Minutes of

Freedom Township Board of Trustees

Meeting

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Held	5 411441 7 12,	20 2022

The Board of Trustees of Freedom Township met for the first meeting of 2022 on the above date. The reorganization meeting was called to order by Julie Getz, Fiscal Officer, with Trustees Richard Rahe and David Bruning present. Trustee Schuerman was ill. Also present were Fire Chief, Duane Martin and Road Superintendent/Sexton, Robert Rentz.

The Fiscal Officer requested nominations for Chairman of the Board for 2022. Mr. Bruning nominated Richard Rahe for Chairman. Mr. Rahe seconded the motion. Roll call:

_ Kent Schuerman; X Richard Rahe X David Bruning; Motion carried

The meeting was turned over to Mr. Rahe who requested nominations for Vice Chairman for 2022. Mr. Bruning moved to nominate Mr. Schuerman as Vice Chairman for the year 2022. Motion seconded by Mr. Bruning. Roll call:

__ Kent Schuerman; X Richard Rahe X David Bruning; Motion carried.

REORGANIZATION - The Board of Trustees continued with issues of reorganization for 2022.

MEETINGS - Date, Time & Place of Meetings in 2022: Mr. Bruning moved to hold regular meetings of the Board of Trustees of Freedom Township on the Second & Forth Wednesday of each month. The Second meeting of the month will take place at 8:00 AM and the Forth meeting of the month will take place at 7:30 PM, to be held at the Township Office located on E. Front Street in Pemberville. Mr. Rahe seconded the motion, all yes, motion carried.

Trustee Bruning also moved to hold open meetings under Sunshine Law, including regular meetings, special & emergency meetings, at the same location on E. Front Street and notice for special or emergency meetings will be posted at the Township and/or Maintenance Building on E. Front St., the Fire Station, Pemberville Post Office, Pemberville IGA and the Pemberville Public Library as far in advance as possible. Trustee Rahe seconded the motion. Roll call:

_ Kent Schuerman; X Richard Rahe X David Bruning; Motion carried.

INSURANCE – As approved at the last meeting of 2021, the Medical Insurance Benefits will be provided by Anthem BC/BS through Agent, Debbie Kos. The Board reviewed the Township contribution/Employee contribution toward the monthly premium at the meeting held on December 30, 2021. The following was approved:

- 1. The Township will pay a portion of the premium for Trustee Schuerman based upon the approved formula already established by the Township, and Kent will pay any remaining balance by deduction from his monthly salary.
- 2. The Township will pay \$1,000.00 per month toward Bob Rentz's premium, not to exceed \$12,000.00 per year, and Mr. Rentz will pay any remaining balance by equal deduction from each pay period.

The Board discussed the current Life, Cancer and Disability insurance to qualified employees. The Trustees approved the continuation of the current coverage with no changes.

ZONING – The Board of Trustees reviewed the Zoning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals. The Trustees also discussed fees for members of Zoning Boards for each meeting attended. *David Bruning moved to pay the following fees:*

1. \$50.00 per meeting for the President

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GC	OVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148	
	Held January 12,	202022

- 2. \$75.00 per meeting for the Secretary
- 3. \$50.00 per meeting for other members

Meetings will require a quorum and if no quorum and the meeting is not held, the fee will be 50% of the set rate.

Mr. Rahe seconded the motion. Roll call:

Kent Schuerman; X Richard Rahe X David Bruning; Motion carried.

Trustee Rahe will check with the Commission and Board Members to see if there are any changes to their respective roster. Zoning Commission member, Paul Rolf, Jr., and Zoning Board of Appeals member, Joshua Gerwin, whose terms expired on December 31, 2021.

SALARY – David Bruning moved to compensate the Trustees by annual salary in equal monthly amounts according to O.R.C. §505.24 specific to 2021 and, to compensate the Fiscal Officer in equal monthly amounts according to O.R.C. §507.09. Richard Rahe seconded the motion. Roll call:

__Kent Schuerman; X Richard Rahe X David Bruning; Motion carried.

POLICIES & HANDBOOKS – The Board discussed the Township policies and employee handbook. The Board will review, revise and/or amend them as necessary. Trustee Rahe and the Zoning Commission will review and revise the Zoning Manual as soon as possible, but no later than December 31, 2022. Trustee Rahe is going to set up a meeting of the Zoning Commission to get started on revisions/amendments to the Zoning Manual.

Ms. Getz will contact Ohio Plan to set up ethics training for the Fire Department, the elected officials and Bob Rentz.

CEMETERY RULES & REGULATIONS AND FEES: The Board approved revisions at the meeting on December 30, 2021.

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP CHECKING ACCOUNT: David Bruning made a motion to approve the Freedom Township checking account with the Union Bank Company with a minimum of two Trustees and the Fiscal Officer signatures required on Township checks with a second by Richard Rahe. Roll call:

Kent Schuerman; X Richard Rahe X David Bruning; Motion carried.

REGULAR MEETING – The Trustees continued with issues of the regular meeting of the Board.

Mr. Rahe moved to approve the minutes of the December 30, 2021 meeting, seconded by Mr. Bruning, all yes, motion carried.

Bills and Payroll were presented and reviewed. Trustee Bruning moved to accept the Bills and Payroll as presented and Trustee Rahe seconded the motion. All yes, motion carried.

<u>Receipts</u> were presented and reviewed. A motion was made by Mr. Bruning to accept the Receipts as presented and Mr. Rahe seconded the motion. All yes, motion carried.

<u>Appropriation Supplemental Report</u> was presented and reviewed and *Mr. Rahe moved to accept the report as presented, Mr. Bruning seconded the motion. All yes, motion carried.*

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FUND REPORTS – Fund reports were presented and reviewed. Julie Getz pointed out concerns with the balance in the Fire and EMS fund (2193). The balance in the fund has been declining for the last few years. The Board and Ms. Getz discussed the options for payments from that fund and receipts such as the Webster Township Contract money deposited into the General Fund for repayment of the cost of the Ambulance purchased in 2019, which has, in the past, been deposited into 2193.

Julie Getz reported that the Temporary Appropriations approved on December 31, 2021 needed to be amended due to a difference in the fund balance in a few of the funds. She presented and explained the issues. David Bruning moved to approve the new Temporary Appropriations as presented by Ms. Getz. Richard Rahe seconded the motion, all yes, motion carried.

ROADS – The Wood County Engineer sent a contract for roadwork in 2022. The Board discussed which roads to repair and how much money to commit to the Engineer for this year's repairs. Paving a portion of Alexander Road and repairs on Lemoyne Road were mentioned. Rick Rahe moved to request \$70,000.00 in road work for 2022. Dave Bruning seconded the motion, all yes, motion carried.

Mr. Rentz mentioned the situation with the drainage to the river at 6860 Linwood Road. The tile was repaired in 2021 and the issue is much better. They discussed whether or not the repair is sufficient and if not, will the property owner be willing to pay half the cost of additional improvements.

FIRE – Chief Martin asked about an increase in Ambulance Run rates. After discussion, *Trustee Bruning moved to approve the following rates:*

BLS - \$650.00 ALS 1 - \$700.00 ALS 2 - \$850.00

Mileage-\$12.00 per mile

Trustee Rahe seconded the motion, all yes, motion carried.

Duane reported that the deadline to submit applications for the FEMA grant was extended to January 30th so the application has not yet been submitted.

Leigh Snyder completed the Paramedic class and just needs to take the test. She requested that the Township pay for half the cost of her books. After discussion, *David Bruning moved that since Troy Township paid for the class, Freedom Township would pay for 100% of the cost for her books totaling \$639.19. Rick Rahe seconded the motion, all yes, motion carried.*

COMMUNICATIONS – Worker's Comp., through SEGWICK, sent the annual report showing no incidents in 2021. *EMA sent out a communication regarding preparation for the April 4, 2024 Solar Eclipse. In addition, they sent a communication regarding the CODE RED alert system. The Trustees discussed whether the Township should participate at a cost of \$.16 per resident. No decision was made. *ODOT sent a letter regarding a seminar about suicide prevention for emergency responders to be held on February 17, 2022 from 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM. *The Wood County Township Association is holding the next meeting at the Wood County Fair Grounds on Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 6:30 PM. Julie will RSVP for all three Trustees.

NEW BUSINESS –The Board approved the Pemberville Free Fair Board to use the Township Meeting Room on the first and third Thursdays in 2022, attendance not to exceed

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Held January 12, 20 2022 10 people. The first meeting of 2022 to be held on January 20, 20221 at 7:00 PM. The website needs to be completed and up and running as soon as possible. Rick Rahe suggested that the Township interview Mary Morgan to work on the content for the website and assist Julie with additional tasks. He will contact Ms. Morgan to see if she is interested in the job and willing to come to the next meeting. MAINTENANCE BUILDING – Attorney Joyce Nowak is in the process of reviewing the proposed contract with WDC Group for Criteria Architect services. The Trustees expect to have the negotiations finished by the next meeting in order to approve the contract and begin work on the project. There being no further business coming before the board, at 12:15 PM, Mr. Rahe adjourned the meeting until Wednesday, January 26, 2021 at 7:30 P.M. Chairman To Apply Joyce Power Architects are provided to the process of reviewing the proposed contract and begin work on the project. There being no further business coming before the board, at 12:15 PM, Mr. Rahe adjourned the meeting until Wednesday, January 26, 2021 at 7:30 P.M. The power of the project of the process of reviewing the proposed power of the project o				60
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