

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF MERRILL BOARD MEETING  
HELD AT THE TOWN OF MERRILL COMMUNITY CENTER  
JUNE 8th, 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 Darrel Dengel to accept minutes of May 11th, 2026, Town Meeting as printed, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matt Leder; motion carried 5-0.

Treasurer's Report: Ending Balance as of June 8th, 2026, is \$1,327,773.28. After checks issued on June 8th, 2026, for \$43,975.22 and outstanding checks totaling \$2,917.51. Balance as of June 8th, 2026, \$1,208,880.55. Motion by Matt Leder to approve as read, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Scott Oberg; motion carried 5-0.

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

**ROAD REPORT**

Road weight restrictions are removed from all Town of Merrill roads with the exceptions of Norwegian, LaCelle, Sunrise roads, Schiller Drive and Savannah Lane. This is due to the roadwork on Highway 17 with the culvert replacement and those contractors using our town roads as a shortcut. The town has allowed residents to receive heavy truck deliveries, and many companies have asked and have been granted permission.

The road crew has been doing some patching of potholes, this work will continue. Due to the number of roads, the town is responsible for, if you have some concerning potholes, please notify the town either with a phone call or email and location. Hopefully it will be addressed when our crew is in the area.

The town has started doing some grading of gravel roads and to date most roads have been graded once. The grader operator has stated that most gravel roads are in good condition due to the grading work that was done last year.

Chairman Tony Baumann and Supervisor Tim Mueske met with Jason Lemmer from the Lincoln County Highway Department regarding Prairie Crest Lane. Jason will provide the town with a new price on the rebuilding of this road. He is also going to look at Swamp Road culvert replacement.

**EQUIPMENT REPORT**

The snow wings are still on our trucks due to employee availability and timing; this is because it is a two-person job.

The snow wing for the grader needs repair, there is cracking/bending of the metal that the wear edge is bolted to. Tony has contacted a fab shop in the Town of Merrill, and they are going to look at it and determine the best course of repair.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Greg Duginski asked about Swamp Road, where does it start and where does it end? Lincoln County Land Services doesn't know. He also asked what the plan is for Swamp Road. Tony said there should be stakes there because REI had done a survey. He will receive a copy of that after the meeting.

Kathy Pophal was thankful for the Chairman and Supervisor's monthly wage report.

Robert Galella asked about the progress of repairing Prairie Crest Lane. The board stated that resurfacing 1,000 feet of road costs \$67,000. Hopefully the town will receive some funding from the State. The town has created a Road Committee, and they will be putting together a list of roads that can and will be done now and in the future.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Clean up day, Bo Bennish stated that everything went well, he took over 400 tires with no cost to the town.

River Road turnaround; the board members did visit the river access site on May 12, 2026, to review the survey performed by REI. Tony and Another board member went to Lincoln County Land Services and Register pf Deeds on June1, 2026, to try and understand the public access property for the Rose-Len Heights Subdivision. After doing some research on the Wisconsin River access point. The town has reached out to the DNR because this involves the Public Trust Doctrine for some additional guidance. Sandy Gipple questioned the reason to construct a turnaround when it doesn't benefit any Town of Merrill residents. Sandy also was concerned with the cost that has been spent so far and, in the future, that it could have been spent in better ways, such as fixing roads. A motion was made by Darrel Dengel to table this until we hear back from the DNR, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matt Leder; motion carried 5-0.

Tim Mueske made a motion to change Old Business #6 and New Business #7 & #8 to Discuss/Approve, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matt Leder; motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Tony Baumann and Supervisor Tim Mueske went to Erickson Law office and spoke with the receptionist. She stated that they would get back to the town with a timeline, due to no response. Tony stopped in again last Thursday and spoke with the same receptionist and asked her for a timeline or if the Law office was too busy, he asked them to inform the town, she said by Thursday June 11, 2026, we will have an answer.

Chairman Tony Baumann reviewed what the last plan was for the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, regarding updating Town parts in Lincoln County outdoor recreation plan, and it is pretty much boilerplate material. Tony did talk with the Chairman from the Town of Schley and they both thought that at the end of Holdorff may fit into this plan to create a turnaround and parking for fishing and Kayaking. There would have to be funding from the State to fund that turnaround.

Chairman Tony Baumann was called in again this past Saturday during recycling, because the bins needed to be crushed down with the end loader. Another recycling container would not have helped. There was a three-week span between the recycling dates because of 5 weeks being in May. Tony is looking into a company in MN that recycles only glass, he reached out to them today so there is nothing to discuss further. This will be put on Old Business again next month.

The Town received 2 quotes for paving Lokemoen bot landing along with a section of Lynn Lane. Jenson & Son, \$20,995. American Asphalt of Wisconsin, \$18,922. Motion by Darrel Dengel to accept the American Asphalt of Wisconsin bid, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Scott Oberg; motion carried 5-0.

The board presented with a summary of the DS300 tabulating machine. Darrel Dengel made a motion to approve the purchase of the DS300 tabulating machine, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tim Mueske; motion carried 5-0.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

All liquor license applications have been turned in and payment has been made. Motion by Matt Leder to approve the liquor license applications, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Darrel Dengel; motion carried 5-0.

All bartenders' licenses applications that have been turned in payment have been made and those required also turned into certificate completion of class. Motion made by Darrel Dengel to approve the bartenders' licenses, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Scott Oberg; motion carried 5-0.

Discussed the Mobile Home Park License, the owner(s) were made aware that they still owed money for 3 sites and that there are 2 properties that need to be cleaned up. Chairman Tony Baumann looked back at some of the old Board Meeting minutes, and the board did put some restrictions on White Birch Mobile Home Park when it existed. The Board gave them a 2-month license, that gave them some time to make the corrections. Motion made by Darrel Dengel to issue M.H. Little Florida Park a 3-month temporary license, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tim Mueske; motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Darrel Dengel to approve the driveway permit for Paul Kienitz, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Scott Oberg; motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Darrel Dengel to approve the driveway permit for Jessica & Peter Mills, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tim Mueske; motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Tony Baumann investigated prices for buying a used or new truck, the cost is \$55,000-\$57,000. The cost of a used truck is almost the same price as a new truck. The town is looking to buy a 4-wheel drive gas truck. The Long-Range Planning Committee will investigate this further.

The bids for the assessor were looked at by the board; all the bids came in email. Municipal Group-\$19,200 for 5 years. Northwood Assessment LLC-\$17,400 for 5 years. Detailed Appraisals LLC-\$18,000 for 5 years. The Property Assessor-1<sup>st</sup> year-\$17,310, 2<sup>nd</sup> year-\$17,830, 3<sup>rd</sup> year-\$18,360, 4<sup>th</sup> year-\$18,910, 5<sup>th</sup> year-\$19,480. Up North Assessments LLC-\$16,224 for 3 years. Up North Assessments LLC is the assessor the Town of Merrill has had for many years, Todd Anderson is very easy to work with and get a hold of for questions, he was the only one that came to the meeting. Up North Assessments and one of the other bidding companies were the only companies listed on the 2026 WI DOR Assessor list. Motion made by Darrell Dengel to accept and approve the Up North Assessment LLC bid, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Scott Oberg; motion carried 5-0.

The sealed bids were opened for the electrical bids from In The Lite, RTL, and H&H Electric. Due to the complexity of the bids a motion was made by Darrel Dengel to move this to Old Business next month so adequate time can be taken to look at each bid, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matt Leder; motion carried 5-0.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

WEC sent a copy of the letter they sent to Postmaster General Steiner, regarding the mail for the elections.

Received an email from a Lincoln County Sherriff Deputy about a homeless person living under the bridge on Duginski Road put in a complaint that someone damaged his tent/belongings. Tony left a voice mail and am waiting for a call back to discuss what can be done.

### **ADJOURN**

Darrel Dengel made a motion to adjourn the meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tim Mueske; motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 6:42 pm.

Mitzi Flegner, Clerk