

Forest Township

Rice County
3625 Millersburg Boulevard
Faribault, Minnesota

Wednesday, January 7, 2026
6:00 PM
Monthly Township Meeting Minutes

1. **Call the meeting to order**

Chairman Ron Gernandt called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Members Present: Ron Gernandt, Larry Conrad, Dan Deutsch, Ashley Anderson, Lisa Trnka

2. Approve meeting agenda

Larry made a motion to approve the agenda. Dan seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

3. **Approve previous meeting minutes**

Ashley read the minutes from the previous meeting.

Larry made a motion to approve the minutes. Dan seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

4. **Treasurer's report**

The treasurer's report was presented with a township balance of $285,121.98. Lisa provided an overview of the receipts received, as well as the investment balances.

Larry made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Dan seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

5. **Public comment period**
    a. A resident came to ask if the Township would consider sanding a private road. Due to insurance reasons, the Township cannot provide maintenance on private roads in non-emergency situations. The board provided recommendations of potential vendors.
    b. A resident asked about the progress on the Circle Lake Septic Project. There has been no progress since Thanksgiving, due to weather.

c. A resident requested a burning permit.

6. **Fire districts**
    a. Lonsdale Fire District will meet in February. There will be a reduction in cost to the Township due to the implementation of a new formula.
    b. Northfield Fire District purchased a new truck. They also have a new tanker truck coming and have sold the old one. The estimated Township payments for 2026 is around $40,000. The Township is looking at a 14% increase for 2027. Two townships have moved out of NAFRS.

7. **Roads**
    a. Dan has a quote coming from Truck Center in Faribault for a price for a new Truck and will have it by the Annual Meeting.

8. **Subordinate Sewer District updates**
    a. Advanced Septic hasn't turned in annual reports to the County yet.

9. **Rice County Board of Adjustment and Planning Commission**

There are no items in Forest Township on the Board of Adjustment or the Planning Commission.

10. **Siren Project –** Dan is supporting the siren project; installation is moving along. Ashley received information related to installation. Ashley will send information to the installer.

11. **Filing Window Open –** The filing window for the Township Election is open.

12. **Upcoming Township Meeting Reminders**
    a. **Board of Audit –** The board is going to move the February meeting from February 4 to February 11 at 6:00 PM. Ashley will publish and post. This meeting will include the annual board of audit.
    b. **Annual Meeting** will take place on Tuesday, March 10 at 1:00 PM, voting is from 2:00 – 8:00 PM, with the Board of Canvass at 8:00 PM. The board will set levy recommendations at the February meeting.
    c. **Reorganizational Meeting** will be held on Wednesday, March 18th at 5:00 PM.

13. **Posting Window at Town Hall** –Charlie will replace the glass.

14. **Other**
    a. The Inspector has talked to the property owner on Fairfax about unauthorized buildings and driveway.
    b. Lisa has not pursued the Post Office Box at the hall yet.
    c. Township records have not yet been digitized by the Historical Society.

15. **Adjourn**

Larry made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:33. Dan seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.