

Miami Township Trustees
Minutes of November 20, 2023

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Moir, with Trustee Mucher and Trustee Hollister present.

Cheri Stout from the Greene County Prosecutor's Office and Township resident Jennifer Adams from Citizens for Greene Acres were also present.

Adoption of Minutes

Trustee Hollister **moved** to **adopt the minutes** of October 16, 2023, as presented, with earlier corrections noted. Trustee Mucher **seconded**, and the **motion carried unanimously**.

Payment of Accounts

Trustee Mucher **moved** and Trustee Hollister **seconded** to **pay bills** in the amount of **\$59,658.09**:

- General Fund – \$1,663.44
- Fire Fund – \$47,116.21
- EMS Billing – \$3,125.43
- Cemetery – \$4,370.69
- Road and Bridge – \$3,382.32

In response to Trustee Hollister's question re: the Fire expenses, Trustee Moir noted payroll is on track; the additional monies were previously allocated for vehicle repairs, etc. **The motion carried unanimously.**

Correspondence

The Trustees received correspondence as follows:

- David Graham, Greene County Auditor: **Annual information request on bond levy**, expenses, revenues, cash balance. Used to set rate for 2024
- Sam.gov: Deactivation notification – Trustee Mucher noted this was probably **spam**; it was forwarded to Chief Powell to check.
- National Local Gov't: **Study invitation to complete survey** – Trustee Hollister will handle
- Neena Ellis, WYSO: Requesting info about **burning prairie** at Hyde/Spillan Roads – forwarded to Chief Powell
- Dodd Memorial: Proofs for **two columbarium doors**
- Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA): **Insurance coverage** for new Fiscal Officer and re-elected Trustee
- Yellow Springs Community Foundation (YSCF): Request for **funds**
- Ohio Township Association: **Training** opportunities
- Deb Slater: Glen Forest Cemetery **website hack**

Public Comment on Agenda Items

Jennifer Adams asked for an update on the **Zoning Commission's progress re: solar regulations**. She was advised that, while they are making progress, they last met in September with no meeting in October due to member availability. A meeting is set for November 7, 2023, at 7 p.m.

When Ms. Adams was told the **six-month moratorium expires** within the next few days, she asked if it could be extended. It was agreed that a new Resolution with similar wording would be needed. Trustee Hollister will prepare the document for the next meeting.

A brief discussion was held about the **new Vesper solar project** that the company plans to present at the next Trustees meeting December 4th.

Fire Department Report

Chief Powell was absent. Trustee Moir shared his report noting **28 EMS runs** and **8 fire calls** since last meeting.

Repairs to the **brush truck** damaged in a field fire earlier this year have been delayed due to insurance issues. Chief Powell recommends **paying for repairs out of pocket** since it will likely be less than the deductible.

Trustee Mucher reported the **Medic is back in service** after \$4,552 in repairs.

Trustee Mucher also noted **both engines failed the pump capacity test** which measures the ability of the trucks to draw water out of a pond or other outside source. This is an insurance requirement that could cost more in policy fees.

Cemetery and Road Report

Cemetery:

In Mr. Gochenouer's absence, Trustee Moir reported **1 burial** at Clifton. With Mr. Gochenouer expected to be out for up to 6 months following shoulder surgery, Brandon Morris and part-timer Ryan Boss are handling regular duties, and there is a back-up crew list for **snow removal**.

Trustee Mucher reported the **water feature** has been installed in the Prairie Cemetery, and Trustee Hollister noted he's heard positive comments on it. Trustee Mucher installed first a timer, then a motion sensor to restrict the water flow to times when someone is actually visiting the cemetery.

After explaining several issues with the current process, Trustee Mucher moved that **all new gravesite sales must go through the Trustees' office** so they can be entered into the computer records. While it doesn't happen often, even one dual sale is a problem, and this will help eliminate that possibility. Trustee Hollister seconded, and **the motion carried unanimously**. Trustee Moir will create an **intake form for interments** as well.

Roads:

Trustee Mucher inspected the Township roads and declared them “perfect.”

Trustee Hollister noted a **cut pavement marked with an orange cone on East Hyde Road** east of Morris Bean. Trustee Mucher stated it was from a Village water/sewer repair, and that the Village will take care of it.

In response to Trustee Hollister’s query, Trustee Mucher explained the chip seal process the Township used on Larkin Road versus the Durapatch Greene County used on **Grinnell Road** that has received several complaints on social media.

Trustee Hollister will relay those concerns to the Greene County Engineer.

Fiscal Officer’s Report

Trustee Moir discussed the **annual information needed by the Greene County Auditor’s office**. Fiscal Officer Silliman has advised the information was sent on November 7th; Trustee Moir will follow up.

Trustee Moir reported she asked Ms. Silliman to have **2024 Temporary Appropriations** available for review at the next meeting. After discussion, it was decided the Trustees can start with last year’s numbers and go from there in the budget process.

Trustee Mucher detailed the extensive efforts he went through to **reclaim the nearly \$270,000 balance from the firehouse building fund**. The Trustees agreed the \$2,150 in attorney fees was well worth it and thanked him for his diligence. Those monies are now in a new Capital fund to help pay for the MTRF medic that has been ordered.

Resolution 2023-45 Amendment of Permanent Appropriations was presented. Enumerated. Trustee Mucher **moved** to adopt the Resolution as enumerated, and Trustee Hollister **seconded**. The **Resolution was adopted unanimously** (note the **corrected Resolution number** from the 2023-42 noted on the agenda)

Zoning Inspector’s Report

Trustee Moir reported Board of Zoning Appeals chair Richard Silliman has agreed to serve as **interim BZA coordinator**. She will assist with meeting set-up, etc., and noted the new **hearing request forms are available on the website**.

The new **Agritourism Permit form** has been posted on the Township website.

Standing Committee Reports

- Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC) – General meeting: **Transportation projects** reviewed
- Greene County Regional Planning & Coordinating Commission (GCRPCC): Discussed **expected growth and changes in eastern Greene County** due to new manufacturing plants in New Albany and in Fayette County, “fear of tsunami” in smaller school districts, rural areas. Trustee Moir raised the question of

subdivision development versus solar projects, but Trustee Hollister noted that was not the current topic. She agreed.

- Clifton-Union Cemetery: **No meeting**, reviewing membership
- YS Community Development Corporation (CDC): Discussed **potential growth opportunities** due to new manufacturing plants in New Albany and in Fayette County, **funding for Executive Director position** when YSCF Miller Fellowship runs out. Trustee Hollister asked Trustee Moir if the Township has been contacted about a **joint meeting with YSDC**. She said it has not.
- YS Environmental Commission: No meeting
- Greene County Township Association: No meeting
- Glen Forest Natural Burial Committee (GFNB): Meets quarterly

New Business

Nothing on the agenda.

Old Business

Trustee Mucher introduced the Greene County Engineer’s question on **haul permits**. Trustee Moir told him it had been discussed last meeting and that she informed the County they aren’t needed.

Executive Session:

Trustee Mucher **moved** for an **Executive Session** to “consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee.” Trustee Hollister **seconded**. The meeting recessed at 5:47 p.m., and reconvened at 5:55 p.m. with **no action being taken at this time**.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m., and the next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, December 4, 2023**, at 5 p.m.

Chairperson _____ **Attest** _____

/clp