

Town of Oakfield, Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin

Minutes of the Monthly Town Board Meeting Monday, June 8, 2026, 6:45 p.m., Town Hall, Oak Center

1. Call to order

The regular monthly meeting for the Town Board of the Town of Oakfield was called to order at 6:45 p.m. by Town Chair Edward Smith at the Town Hall in Oak Center.

Present were Town Board members Edward Smith, Brad Sabel and Dean Boelk, Treasurer Amy Steinke, Town Clerk Nicole Schauer, and Road Supervisor Joe Schauer. A sign-in sheet is available for any others in attendance.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America was recited by the group.

3. Approve Agenda

Motion made by Dean Boelk, seconded by Brad Sabel, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

4. Approval of minutes from previous meetings

The Clerk presented the minutes from last month's meeting. Motion made by Brad Sabel, seconded by Dean Boelk, to approve the May 11th meeting minutes. Motion carried.

5. Public comments

Chair Smith opened the floor for public comments. There were none, so Chair Smith closed the public comment period.

Topics of Discussion with possible action

1. Attendance by Joe Venhuizen of Envision Greater Fond du Lac

Joe Venhuizen of Envision Greater Fond du Lac provided updates on several key issues currently impacting the community, with a primary focus on housing development and talent attraction.

Housing Development

- There continues to be a shortage of available housing in certain areas of the county.
- Housing costs remain high, making affordability a significant challenge for many residents.

Talent Attraction

- Envision Greater Fond du Lac, in partnership with Fond du Lac County, is developing relocation programs to attract new residents.
- A \$340,000 grant will help fund incentives for individuals and families to relocate to Fond du Lac County.
- As a goal, the initiative is focused on attracting 32 working families.
- Envision Greater Fond du Lac will serve as a resource for relocating families by helping connect them with employment opportunities, schools, churches, and other community resources.
- Employers continue to play a significant role in recruiting talent.

Other Key Issues

- Workforce shortages remain an ongoing concern.

- Global conflicts continue to create uncertainty and potential impacts on the local economy.
- A growing number of retirements is raising concerns about succession planning and replacing experienced workers.

Fond du Lac County Jail

- Envision Greater Fond du Lac is closely monitoring discussions regarding the Fond du Lac County jail.
- The organization supports maintaining public safety while also emphasizing fiscal responsibility in evaluating potential solutions.

2. Insurance Policy Itemization Review

Motion made by Brad Sabel, seconded by Dean Boelk, to accept the businessowners' policy declarations for the Town's insurance coverage. Motion carried.

3. Alcohol License Applications and Operator's License Applications

The Board reviewed the Alcohol License applications from the VFW Post 8092 and the Oakfield Conservation Club LLC, and the Operator's Licenses.

Motion made by Brad Sabel, seconded by Dean Boelk, to approve the alcohol license for Class B Beer and Class B liquor for the VFW Post 8092 for the July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027, period. Motion carried.

Motion made by Ed Smith, seconded by Dean Boelk, to approve the alcohol license for Class B Beer and Class B liquor for the Oakfield Conservation Club LLC for the July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027, period. Motion carried. Brad Sabel recused himself from the discussion and the vote on the motion.

Motion made by Brad Sabel, seconded by Dean Boelk, to approve the VFW operator's licenses for Eugene Pfaltzgraff, John Laudolff and James Wettstein. Motion carried.

Motion made by Dean Sabel, seconded by Ed Smith, to approve the Oakfield Conservation Club operator's licenses for Terry Sobotta and Holli Rilling. Motion carried. Brad Sabel recused himself from the discussion and the vote on the motion.

4. Emergency Response Plan

Clerk Schauer has been working with the County on the process to update our Emergency Response (Management) Plan. The group reviewed the updated draft and made some additions. Ms. Schauer will send the revised draft to the County for review and any suggestions.

5. Compliance Assurance Plan CAP for Recycling

Motion made by Brad Sabel, seconded by Dean Boelk, to accept the Compliance Assurance Plan (CAP). Motion carried.

Chair Smith signed the Compliance Assurance Plan as attested to by the Clerk.

6. Recycling Ordinance update

The State is requiring municipalities to update their recycling ordinances to comply with the new state guidelines and administrative codes. Clerk Schauer has been working with a DNR recycling specialist on the required revisions. Ms. Schauer presented the updated draft Recycling Ordinance to the Board for review. Following discussion, the Board had a few questions. Clerk Schauer will consult with the DNR recycling specialist regarding those questions and revise the draft ordinance accordingly.

Reports from Town Officers

1. Town Chair – Edward Smith

Mr. Smith noticed damage on the edge of Prairie Road created by the new house being built. He asked Road Supervisor Schauer to check into it.

2. First-side Supervisor – Dean Boelk

Mr. Boelk mentioned a dog that was found on Dehring Road. The dog was eventually captured by a local animal rescue organization and taken into their care.

3. Second-side Supervisor – Brad Sabel

Mr. Sabel reported on the recent WTA meeting, which included presentations by Sam Kaufman and Sheriff Waldschmidt.

Sheriff Waldschmidt informed attendees that the State Patrol building has closed and is no longer serving the area. He noted that the loss of the local State Patrol presence is a disadvantage, as the additional patrol coverage had been beneficial. The Sheriff also reported that the jail population has decreased, which was viewed as a positive development.

Highway Commissioner Janke reported that chip seal costs are expected to increase by approximately 40%. He also noted that General Transportation Aid (GTA) is projected to increase by approximately 7% next year.

Mr. Sabel reported that Director of Land Information Terry Dietzel has retired. County Executive Sam Kaufman is currently conducting interviews and has identified several candidates for the position.

4. Town Road Supervisor – Joe Schauer

Mr. Schauer submitted his monthly report, which included the following updates: Wind Turbine Projects: Minor road damage was observed at one of the driveway entrances on Kinwood Road. Mr. Schauer will discuss the issue with Barnhart, the contractor performing the wind turbine work; Brush and Ditch Mowing: Brush mowing was completed along Prairie Road, extending approximately 33 feet from the roadway using the Diamond rotary mower. Ditch mowing has also begun using the Diamond flail mower; Road Work: Crack filling has been completed. Wedging is scheduled for August, with chip sealing planned for September.

5. Town Treasurer – Amy Steinke

- a. Treasurer Amy Steinke showed the bank statement for review and presented and read the monthly Treasurer's financial packet for May, which included the General Account and the Savings Account Financial Report and Reconciliation. Motion made by Brad Sabel, seconded by Dean Boelk, to approve the Treasurer's Financial report as read. Motion carried.

6. Town Clerk – Nicole Schauer

Clerk Schauer distributed the Clerk's monthly financial packet.

- a. Ms. Schauer presented the bills, and all were audited. Motion made by Brad Sabel, seconded by Dean Boelk, to pay the bills as presented. Motion carried.
- b. Several building permits were issued: Al and Judi Messner for a new shed roof at N2593 County Road B, Sandy and Peter Steger for new windows at W7989 Schoepke Road, Ami Messner for an addition and asphalt driveway at N2597 County Road B, Ross Baumhardt and Stephanie Scharschmidt for a new single family residence at W8535 Prairie Road, Collin Newberry for a new single family residence at W9485 Elm Road, Randall and Terese Marks for a new outbuilding at W8522 Breakneck Road, SBA Communications for upgrades to telecommunication equipment at N4156 Wolf Road, Jason Roecker for two outbuildings at N2999 County Road B.
- c. Reminder of the June 18th hearing. No other updates or announcements.

Items mentioned for inclusion on next month's agenda: Emergency management and recycling ordinance

There being no further business, motion made by Dean Boelk and seconded by Ed Smith to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicole Schauer, Clerk