

GOODWILL TOWNSHIP

St. Louis County, Minnesota
8025 Oak Narrows Rd
Cook, MN 55723

Town Board Meeting Minutes July 15, 2025

Board Members Present: Supervisors: Bill Michaelson, John Jordan, Rodney Gillson,
Treasurer Ross Polley, Clerk Pam Towle

Others Present: Pam Olson, Mike Olson, Pat Michaelson, Margarete Greta
Jeske, Laurie Potter, Don Potter, Margaret A. Ratai, Shane
Johnson

Call to Order: Clerk Pam Towle called the first Goodwill Town Board Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 15, 2025 at the Lake Vermilion Fire Brigade building located at 8025 Oak Narrows Road, Cook, MN, and Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Goals of the meeting were stated to establish governance for the year, ensure compliance with State laws, and organize official roles and responsibilities.

Oaths of Office: The Oath of Office for Interim Town Supervisors were taken by William Lewis Michaelson, John Friend Jordan, IV, and Rodney Wayne Gillson. The Oath of Office for Interim Town Treasurer was taken by Ross Alan Polley. Interim Town Clerk Pamela Kay Bargsten Towle took the Oath of Office on July 8, 2025.

Business:

Motion: Appoint Supervisor Michaelson as Chairperson, motion by Supervisor Jordan, seconded by Supervisor Gillson. Nominations were called for three times and were closed. The vote was unanimous in favor; motion carried. Chairman Michaelson conducted the meeting.

Report of the Clerk was given and included activities since June.

Motion: In the future it is not necessary to print out hard copies of Board Meeting Packets for Board members, and the Clerk is to take minutes of the Board Meetings. Motion by Chair Michaelson, seconded by Supervisor Gillson. After discussion, the vote was unanimous in favor and passed.

Motion: Adopt Resolution No. 2025-01 to appoint a Vice-Chair and Supervisor Jordan as Vice Chairperson, made by Supervisor Gillson, seconded by Chair Michaelson. The vote was unanimous in favor, Chair Michaelson signed the resolution.

Approval of June 10, 2025 Organizational Meeting Minutes, corrections were discussed and was tabled until corrections are made.

Motion: Approval of 2025/2026 Board Meeting Schedule, motion by Supervisor Jordan, seconded by Chair Michaelson, the vote was unanimous in favor.

Rent of Township Office and Meeting Place, Supervisor Gillson will direct communications with Lake Vermilion Fire Brigade (LVFB) Board. Lease agreement and fee schedule from LVFB will be requested for next town board meeting. Consider to include: donations of space, fee for meeting room, mail box, posting site for notices, and insurance requirements.

Official Location for Public Notices will be on posted at the Lake Vermilion Fire Brigade Building and in the future information may be dispersed in a Goodwill Township website. Supervisor Jordan is forming an email list.

Motion: Official Selection for Legal Notice Newspaper is the Cook Herald Newspaper. Motion made by Supervisor Gillson, seconded by Supervisor Jordan. Vote was unanimous in favor, motion carried.

Motion: To select the Official Bank to be the North Star Credit Union Cook, MN made by Chair Michaelson, seconded by Supervisor Jordan. Vote was unanimous in favor, motion passed. Resolution must be written in the Credit Union language. The board directed the treasurer to go to North Star Credit Union to clarify language for their

resolution and inform them of three signers: Chair Michaelson, Vice Chair if Chair is unable, Clerk Towle, and Treasurer Polley, also a Deputy Clerk and Deputy Treasurer, when appointed.

Possible Conflicts of Interest of Board Members:

Supervisor Jordan serves on Lake Vermilion Fire Brigade Board, Commissioner of Cook Economic Development Authority, and is President of the Cook Chamber of Commerce.
Supervisor Gillson is the Chairman of Lodging Tax Board.

Zoning: Goodwill Township has no zoning at this time as it falls under St. Louis County.

Adopt a meeting place was tabled pending negotiations with LVFB.

Motion: Sign up for broadband to the Lake Vermilion Fire Brigade Building for possible installation into the building. Motion by Chair Michaelson, seconded by Supervisor Jordan, vote was unanimous in favor, motion carried.

Budget Items: Many items need filled in amounts when resident/seasonal numbers are collected. There will be a special meeting to work on the budget. Multiple committees will be needed in order to set the budget.

Budget Committee: Treasurer Polley and Chair Michaelson to include insurance matters.

Roads Committee: Don Potter worked on the roads prior to being organized. Don Potter and Supervisor Jordan.

Motion: Spend up to \$4000 on the needed supplies, to include two laptop computers, two printers, ink, paper, and appropriate programs (Office Suite), moved by Supervisor Gillson, seconded by Supervisor Jordan. The vote was unanimous in favor motion passed. Chair Michaelson was directed to purchase the supplies for use by the Clerks and the Treasurers for township business. Chair Michaelson will be reimbursed.

Insurances for Building and Public Liability can be purchased through Minnesota Association of Township Insurance Trust. Insurance should cover general liability, assets, errors and omissions, Bond Official Duties, election days, and insurance on Building Rental. Treasurer Polley and Chair Michaelson will contact MATIT.

Town Meeting to Set Levy: Third Tuesday in September (September 16) was suggested for a Town Meeting with notice posted in the paper 2 weeks in advance. **No motion was made.**

Public Safety: Goodwill Township plans to contract with the ambulance and fire departments. Fire and DMS Board, Rural Fire Association should pay full amount. **Motion to follow up and pay the full amount to the Rural Fire Association,** made by Supervisor Gillson and Seconded by Chair Michaelson. **No vote was made; motion not passed.**

Motion: Don Potter to represent Goodwill Township as the Hospital District Representative. Motion by Supervisor Gillson, seconded by Supervisor Jordan; vote was unanimous and passed.

Polling Place, Motion with no second. Private Buildings can be used if renting space and lease covers it. This is on hold until a lease can be approved.

Broadband Service, must sign up for fiber optics to take advantage of free installation. Discussion whether we can sign up as residential or business. Laurie Potter (LVFB) will follow up with Commonwealth Terrace Cooperative (CTC). **Motion: to sign up for Broad Band and get it installed with the Lake Vermilion Fire Brigade permission and have it installed into the building,** made by Chair Michaelson, seconded by Supervisor Jordan. **No vote was taken;** Supervisor Gillson will talk about this in the LVFB lease negotiations.

Paying Reimbursement: Chair Michaelson recommends (Option B) to hire verses elect a clerk and treasurer, and will need to come up with a stipend. The board was directed to read the documents distributed and prepare for comment at the next meeting.

Tax Exempt Status for State and Federal will be applied for by Treasurer Polley.

Motion: To join Minnesota Association of Townships, moved by Supervisor Gillson, seconded by Supervisor Jordan, passed unanimously. Township will use MAT's legal representation and training.

Appoint a deputy clerk Clarification on who appoints a Deputy Clerk and Deputy Treasurer will be researched by Clerk Towle through Minnesota Association of Townships.

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Receipt of Township Money from the County: Supervisor Jordan with work on this as an action item and make the proper contacts.

Cook Fire Chief Shane Johnson requested the Board to supply the number of permanent and seasonal residents in the township in order to complete his budget and to estimate future fees for Goodwill Township fire and ambulance services.

Motion: Supervisor Jordan to be the Representative to the Rural Fire Association, moved by Supervisor Gillson, seconded by Chair Michaelson. The vote was unanimous in favor; motion carried.

Motion: Accept and direct the duties listed below by Supervisor Michaelson, seconded by Supervisor Gillson, passed unanimously.

Organization List

Town Board	Chair Michaelson
Town Board	Vice-Chair Supervisor Jordan
Town Board Regular Meetings	Third Tuesday of Month at 6:00 p.m.
Official Meeting Place (tabled)	Supervisor Gillson LVFB Hall
Official Mailing Address (tabled)	Supervisor Jordan
Official Newspaper	Cook News-Herald
Official Township posting place	Fire Brigade Building
Designate Bank	North Star Credit Union, Cook
Designated Officials to Sign (Three Signatures required)	Chair Michaelson, or Vice Chair Jordan; Clerk Towle; Treasurer Polley
Designate Polling Place (pending under LVFB Lease)	Supervisor Gillson
Mileage Reimbursement	Rate at federal rate (currently 70c)
Credit Card Users None	

TOWNSHIP SERVICES

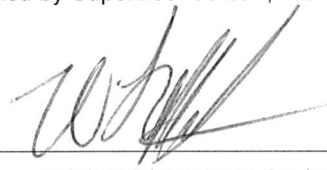
Attorney (tabled)
Insurance Carrier (tabled)

COMMITTEE & DEPARTMENT LIAISONS

Budget	Treasurer Polley, Chair Michaelson
Cemetery	None
Fire Department	Cook Fire Department
Insurance - Tabled	Treasurer Ross
I.T. (Information Technology) & Website	Chair Michaelson
Park and Recreation (tabled)	
Planning and Zoning	St. Louis County (no zoning at this time)
Police	St. Louis County Sheriff
Road and Bridge, Weed Inspector, Watershed Management. Org.,	Supervisor Jordan, Don Potter, St. Louis County
Hospital District Representative	Don Potter

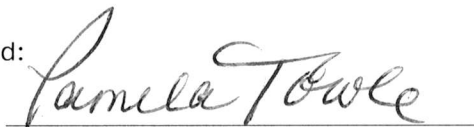
Motion: To Adjourn, moved by Supervisor Gillson, seconded by Supervisor Jordan, voted unanimously. **Meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.**

Approved on: Aug 19, 2025



William Michaelson, Chairman

Attested:



Pamela Towle, Clerk