

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of Regular Meeting
Held at 1219 St. Rt. 183 in Atwater, Ohio; on August 12, 2014

The Atwater Township Trustees held their regular scheduled meeting at the Atwater Town Hall located at 1219 St. Rt. 183 in Atwater, Ohio on August 12, 2014.

ATTENDANCE

Trustees Danny Derreberry, Peggy, Baine, Lynn Whittlesey, Office Assistant Mary Rodenbacher, Walt Baine, Chief Mel Russell, Jim Donovan, John Kovacich, Bob Kovacich, Naomi Wise, Martha Bevard, Wayne Robertson, Tim Whittlesey, Ron and Emma Stanfield, Tom Nellis.

Danny Derreberry called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll Call: Lynn Whittlesey – yes; Peggy Baine – yes; Danny Derreberry – yes.

Meeting was opened with the Pledge and prayer was offered for all.

Danny Derreberry asked if the Board received and reviewed the July 22 Regular Meeting minutes. All agreed they received and there were no corrections or additions. Peggy Baine moved to approve the minutes as written. Lynn Whittlesey second. RCV: Lynn Whittlesey – yes; Peggy Baine – yes; Danny Derreberry – yes. Motion carried.

Danny Derreberry asked if the Board received and reviewed the July 29 Special Meeting for the AFD fire levy minutes. All agreed they received and there were no corrections or additions. Bob Kovacich asked why they called a special meeting if they could have done it at a regular meeting. Lynn commented that the Board messed up. Lynn Whittlesey moved to accept the Special Meeting minutes as written. Peggy Baine second. RCV: Lynn Whittlesey – yes; Peggy Baine – yes; Danny Derreberry – yes. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

- Government Technology Magazine
- Danny Derreberry read a letter from Crossroads Hospice in Green Township asking to participate in a program, Gift of the Day. Danny will call to get the particulars and then present the information to the Historical Society.

FINANCIAL

Danny Derreberry asked if everyone had received and reviewed the Financial statements and July bank reconciliation. Danny Derreberry requested a motion to accept the Financial Statements and July bank reconciliation. Lynn Whittlesey moved to accept the Financial Statements and July bank reconciliation. Peggy Baine second. RCV: Lynn Whittlesey – yes; Peggy Baine – yes; Danny Derreberry – yes. Motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Old Business

Chief Russell forgot to mention at the last meeting that the fifth individual that initially failed the test has since passed. The cadet program is up and running. He met with them last week and the department is meeting with them tonight. They plan to separate the program out until they are trained up to speed.

Chief Russell updated the Trustees on the floor coating issue. He spoke to Chris Meduri who sent a letter to Advance Floor Coatings. Mel read the letter that Chris wrote. Chief Russell stated that Chris recommended trying this route first.

New Business

Chief Russell presented the July run report. There were 23 calls for the month which included; Open Burn – 1; Wires Down – 1; Co/Odor Check – 1; Tree Down – 2; Other Fire Incidents (alarms at WHS) – 3; FIU – 1; MVA – 2; Transports to RMH – 10; Transports to Alliance Community – 2; Transports to Akron Children’s – 1; Non-Transports – 2; Mutual Aid Received – 2.

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Chief Russell presented the fuel reports. AFD used 48.4 gallons of gas and 77.6 gallons of diesel. The Road Department used 71.6 gallons of gas and 185.6 gallons of diesel.

Chief Russell stated that he sent an email last week to the Trustees on the MARCS radio grant. Initially they were not interested due to incorrect information. Last week Deerfield called a meeting with the various vendors and fire departments. Each department will be eligible for a grant worth approximately \$50,000 for radio equipment. Chief Russell explained that it would be a dual band in one radio. They could seven (7) portable and three (3) mobile. The year user fees are included. Initially they were told the fees would be \$550 per year per radio, but the correct information is \$240 per year per radio. Chief Russell suggested we pursue the grant and obtain 10 radios. If, after the first year, we decide not to continue with the program the radios are ours to keep for our use. Chief Russell presented a list of fees and stressed that no money is required on our end. Once the grant is approved, we have 30 days to install the radios. According to Ryan Shakleford, EMA coordinator, the goal is to give everyone (fire departments, sheriff, ODNT) the ability to communicate. Tim asked Chief Russell to elaborate what MARCS stands for. Chief Russell explained the system. Danny Derreberry asked when the information needs to be turned in. Chief Russell stated that the paperwork needs to be returned by August 30. All paperwork will be sent to Deerfield to be sent as one package. Danny Derreberry commented that EMA has been working on this issue but the cost prohibited the implementation. It is affordable with the grant now. The Trustees were in agreement that it is a good endeavor. Danny Derreberry moved to apply for the MARCS grant up to \$50,000. Peggy Baine second. RCV: Lynn Whittlesey – yes; Peggy Baine – yes; Danny Derreberry – yes. Motion carried.

Chief Russell stated that Steve Swaggard would like to enroll in the Basic EMT class at Robinson. The cost of the class is \$950 plus \$70 to take the test. There is also a clinical shirt, which costs \$20-25 but is not in the contract. Steve is also on the Charlestown Fire Department. Chief Russell spoke to the Charlestown Fire Department's chief, Chief Grund, about the possibility of sharing the cost of the class. Chief Grund will bring it up with his trustees. The deadline to register is September 1. Danny Derreberry suggested waiting until the next meeting to act on it. All were in agreement.

Chief Russell spoke about the Ohio Department of Public Safety awards program. Jesse Baughman was nominated as Fire Instructor. After reviewing the nomination, the committee changed the category and awarded Jesse Baughman the Ohio Fire Officer of the Year Award. The ceremony will take place at the Fire Academy in Reynoldsburg on September 17. Martha Bevard suggested pictures be sent to the newspaper. Chief Russell stated that the Record Courier will do an interview with Jesse before the ceremony.

Danny Derreberry read a letter from Paula Baughman. She informed the Trustees that she obtained an EMS grant in the amount of \$4,250. The grant can be used for EMS equipment and supplies through 2015. Since her appointment as EMS coordinator she has secured \$51,376.90 in EMS grants. Danny congratulated Paula on this endeavor.

ROAD DEPARTMENT
Old Business

Peggy stated that we are waiting for bids to be opened on August 26. Tim and Dave have everything ready to go.

New Business

Peggy requested an Executive Session for personnel matters.

ZONING
Old Business and New Business

Jim Donovan reported that two new small businesses are starting up. Both applied for sign permits. One is an auto detailing business and the other is an auto repair shop. Jim Donovan reported that the owner

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is discussing the business venture with the neighbors. Martha asked if the neighbors have any problems. Jim stated that it is zoned commercial. He feels it will be an asset to the township.

Randy Weingart stopped in to let Jim know that he has a contractor for targeted tear down to take place in October. Jim was not able to attend last meeting due to family emergency. He has a list of all people involved and sent a fax to Randy Roberts with stipulations. Per Chris Meduri a harassment suit could be filed. Danny stated that all procedures have been followed. Jim further commented that some information is not public information. Danny stated that all reports are public record. Jim sent letters to two properties about mowing. Jim stated that we will likely see demo cars being cleaned up after the fair but he is not planning to follow up unless there is a problem. Jim Donovan stated that Jim Bierlair, of Portage County Soil and Water worked to alleviate the concern on Waterloo Road. One realtor told Jim Donovan that they thought the property value in Atwater is going up. Jim sees this as a positive sign. Peggy asked if Jim will send letter to another property about mowing. Jim stated that that we do not have a zoning mowing ordinance. Jim would like to have one in Atwater. It would have more power than just the ORC. Jim will gladly send a letter if he finds out who it is. It would be easy to copy the ordinance from another township. Jim stated that we need to come up with a solution for the maintenance of the tear down properties. Jim stated that some are keeping it clean but not everyone. Danny does not know of anyone who is interested in purchasing the property. Jim does not know either but some have expressed some interest. Jim reported the Walter Smith property. It was a volatile situation when it went to court. Chris Meduri stated that we would have no more preliminary hearings. Judge Pittman dropped the hammer placed fines on the property. The township can remove fines which would encourage someone to purchase it. Prospective buyers do not want to pay the back taxes and fines. Jim stated that we do not have any money involved and suggested that the trustees remove the fines. Danny does not have a problem with that. Danny will talk to Chris Meduri about the proper procedure to remove the fines. Walt would like to know the total of the fines. No one knew the exact amount. Martha feels we need to do what we can so the township can receive the tax money. Lynn will have a person to fill BZA opening within two weeks. Jim commented that the park playground equipment can be exempt from any zoning as well as the nature area that the Boy Scouts are working on at the high school. Jim will have the Boy Scouts talk to the trustees about the project.

CEMETERY/REAL ESTATE

Old Business

Lynn Whittlesey has nothing at this time.

New –Business

Peggy Bainey reported that a street light on Hickory Street was out and does not have a number. It was repaired.

ADMINISTRATION

Old Business

Mary Rodenbucher brought up the Lighting Assessment. A Public Hearing needs to occur ASAP since the deadline for submission to the County Auditor is September 8. Mary suggested to Shawn that the Public Hearing take place prior to the next regular township meeting. Danny Derreberry made a motion to hold a Public Hearing for the Lighting Assessment on Tuesday, August 26, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. with the Regular Trustee Meeting to immediately follow. Peggy Bainey second. RCV: Lynn Whittlesey – yes; Peggy Bainey – yes; Danny Derreberry – yes. Motion carried.

Mary Rodenbucher requested a motion to appropriate receipts 169-2014 through 180-2014 totaling \$14,741.50. Danny Derreberry moved; Peggy Bainey second. RCV: Lynn Whittlesey – yes; Peggy Bainey – yes; Danny Derreberry – yes. Motion carried.

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Mary Rodenbucher requested a motion approve PO 73-2014 to David Williams and Assoc for \$33,000 for Park Equipment. Danny Derreberry moved; Lynn Whittlesey second. RCV: Lynn Whittlesey – yes; Peggy Baine – yes; Danny Derreberry – yes. Motion carried.

Mary Rodenbucher requested a motion to approve Electronic Funds Transfers with Vouchers 99-2014 through 101-2014; Withholding Vouchers 104-2014 through 106-2014; Warrants 32732 thru 32746 and 32773 and Payroll (excluding Road) 32748 thru 32770 totaling \$24,668.83. Peggy Baine moved; Dan Derreberry second, RCV: Lynn Whittlesey – yes; Peggy Baine – yes; Danny Derreberry – yes. Motion carried.

Mary Rodenbucher requested a motion to approve Road Department employee benefits payment and payroll with Warrants 32747, 32771, and 32772 totaling \$4,664.13. Danny Derreberry moved; Peggy Baine second. RCV: Lynn Whittlesey – abstain; Peggy Baine – yes; Danny Derreberry – yes. Motion carried.

Peggy Baine brought up the possible purchase of two new Woods mowers with baggers for \$15,050 each from White's Farm Supply. Bucky White will give us a trade-in value of \$3,000 on each used mower. The total purchase would be \$24,100. Danny Derreberry asked if that includes the discount. Peggy Baine responded yes. Lynn Whittlesey asked how cost would be split. Peggy Baine stated that she spoke to Shawn Renee Miller and one will paid from the Cemetery Fund and the other will be split between the Fire and Road Funds. Tim Whittlesey questioned using Road Funds since they do not use it for mowing. Peggy Baine corrected her statement that it should be split between the Fire and General Funds. Danny Derreberry asked Tim Whittlesey about the mowers. Tim is fine with it. He explained that larger Woods tires are better and parts availability is better. Tim explained some problems with the Grasshopper. Peggy Baine stated that price will go up in if we wait. Tim Whittlesey is concerned about the current mowers becoming a money pit. The Road Department is very thorough on their maintenance. There was discussion about the Woods versus Grasshopper mowers. Peggy Baine moved to purchase two Woods mowers not to exceed \$24,100 from White's Farm Supply. Danny Derreberry seconded. RCV: Lynn Whittlesey – yes; Peggy Baine – yes; Danny Derreberry – yes. Motion carried

Lynn Whittlesey brought up old business regarding the renewal of the township liquor licenses. He sent an email to Sheriff Doak about the liquor establishments in Atwater but he did not really answer the questions. Lynn Whittlesey thinks everything is ok. Lynn Whittlesey explained the letter from the Department of Commerce Liquor Control which is the renewal of all liquor licenses in the township. There was discussion about the various liquor licenses and categories.

Lynn Whittlesey spoke about NOPEC. He explained how the electric residential bills and township facilities have different rate structures. The commercial category is also different. Lynn explained the NOPEC program. Lynn asked if the township wants to participate in the program. The gas program is worse yet. Lynn spoke to two residents with different carriers. The rates vary greatly between the vendors. Lynn asked if anyone has opinion. The NOPEC program would be a pool in its area served. Naomi Wise asked if it is temporary or permanent. Danny Derreberry commented that they may or may not do it depending on participation. Lynn Whittlesey stated that he is not sure what to do. It is confusing. Danny Derreberry is not sure if it is worth pursuing without some type of figures to work with. John Kovacich spoke to Edison last week. His bill was \$60 higher. The difference was no NOPEC credit. John stated that it was also estimated but that NOPEC is cheaper. There was discussion about the various rates. Jim Donovan stated that Dominion buys gas from the neighborhood but the suppliers apply their rates. Walt Baine feels NOPEC is ripping off the public. They give out grants which cost the public more money. Danny Derreberry does not want to get involved with something that he does not know anything about. Lynn Whittlesey stated that we are not committed to anything. We just need to pass motion and send copies of our utility bills. Lynn Whittlesey moved to send the LOA to NOPEC inquiring on the natural gas and electric supply agreements with NOPEC. Danny Derreberry second. RCV: Lynn Whittlesey – yes; Peggy Baine – yes; Danny Derreberry – yes. Motion carried.

Lynn Whittlesey will get with Shawn Renee Miller to get the current bills to submit. Lynn Whittlesey spoke about a letter from Ohio Edison. It seems they are talking quite a bit about use of coal.

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Danny Derreberry made a motion to pay bills. Peggy Baine second. RCV: Lynn Whittlesey – yes; Peggy Baine – yes; Danny Derreberry – yes. Motion carried.

Danny Derreberry made a motion to return to regular session. Peggy Baine second. RCV: Lynn Whittlesey – yes; Peggy Baine – yes; Danny Derreberry – yes. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Danny Derreberry reported on information about the park. Chad Werab his crew came in with equipment and dug out and ditched around the outside. Mike Lynn and his crew laid pipe and gravel and tied it into the existing catch basin. Danny Derreberry reported that we have had some hard rain and there is no sign of standing water. Danny Derreberry contacted Sarchione Ford and Chevrolet who are interested in getting involved with the park project. Alex Sarchione will get back to Danny with some type of donation. Danny Derreberry commented that the Sarchione’s just donated about \$5,000 to the school. He feels it is well worth going after. Danny Derreberry also spoke to England Concrete and will hopefully get a discount on concrete. He also spoke to Lowe’s who is willing to donate some materials or give an extremely reduced cost. Members of the AFD, four surrounding Lions Clubs, and some WHS students are willing to donate time in placing the equipment. The Atwater Lions Club will also help and cook for the event. A few people have expressed interest in making personal donations. Danny Derreberry would like to recognize those who donated time, equipment, or cash. It is a total effort from the whole community to bring it together. Danny Derreberry further commented that he would like to focus on the next phase which is a pavilion and continue to seek sponsors. Peggy Baine asked if any more grants are available. Danny Derreberry is working with Regional Planning to see what is available.

Peggy Baine moved to go into Executive Session at 8:15 p.m. to discuss personnel. Danny Derreberry second. RCV: Lynn Whittlesey – yes; Peggy Baine – yes; Danny Derreberry – yes. Motion carried.

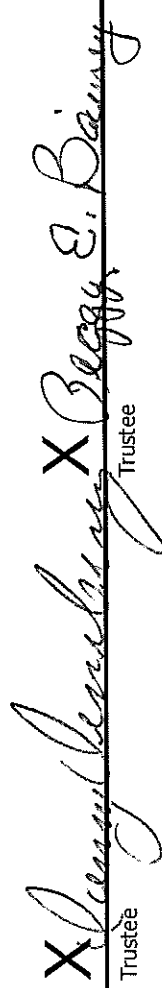
Danny Derreberry moved to go back to Regular Session at 9:02p.m. Peggy Baine second. RCV: Lynn Whittlesey – yes; Peggy Baine – yes; Danny Derreberry – yes. Motion carried.

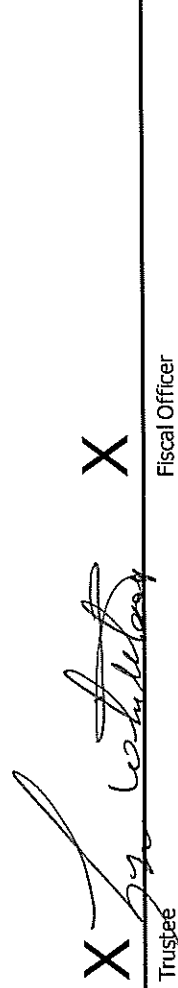
Danny Derreberry moved to bring on Matthew C. King on the AFD as a Cadet. Peggy Baine second. RCV: Lynn Whittlesey; Peggy Baine – yes; Danny Derreberry – yes. Motion carried.

Peggy Baine moved that the road workers need to report to the Trustee Liaison if they will not be at work. Danny Derreberry second. RCV: Lynn Whittlesey – no; Peggy Baine – yes; Danny Derreberry – yes. Motion carried.

Danny Derreberry announced the upcoming car show hosted by the AFD on September 6 at the Liberty Bible Church from 3 – 6 p.m. Martha Bevard reported that she won the Gold Thimble at the Quilt Club. Martha is very diligent in this group. The quilt will be on display at the Randolph Fair and raffle tickets are being sold for the quilt.

Danny Derreberry moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m. Peggy Baine second. RCV: Lynn Whittlesey – yes; Peggy Baine – yes; Danny Derreberry - yes. Motion carried.


Trustee


Trustee

Fiscal Officer