

Town of Rock Elm

Elmwood, Pierce County, Wisconsin

MINUTES

Tuesday, May 12, 2026

Meeting called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Chairman Tim Bates.

Others present: Matt Holcomb, Supervisor; Adam Carson, Supervisor; Dave Bechel, Patrolman; Dawn Churchill, Clerk; Pam Reitz, Treasurer; and 3 residents and 1 non-resident.

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Matt Holcomb, second by Adam Carson, motion carried.

Minutes from previous meeting

Minutes from the April 21, 2026, meeting were read.

Motion to approve with corrections made by Matt Holcomb, second by Adam Carson, motion carried.

Financial Report

Dawn gave the financial report. Balance at the end of the month before bills are paid was \$120,333.74. This month's bills to pay total \$28,228.89. There is no expected income.

Motion to approve payment of bills made by Adam Carson, second by Matt Holcomb, motion carried.

Unpaid fire call bill

There is an outstanding bill of \$750. Discussion with the person who incurred this bill and even though he feels he does not owe this amount, the board stated it still needs to be paid; installments can be made.

Data Center Ordinance

Pierce County had a meeting about adding language to the current Land Management code. One notable point is that a data center could only be located in an industrial area; Rock Elm has none. There are no proposed data centers for Pierce County currently. Great Lakes Neighbors United could be a helpful resource.

Solar Farm Ordinance

Hartland township did adopt an ordinance. We will reach out to Baldwin township and Hartland to look at their ordinances.

It was brought up that the Comp Plan should probably be updated to include language for both Data Centers and Solar Farms and this will be discussed at the next meeting.

ARIP Engineering

Mark Peterson from Ayres out of Eau Claire presented information on their firm and outlined what an engineering firm does throughout the process for an ARIP project.

Rock Elm will need to start the process to find an engineering firm for our project. This will be discussed at a future meeting.

Tractor and mower plan

The tractor is to come in sometime in August, barring no delays. Discussed listing the tractor on an auction site when we are notified that Tractor Central has a delivery date. Tim wants to take delivery of both the tractor and mower at the same time so there will only be one loan applied for. Dawn will contact the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands to get information on initiating the process.

Highway report

- **Presented by Dave Bechel, Patrolman**

- Been grading roads
- Did ditching on 510th Ave. with grader before crops were planted and driveways are installed
- Installed 30ft x 18" culvert on 510th Ave. to help with ongoing drainage problem; Greg Bechel Trucking installed
- Installed a 50ft x 36" culvert on 190th St., "Skunk Hollow", after heavy rain took half the roadway; Elbe's installed
- Met with Tom Bechel on driveway permit on 130th Ave.
- Been mowing the shop and cemetery
- Installed summer rims and tires on dump truck
- Dust control this year will be \$2,400 (1600 gallons)
- We have a failing culvert on 130th St., the top is crushed down

Motion made to have the same company do the dust control at a cost of \$2,400 made by Matt Holcomb, second by Adam Carson, motion carried.

- **Onsite gas barrel for the truck**

The price for a 280-gallon double walled fuel tank with pump is \$4,400. Even with the savings in the cheaper cost of gas going in the barrel, it was felt it would take a long time to recoup the \$4,400.

Motion to NOT have a gas barrel on site made by Adam Carson, second by Matt Holcomb, motion carried.

- **Driveway permits, update**

Two permits were discussed. Eric Bechel driveway is fine. Yoder and Borntreger driveway changes are now acceptable.

Motion to approve both driveway permits made by Adam Carson, second by Matt Holcomb, motion carried.

- **Purchase of hotbox**

The town purchased a hotbox on Hansen Auctions in Wausau for \$1,750; with title and buyer's fee the total was \$2,159.50. It works great and is in great shape.

Motion to purchase the hotbox made by Adam Carson, second by Matt Holcomb, motion carried.

- **Resident interested in concrete culverts at town hall**

They will need to talk to the Pierce County Highway Department about this, as they do not belong to the town.

- **Rock Elm public land**

This land is an old rock quarry.

Motion made that the township is not selling land made by Adam Carson, second by Matt Holcomb, motion carried.

Tim noted that he spoke with Milestone about getting the bid for rock and they waived the fuel surcharge.

Tim had a conversation with Haas Inc, and signed a contract with them that is not tied to any quantity of rock; this will also allow residents to purchase rock at the same cost as the town.

Tim was approached by Lili Schutz about her mailbox placement. This mailbox is in the right-of-way and is fine where it is.

The box culvert plans are done at Weiser Concrete. Installation may be a bit more involved.

Public Input

None. It was noted that some residents prefer that this be at the beginning of the meeting, however, will remain at the end. Tim reiterated that public comments during agenda items has always been allowed.

Correspondence

Reviewed

Set date and time for next monthly board meeting

The next meeting will be June 9, 2026, at 8:00 p.m.

Motion to adjourn made by Adam Carson, second by Matt Holcomb, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Dawn Churchill, Clerk