

Miami Township Trustees
Minutes of February 5, 2024
**see acronym glossary following minutes*

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m. by Chairperson Hollister, with Trustee Moir and Trustee Mucher present.

Fire Chief Denny Powell, Interim Zoning Inspector Denise Swinger, and Recorder Cyndi Pauwels were in attendance.

Residents Kate LeVesconte, Jenifer Adams, Alex Kluz, Jeanna GunderKline, Fred Stockwell, Kathy Stockwell, and Eric Johnson; Kim McCarthy; and new Yellow Springs Chamber of Commerce President Alex Price were also present.

Adoption of Minutes

Trustee Mucher **moved to adopt the minutes** of January 17, 2024, as corrected. Trustee Moir **seconded**, and the **motion carried unanimously**.

Trustee Hollister read the minutes of the **Special Meeting held January 29, 2024**, into the record. Included was **Resolution 2024-10 Authorizing Intervention in the Kingwood Solar Appeal before the Ohio Supreme Court**, which was **adopted unanimously**. Trustee Mucher **moved to adopt** the minutes and Trustee Hollister **seconded**. Trustee Moir was out of town for that meeting. The **motion carried unanimously**.

Trustee Hollister read the minutes of the **Special Meeting held February 1, 2024**, into the record. Included were a **motion** from Fiscal Officer Silliman to **pay MTRF salaries from Fund 2281** until the first half of the Fire Levy funds are available from the Greene County Auditor (**adopted**) and a **motion to pay newly-elected Fiscal Officer Jeanna GunderKline \$20/hour for training** until she takes office (**adopted**). Trustee Moir **moved to adopt** the minutes and Trustee Mucher **seconded**. The **motion carried unanimously**.

Payment of Accounts

Trustee Mucher **moved** and Trustee Moir **seconded** to **pay bills** in the amount of **\$44,783.99**:

- General Fund – \$6,594.48
- Fire Fund – \$26,086.76
- EMS Billing – \$3,465.45
- Cemetery – \$2,997.46
- Road and Bridge – \$5,639.84
 - 2011 – \$73.28
 - 2021 – \$4,614.24
 - 2031 – \$952.32

The motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence

The Trustees received correspondence including:

- Fred Stockwell: **Solar zoning** comments
- MVRPC: **Program survey** on the Transportation Improvement Program
- SOCA: **Benefits** plan
- Greene County Engineer: **2023 Township Mileage Certification** (see New Business)

Public Comment on Agenda Items

No comments

Fire Department Report

Chief Powell reported **30 EMS runs** and **20 fire calls** since last meeting. This included **requesting mutual aid** for 1 EMS run and 2 fire calls, and **mutual aid response** for 2 EMS runs and 1 fire call.

He reported the **Greene County Central Communications Coordinator Mindy Lane resigned**.

The Public Safety Information Sharing Network (PSISN) is moving shared data from their servers to Amazon Web Services. This will require MTRF to **utilize a cloud VPN for appropriate firewalls** to securely access the data at an estimated \$8,000 in lifetime hardware purchase. More details will be available at the PSISN upcoming meeting.

Chief Powell requested approval to sign a **Patient Satisfaction Survey** agreement with Medicount (EMS billing) and explained the benefits to department operation. Trustee Mucher **moved** to approve signing and Trustee Moir **seconded**. The **motion carried unanimously**.

He detailed upcoming necessary **truck repairs** to Truck 82, Engine 81, and Engine 82 costing \$3,371 for parts, with a labor estimate forthcoming.

MTRF has received a **\$13,000 Worker's Comp Grant** for staff cancer prevention. This will allow the purchase of a turnout-gear dryer and firefighter gloves and hoods. Cost to the department will be approximately \$1,000. Chief Powell thanked Cassady Brewer for working on this grant. Other grants are pending, including one for cot replacement at an estimated \$60,000.

An **MTRF Employee Satisfaction Survey** is being conducted with a deadline of February 9, 2024. It is a blind survey; answers are submitted anonymously. Compiled results will be shared with the Trustees.

The **fire department assessment** consultant's draft report is expected by the end of February. In light of that timetable, Trustee Hollister noted **Chief Powell's interim status** February 11, 2024. After a brief discussion, Trustee Moir **moved** to **extend his**

contract for six (6) months. Trustee Mucher **seconded**, and the **motion carried unanimously.**

Trustee Hollister asked about procedures for the **regular testing of MTRF equipment.** Chief Powell outlined current practices and noted they are moving to an electronic system that will provide better accountability and efficiency. Trustee Moir asked for more information on duty assignments and this testing; Chief Powell will give her a demonstration later.

Cemetery and Road Report

Cemetery:

In Mr. Gochenouer's absence, Trustee Mucher reported **2 burials** at Clifton, one in the midst of the icy, messy weather we experienced last week. He complimented Brandon Morris for handling it well without any issues.

Roads:

In Mr. Gochenouer's absence, Trustee Mucher reported all roads looked good except for **potholes on North and South River Roads.** Mr. Morris will take care of those.

Truck 265 (damage reported January 17th) is back in service.

Fiscal Officer's Report

Resolution 2024-11 Amendment of Temporary Appropriations was presented. Trustee Moir **moved** to adopt the Resolution as enumerated, and Trustee Mucher **seconded.** The **Resolution was adopted unanimously.** For the benefit of the Township's newly-elected Fiscal Officer who was present, Trustee Mucher noted only **monies transferred *between funds*** require a Resolution.

Zoning Inspector's Report

Interim Zoning Inspector Denise Swinger reported on the **January 16, 2024, Zoning Commission meeting.** They continue work on solar regulation language, accessory dwelling units, and Temporary Use Permits. At their request, she is researching regulations used in other jurisdictions.

Trustee Moir noted that at the joint Zoning Commission/Trustees meeting, the Commission members had laid out **four goals for the year: personal/residential solar, Temporary Use Permits, accessory dwelling units, and commercial solar.** After further discussion about agendas for Zoning Commission meetings being available to the public, it was agreed that Chair Brian Corry will be urged to announce, at the end of each meeting, planned topics for the next meeting. Ms. Swinger will then post those items on the website so residents can plan their attendance accordingly.

A timeline for **hiring a permanent Zoning Inspector** was discussed. Ms. Swinger is writing a job description that should be ready to post in March; Trustees hope to hire in April.

New Business

Trustee Moir read a proposed **update to the Township comp time policy**, Article VIII Sect. 8.1 of the personnel manual:

The employee must submit a claim of comp time to the Chair of the Miami Township Board of Trustees by the end of the pay period in which the hours were accrued. This claim shall include the number of extra hours worked and the necessitated reason for the extra hours worked. The Chair shall make the determination of approval and upon approval, submit the hours to the Fiscal Officer.

Trustee Moir then **moved** to adopt said update and Trustee Mucher **seconded**. The **motion carried unanimously**.

Trustee Hollister presented ODOT’s **2023 Township Highway System Mileage Certification**, required annually. After a short discussion, Trustee Moir **moved** to approve the certification of 14.487 miles of public road to be maintained in the Township. Trustee Mucher **seconded**. The **motion carried unanimously**.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:04 p.m., with the next meeting scheduled for **Wednesday, February 21, 2024**, at 5 p.m., due to the Presidents’ Day holiday.

Chairperson _____ **Attest** _____

***Acronyms:**

- MTFR: Miami Township Fire & Rescue
- MVRPC: Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission
- OTA: Ohio Township Association
- RPC: Greene County Regional Planning & Coordinating Commission
- YS CDC: Yellow Springs Community Development Corporation

/clp