

**SOUTH MOLINE TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

June 3rd, 2025

PRESENT — Greg Aguilar, Supervisor; Joe Lambrecht, Trustee; Nitra Kelley, Trustee; Maritia Griffith, Trustee; Craig Loken, Clerk; Luis Moreno, Road Commissioner; Rick Mellinger, Assessor.
Staff: Mary Beth Loos **Public:** Steve Glenn; Isaiah Fry

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER — Meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Supervisor Aguilar.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES — Motion by Kelley, second by Lambrecht, that we approve the minutes of, 2025. Motion carried, with all voting in favor.

OFFICIALS' REPORTS —

a. Road Commissioner

- a. Questions on payroll/hourly rate on staff – did some or all receive raises? Aguilar and Loos clarified staff wages including auto increases for those turning 18.
- b. Previous R&B Commissioner had several projects started but not completed. Identified issues with storage units on 14th St., concerns on water flow near property. Moreno to seek out engineer for review. Staff made note previous R&B commissioner told them “Let new guy fix it” when questioned about ½ complete or incomplete work including culvert and tree removal.
- c. Storm damage prior to winter 24-25 caused damage to R&B facility including damaged gutters – water now coming into building with mold growth.
- d. Staff has no space for lunch/break time – will look to improve facilities.
- e. Purchased several small pieces of equipment including pressure washer to maintain tools/equipment.
- f. No trailer available for township owned Skid Steer, R&B owns trucks capable of pulling.
- g. New equipment needed – culvert “thumb”, Arm attachment for mower, and welder.
 - i. Arrowhead owns a welder and will supply to township with consideration to purchase at below market rate. Will save time/money by avoiding sending out weld work. Griffith concerns on qualifications – Current employee Jim is qualified.
- h. Would like to initiate barcode system for inventory with bi-annual audit.
- i. Township owns 2 dump trucks, one from 1999 – might need replacement in near future.
- j. Moreno to ride along on first plowing trip to assess further needs.
- k. Keys never turned in from previous R&B commissioner – locks to be changed.

b. Assessor: Right on schedule for property tax assessments

c. Clerk: Will participate in Clerk specific training in several weeks

d. Trustees: None

e. Cemetery: None

f. Senior Center: Shred day held with Rep. Johnson – will continue to collaborate. New programs coming including Chair Stretch/Yoga and Meditation. Questions on how to source instructors for these – All agreed Indeed posting was best option.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT —

- a. **Veterans:** Took group to mediation event for mental health month – will be meeting soon with Rep. Johnson and Rep. Swanson who serve on related boards in State House.
- b. **General Assistance:** Update on monthly and YTD expenditures.
- c. Aguilar provided a response to a letter received by all new incoming elected officials from previous township Clerk. The letter raised concerns about Supervisor Aguilar's practices over previous 4 years – referenced he maintains an open-door policy and always willing to meet with anyone.
- d. Township needs to find a new firm to complete upcoming audit for previous fiscal year – other townships have used Baker Tilly.

NEW BUSINESS —

- a. OMA training is required by every elected official in township – email with sign-up link to be provided.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS —

- a. **Budget Presentation – 30-day wait**
 - a. Aguilar talked through salary increases in Town, Assessor, Sr. Center, GA, and R&B – increase of 16.9% for township.
 - b. Talked through any significant changes to budget from previous year
- b. **Lambrecht:** Community outreach programs could include a specific program for domestic abuse victims – baskets that include 2-night hotel stay, Walmart GC, and other items of need. Will work with local PD and shelters (Kelley had concerns of individuals not reporting abuse) to organize this idea more.
- c. **Aguilar:** Senior fan program
- d. **Loken:** Teacher Grant/ Community Beer Garden to benefit township – allow NFP to volunteer as bartenders while keeping tips for organization.
- e. **Griffith:** Sponsor Dolly Parton Book Program
- f. **Kelley:** Rec center for youth – including snacks
- g. **Lambrecht:** Questions on township re-design – Aguilar talked through safety concerns and significant wasted space in the building.
- h. **Griffith:** Felt pressured about voting on salary increases at previous meeting – with significant raises given to several employees. Aguilar commented on reasoning. Moreno mentioned conversations held with Aguilar on this topic with changes to process moving forward.
- i. **Aguilar:** Suggested moving \$30,000 from R&B budget from Vehicle to Equipment for upcoming needs
- j. **Loken:** Encouraged all trustees to review preliminary budget and offer any suggested changes to increase or decrease line items based on their review. Public Hearing to be held July 21st, 2025 with final vote to happen at regular township meeting the same night.

Griffith motion to approve, second by Kelley – motion carries with all voting in favor.