

**Annual Meeting Eastern Township
March 11, 2025
Eastern Township Hall**

The annual meeting for Eastern Township was called to order by clerk, Sue Ellwanger at 8:15 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The first order of business was to select a moderator for the meeting. Connie Tarasek made a motion to have Sue Ellwanger, clerk, to moderate the annual meeting. Mike Lage seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion. The motion was approved

A motion was made by Bob Lahman to approve the agenda with flexibility. Mike Lage seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion. The motion was approved.

The Minutes from the 2024 Annual Meeting were given to all in attendance prior to the meeting and attendees were encouraged to read the minutes. As Annual Meeting Minutes are official with the signing of them three days following the annual meeting, the minutes will stand as printed.

Treasurer, Dana Guse presented the financial report for 2024.

Treasurer's Report for 2024				
<i>January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024</i>				
Fund	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Expenditures	Ending Balance
General	\$ 268,587.28	\$ 64,959.64	\$ 59,026.12	\$ 274,520.80
Road & Bridge	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 141,526.56	\$ 100,167.60	\$ 121,358.96
Emergency Services	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 16,133.34	\$ 15,479.78	\$ 20,653.56
Total	\$ 368,587.28	\$ 222,619.54	\$ 174,673.50	\$ 416,533.32
Increase in Balance	\$ 47,946.04			
Account Balances as of 12/31/2024				
CD's	\$ 234,485.11			
Checking	\$ 182,194.43			
Outstanding Check	\$ (146.22)			
	\$ 416,533.32			

A motion was made by Mike Lage to accept the financial report as presented. Bob Lahman seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion. The motion was approved.

The 2026 proposed tax levy (payable in 2027) was presented.

- Road and Bridge: 100,000.00
- Ordinary: 46,000.00.
- Fire/Ambulance: 18,000.00
- **Total Levy** of \$164,000.00.

Mike Lage made a motion to approve the 2025 levy as presented. Bob Lahman seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion. The motion was approved.

The township's 2025 fire coverage contract with the Parkers Prairie Fire Department is \$ 7,289.00.

The 2025 Parkers Prairie Community Ambulance Assessment is \$8,800.00. Both the fire coverage and ambulance assessment are paid in full.

Ambulance Report

Mike Lage gave the ambulance report. In 2024 there were 224 calls and 41 no loads, for a total of 183 paying calls, 0 transferred care and 0 dead on the scene. There were:

- 10 calls in Eastern Township
- 48 calls to St. William's Living Center
- 41 calls in the City of Parkers Prairie
- 7 calls in Effington Twp.
- 1 call in Urbank
- 12 calls in Elmo Twp.
- 2 calls in Leaf Mountain Twp.
- 3 calls in Woodside Twp.
- 2 calls in Leaf Valley Twp.
- 9 calls Parkers Prairie Twp.
- 13 in Miliona Township/City of Miliona
- 2 in Spruce Hill Township
- 5 calls to Sanford Medical in Parkers Prairie
- 24 calls – mutual aid in Alexandria
- 4 call Millerville Twp.
- 0 Mutual Aid call -Henning
- 41 no loads and 26 ALS Intercepts
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There was income of \$408,208.73 and expenses of \$205,425.40 with a balance of \$202,783.33 for 2024.

Mike Lage mentioned the community ambulance loses money on all ALS intercepts. It was mentioned that ambulance services throughout the state are struggling. The reimbursement from Medicare is at 1/3 of the cost that each run costs. At this time the community ambulance is doing

ok because of the assessments to the townships and cities in the Joint Powers. The Community Ambulance depends on fund raisers to help balance their budget.

The joint powers also purchased a “new to them” 2023 Ambulance for \$184,000.00 It had been in a wreck and after very close inspection, they could not find any type of damage to it. A new ambulance would cost about \$370,000.00. The oldest ambulance was traded in during the purchase. The second ambulance has about 195,000 miles on it.

Weed Report

Mike Lage gave the Township Weed Report

There were 2 weed inspections and 4 follow up inspections done in 2024.

10 landowners were contacted about voluntary compliance of the noxious weed program.

Noxious Weeds that are a concern in Eastern township:

- Wild Parsnip
- Canada Thistle
- Plumeless Thistle

Additionally, we will notify landowners if Cow Parsnip is identified on their property.

\$3,339.00 was spent on spraying 37 miles. Road Ditches were mowed 3 times during 2024. The cost was \$3,085.72.

The moderator read the road maintenance report.

Road Maintenance Report:

- 6 rounds of plowing snow
- 1 round of sanding intersections
- 9 ½ rounds blading of roads
- 3,724 yards of Class 5 Gravel were applied to town roads
- 9,603 feet of calcium chloride was applied to township roads
- Cleaned out culvert on the minimum maintenance road 150th St.
- Install road signs

Mike Lage also mentioned that a new culvert was installed on 120th St.

Charitable donations were discussed. Amanda Dobratz made a motion to give \$500.00 each to:

- Ottertail County Historical Society,
- East Ottertail Historical Society,
- Some Place Safe,
- East Ottertail Agricultural Society
- Parkers Prairie Food Shelf.

Tom Guse seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion. The motion was approved.

Set Gopher and Beaver Bounty

Mike Lage made a motion that the rate for pocket gophers at \$4.00 per pocket gopher, \$1.00 per striped gopher. Connie Tarasek seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion. The motion was approved.

Mike Lage made a motion to set the bounty for beavers at \$100.00. Tom |Guse seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion. The motion was approved.

Set Voting Hours and start time for 2026 Annual Meeting

A motion was made by Bob Lahman to have the voting hours for the 2026 annual meeting from 5 pm-8 pm. The annual meeting starts at 8:15 pm. The meeting will be held at the Eastern Township Hall. Mike Lage seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion. The motion was approved.

There being no other business brought before this meeting; Mike Lage made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The 2025 Eastern Township Annual meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Ellwanger, Clerk and Moderator
Eastern Township

Michael Lage, Chairman Eastern Township