the board and copy of certified notice to Travis Ward is requested to be part of the record of the Town of Marion by Theresa Hollinger and Nick Hollis and a request that they be advised in writing as to the actions that will be taken to ensure compliance under Wisconsin law. A photo of said board blocking the culvert was also handed out to the Town Board by Theresa Hollinger at the meeting.

Theresa stated at the meeting Travis Ward has placed a board in front of the culvert in order to maintain the level of his pond. When the board was pulled, the water goes to the dry creek. She states, because he had the culvert blocked and has done other activity to the land, the water came into their property and caused approximately \$6,000 worth of damage. Two weeks later, another flood event happened and, because they had pulled the board from the culvert, the water went straight into the dry creek. She wants to make sure the board is pulled from the culvert and does not get replaced.

Jerrold stated he had already talked to Travis Ward and he pulled it at that time. DNR said that is what they want him to do. Under statute, Theresa, as landowner, stated they have a right to go and check to see if the board is blocking the culvert and, if it is, have authority to pull it. Jerrold has checked and the DNR has checked and it has been pulled.

Laurie received a phone call from someone asking about a loose dog running around and if there is anything we can do. Tom said to call the sheriff's department. The board told Laurie to tell the individual to call the county. Since we do not have a dog ordinance, it is thought the leash law falls under the county.

8. Old Business:

- **Update on Cameras:** Jerrod said the cameras have been delivered and will be put up Tuesday.
- **Tube by Brad Wetter on Pine Knob Road:** Discussed the plan is to put a used tube in there that is from Timber Lane. Jonathan said Chris Hammel looked at it and has not called back. Jordan Mulrooney charges \$100 for smaller excavator per hour and \$200 for larger excavator. Precision is \$140 for small excavator per hour and \$250 for the large one. Discussed when to start this project.

Todd King called, and there is some land just before their place on the left-hand side with fill material but it is on private land. The board discussed if we should go on private land and pick up rock for other areas in the township that need it. Lonny said we have always hauled that out and the owner said they cleaned it out other times, otherwise it will block a 3-foot tube in that area. Jerrod will call for a locate of wire in that area then.

- **Crooked Creek Cabin Update:** See above under citizen's input regarding complaint of a blocked tube that Theresa Hollinger believes caused damage to her property.
- **Fall Cleanup Planning Update/Tire Disposal:** Tom said two 40-yard dumpsters have been ordered from Town and Country for fall cleanup on October 4. They decided to go with two 40-yard dumpsters because people probably have more stuff to get rid of because of the flooding in August. Laurayne has workers set up. Judi verified updating the fall cleanup notice stating there would be a limit of 8 tires per household with no rims. This was agreed on at a prior meeting. Jerrod will be taking the TVs, so there will be no charge for those even though the notice says there is a \$25 disposal fee.
- **Potential Funding for a Town Hall:** Jerrod discussed options of getting a loan or bonding. He said he understands bonding is more expensive to set up but you get better use of money. Theresa Hollinger was present and asked if there was a need for this and Jerrod explained there is a need for a new salt shed to be erected as the DNR had previously given a timeline of 10 years to get it taken care of. Jerrod also said we have bigger equipment and we need a shop to keep it in so it is not sitting out in the winter. The township has a well on a small piece of property that could be used as a building site. Can break it up and do salt shed first or do altogether with shop and town hall. Discussed the recently acquired town property and looking into where the lot line is. Discussed with bonding you would need an attorney and each person would have a separate contract set up and discussed the benefits of bonding versus traditional mortgage. This will be put on hold at this time.
- **Tradeoff on John Deere Tractor:** Discussed the John Deere tractor has a lot of mechanical issues. Jerrod has quotes from Ritchie's on a Bobcat and quotes from Hennessey Implement for a New Holland skid steer. Jerrod said the tractor is also not handy for things they need to do. A skid steer would be handier for mowing, grading, loading, etc. Jerrod said someone from Sloan's said the tractor would cost \$20,000 for fixing the transmission. He said it is not logical to put that money into a tractor you cannot use anyway. The township needs a new mower anyway and so could just get a mower for the skid steer instead of for the tractor. Jonathan asked if Sloan's came to look at

the tractor and diagnosed it. Jerrod said he talked to someone from Sloan's who knew something about that model of tractor and described the issues. Jonathan said Jeremy (from Sloan's) said it has not been diagnosed, has not been to Sloan's because there is no record. Jonathan said we should have them come and take a look at it to see what all is wrong. The bid from Hennessey's comes to \$11,000 (with 2 buckets, grapple and a fork) trading in the John Deere tractor with loader and mower. The skid steer is brand new with a 3-year warranty. Jerrod is leaning toward New Holland because you get most for trade-in value. Lonny had concerns about the bearings in a Bobcat. Discussed they are looking at tracks instead of wheels. Ritchie's gave a mower price – tree reaper for trees at \$7,500 or 4 foot one that goes on boom and reaches 30 feet for \$35,000. Jerrod said for rest of year they can rent a mower and then will know more what we want for a mower. Right now, we need something running to get stuff done. If we go with a skid loader and get an excavator, you can hook skid loader attachments onto the excavator. Whatever we run with skid loader, we can run with excavator.

Tom made motion to trade the John Deere tractor out for a New Holland skid loader from Hennessey Implement. Jonathan seconded the motion as long as the final cost is \$11,000 and no more. It is the bigger one with the high flow (C337). Laurie was instructed to take \$11,000 from the equipment fund. Jerrod will call Larry from Hennessey tomorrow and get things set up. The final price will be \$11,000.

- **Wheeled Excavator/Mower Update:** Discussed whether we would need a wheeled excavator with oscillator or without, knuckle on end of stick that can turn 360 degrees, etc. Jerrod called John Zenz at Peoples State Bank to get options for financing. After 10 years the excavator would still be worth quite a bit of money. Price ranges for new one, just excavator is \$270,000 and with oscillating knuckle \$325,000. Can dig out tubes, mulch trees above road, mulch roadways from fence to road. A 7-year loan has an interest rate of 4.55 and a 10-year loan 4.75. There are also used options.
- **Status of FEMA Funding (or WDF) in Relation to August 10 Flooding.** Jerrod said there were some questions and he took care of them for Jason Wagner from Grant County Emergency Management. FEMA will be coming through this week and do a walk through. Most projects are accepted and bridge they may cover part of but not all. Most of Wisconsin Valley will be covered. FEMA will replace tube if damaged or displaced or routed out around. There will be a followup for mitigation after the fact.
- **Line of Credit with People's State Bank Update:** No decision has been made by the board on this. Jerrod said we could get a \$100,000 line of credit to take care of road repairs until funding comes through. There would be no interest unless we use the money. Jonathan made a motion we don't get a line of credit. Jerrod said we have to spend the money first and then get reimbursed. All projects need to be complete before being reimbursed. There are 41 road projects. Could approve line of credit and use of any funds would still be by board vote.
- **Verbal Bid Results on Aggregate:** Results from verbal bids for aggregate are as follows: Prairie Sand and Gravel for $\frac{3}{4}$ inch gravel and breaker run is \$8 per ton plus \$10 a loaded mile to deliver. Rip rap is \$25/ton plus \$10 per loaded mile. Bard is \$14.95 for both $\frac{3}{4}$ and breaker per ton delivered. Rip rap is \$21.70 per ton delivered. Frey $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch gravel and breaker run is \$10.50 per ton delivered anywhere in township. Rip rap is \$20 per ton delivered.

- **Verbal Bid Results on Excavation/Tube Install:** Rates are for Devin Updike with Precision at \$250 per hour for their big excavator and \$140 per hour for small excavator. Jordan Mulrooney is \$100 per hour for smaller excavator and \$200 per hour for big excavator. Jonathan will try calling Chris Hammel as we do not have a verbal bid for him. Jonathan has not heard back from him yet but he did look at the sites.
- **Dry Hollow Tube Replacement/Addition Update:** Tubes are at the site. It is all marked out and waiting for an excavator to dig holes and put tubes in. There is an exposed cable where power goes up into Bill Waterman's that is still showing. Tom suggested taking sand and placing under the cable and putting rock on top. Jonathan said the one on the curve will be right in the way. Discussed if they want to get an excavator for the tube on Pine Knob and are waiting for Hammel to see what his bid is. Jonathan said he wants all of the locations or none. Jerrod said we need to get this done within another month. We can either discuss at next meeting or have a special meeting. Jerrod said we can't wait on putting in the tubes and need to get them done.
- **Follow-up on Engineering Cost for Sand Hill Road and Bridge by Marion Church on Town Hall:** Jonathan said Travis Kramer is coming out tomorrow at 9:00 at the church. Jonathan and Ray Kirschbaum will meet with Travis.

9. New Business:

- **Storage Options/Rental for Town Records and Miscellaneous:** Judi put in a request for having a place to store files and township miscellaneous office items that are all currently being stored in her home and taking up space. Since we don't have a town hall and the town shop is not a good option, she recommended renting out a storage unit in town. Jerrod recommended getting a shipping container for storage and that was discussed. Judi suggested getting the storage space first and they can look into other options later but that she thinks it would be a good idea to have accessible storage. Boscobel Mini Storage charges \$60-\$65 for a 10 x 15 and \$70-\$75 for a 10 x 20 and has rodent traps and spray spring and fall. KT storage on Cedar Road charges \$60 for a 10 x 20. Boscobel Self Storage charges \$75 for a 10 x 20. Judi said there may be a waiting list and would opt for Boscobel Mini Storage 10 x 15. Tom made a motion to get on the waiting list for a 10 x 15 at Boscobel Mini Storage. Jonathan seconded the motion. Jerrod will be looking into a shipping container to see if that is another option.

10. Future Agenda Items: Excavator, Town Hall/Salt Shed, FEMA, Line of Credit, Pine Knob Tube, Dry Hollow Road Tubes, Project Engineering, Fall Cleanup, Budget discussion.

11. Patrolman's Report: Ray Kirschbaum did hauling of rock from Peer Road and Sand Hill and put where there are cutouts on other roads. They have been cleaning culverts out. Tubes are cleaned out for the most part. Jerrod said Bob Frey was digging out and cleaning around tube by shop and knocked down the power conduit to shop. It was attached to a rotted 2 x 4 onto the shop and is patched up and good.

12. Correspondence: Jerrod shared a letter from the DNR in which they received a land donation within the township of 195.88 acres from Lower Wisconsin State Riverway. A thank you note from Scott Construction with survey.

13. Approval of Invoices: A motion was made by Tom to approve the invoices. Jonathan seconded the motion.

Additional checks written out after the September 2025 board meeting and before the October 2025 board meeting are:

- None.

14. Adjournment: Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Tom. Jonathan seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m. The October board meeting will be held on Monday, October 13, 2025, 6:30 p.m. (*October meeting moved to October 6, 2025, at Judi's request.*)

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. Boughton, Clerk