FISH LAKE TOWNSHIP
EST. 1868

2170 Brunswick Road
Harris, MN 55032
(651) 674-7709
www.fishlaketownshipmn.gov

Town Board Meeting Minutes

September 14, 2026

Board and Staff Members Present

Chair Bruce Fitzwater, Vice-Chair Jim Thill, Supervisor Donna Ferguson, Treasurer Corey Johnson, Clerk Andrea Nekowitsch, Gary Guse Road Superintendent.

Call to Order and Approval of the Agenda

Chairman Fitzwater called the Regular Monthly Fish Lake Town Board meeting to order at 6:00 pm in the Township Office at 2170 Brunswick Road, Harris, MN. The pledge of allegiance was recited by all. Motion made Thill by and seconded by Ferguson to approve the agenda as presented. Approved unanimously.

Road Report

Gary Guse presented the road report and updated the Board on projects that have been completed and in process from the last month and projects planned for the upcoming month.

2026 LRIP Application Costs. Gary will reach out to Marcus Johnson at Bolton & Menk to inquire about applying for the grant.

Letter from Janine Fairbanks regarding the culvert costs for her property. The Board received a letter from Janine Fairbanks stating that she would pay the invoice for the culverts serving her property upon completion of the work as part of the 430th project.

Fall Road Tour is set for Wednesday, September 16, 2026, at 7:00 a.m.

Treasurers Report

The Board reviewed the treasurer's report.

Bank Balances as of: August 31, 2026

Checking	$21,200.48	Broadband	$169,798.72
Savings	$819,082.81	Anchor Ave	$41,143.99

Motion made by Thill and seconded by Ferguson to accept the Treasurer's report approve bills for $585,590.88, and the current month's payroll of $ 16,169.74 and transfer funds between the following bank accounts: $600,000.00 from Savings to Checking. Approved unanimously.

Minutes

Motion made by Thill and seconded by Ferguson to approve the minutes of the previous month's meeting. Approved unanimously.

Approved

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Schedule Appointments

Dr. Jeff Horton, Rush City Schools Superintendent. Rush City Schools Superintendent Dr. Jeff Horton attended the meeting to introduce himself to the Board and share his plans and goals for the school district. He encouraged Board members to contact him with any questions or concerns they may have or receive from township residents. Dr. Horton also emphasized the importance of community involvement and encouraged residents to stay informed, engaged, and active in school district matters.

North Folk Winery Liquor License. Jeremie Reinhart, the new owner of North Folk Winery, attended the meeting to introduce himself to the Board and request approval of liquor licensing for On-Sale/Off-Sale Combination, Sunday Sales, and Wine Only.

> Motion by Fitzwater, seconded by Supervisor Thill, to adopt Resolution No. 2026-05 approving and consenting to the application of Nord Cider LLC, DBA North Folk Winery, 43020 Blackhawk Road, Harris, Minnesota, for On & Off Combination Intoxicating Liquor, Sunday Sales, and Wine Only licensing, and authorizing the Township Clerk to execute the Chisago County Township Approval Liquor certification form. Motion carried.

Clerk Report

Clerk Nekowitsch reminded the Board of the October 1, 2026, meeting regarding a proposed county ordinance amendment that would impose additional restrictions on outdoor cannabis cultivation in agricultural districts. She also reminded the Board of the Township Legal Seminar hosted by Couri & Ruppe at Rutledge City Hall on October 3, 2026.

Board Member Reports

None

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Citizen Comment

None

Motion made by Fitzwater and seconded by Thill to reconvene for the Fall Road Tour on September 16, 2026, at 7:00 a.m.

Approved

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Wednesday, September 16, 2026

Fish Lake Township – Road Inspection Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Supervisor Donna Ferguson

The road inspection meeting was held from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., with Supervisors Jim Thill and Donna Ferguson in attendance with Road Superintendent Gary Guse. Supervisor Thill reopened the meeting.

The vehicle odometer reading at the beginning of the inspection was 209,800 miles, with an ending reading of 209,832 miles, for a total of 32 miles traveled. A vehicle wash was authorized for Gary Guse.

Road Inspections and Findings:

- **Bending Avenue and Bending Circle:** The Board inspected road conditions and identified the following concerns:
    - **44905 Bending Avenue – Mike Calluci:** Requested that the Clerk send a letter directing the property owner to raise the mailbox to a height of 44 inches.
    - **44780 Bending Avenue – George Family:** Requested that the Clerk send a letter directing the property owners to remove a tire, tree-related obstruction, and swing-arm mailbox post that were identified as noncompliant within the road right-of-way.
- **430th Street:** The Board inspected the ongoing road project and requested that DW increase the slope along the downhill section to improve grading and drainage.
- **Diamond Avenue – Brian Fairbanks:** The Board discussed the property and culvert placements and agreed to leaving everything as currently established.

Additional Roads Inspected:

The Board also traveled and inspected the following township roads:

- Blackhawk Road
- Little Pine
- Amery
- Alpine
- 465th Street
- Badger Boulevard
- 467th Street
- Cambridge Drive
- Anchor Avenue

Approved

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- Bear Road
- Goose Lake Lane
- 482nd Street

The road inspection concluded at 9:00 a.m.

Adjourn

Motion made by Thill and seconded by Ferguson to adjourn at 9:00 a.m. Approved unanimously.

Bruce Fitzwater, Chair	Date	Andrea Nekowitsch, Clerk	Date

Approved