

COVENTRY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regular Meeting of February 13, 2025

The Coventry Township Board of Trustees met in regular session on Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the Coventry Township Community Center, 335 E. Willowview Drive, Coventry Township, Ohio 44319.

Call to Order:

Chairman Edward Diebold called the meeting to order and asked Fiscal Officer, Dave Gissinger to record the following Trustees present: George Beckham, absent; Edward Diebold, yes and Jeff Houck, yes. Two Trustees were recorded as present. (Trustee George Beckham and Administrator Anna Davis were absent/excused for vacations)

Pledge of Allegiance

Edward Diebold announced that the Public Hearing initially scheduled for this evening was postponed to next month's meeting, as requested by the applicant, so all three Trustees could be present.

Old Business:

Approval of Minutes

250213-01 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Regular Meeting and Workshop of January 9, 2025. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: Edward Diebold, yes and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

New Business:

Time Clock Plus – Thumb-Print Scanners

250213-02 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve a purchase order in the amount of \$7,086.45 to Time Clock Plus for 3 thumbprint clock-in scanners to integrate with new time clock software. This price reflects a current 15% discount. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: Edward Diebold, yes and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

Reports by Department Heads

Captain Dave McCutcheon, Summit County Sheriff Representative reported that there have been 674 calls for service, 39 accidents, 90, accidents with injury, and 24 arrests. Deputy Kuzak has been awarded the school SRO position, so any time he is not in the school, say a snow day or teacher day off, or during the summer, he will be patrolling the Township. Edward Diebold commented that it is great to work with the school on this, it's a win-win for the community.

Adam Rockich, Fire Chief, reported 180 alarms in January, which is up slightly over 2024. We had a slight uptick in Narcan use, and we sent mutual aid to our neighbors 22 times in January. We received mutual aid 8 times due to mutual calls occurring at a time. Out of those calls, there were 27 times that there were two going on, and five times that there were three going on. You're talking 203 people for a med-unit call and 3-4 for a fire engine call. That's a lot of people to bring in off duty; that's why you see the mutual aid response. On a side note, we have a joint fire investigation team that runs everything in the southern part of the County. We have two staff members that have been involved in three convictions or plea deals so far and another one coming up here, for the S. Turkeyfoot fire that we had at an apartment complex. We've had a great working relationship with our neighboring departments, the Sheriff's office, and the State Fire Marshall's office. It's been a few years now that we've had this team together and it's really starting to click.

State of Ohio EMS Grant

Adam Rockich explained that this Grant funding from the State of Ohio is provided entirely from seat belt fines collected in the State. The application deadline is April 1, 2025.

250213-03 Jeff Houck made a motion to apply and execute the 2025-2026 Training and Equipment Grant administered by the Ohio Department of Public Safety, Division of EMS. There are no matching funds required from the Coventry Fire Department. These funds are available to eligible Ohio EMS agencies to purchase approved training and EMS equipment items. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: Edward Diebold, yes and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

Employee Promotion – Deputy Chief

Adam Rockich explained Captain Langenek has been handling our position as operations officer for the past 13 months. He is the second in command of the Fire Department and functions as the acting Fire Chief whenever Chief Rockich is on leave. Brian was hired part-time in January 1998 and reclassified as Full-time on March 1st, 2000. On March 1st, Brian will be completing 25 years of full-time service. He is an integral part of keeping our department functioning.

250213-04 Edward Diebold made a motion to promote Captain Brian Langenek to the rank of Deputy Chief effective Wednesday, March 5th, 2025. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: Edward Diebold, yes and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

Employee Promotion - Lieutenant

Adam Rockich explained that Firemedic Barrickman will assume the duties of Lieutenant for an open position created in December 2024. He was hired part-time in January 2017 and reclassified as full-time in June 2018. Johnny has been in a senior man position, filling the role of an acting Lieutenant multiple times a month. He currently handles all of our EMS supplies, Drug audits, and re-stocking.

250213-05 Jeff Houck made a motion to promote Firemedic Johnathan Barrickman to the rank of Lieutenant, effective Wednesday, March 5th, 2025. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: Edward Diebold, yes and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

New Hire - FireMedic

Adam Rockich explained that this position will fill the opening caused by a resignation in December of 2024. Brandon Charles is a Township resident who is already a paramedic. He will be able to help with emergency callbacks. He did his paramedic ride time with us, so the guys have already gotten to know him.

250213-06 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve the hiring of Brandon Charles to a full-time FireMedic position with an effective date of February 19th, 2025. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: Edward Diebold, yes and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

PCG Emergency Services Billing Agreement -Ambulance Supplement Payment Program

Adam Rockich explained that Ohio signed into law last year allowing alternative funding recovery by emergency services to recover shortages in billing from what Medicare will pay and what transport services charge. The PCG group will go after shortages in Medicare billing on our behalf. They will charge a fee of 10% of the federal share portion collected from the shortages in Medicare billing. Estimates are roughly \$40,000 of uncollected Medicare billing could be collected. Some of the funds may also be collected through the ASPP (ambulance supplement payment program) for Medicaid.

250213-07 Jeff Houck made a motion to enter into a contract with PCG group for Medicare alternative billing recovery. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: Edward Diebold, yes and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

Lael Stouffer, Road Superintendent, stated that the Road Department is performing normal business, reviewing work orders. March will be heavy with motions so he can get to work in the spring.

Rob Henwood, Zoning Inspector, reported that he issued four zoning permits in the last month and the next Board of Zoning Appeals will meet on Tuesday, March 11th. Code enforcement, there are 6 letters in process, and 12 complaints are pending.

Report by the Fiscal Officer:

David Gissinger advised that the period-to-date financial reports have been presented to the Board

250213-08 Jeff Houck made a motion to receive all bills and salaries, warrant numbers 77253 to 77356 as certified by Fiscal Officer, David Gissinger, and subject to audit. (A listing of the warrants will be made a part of these minutes.) Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: Edward Diebold, yes and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

Budgetary – Purchase Orders

250213-09 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve a purchase order in the amount of \$4,786.01 to Kristin Scalise - Summit County Fiscal Officer for property tax expenses. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: Edward Diebold, yes and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

250213-10 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve a purchase order in the amount of \$3,356.98 to Roetzel and Andress for 2024 4th Quarter legal fees. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: Edward Diebold, yes and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 2-0. Dave Gissinger explained that we did not receive billing for this until February.

250213-11 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve a purchase order in the amount of \$20,000 to Roetzel and Andress for future legal fees. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: Edward Diebold, yes and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

250213-12 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve a purchase order in the amount of \$12,988 to Medical Mutual of Ohio for Group Health Insurance coverage. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: Edward Diebold, yes and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

250213-13 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve a purchase order in the amount of \$24,000 to Burnham & Flowers for HRA expense. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: Edward Diebold, yes and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

Reports by Trustees:

Jeff Houck thanks to everyone who works outside for keeping us safe. He likes having a cold winter with snow even though it creates more work.

Edward Diebold echoed Jeff's comments and thanked our road department and safety forces for all they do during cold weather and storms. He mentioned his father's passing and thanked everyone for the outpouring of support. He wished a happy Valentine's Day to those who celebrate.

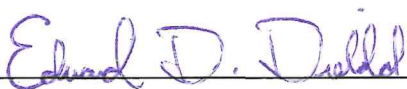
Public Comments:

- Curt Flick: Complaint about the condition of the roadways where the water lines are being installed. He wanted to know when they would be fixed. Lael Stouffer explained that they would be fixed at the end of the project. Akron will be resurfacing our roads as well as S. Turkeyfoot where needed.

to Adjourn the Regular Meeting:

Edward Diebold made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: Edward Diebold, yes and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 2-0.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.


Chairman


Fiscal Officer