

*Dead Lake Township
PO Box 54
Richville, MN 56576*

Dead Lake Township Monthly Meeting Minutes
April 13, 2026

At 6:00 p.m., the meeting of Dead Lake Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Supervisor Chairperson Kirchenwitz.

Present: Justin Kirchenwitz, Dave Ellingson, Duane Ard, Tammy Troisdahl and Dawn Lueders.

There was one visitor in the audience. (see attached sheet)

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Monthly Meeting Minutes: Supervisors reviewed the March 2026 minutes. A motion was made by Kirchenwitz and seconded by Ard to approve the March 2026 meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report: Troisdahl reported the figures for March 2026 as follows:

General Fund	\$ 69,675.97
Road & Bridge Fund	\$ 167,571.20
Township Equipment Fund	\$ 0.00
Fire Fund	\$ 3,900.24
EMS Fund	\$ 299.91
Verizon Lease Payment	<u>\$ 621.92</u>
Total	\$ 242,069.24

Kirchenwitz made a motion to approve the March 2026 Financial Report. The second was made by Ard. Motion passed unanimously. Troisdahl reported that a total of \$107.70 was received during March 2026.

Bills for April: Lueders presented the bills for April 2026 to the Supervisors. After reviewing the bills, a motion was made by Ard and seconded by Ellingson to approve the bills as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD

Reorganization of the Board: A motion was made by Kirchenwitz and seconded by Ellingson to leave all appointments the same as 2025. Motion carried unanimously. Kirchenwitz will serve as the Chairperson, and Ellingson as the Vice-Chairperson. Ard will be the noxious weed inspector. Ellingson will be the fence viewer. Kirchenwitz will continue being the liaison for snowplow drivers. Ellingson and Ard will function as co-liaisons for the road grader operator. Kirchenwitz will be the Chloride contact.

Compensation: Kirchenwitz made a motion and Ellingson seconded the motion to increase the compensation for the Town Officers to \$100 per meeting and \$25 per hour plus the IRS mileage rate for business other than meetings. Motion carried unanimously. All expenses incurred during Township business need to have a properly signed claim form turned into the Clerk for payment. Kirchenwitz made a motion and Ard seconded to leave Election judge wages at \$30 per hour plus the IRS mileage rate, and to set the Clerk wages to \$32 per hour plus IRS mileage rate, and Treasurer wages be set at \$28 per hour plus IRS mileage rate.

Compensation: (cont.) Grader operator Randy Knaust's wages to be set at \$38 per hour and Snowplow operator Don Walz's wages to be set at \$28 per hour. Motion carried unanimously. Ard said the grader operator does some trimming of branches and such that are in the way as he blades the roads.

Backup Road Grader: Kirchenwitz brought up that he would like to have someone available in case there would ever be a need for someone to do grading if our current operator was unavailable for any reason. Kirchenwitz made the motion to have Billy Wells, from Wells Construction MN as the alternate road grader if necessary. Wells would not to be the full-time grader operator but would be willing to train someone if that became necessary. Ellingson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Official Depository: The official depository will remain the same with United Community Bank. The official posting place in the Township will remain as the posting board on the outside of the Town Hall, the website, and the Perham Focus newspaper. The monthly meeting dates will be on the second Monday of the month at the Town Hall at 6:00pm except for November which will be the third Monday of the month, with no meeting to be held in December.

NEW BUSINESS

Cozy Cove Liquor License: Lynn Gribble from Cozy Cove Resort was at the meeting to request Township approval for their On-Sale and Off-Sale of 3.2 Malt Liquor, strong beer, and On-Sale Wine license. The request was looked over and Kirchenwitz motioned to approve Cozy Cove's Liquor License. Ard seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Employee Issue: The Supervisors discussed an employee that was rude and spoke angrily and disrespectfully to one of the Supervisors. Ellingson said that this behavior was unacceptable and that any equipment belongs to the township not the operator. Ard agreed with Ellingson that the behavior displayed was not appropriate. Ard has never seen this behavior before. Ellingson said the employee was very angry and belligerent towards Ellingson. Kirchenwitz stated that the Supervisors still have the final say. Employees can offer their opinion; however, the employee needs to carry out their job as the Supervisors have told them. In the future, if this attitude keeps happening again the Supervisors will have another discussion.

Chloride Application: The Supervisors had a discussion on chloride on the roads. Kirchenwitz spoke with Corbin Excavating & Dust Control for a price on chloride once our contract with Fergus Power Pump expires after the 2026 season. Corbin stated he likes to blade the roads as soon as possible, apply the chloride and leave the roads alone until they need to be touched up. Ard stated that he feels the later in the spring the chloride is applied, the longer it will last. Ard stated the roads need to be set up, and chloride shouldn't be applied in May or June because there is too much rain. Ard said the purpose of chloride is for dust control and you don't need dust control when there is more moisture. Ard feels that the emphasis should be in July, August and September for chloride as that is when it gets dry. Kirchenwitz stated that he does not think chloride is only for dust control. Kirchenwitz feels we use less gravel on the roads by using chloride. Ellingson agreed that there isn't a need for applying as much gravel on the roads since the chloride program started. Kirchenwitz said he does not see the same thing that Ard and Randy Knaust see with the chloride roads. Kirchenwitz told Ard if him and Knaust would take him out and show him what is wrong with the roads after chloride is applied, he is willing to look at it. Kirchenwitz suggested that if it is a dry spring to go early and a wet spring to look at applying the chloride later. Kirchenwitz said he feels that Knaust starts blading the chloride roads a little too soon in the fall. Kirchenwitz feels that there usually isn't a problem with a hard freeze until almost Thanksgiving. Ard said you get varying opinions from residents as the chloride road being too rough and the blading not being done soon enough and other ones that feel the road should fall apart more before blading a chloride road starts. Kirchenwitz wants the Supervisors to come to an agreement on when the chloride should be applied and when blading of the chloride roads starts. Ellingson is in favor of the chloride program and stated that there

Chloride Application(cont): has not been much gravel taken off the new pile because the chloride program is working. Ard agrees that we have not used much gravel off the new pile and that there is not much gravel in the ditches in the spring either. All the Supervisors agree that Knaust does a great job running the grader and he helps with getting some areas of the road that need to be fixed done and saves the township having to hire it out. Kirchenwitz said that all the roads do not have to have chloride applied at the same time. If some roads are not ready yet, they can be done a little later. There was discussion about adding additional roads to the program. Motion was made by Kirchenwitz and seconded by Ellingson to apply chloride to the same roads as last year and to add 370th Street and stop at Hackberry Point; and 380th Avenue to 360th Street. Motion carried unanimously.

Park Region Fiber Optic for 2026: The board received a letter from Park Region about the proposed fiber optic installation they are doing around the Marion Lake area. Kirchenwitz said he will reach out to Park Region and tell them that they can only bore and restore their work area to the condition it was before.

MAT Government Town Rules: Kirchenwitz made a motion to adopt a resolution for using the MAT Government town rules instead of the Roberts Order of Rules that are currently in place for running township meetings. These rules would not be as strict as Roberts Order of Rules. Ellingson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Lueders will get the resolution made up for the Supervisors to approve.

Resolution for tie in election: Kirchenwitz said the township does not have anything in place on how to decide a winner in the event of a tie in an election. Kirchenwitz made a motion to use a coin flip in the case of a tie of votes in an election to decide the winner. Ard seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Lueders will make the resolution for the Supervisors to approve.

Noxious Weed Inspector Meeting: Ard reported on the noxious weed meeting that was held at the SWCD office in Perham. Ard stated that the new noxious weed is yellow celandine. This weed has bright yellow flowers and grows aggressively to form dense mats that drown out existing native plants. There is one spot south of Rochester that has it and the state is working on eradicating it. The other weed they are watching closely is Waterhemp which is difficult to eradicate, and one plant can produce up to one million seeds.

Road Tour: The Supervisors discussed the notes from the Road Tour (see attached). Govern Road and Govern Trail. There is a spot that needs as asphalt patch and both roads should have crack sealing done. The crack sealing was supposed to be done last year but Performance Paving was unable to get to it last year so that will be done this year on last year's motion. Minneshata Loop needs to have gravel added and slope away from the driveways. Dead Lake Road needs gravel by Wes and Joyce Kube's place. Rodel Drive needs gravel at the turnaround. No Name Road, add gravel at the end back over the hill. 378th Street to add gravel. Marion Lake side asphalt to have the cracks sealed. Kirchenwitz made the motion to have the work listed on the road tour completed with Mr. D's and Randy Knaust coordinating on getting the gravel applied and the graveled areas bladed. Ard seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Town hall building cameras: Kirchenwitz asked about getting two cameras to be installed on the exterior of the town hall buildings for security purposes. Ard made a motion to purchase two cameras and install them. Ellingson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Calendar Items: There were no calendar items.

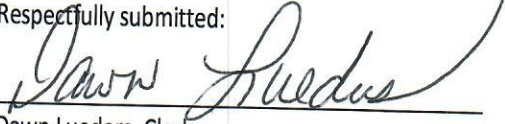
Housekeeping Items: Kirchenwitz has taken down the road closed signs.

The mail received was laid out for the Supervisors to look at if they wanted.


The next regular Board Meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. on May 11th, 2026, at the Dead Lake Township Hall.

Having no further Township business to conduct, Kirchenwitz motioned to adjourn the meeting. Ellingson seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:47p.m.

Respectfully submitted:


Dawn Lueders, Clerk

Approved:


Justin Kirchenwitz, Chairperson

Dead Lake Township

Claims List for Approval

5/10/2026

Date Range : 4/14/2026 To 5/11/2026

<u>Date</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Claim #</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Account #</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Detail</u>
05/03/2026	Arvig	Internet monthly fee	10129	\$86.95	100-49141-325-36	General Gov't Building and Plant Parking Lots	\$86.95
05/05/2026	United Community Bank	loan payment for town hall	10130	\$1,000.00	285-41501-602-285-41501-612-	Financial Administration Financial Administration	\$969.06 \$30.94
05/11/2026	Lake Region Electric Coop	Electric Bill - April 2026	10131	\$162.99	100-41940-381-49	General Government Buildings and Plant	\$162.99
05/11/2026	City of Dent	First half of Fire Contract 2026	10132	\$9,350.00	225-42210-310-	Fire Administration	\$9,350.00
05/11/2026	Lakes Area Truck Repair Inc	graphite and lubricant	10133	\$179.38	201-43126-213-31	Road and Bridge Equipment	\$179.38
05/11/2026	Perham Area EMS	First half of 2026 financial contribution	10134	\$11,824.41	230-42153-317-	Ambulance Services	\$11,824.41
05/11/2026	Tammy M Trosdahl	Mileage reimbursement - 112 miles @ .725	10135	\$40.60	100-41510-331-34	Treasurer	\$40.60
05/11/2026	Dawn M Lueders	Mileage reimbursement - 70 miles @ .725	10136	\$50.75	100-41425-331-34	Clerk	\$50.75
05/11/2026	Internal Revenue Service	Federal Withholding May 2026	10137	\$988.59	100-41950-174-100-41950-175-100-41950-122-100-41950-135-100-41950-171-	Tax Payments Tax Payments Tax Payments Tax Payments Tax Payments	\$293.97 \$68.74 \$293.97 \$68.74 \$263.17

Date Range : 4/14/2026 To 5/11/2026

<u>Date</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Claim #</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Account #</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Detail</u>
05/11/2026	Minnesota Revenue	State Withholding tax May 2026	10138	\$157.78			
					100-41950-172-	Tax Payments	\$157.78
05/11/2026	PERA	Withholding for May PERA 2026	10139	\$529.63			
					100-41950-121-	Tax Payments	\$283.73
					100-41950-173-	Tax Payments	\$245.90
05/11/2026	United Community Bank	additional principal payment for town hall loan	10140	\$1,000.00			
					285-41501-602-	Financial Administration	\$1,000.00
Total For Selected Claims				\$25,371.08			\$25,371.08



Dave Ellingson Town Supervisor

5/11/26

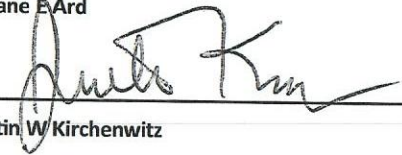
Date



Duane E. Ard Town Supervisor

5/11/26

Date



Justin W. Kirchenwitz Town Supervisor

5/11/26

Date