

**Minutes of The
October 7, 2025 Regular Meeting
Sugar Grove Township
Kane County, Illinois**

CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor Rowe called the meeting to order at 6:07p.m. followed by Roll Call and the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Present were Trustees Jerry Elliot, Lewis Medina, Rick Montalto, Supervisor Tom Rowe, and Assessor Curt Karas. Absent were Trustee Jon Bobbe and Clerk Marion Bond. Also Present: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Supervisor Rowe asked for a motion to approve September 2, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion by Trustee Elliott, second by Trustee Medina. Supervisor Rowe asked if there were questions regarding the minutes. Trustee Elliott questioned what was going on with the audit. Supervisor Rowe stated the auditors were working on getting things cleaned up. They have filed for an extension; the audit was originally due September 30th. There are now 60 days left of the new extension. The auditors will be present at the December meeting. With no further questions, roll call proceeded. Trustees Elliott, Medina, Montalto, and Supervisor Rowe voted aye, 0 nay. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS & REPORTS:

Township Check Register -Supervisor Rowe asked for a motion to approve the Township bills for the month of September. Motion by Trustee Medina, second by Trustee Montalto. Discussion included printer issues with two checks: one to Ancel Glink and one to Clarity Technology. Assessor Curt Karas confirmed recurring monthly IT support charges of \$431.50. Check #9963 to Hill Country Store for senior lunch catering (chili, cornbread, salad). With no further questions, roll call proceeded. Trustees Elliott, Medina, Montalto, and Supervisor Rowe voted aye, 0 nay. Motion carried.

Road District Check Register & Reconciliation Report - Supervisor Rowe asked for a motion to approve the Road District bills for the month of September. Motion by Trustee Elliott, second by Trustee Medina. Discussion included a duplicate check to Welch, salt enhancement purchase, check #13350 to Worldwide Steel for new Road District building, and transition to autopay for Aflac. With no further questions, roll call proceeded. Trustees Elliott, Medina, Montalto, and Supervisor Rowe voted aye, 0 nay. Motion carried.

Payroll Reports for September 2025 along with PTO reports - Payroll & PTO Reports were presented year-to-date. Trustees agreed to continue with this format. Quarterly stipends were discussed; Supervisor Rowe will follow up on missing deposits.

PROFIT & LOSS REPORTS: April - September 2025 reflecting six months of the Fiscal Year. Discussion included unresolved health insurance and IMRF accounts, miscoded publishing expenses, amortization of PAM's agreement, and Mental Health Fund property tax revenue.

QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORTS: Supervisor Rowe presented the report through September 30, 2025. Motion by Trustee Elliott, second by Trustee Medina. Discussion included redemption of CD at Waterman Bank and deposit into First National money market fund. With no further questions, roll call proceeded. Trustees Elliott, Medina, Montalto, and Supervisor Rowe voted aye, 0 nay. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

REPORTS:

Supervisor's Report: Supervisor Rowe reported that the Township's most recent Senior Lunch featured Hills Country Store. It was a successful event with approximately 70 seniors and volunteers. He also shared details about two proposed solar field developments. One on Jericho Road and another on Prairie Street near Settler's Ridge. He acknowledged the Township's primary concern regarding the Prairie Street site, which may interfere with long-term plans to extend Gordon Road through that area. The Village of Sugar Grove has also received the applications and may provide input. The county zoning hearing is scheduled for October 28, with public comments due by October 17. Additionally, Supervisor Rowe noted visible progress at the development site on the corner of Route 56 and Galena, where site grading and equipment activity are actively underway.

Assessor's Report: Assessor Curt Karas provided a brief update during the meeting. He confirmed that his office had received and reviewed the zoning application materials related to the proposed solar field developments. He acknowledged the Township's concerns, particularly regarding the potential impact on future infrastructure plans. Additionally, Assessor Karas noted visible progress at the development site located at the corner of Route 56 and Galena, where substantial site preparation and construction equipment activity is currently underway.

Highway Commissioners Report: Highway Commissioner Doug Musser reported that road striping and overlays have been completed, and the final round of mowing for the season is finished. The new Road District building project is currently on hold, pending the return of stamped architectural prints and engineering inspection. Once approved, construction will proceed. He also announced the purchase of a new paint striping machine for \$8,000. This acquisition was made to reduce reliance on county contractors, who have become increasingly delayed and expensive. The County is also investing in a \$400,000 striping truck to serve all 16 townships in Kane County. The Township's new machine will allow for more timely striping of crosswalks and stop bars, particularly after the school year ends. A new truck from Henderson has been delivered and is undergoing minor adjustments. The team is preparing two trucks for winter operations, including installation of salt spreaders, plows, and wings, with a goal of full

readiness by the end of October. Snow fence installation and additional truck servicing are scheduled to be completed by Thanksgiving.

Trustees Reports:

Community Building: Trustee Bobbe was absent so there was no Community Building report.

Mental Health: Trustee Rick Montalto reported that the final *Groovin' in the Grove* concert of the season took place on September 4th. Although attendance was lower than previous events due to cooler weather (approximately 400 attendees compared to the usual 800–1,000), the concert was still well-received. The Sugar Grove Arts and Entertainment Committee, of which the Township is a member, held a year-end meeting to review the season and begin planning for next year. Proposed musical genres for 2026 include Motown, blues, country, and rock, with primary and alternate bands already identified. No additional funding is being requested beyond the Township's ongoing \$2,000 contribution, which will be addressed during the upcoming budget cycle. The current event budget stands at just over \$11,000.

Airport Authority: Trustee Medina reported that the next meeting is scheduled for October 13th.

Water Authority: Trustee Jerry Elliott reported that Blackberry Creek increased from 2,700 gallons per minute to 7,000 gallons per minute, indicating the watershed is functioning effectively. However, he noted that the average flow is typically 12,000 gallons per minute, and the six monitoring wells remain about 1.5 feet below normal levels compared to the same time last year. Trustee Elliott also shared that the City of Aurora had been pumping from Well 101 at Blackberry Farms between August 14 and 22, extracting nearly 21 million gallons of water—an average of 8 million gallons per day. The reason for the increased pumping remains unclear. He attended a Northwest Water Planning meeting where a presentation was given on plastics in water systems, particularly PFAS contamination. He plans to obtain and share the presentation with the board. Additionally, Trustee Elliott reported that Pat Hestekin resigned abruptly from the Water Authority Board. He spent two days reorganizing programs and accounting. Jeff Hum has been signed on as the new treasurer, and Trustee Elliott himself was re-appointed as an authorized signer to sign checks. A potential replacement for Pat Hestekin is Dan Neely of Neely Wells, who has expressed interest but has not yet been confirmed.

Clerk – Clerk Marion Bond was absent so there was no Clerk's report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Sexual Harassment Online Training Reminder - Supervisor Rowe reminded the Trustees that they all needed to complete the mandatory Sexual Harassment Online Training before the end of the current year

TOC (Township Officials of Kane County) Annual Dinner – Supervisor Rowe reported that the TOC Annual Dinner met its attendance minimum of 60 guests and will be held at the Lincoln Inn. The cost is \$40 per person. A reservation was made for a full table of eight attendees. The event will take place on Wednesday, October 22nd, with a social hour beginning at 5:00 p.m. and a keynote speaker scheduled. Supervisor Rowe also proposed purchasing a \$50 Fireside gift

card as the Township's contribution to the event raffle, noting it is a popular item among attendees. Supervisor Rowe asked if there were any questions, there being none he called for a

motion to approve registration for a table of 8. Trustee Elliott moved and Trustee Montalto seconded the motion to approve the TOKC Dinner reservations. Trustees Elliott, Medina, Montalto, and Supervisor Rowe voted aye, 0 nay. Motion carried

NEW BUSINESS

Holiday Spirit Donation: Supervisor Rowe reported that the annual Holiday Spirit Donation, coordinated by Conley Outreach and Jen Long, was up for consideration. In previous years, the Township contributed \$200 to support this initiative. A motion to approve a \$200 donation was made by Trustee Jerry and seconded by Trustee Lewis. Trustees Elliott, Medina, Montalto, and Supervisor Rowe voted aye, 0 nay. Motion carried.

Holiday in the Grove Sponsorship: Supervisor Rowe reported that the Township received updated sponsorship levels for the Holiday in the Grove event. This year's \$200 "Stocking" sponsorship includes an indoor banner at the Pancake Breakfast, social media and website recognition, and logo placement on event placemats. A motion to approve the \$200 sponsorship was made by Trustee Elliott and seconded by Trustee Lewis. Trustees Elliott, Medina, Montalto, and Supervisor Rowe voted aye, 0 nay. Motion carried.

Discussion on Reindeer Expense: Supervisor Rowe opened discussion regarding the \$3,500 expenditure for reindeer at the Holiday in the Grove event. Concerns were raised by board members regarding the cost and value of this expense. Trustee Montalto expressed opposition, and Supervisor Rowe noted he would have voted against it had he been present at the original vote. No formal action was taken, and it was noted that no deposit or contract had yet been signed.

Illinois America 250 Commemoration: Supervisor Rowe introduced Resolution No. 2025-C, recognizing the 250th anniversary of the United States. The resolution was drafted using a template provided by the Township Officials of Illinois (TOI), encouraging townships to commemorate the milestone throughout the year. Supervisor Rowe suggested incorporating the theme into the April Annual Town Meeting. A motion to approve the resolution was made by Trustee Lewis and seconded by Trustee Montalto. Trustees Elliott, Medina, Montalto, and Supervisor Rowe voted aye, 0 nay. Motion carried.

Next Regular Meeting will be Tuesday, November 4, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

Adjournment: Trustee Montalto motioned, Trustee Medina seconded, voice vote carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:03 p.m.