Northwoods EMS District
Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 25, 2026
Boulder Junction Town Hall

A quorum of Town Board members from each of the four member Towns may be present at this meeting. No official Town Board action will be taken by these members during their attendance at this meeting.

1. The Meeting was called to order by Phil Harris at 11:00 am and he verified that the Agenda had been posted appropriately. Those in attendance were:
   Committee: Phil Harris, John Hanson, Steve Herzberg, Dennis Ruess, Nicholas Newton, and Al Eschenbauch
   Command staff: Chief Jason Joling and Deputy Chief Jessie Mabie
   EMS Consultant: Dana Sechler
   Others in the meeting / online: Al Eschenbauch, Kathy Logan-Weber, Laura Bertch, John Heiser, James Plautz, Robert Silvis, Corky Curtis, Bob Skrobot, Tim Schmitt, Doug Zeise, and Dharris
2. Motion by Steve Herzberg, second by Dennis Ruess, to approve the agenda. Voice vote: all ayes.

3. Reports
   a. Liaison report – Steve Herzberg reported on the excellent crews and staff that he continues to work with. He shared some of the progressive protocols that NEMSD has, with his counterparts in California, and they are impressed with them as well.
   b. Chief's report –
      i. Chief Joling echoed much of the previous report, concerning the clinical care provided by the EMT's, AEMT's, and Paramedics.
      ii. The Roster is now back to full staff.
      iii. The carport is almost completed, which allows for the covering of the vehicles.
      iv. The administrative staff have been working on the required licensing renews for both the Service (NEMSD) as well as all the staff—both paid and volunteer. All paperwork needs to be completed no later than June 30, 2026.
   c. President's report – Phil Harris expressed how proud he is with the staff of NEMSD. He receives phone calls about all the positive work that has been done in the community. He expressed a "Thank you" to everyone involved.
   d. Treasurer's report – John Hanson passed out the Profit & Loss statement through 6/25/26, for the group to review. Discussion and clarification occurred regarding the finances, including overtime and PTO balances—as well the various Bank accounts.

c. Committee reports

i. Building Committee report – Dennis Ruess had presented a plan to group that he had worked on a few years earlier. A representative from DesignTech was at the last meeting. He will be working with the Committee to determine some space needs. The group also discussed some site locations. One site had been eliminated, but it may be back available. Several other sites are available, but no decisions have been made.

ii. Grant Committee report – an official statement will be made at a future meeting, as this topic was not officially on this agenda.

4. New Business

a. Discussion of Bylaws and Intermunicipal agreement. John Hanson read through the various proposed changes in a document that was created, in which he wanted to discuss with the NEMSD Board members. He felt that the proposed changes clarified the authority of the Towns and the District Board, and wanted to know if the changes made sense, and were reasonable. Quite a bit of discussion occurred between the members of the NEMSD Board, as well as comments from the audience were heard.

A Motion was made by John Hanson, seconded by Dennis Ruess to approve the proposed changes to the Bylaws / Intermunicipal Agreement as presented to the Board. Voice vote: 2 Ayes, 2 Nays. Motion failed.

5. Chief Jason Joling read through some correspondence that he received from the Town of Lac du Flambeau, regarding the option of joining the Northwoods EMS District. No action was taken. The topic will be placed on a future agenda.

6. Steve Herzberg brought up some discussion points, that he has found for some future Grants, for the Grants sub-committee to discuss the steps and options in which to apply. John Hanson also brought up the options associated with the next round for the Innovation Grant. Dana Sechler is creating a document that can be used by the group to discuss with Legislators, about better ways to administer the Innovation Grant—to the benefit of NEMSD.

7. The President adjourned the meeting at 12:50 pm.