

TOWN OF SPRING BROOK – DUNN COUNTY, WISCONSIN

Regular Town Board Meeting

September 8, 2025

Town Board Chair John Schaefer called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. at the Spring Brook Town Hall. Also present were Supervisors Mike Hase and Jerry Hotchkiss, Treasurer Colleen Mensing, and Clerk Mary Strand.

Clerk Mary Strand verified that proper notice of the meeting was posted Wednesday September 3, 2025, to the outside Town Hall posting board and to the Town's website (www.spring-brook.org).

Mike Hase/Jerry Hotchkiss moved to accept as typed the minutes of the August 7, 2025, Plan Commission Meeting and of the August 7, 2025, Regular Town Board Meeting. Motion carried by voice vote.

Citizen's Forum – Town Resident Dennis Stahlbusch inquired of the proposed Muddy Creek Solar project. The Public Service Commission (PSC) of Wisconsin recently issued a letter of receiving an "application from Muddy Creek Solar, LLC, for the construction of a new 322 megawatts (MW) solar electric-generating facility, a 300MW Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), electric substation, and a 344-foot-long generation tie line (project)." Being that the project is over 300 megawatts, per Wisconsin Statute 66.0401, regulation of a solar project this size is strictly by the PSC of Wisconsin. There was also a general inquiry of a few hundred acres in the Town of Red Cedar that has been annexed to the City of Menomonie with future building plans on that acreage of possibly a "Data Center." Mr. Stahlbusch exited the meeting at the conclusion of Citizen's Forum.

Treasurer Colleen Mensing presented the Financial Report. Both the Checking and Money Market (Savings) Accounts are at Dairy State Bank. Account information was as follows:

	<u>Checking Account</u>	<u>Money Market Account</u>
Month Begin Balance	\$37,261.32	\$314,123.78
Plus Receipts	179,872.60	566.09
Less Disbursements	<u>- 86,588.88</u>	<u>- 50,000.00</u>
Month End Balance	\$130,545.04	\$264,689.87

Jerry Hotchkiss/Mike Hase moved to approve as read the Financial Report. Motion carried by voice vote.

Board members reviewed the document of bills to consider for approval.

Mike Hase/Jerry Hotchkiss moved to pay the bills with Vouchers #19622 through #19648 and bills received recently from Lewis Bjork, LLC; West Wisconsin Telcom Cooperative; and Dunn County Unit (WTA) for the October meeting registration(s). Motion carried by voice vote. Board members signed the report of unpaid bills. Chair, Treasurer, and Clerk will sign the checks.

Jerry Hotchkiss provided a brief update on the Menomonie Rural Fire/EMS District Agreement with the City of Menomonie. Legal representation of the District was anticipated to meet with City of Menomonie officials.

Irrigation spray on Town roads was discussed. A draft letter to irrigation landowners and users was reviewed to notify about enforcement over irrigation water on Town roads. Board members were in consensus to consider an ordinance pertaining to irrigation waters landing on Town roads and to include a \$250 fee or penalty for noncompliance. Discussion was, upon notification of irrigated water on a Town road, the landowner or user would have two weeks to correct the irrigation spray and, if noncompliance, a \$250 fee or penalty would be charged to the landowner plus the cost(s) to repair the Town road. Unpaid Town charges may be placed on the tax roll as a Special Charge to the Town's landowner.

A large acreage has been annexed from the Town of Red Cedar to the City of Menomonie. This is located on County Road B, north of Exit 45, on the East side of County Road B. It is thought to include 300+ acres and be used to construct a "Data Center." Many municipalities in Dunn County were asked to include this topic on their September meeting agendas. No action was taken on this agenda item.

Board members discussed the Straw Hill Road/boat landing (240th Avenue off the Chippewa River). The boat landing is listed as owned by Robert A. and Ruth E. Brendsel Revocable Trust. The road leads from the boat landing and north towards the old Straw/Sand Hill Cemetery. The Town has maintained the boat landing and has ethically disposed of waste left at the site. There was conversation to consider closing the road each Winter season. No action was taken on this item but it was agreed to include it on the October meeting agenda.

The dock at Elk Creek Lake is in need of repair or replacement and has been pulled from the lakeshore. Board members were in agreement to obtain estimates to repair the dock and estimates to replace the dock.

The Dunn County Unit (WTA) Annual Fall Banquet Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 22, 2025. Board members will need to notify the Town Clerk by early October with plans to attend or not.

John Schaefer reported on a recent meeting of the Colfax Solid Waste/Recycling Committee. Per capita costs to each participating municipality are planned to decrease for Year 2026. It is proposed for each of the two sites, Elk Mound and Colfax, to purchase a new compactor with current funds.

Mike Hase reported the Elk Mound Fire District has approximately 20 firefighters with an additional individual in the process. Updates to the fire hall are under consideration. A regular meeting is scheduled for this Wednesday, September 10.

Jerry Hotchkiss reported on the recent Annual Meeting of the Elk Creek Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District. There are no plans to issue a Special Charge until the 2026-2027 tax roll. Also, there has been no success in locating grant monies towards dredging of the lake. The District's quarterly meeting is planned for this Wednesday, September 10.

Clerk Mary Strand provided a printed report and also shared the Building Inspector Report; the Menomonie Fire Department Report for July 2025; two Sanitary Reports; two Register of Deeds Reports of parcel sales; a report regarding water testing at the Spring Brook Town Hall from Dunn County Land and Water Conservation; a Clean Sweep flyer; and a copy of a letter that the Public Service Commission (PSC) of Wisconsin has received an application from Muddy Creek Solar, LLC for construction of a new 322 MW solar electricity generating facility.

Patrolman Mitch Kreutzer reported pot hole filling and grader patching are almost complete. He is repairing prairie/farm roads with added base and grading for planned heavy hauling this Fall. Mowing of ditches is underway. Paving of 710th Street was done today. Paving of 1008th Street is planned for tomorrow. Haas Sons, Inc., will shoulder 750th and 710th Streets. Crack filling and tree trimming were both completed last week. Improvements to 408th Avenue are complete with a 15" culvert added, 2" foam put over the culvert to aid in less freezing, and the ditches being seeded.

Jerry Hotchkiss/Mike Hase moved to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.


Mary L. Strand, Clerk