

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF MERRILL BOARD MEETING
HELD AT THE TOWN OF MERRILL COMMUNITY CENTER
MAY 11th, 2026, AT 5:30 P.M.**

Chairman Tony Baumann called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Chairman Tony Baumann, Supervisors Darrel Dengel, Matt Leder, Tim Mueske and Scott Oberg, Clerk Mitzi Flegner in attendance.

Also present: See sign in sheet.

Motion by Tim Mueske to accept minutes of April 21st, 2026, Town Meeting as printed, 2nd by Matt Leder; motion carried 5-0.

Treasurer's Report: Ending Balance as of May 11th, 2026, is \$1,366,961.96. After checks issued on May 11th, 2026, for \$37,374.12 and outstanding checks totaling \$20,805.38. Balance as of May 11th, 2026, \$1,308,782.16. Motion by Darrel Dengel to approve as read, 2nd by Scott Oberg; motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Darrel Dengel to approve the vouchers as presented, 2nd by Matt Leder; motion carried 5-0.

ROAD REPORT

Road weight restrictions are removed for most town roads, exceptions are Spring Lake and gravel roads, the limits will be removed as conditions improve. The township did have some overweight vehicles on our roads and were able to come to agreement with most of these occurrences, except for one where the sheriff department was called.

Tim Mueske reported on the Lokemoen boat landing; the ground underneath the blacktop was worse than what was expected. It is now filled with a solid base for blacktop.

Reflective markers have been installed on the corner of Moritzville Ave.

Cul-de-sac work has begun on Lake View Ave.

Tony met with the landowner at the end of Gibson Lake Drive. This started out with concerns regarding snowplow damage, we reviewed the proposed cul-de-sac and existing road right of way. The landowner did not dismiss the idea but would like their neighbor to add some property for this turnaround. Tony previously met with their neighbor, and they may be willing to give the township some property for this turnaround.

In the coming weeks our employees will be available to start doing road work. This will be grading of gravel roads, shoulder repair, pothole patching, and other road repairs.

EQUIPMENT REPORT

Rick Neumann was able to get the front plows off the township's trucks; snow wings are still on due to this being a two-person job.

The township's forklift is in disrepair; repairs would exceed the value of the forklift. This forklift was donated to the township many years ago, hopefully a business or person can donate the township a good used one again.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kathy Pophal discussed the board's job description and how the board decides what is above and beyond their duties. She suggested having a compensation report every month, that was agreed upon and will now be available starting at the June 8, 2026, meeting.

Scott Streich asked what roads if any will be worked on this year. Tony said there are some small projects planned. The Road Committee will be meeting soon to discuss this.

OLD BUSINESS

River Road turnaround; Tony spoke with REI and they told him that the area is surveyed and flagged. Board members should visit the river access site to understand the issues. Sandy Gipple commented that it is a dead-end road and there is already a T turnaround there and doesn't understand why the township would spend money to make it a circled turnaround. The board will look at this and discuss it again next month.

The township has not heard back from Erickson Law office, emails and messages have been left. Tony will reach out to them again. Tony and Tim went to inspect Little Florida mobile home court; there were 2 sites that were in disrepair.

Motion by Matt Leder to deny the Sorenson petition to extend ROW road to provide access to landlocked parcel, 2nd by Scott Oberg; motion carried 5-0.

The actions to be taken about the Sorenson petition are brought up to inform the board of the costs associated with the petition and how to proceed. The cost incurred by the township is \$426.69. State Statute allows the township to recover 50% of the cost, which would be \$213.35. Motion by Darrel Dengel to move forward with recouping the 50%, 2nd by Tim Mueske; motion carried 5-0.

The assessors bid notice will be in 2 issues of the Foto News and is also on our website.

NEW BUSINESS

The DS200 tabulating machine is going to be replaced with the DS300 tabulating machine for the elections in 20247. There will be a demonstration of the DS300 at the Lincoln County building on Sales Street on May 26, 2026, at 5:00 P.M.

The township has received notice of funding through LRIP for \$16,952.00. This is to go towards the rebuilding of Prairie Crest Lane from County Highway K for just over the first 1000 feet.

Questionnaire for the North Central WI Regional Planning Commission, Tony will call Fred Heider to discuss this with him. This will be discussed at next meeting.

Adding another recycling container will also be discussed at next meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

Bids for the electric work were mailed to H&H Electric, In The Lite Electric and RTL Electric.

The township is still working with the County for the blizzard recovery program.

The township received a quote from American Asphalt for Lokemoen boat landing. It will be discussed at next meeting if it should be put out for bids.

Road closure notice from Sheet Piling Services, on Monday May 18th, State Highway 17 between Smith Road and Barnes Creek Ave will be closed to ALL traffic. This section of State Highway 17 is expected to be closed through late July as they construct a new bridge over Barnes Creek.

There will be a transportation round table May 20, 2026, from 7:30-9:00 a.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn Wausau.

ADJOURN

Darrel Dengel made a motion to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Tim Mueske; motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 6:22 pm.

Mitzi Flegner, Clerk