

Town of Liberty Grove
Minutes of the Town Board meeting on July 2, 2025
(this meeting was correctly posted)

Agenda:

1. Call to order
2. Declaration of quorum followed by the Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approve Agenda
4. Approve minutes from 6/18/25, 6/25/25
5. Public input
6. Report from DCTZ and DDC
7. Payment of bills
 - a. LGUD#1 bills
 - b. Town bills
8. Administrator Report
9. Consider replacement of Town launch floating launch pier
10. Consider request for consistent 45 mph limit on STH 57: CTH Q to Sister Bay Village limits
11. Recommendation from Plan Commission on Anderson request for Parcel 018-01-02312824
12. DNR sign request re life jackets at TLG water access park(s)
13. Liquor license applications
14. Operator Licenses
15. Short Term Rental licenses
16. Correspondence
17. Future meeting(s)
18. Adjourn

Chairman Goss called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Supervisors Janet Johnson, Billy Appel, and Cathy Ward were present with Dan Watts attending virtually. Administrators Kalms and Buckingham were also present along with Clerk/Treasurer Pamela Donart-Welcome and 6 members of the public.

Ward moved, Appel seconded to approve the agenda as posted. **Carried 5 – 0**

Ward moved, Goss seconded to approve the 6/18/25 minutes as presented. **Carried 5 – 0**

Johnson moved, Ward seconded to approve the 6/25/25 minutes as presented. **Carried 5 – 0**

Public input: Maureen Mercier of Ellison Bay thanked the Town for the help with Ellison Bay Day and requested a Wi-Fi router be placed at the EBCC (Women's Club) to provide internet for event vendors, as well as park visitors. Billy Appel clarified the thoughts that went into the recommendation for posting the speed limit on Old Stage Road.

Reports from DCTZ and DDC: Juliana Behme of the Door County Tourism Zone reported that of the 8% room tax collections for lodging in each municipality, 30% is distributed back to the municipality (\$273,610.00 for Town of Liberty Grove this past year) for use in their community while 70% is the minimum required by the State to be used by the DCTZ Commission toward tourism promotion & development. The Commission is currently working on getting lodging owners to be compliant with DATCP requirements as well as LLC verification and room tax reporting.

Jon Jarosh of Destination Door County reported that their goal continues to be to fuel the local economy, support small local businesses and help sustain jobs. The organization also continues working to ensure that tourism continues to benefit the people who live & work here as well as the visitors. He shared how the data shows how the overall visitor economy continues to grow incrementally and showed how the 30% portion of room tax dollars goes back to the municipalities for uses qualified by the state. He also gave an overview of the Community Investment Fund that was started in 2022.

Johnson moved, Goss seconded to approve the payment of Utility District bills totaling \$259.15 as presented. **Carried 5 – 0**

Ward moved, Goss seconded to approve the payment of bills for the Town totaling \$13,821.34. **Carried 5 - 0**

Administrator's Report: Kalms reported that the new Town Administrator is on staff, and learning the daily activities & tasks of the Town office and maintenance crew; more recent information on BEAD funding indicates it has not been eliminated, but there are changes in how the funds can be accessed that will need to be addressed; Land Use Services is investigating zoning issues; RPC hearing on July 17th to discuss a text amendment for minimum lot size exemptions for public use; the Ellison Bay Marina will be treated for weeds by on July 8 for weeds; the door operators are installed at the North Fire Station.

After discussion on the possible installation of a floating pier at the Ellison Bay Marina boat launch area to make adjustment for water level changes easier, and improve the safety for boaters, **Ward moved and Appel seconded** to proceed with plans that Pier & Waterfront Solutions, LLC put forward at the cost of \$22,637.00. **Carried 5 – 0**

Kalms explained the history of requests for reducing the speed of 55mph along STH 57 from the CTH Q intersection to the Village limits. The suggestion is to maintain the speed of 45mph along that stretch for safety. The blind hill just north of the intersection of Old Stage Rd, the curve near Dovetail Campground entrance were mentioned along with inconsistent speeds posted along northbound versus south bound lanes. After past discussions with the DOT, Kalms suggested the need to bring a more formal request from the Town Board to them for consideration.

Goss moved, Johnson seconded that the Town of Liberty Grove Board move forward with the Wisconsin DOT to explore the feasibility of a consistent 45mph speed limit on State Highway 57 from County Highway Q to the Sister Bay village limits. **Carried 5 - 0**

Ward moved, Goss seconded that the Liberty Grove Town Board recommend to the Resource Planning Commission to approve the re-zoning request for Parcel# 018-01-02312824 to re-zone the acreage according to Future Land Use maps to Light Industrial. **Roll Call:** Johnson, Watts, Ward, Goss, and Appel voted aye. There were no nays. **Motion carried 5 – 0**

Johnson moved, Goss seconded to post the sign for life jackets at Europe Lake. **Carried 5 – 0**

Goss moved, Ward seconded to approve the Temporary Class B Wine & Beer license for Blues on the Bay. **Carried 5 – 0**

Ward moved, Johnson seconded to approve the Operator Licenses for the 10 applications presented at this July 2, 2025 Board meeting. **Carried 5 – 0**

Goss moved, Ward seconded to approve the Short-Term Rental applications for 9629 North Bay Drive. **Carried 5 – 0**

Correspondence: Administrator Kalms shared an email from Pat Hickey asking for an update on the Rowley's Bay clean-up issue, and his reply: "The Board met on 6/25 to discuss the Rowley's Bay situation. The outcome of that meeting is that the Board will be looking at taking steps to effectuate the removal of the structure(s) there. Our legal staff is working on these steps to take as we move in that direction. One of the first things is to get a professional analysis and report. The Board will be meeting again once our legal staff provides further information to them. The exact how this all happens is not established yet, but could become clearer after the next meeting on the subject." He then shared the notice from Land Use Services of the July 17th RPC on allowing minimum lot size exemption for public purpose; the Dixon variance was granted by the Board of Adjustment; Patrick Voight resignation from the County Board District 19 seat; Prevea is no longer providing occupational health services or drug testing at the Door County Medical Center; a notice of required annual maintenance for the treatment system at Mariner Park.

Future Meeting: The Town office will be closed on July 4th. The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for July 16, 2025 at 6:00pm. Open Book by phone is schedule July 15th from 1-3pm, and the Board of Review is scheduled August 5th from 12-2pm.

Johnson moved, Goss seconded to adjourn at 7:16pm. **Carried 5 - 0**

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Donart-Welcome, Clerk/Treasurer
Approved 8/6/25