

**Miami Township Trustees**  
Minutes of September 18, 2023

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m. by Chairperson Moir, with Trustee Mucher and Trustee Hollister present.

Fire Chief Denny Powell was in attendance.

Yellow Springs resident Jeanna GunderKline was also present.

**Adoption of Minutes**

Trustee Mucher **moved to adopt the minutes** of September 6, 2023, as presented. Trustee Hollister **seconded**, and the **motion carried unanimously**.

Trustee Hollister **moved to adopt the minutes** of the special meeting held September 13, 2023, when **Resolution 2023-37 Amendment of Permanent Appropriations** was approved, as presented. Trustee Moir **seconded**, and the **motion carried unanimously**.

**Payment of Accounts**

Trustee Mucher **moved** and Trustee Hollister **seconded to pay bills** in the amount of **\$43,540.44**:

- General Fund – \$1,789.34
- Fire Fund – \$42,990.09
- EMS Billing – \$3,183.32
- Cemetery – \$550.35
- Road and Bridge – \$7,974.01
  - 2021 – \$5,752.64
  - 2031 – \$2,221.37

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**Correspondence**

The Trustees received correspondence as follows:

- DeAndra Navratil, Greene County RCPP: **Perspective 2040 report completed**, available on their website (Greene County land-use planning)
- Collin Claywell, Office of the Governor: **Certificate of Appointment of Chris Mucher to State of Ohio Cemetery Dispute Resolution Committee, 2024** (4-yr term)
- Jalana Lazar: Request to be considered for **Miami Township BZA alternate**
- Ohio Auditor of State: Memorandum of Agreement to award Perry and Associates the **contract to audit the Township fiscal office** for the period of January 1, 2023-December 31, 2027
- David Graham, Greene County Auditor: **Property tax levy issues**, costs, and proceeds re: the November 7, 2023, election
- DeAndra Navratil, Greene County RCPP: **Executive Committee Packet** for September 19, 2023

- Resident input re: **Pitrone agritourism permit** – 15 in favor, 1 against
- Department of Development: Non-profit funding workshop, **Progress for Veterans** webinar
- Michele Clements, Greene County Township Association: **Minutes** for June and July (Miami Township returned to email list after a lapse)
- Ethan Raby, Director at Greene County Emergency Management Agency (EMA): Greene County Coordinating and Planning meeting on September 19, 2023, from 1:30-3:00, re: the **total solar eclipse coming April 8, 2024** – Chief Powell plans to attend, reported 7K+ visitors are expected for Greene County
- Laurie Fox, Greene County Public Health: **September is National Preparedness Month** – focus on older adults in disasters/hazardous events

### Public Comment on Agenda Items

Mark Heise re: zoning process concern – unable to attend. No other comments.

### Fire Department Report

Chief Powell reported **19 EMS runs** and **9 fire calls** since last meeting.

He met recently with Ethan Raby from EMA to discuss various **emergency-response issues** (see Correspondence above re: solar eclipse).

In light of several recent **mutual aid calls**, Chief Powell provided a review of the process.

He reported moving departmental **streaming services** from Spectrum to YouTube will save about \$70/month after initial hardware purchase.

Trustee Mucher asked about progress on the **scheduling software**. Chief Powell reported an in-service is scheduled this week, with a demo user in-service to follow. He expects the system to be live on October 1. He noted the new program is much better than the old system. A brief discussion was held re: reporting hours, overtime, recordkeeping, etc. Chief Powell noted old records will be archived digitally so they remain available.

Trustee Mucher asked for an update on **Medicount** (ambulance and EMS billing service). Chief Powell said he is expecting a call-back from them to schedule an interim audit. Trustee Hollister noted the Township generally has a very high rate of return from insurance coverage. Chief Powell agreed, noting that will be part of the upcoming discussion.

In response to Trustee Mucher's query on the status of **moving old emails** to the new system/archiving, Chief Powell noted there have been delays, but it is now in progress. A discussion was held on required records retention (3 years), archiving cost, and ease of access to old files.

Trustee Mucher noted that with the **unexpected \$50,000 in MTRF overtime** this year, a Resolution will be needed to appropriate funds (see further discussion under Fiscal Officer's Report).

### **Cemetery and Road Report**

In Mr. Gochenouer's absence, Trustee Mucher reported Brandon is doing a fine job filling in. Depending on Mr. Gochenouer's surgery/recovery time, Brandon may need help at a later date.

### **Fiscal Officer's Report**

**Resolution 2023-38 Amendment of Permanent Appropriations** was presented. Trustee Hollister **moved** to adopt the Resolution as enumerated, and Trustee Mucher **seconded**. After a brief discussion, the **Resolution was adopted unanimously**.

**Resolution 2023-39 Authorize Payment of Fire/EMS Salaries** was presented. Trustee Mucher **moved** to adopt the Resolution as enumerated, and Trustee Hollister **seconded**. The **Resolution was adopted unanimously**.

Trustee Moir reviewed the \$653,000 expended on payroll so far this year, averaging \$36,300 per pay period. Trustee Mucher noted that at this point, **expenditures should be roughly 66% of appropriations, and some things are a little over**. A discussion was held re: available fund balances, ARPA funds, etc., to be further reviewed. Trustee Hollister asked, "What happens next year?" The consensus was to hope for no further apartment fires or staff medical issues which all require more overtime.

### **Zoning Inspector's Report**

Trustee Moir reported the Board of Zoning Appeals met September 14, 2023. The **Pitrona agritourism request** on Kyle Road was **approved**, with the previous Zoning Commissioner's denial overturned. She noted a good discussion was held on the subject and directed everyone to the meeting video link on the Township website and Channel 5. The **YS Chamber of Commerce Temporary Use Permit to sell t-shirts at the sunflower field** was also **approved**.

### **Standing Committee Reports**

- Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC) – Executive Committee & Board of Directors: Trustee Moir reported Mike Eckert of Miami County presented the **2022 Water Quantity Report for the Great Miami Watershed**, noting the average annual rainfall has increased from an annual average of 37 inches during 1950-1980 to an annual average of 42 inches during 1991-2020, Miami River flow has increased 25%, and the water table levels are stable. The report identifies \$160 million in needed upgrades to MCD's flood protection dam system. She will share the slideshow with all Trustees.
- Greene County Regional Planning & Coordinating Commission (Greene County RPCC): Trustee Mucher reported **2 subdivision reviews** were held and both passed. The Executive Committee will meet September 19, 2023.

- Clifton-Union Cemetery: Trustee Hollister reported no meeting was held, and probably won't be until after harvest.
- YS Community Development Corporation (CDC): Trustee Hollister reported a **committee has been formed to handle the solar planning grant**. He explained that while the **Kingwood solar project appeal** has been denied by the Ohio Supreme Court, it is still on appeal with the Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB).
- YS Environmental Commission: Trustee Moir was unable to attend.
- Greene County Township Association: Trustee Moir noted the meeting invitation was not received (see note above in Correspondence).
- Natural Burial Committee: Trustee Moir reported **poison hemlock was removed**, and that the committee was pleased with the **much-improved growback** after modified trimming (with thanks to Dan and Brandon). The **mowing paths** are better as well. The **pending water feature** may need to be modified due to space concerns.

Trustee Hollister asked **how many burials/site purchases** have taken place in the Prairie. Trustee Mucher said he tracks those numbers annually. The Trustees discussed **current regulations** on not allowing two burials in one 10x20 site; that will be adjusted to allow family members. In response to Trustee Moir's report that **the Committee feels Oak Grove is underpriced**, a discussion was held comparing pricing and explaining endowment.

### Old Business

Trustee Moir reported on the **BZA coordinator position and newly-created appeals forms** and noted that, after her review with the attorney, the process is almost ready to go live. Trustee Hollister asked about a job description. She noted that the step-by-step procedures now spelled out details all duties. It was agreed to wait until the next meeting when Zoning Inspector Zopf is present to formally approve the new process. Trustee Moir said she has discussed some of it with Mr. Zopf already, such as agritourism and Temporary Use Permits, but now has answers from the attorney to address his concerns. She hopes the new process will **relieve him of unnecessary administrative duties**.

### Executive Session:

Trustee Moir requested an **Executive Session** to "consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee." The meeting recessed at 6:10 p.m. and reconvened at 6:25 p.m.

Trustee Moir requested a motion to **no longer allow buyback of vacation hours at the end of the year, with a 200-hour limit on carryover**. Trustee Hollister so **moved**, and Trustee Mucher **seconded**. The **motion carried unanimously**.

### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

Next meeting scheduled for **Monday, October 2, 2023**, at 5 p.m.

**Chairperson** \_\_\_\_\_ **Attest** \_\_\_\_\_

/clp