

# **Mastodon Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

## **Tuesday, August 12, 2025**

---

*A regular meeting of the Mastodon Township Board was called to order at 5:30pm by Supervisor Chad Skinner.*

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

**PRESENT BY ROLL CALL:** Dave Smith, Stacey Watters, Chad Skinner, Karen Mallon, Mike Bjork.

**Department members present:** Dan Kurtz, Andy Fleming and Stu Creel and Tammy Hendrickson.

**Public in attendance:** Jackie Beaudoin, Susan Lucas, Samantha Lucas, Neil Adank, Sherie Courchaine.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Motion by Bjork to approve agenda as presented. Support: Watters. Call to vote: All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion by Waters to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2025 Regular Board Meeting. Support: Smith. Call to vote: All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Bjork to approve the minutes of the August 2, 2025 Lake Mary Special Assessment Public Hearing. Support: Watters. Call to vote: All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL REVIEW:** Bjork reported to the Board that he reviewed payables for General Fund checks 32504-32583 (including 2 voided checks), Road Account checks 1403-1404, Water Account checks 1869-1870, and payroll for checks numbers 32532 through 32543, and direct deposits DD1236-DD1253. Motion by Smith to approve payables and payroll as submitted. Support: Bjork. Call to vote. All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

### **REPORTS:**

**Treasurer:** Written and submitted.

**Clerk:** Written and submitted. Mallon advised the Board that Deputy Clerk Lemke has resigned, and Sherie Courchaine has been sworn in as Deputy Clerk effective August 11, 2025.

**Supervisor:** Reported that he has spoken to Iron County Road Commission, and they would like a 3-year road plan from the township. Discussion was held. Skinner will work with the Road Commission to get a list of priority work for township roads.

**Road Commission Report:** Smith reported he attended two Road Commission meetings: July 15, 2025 and August 12, 2025. At the July Road Commission meeting, it was reported that work on 424 will be starting soon, pavement markers have been completed on Tobin-Alpha Road, and Kalla Walla road work is set to go on August 25, 2025. Smith also reported that he offered traffic control assistance to the Road Commission from the fire department when needed. This stemmed from the tree clearing work done with the recent windstorm. Road Commission is looking into the Greenbelt Ordinance.

At the August Road Commission meeting it was reported Armstrong Lake Road work will begin August 25, 2025. Highland fiber optics is still working on installing lines. The Road Commission is working with the federal government by paying \$150 annually towards protection of monarch butterflies. Culvert work will begin in September near Rainbow Trail and Buck Lake Road, culvert work on Armstrong Lake Road, and work on Tobin Alpha Road has been coordinated. The Road Commission reported that the rocks on Kalla Walla will remain in place to avoid potential sink hole if removed.

**Assessor:** Written and submitted.

**Fire Chief:** Written and submitted.

**Zoning Administrator:** Written report submitted. Creel reported that the Paul and Paula Jacobs lawsuit regarding moving of their illegally placed gazebo has been presented with a settlement offer by the Jacobs. The Jacobs offered to move the gazebo at their expense if the township dismisses the lawsuit and not subject the Jacobs to paying the legal fees the township has incurred due to this lawsuit.

Board discussion took place regarding the settlement offer. Mallon reported that invoicing on legal work done has been submitted, but the invoice includes work done on the Perry and Denise Jacobs lawsuit. Mallon will separate the costs associated with the Paul and Paula Jacobs lawsuit and report that figure to the board by August 13, 2025.

Skinner offered if the accumulated legal fees in this matter is under \$4,000, the Township would counter offer that the legal fees be split equally between the Jacobs and the Township.

Motion by Smith to counter offer the Jacobs to settle the lawsuit in that the Township and the Jacobs would split the cost of the legal fees up to \$2,000.00 each. Support: Mallon. Call to vote: All ayes; no nays. Motion carried. Creel or Skinner will contact Township's attorneys regarding the counter offer.

**Planning Commission:** Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, ~~July 10, 2025~~ at 5:00 pm. Correction: September 3, 2025.

**Recreational Committee:** Report submitted. Smith asked about retractable netting for the court. Kurtz advised that he was unable to find netting that would fit the court. Smith would like the Recreation Committee to move forward and purchase netting and paint to get the work completed. Skinner advised that the Township needs quotes before purchases can be made. Watters stated that she has seen volley ball nets and soccer nets in Alpha and doesn't believe that nets will be taken. Skinner advised he can approve up to \$1,000.00 for work to complete a pickleball court set up. He will work with Kurtz to get supplies needed.

Kurtz advised that the Recreation Committee would like to replace the signs at the park. Kurtz stated there are funds in the budget for the signs. He will get pricing on wooden signs for the parks and present it to the Board.

**Village of Alpha:** No report submitted.

**Maintenance:** Written and submitted. Kurtz reported that all new road signs are up. He will present the next set of road signs. Kurtz reported he found the missing picnic tables.

Discussion was held regarding the donated park bench. Kurtz advised that a concrete foundation needs to be laid before the bench can be set. Smith, Watters and Bjork would like Kurtz to find the place for the bench.

Motion by Skinner to accept reports as presented. Support: Bjork. Call to vote. All Ayes; No Nays. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Thrasher Project Update:** Smith reported that there is date set to present the thrasher to the public and begin the cleaning of the thrasher. Saturday August 23, 2025 at Dave Smith's farm. Sunday August 24, 2025 cleaning work will begin. Mallon offered the Clerk's Office to help keep this project moving and will ensure that the Township's website is updated with the progress.

**Lake Mary SAD Update:** The Board acknowledged receipt of a letter regarding the Lake Mary Special Assessment District from the Lake Mary Association Board dated August 7, 2025. The Board will move forward on this once the Lake Mary lake survey is completed in late August.

**Adult Use Marijuana Ordinance:** Mallon informed the Board that per legal advice, if the Township decides to move forward with amending the Adult Use Marijuana Ordinance, then the Township is obligated to hold public hearings and

abide by the rules and regulations of notification to the public for any public hearing in this matter. After Board discussion was held, the Board opted not to pursue amending the ordinance.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Surveillance Cameras:** Kurtz presented a quote for the purchase of four (4) new solar cameras to be placed at township parks. Motion by Bjork to purchase four (4) cameras including a subscription to monitor each camera up to \$1,000.00. Support: Smith. Call to vote: All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

**Planning Commission Appointment:** The Board received a letter of interest from Sherie Courchaine to fill the vacancy on the Planning Commission. Skinner advised the Board he would like to appoint her unless there is an objection. Hearing no objection, Courchaine was appointed to serve on the Planning Commission.

**Evergreen Memorial Park Veteran's Flag Display Project:** The City of Crystal Falls has presented a letter seeking financial support from the Township to purchase 24 flag poles which will serve to recognize those who served our country. Motion by Skinner to request that the City of Crystal Falls submit an invoice to Mastodon Township for the purchase of two (2) flag poles up to \$1200.00. Support: Watters. Call to vote: All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

**iWORQ Service Agreement:** iWORQ is a zoning software that will assist ZA Creel in the field and allow the Assessor to access it as well. It is a tool in record keeping of matters of zoning. Creel commented on the benefits this would bring future zoning and planning personnel. The setup cost is \$4,000.00 and each subsequent subscription year is \$3,000.00

Motion by Skinner to purchase iWORQ. Support: Watters. Roll call vote: Bjork – yes; Mallon – yes; Skinner – yes; Watters – yes; Smith – yes. Motion carried.

**AT&T Upgrade Proposal:** After discussion regarding the phone and internet service provided by AT&T; the Board declined to pursue an upgrade. The Board has requested information on Starlink service and information on fiber optics.

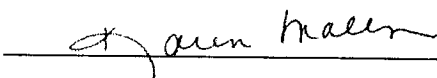
**Public Comment:** Neil Adank stated he is from the Iron County Antique Farm club, and the club would like to be acknowledge publicly for its work in the restoring the Thrasher. There will be approximately nine (9) club members who have volunteer to help clean the Thrasher on August 24, 2025 from noon until 4:00pm. Smith advised that the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August is not written in stone for the public announcement of the Thrasher and will coordinate with the cleaning on the 24<sup>th</sup> to hold the public announcement.

**Board Comments:** Mallon advised the Board she will be out of town from Augusts 14, 2025 until August 25, 2025 to attend her daughter's wedding out of state. She stated that Deputy Clerk Courchaine will cover office hours during that time.

**Details of Next Meeting:** Saturday, September 13, 2025 at 10:00am at the Camp 5 Hall.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Bjork to adjourn the meeting at 6:40pm. Support: Skinner. Call to vote: All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

*I hereby certify that the minutes contained herein are the approved minutes of the August 12, 2025, Regular Board meeting. Signed herein by the Mastodon Township Clerk, Karen Mallon on this the 17<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2025.*

 \_\_\_\_\_, Karen Mallon, Clerk