

**COVENTRY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**Regular Meeting of March 12, 2020**

The Coventry Township Board of Trustees met in regular session on Thursday, March 12, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the Coventry Town Hall.

**Call to Order:**

Chairman Edward Diebold called the meeting to order and asked Administrator, Anna Bryant to record the following Trustees present: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. All Trustees were recorded present.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Old Business:**

**Approval of Minutes**

200213-01 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Special Meeting of March 12, 2020, the Regular Meeting and Workshop of February 13, 2020 and Special Meeting of March 5, 2020. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

**New Business:**

**Portage Lakes Advisory Council (P.L.A.C.)**

Edward Diebold explained that the Board will appoint a representative to fill the unexpired term of Lynn Stamp.

200312-02 Edward Diebold made a motion to appoint Judy Lancaster to serve the Township as a representative to the Portage Lakes Advisory Council for the unexpired term of Lynn Stamp through December 31, 2020. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

George Beckham stated that we received interest from three good applicants, and she seemed the best.

200312-03 Edward Diebold made a motion to re-appoint Heather Pariso to serve the Township as a representative to the Portage Lakes Advisory Council for a three year term beginning January 1, 2020. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

**Reports by Department Heads**

**Sgt. Sanchez, Summit County Sheriff's Representative** reported that there were 651 calls for service in February with a year to date total of 1,318. 47 traffic stops in February, 95 total for the year and 40 arrests with 85 total for the year so far. Extra staffing has allowed for extra enforcement in school zones and provided the opportunity for Deputies to ride along on buses resulting in 5 red light citations. George Beckham mentioned an incident that he witnessed in the school zone on Cormany Road in which a crossing guard was almost hit by a car. Discussion was held over extra enforcement in that area.

**John Dolensky, Fire Chief** reported there were 130 alarms in February and 348 for the year so far which is about the same as last year. They have dispensed two doses of Narcan in the last month.

**2020 Summit County Emergency Management Special Projects Grant**

Jeff Houck explained that the Fire Department is requesting approval of grant funds be used to purchase a 20 foot enclosed water rescue trailer replacing our current trailer constructed by members of Coventry Fire almost twenty years ago.

200312-04 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve the application and to accept the grant award of \$11,834 for an enclosed water rescue trailer through the 2020 Summit County Emergency Management Special Projects Grant; and to authorize the Fire Chief to execute the terms of this grant including appropriation and expenditure of the funds. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

## **Fire Department Personnel - Promotions**

Chief Dolensky requested the following motions to fill a full time position and Lieutenant position due to the retirement of Lt. Stokes.

200312-05 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve the reclassification of Firemedic Robert Lawrence to Lieutenant effective March 25, 2020. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

200312-06 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve the reclassification of Part Time Firemedic Daniel Hymes to Fulltime Firemedic, effective March 25, 2020. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

**Lael Stouffer, Road Superintendent** explained that he and the road crew are currently working on drainage repairs, processing work orders. They have downgraded a few trucks from snow removal to get a jump on projects. They are working on identifying and repairing issues before paving begins. Road resurfacing bids are out. The Engineer's office will evaluate and may have numbers for us by April. He advised that he attended a CUE members meeting regarding the purchase of road salt. He explained that we have to submit our request for salt volume for next year now and deal with surplus vs shortage as it occurs. Due to mild winters over the last few years, our usage has been dropping so we will take that into consideration on our bid for next year.

**Bill Meyerhoff, Zoning Inspector** advised that the next zoning commission meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 24<sup>th</sup> and the BZA for April 7<sup>th</sup>. He has submitted the Township's MS4-Annual Storm Water Report to the County last week.

**Anna Bryant, Administrator** requested the following motions:

### **Summit County Health District - Storm Water Services Contract Amendment**

She explained that as part of our storm water management program, the Summit County Board of Health provides screening and sampling services for the monitoring of storm water pollution as well as enforcement regulations prohibiting illicit discharges in order for the Township to comply with the EPA's Phase II requirements. This amendment extends the existing agreement through December 31, 2020.

200312-07 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve the Amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Summit County Combined General Health District and Coventry Township for storm water services for the years 2014 through 2020 at a cost not to exceed \$25,549.54. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

### **Workers' Compensation Group Rating Program Renewal**

200312-08 Jeff Houck made a motion to renew the Township's enrollment with CareWorks Comp for the Ohio Township Association 2021 Workers' Compensation Group Rating Program with a total due of \$4,078.00, which is a 45% discount off of the annual group premium based on our Workers' Comp claim experience (savings of \$9,912.00). George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

### **OTARMA Renewal Application**

Anna Bryant explained that she is in the process of preparing the renewal application for the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), which is the Township's insurer for property and liability insurance on Township buildings, vehicles and equipment. We have participated in this insurance and risk management program since 1992. (We will receive the actual invoice for approval in April.)

200312-09 Jeff Houck made a motion authorizing Administrator, Anna Bryant to complete and execute the OTARMA renewal application/questionnaire. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

### **PEBA - Medical Mutual Group Benefit Plan Renewal**

Anna Bryant explained that the Township's Medical Mutual Group Benefit Plan is up for renewal. There will be 5.83% increase over last year, which is an improvement over the originally proposed 9%. Burnham and Flowers does a great job of working on our behalf to make sure we have the lowest rate.

200312-10 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve the renewal of the PEBA - Medical Mutual SuperMed Plus PPO Group Benefit Plan effective April 1, 2020 for a total premium cost of

\$31,092.93. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

**Chris Davis, Coventry School Board Representative** followed up on George Beckham's comments about safety in the school zones and briefly discussed possibilities of sidewalks and the plan the Township had worked on several years ago with EDG and the Health Department. He discussed the Governor's recommendation to shut down schools due to COVID-19 for three weeks. All Coventry schools will be closed beginning Monday. They are still working out the details. He asked for everyone's support on the Levy and stated that as of now the polls will be open at the grade school.

#### **Report by the Fiscal Officer:**

**Lori Seeman** advised that the period to date financial reports have been presented to the Board.

200213-11 Edward Diebold made a motion to receive all bills and salaries, warrant numbers 71402 to 71506 as certified by Fiscal Officer, Lori Seeman, and subject to audit. (A listing of the warrants will be made a part of these minutes.) George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

#### **Reallocation of Funds - Supplemental Appropriations**

200312-12 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve a reallocation of funds or supplemental appropriations for the month of February as listed in the *Appropriation Supplemental* report as submitted to the Board. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

#### **2020 Permanent Appropriation Resolution**

200312-13 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve the 2020 Permanent Appropriation Resolution. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

#### **Reports by Trustees:**

**George Beckham** advised that he doesn't have an update on the Pace area water line extension. He reported that he and Bill will be meeting with the Summit County Land Bank next week regarding razing houses. We have \$14,000 left from a 2018 grant that we can use. He also met with Chief Dolensky, Fiscal Officer Seeman and several residents over the last month. Jeff Noble asked from the audience about the old car lot on S. Main Street. Bill Meyerhoff explained he is working on a clean-up there. That property has some legal issues due to the death of the owner. It has been declared a nuisance by the Township and it looks like they are slowly moving some cars out.

**Edward Diebold** thanked all of the participants in the Polar Bear Jump. He personally was able to raise \$2,000.00 which contributed to the \$250,000 that was raised to benefit the Akron Rotary Camp. It is an event that is near and dear to his heart. He advised that the Board of Health is sending out information on the Coronavirus and is advising everyone to pay attention to hand washing and sanitizing to minimize the spread. He announced that the Taste of Coventry is scheduled for April 30<sup>th</sup> at Gathering at the Lakes.

**Jeff Houck** discussed the mailing address opposition by Pam Wayland at last month's meeting. He explained that over the last month he has contacted USPS about her request to reverse the change. The short answer is that it cannot be undone. A lot of work went into changing the address and they will not reverse it. He attended the Health District Advisory Council Meeting with George Beckham. The local Health District is working with the State and Federal government regarding COVID-19. It is a difficult situation. He stated that he is glad we benefit from State and County resources. These are troubling times with the schools closing. He announced that there is a seat open on the County Health Board for a Coventry Representative - we will be looking to fill that seat and will accept letters of interest until April 8<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Public Comments:**

- Jeff Noble - Portage Lakes Advisory Council: announced changes with PLAC due to the death of Lynn Stamp. PLAC will be attending meetings more regularly to update the board on their activities. He discussed PLAC's ideas for the dam property and a park area near the Clock Tower. A drawing was handed out to the Board for the concept. He updated the Board on upcoming events and projects PLAC is working on. He announced that the Run to the Beach 5k is in April and the Annual Litter Pick-Up will be held on April 25<sup>th</sup>. He reminded everyone that PLAC meets the first Thursday each month at 7 p.m. at the Kiwanis Civic Center.

**Motion to Adjourn the Meeting:**

Edward Diebold made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Edward D. Diebold  
Chairman

Loni Seeman  
Fiscal Officer