

**COVENTRY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**Regular Meeting of April 10, 2025**

The Coventry Township Board of Trustees met in regular session on Thursday, April 10, 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 Administrator Anna Davis to record the following Trustees present: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. All Trustees were recorded as present.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Presentation – Akron-Summit County Public Library:**

Library Executive Director Pam Hickson-Stevenson gave a brief presentation regarding the Library's May 6<sup>th</sup> Capital Bond Ballot Issue # 18. She explained that this is a 1-Mill 20-year bond that will work to renovate and maintain all of their current structures, which are all aging. This issue will bring in \$160 million throughout the bond. Jeff Houck commented that he is a frequent library user and believes this is a valuable community service. He urged everyone's support.

**Announcements: Spring Yard Clean-up:** Edward Diebold announced that our ReWorks Grant-sponsored Resident yard-waste drop-off events will be held on Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> and Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 3 pm at Cottage Grove Park. The Coventry Road Crew will collect your bagged or bundled natural yard waste. *(rocks, dirt, sod, tree stumps, concrete, construction materials, treated wood or scrap tires will not be accepted.)* NO DUMPING BEFORE OR AFTER THE EVENT.

**Old Business:**

**Approval of Minutes**

250410-01 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Regular Meeting and Workshop of March 13, 2025, and Special Meeting of April 2, 2025. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

**New Business:**

**Connect Church 5K Fundraiser - 2025**

George Beckham explained that this is a request for road closures for a 5K race fundraiser for Connect Church on Killian Road. The race will temporarily close portions of Conlin Drive, Wheeling Drive, Krebs Drive, and Jarvis Road from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. Approvals from the City of Green for their portion of Jarvis Road and traffic control support from the Summit County Sheriff have been received.

250410-02 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve a request for the temporary closure of portions of Conlin Drive, Wheeling Drive, Krebs Drive, and Jarvis Road within the Coventry Township limits for a 5K race beginning at Connect Church, 578 Killian Road, Coventry Township, Ohio on April 26, 2025 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

**Notice to Legislative Authority – Liquor License Transfer – 530 Portage Lakes Drive**

George Beckham explained that the Board of Trustees has received notice from the Ohio Department Liquor Control for the transfer of ownership of a D5/D6 Liquor License Permit from 530 PLD, LLC & Multi Level Patio, 530 Portage Lakes Drive, Coventry Twp., OH 44319 to Brothers Beverage Co, LLC, & Multi Level Patio, 530 Portage Lakes Drive, Coventry Twp., OH 44319. A response to request a hearing, or not request a hearing, must be postmarked no later than April 19, 2025.

250410-03 George Beckham made a motion to not request a hearing for the transfer of ownership of a D5/D6 Liquor License Permit from 530 PLD, LLC & Multi Level Patio, 530 Portage Lakes Drive, Coventry Twp., OH 44319 to Brothers Beverage Co, LLC, & Multi Level Patio, 530 Portage Lakes Drive, Coventry Twp., OH 44319. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

### **Special Event Operational Supplies – Food Truck Mondays**

George Beckham explained that the Parks Advisory Board will do three of these over the summer, and you'll see ads for them. This will cover renting port-o-lets, tents, tables, and chairs for these events.

250410-04 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve a blanket certificate in the amount of \$3,000 to cover the cost of operational supplies as needed for Food Truck Mondays. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

### **Reports by Department Heads**

**Captain Dave McCutcheon, Summit County Sheriff Representative**, introduced our new school resource officer, Deputy Kuzos, who will also act as an extra car in the Township when he is not in charge of safety and security at the schools. Edward Diebold explained that this was a win-win for the school and the township. We take care of his salary during the summer months when school is out, and he can help cover patrol in areas we need during our busier months in the community. Deputy McCutcheon reported that there have been 861 calls for service to date, 131 traffic stops, and 70 arrests.

**Chuck Hauber, Summit County Engineer Representative**, reported that the daytime closures on S. Turkeyfoot Road will continue until April 18<sup>th</sup>, weather permitting. He explained that the Board discussed the Hinman Ditch Study during the General workshop and that the Engineer's Office has selected this project for ARPA fund use. The Board will need to request a ditch petition to move forward with the next phase of planning.

250410-05 Jeff Houck made a motion to authorize the filing of a ditch petition for the Hinman Ditch, Ditch #52 (Penguin Avenue) Improvements with the Summit County Engineer's Office. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

**Adam Rockich, Fire Chief**, (absent/excused for conference attendance)

### **Fire Department Equipment Purchase – Fire Hose**

Jeff Houck explained that this request is to purchase new LDH fire hoses in the amount of \$10,000 to replace existing hoses that failed the department's testing.

250410-06 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve a Super BC in the amount of \$10,000 for the purchase of replacement fire hose. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

**Lael Stouffer, Road Superintendent**, reported that the County bid for paving contractors has returned, and there will be two contractors this year. In the past few years, the same contractor has been awarded the 405-motor pave and the 422-chip seal; however, this year, it has gone to Geauga Highway and Melway paving. He wanted to pre-emptively explain this because the scheduling will appear inefficient to residents. These are separate companies with their schedules. All of the work will be under the purview and inspection of the County Engineer, so he doesn't expect there to be any issues. The timing will be different and may not be as streamlined as what we are used to seeing. Anna Davis asked if we could get the names of the streets and which contractor would be working on them, so they could be posted on the website. Lael Stouffer stated Yes, that would be a good idea. We will try to get as much information posted as possible before the paving project to limit any confusion or frustration.

**Rob Henwood, Zoning Inspector**, explained that since the last meeting, he has issued one short-term rental permit, and seven zoning permits. The BZA hearing, originally scheduled to go before the Board of Trustees this evening, was postponed until April 21<sup>st</sup> due to an advertising error. The Board will hold a special meeting to hear a request for text change for Adult Use Marijuana. The next regularly scheduled BZA hearing will be on May 13<sup>th</sup>, with the deadline for applications set for April 28<sup>th</sup>. The next Zoning Commission meeting will be on April 18<sup>th</sup>. Over the course of the month he has sent eight code enforcement letters.

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

### **ReWorks - Community Recycling Access Grant**

250410-07 Edward Diebold made a motion to authorize the filing of an application to ReWorks for the 2025 ReWorks Community Recycling Access Grant for the total amount available of \$10,032.56 to be used for resident Yard Waste and Leaf Drop-Off events and to authorize Administrator Anna Davis to execute the agreement. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.



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

**240411-08** Jeff Houck made a motion to renew the Township's enrollment with Sedgwick for the Ohio Township Association 2025 Workers' Compensation Group Retrospective Rating Program contract period beginning 7/1/2025 (Policy year: 1/1/26-12/31/26) with a total due of \$5,215. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

## **OTARMA Renewal – Township Property & Liability Insurance**

Anna Davis explained that we have received our renewal invoice for our Township Property & Liability Insurance for 2025-2026, effective April 28, 2025, in the amount of \$98,443. This is a 28% increase over last year's premium. Part of that increase is that they have done away with the OTARMA loyalty credit, which was usually around \$7,000. This is unprecedented, but Townships are seeing this across the board. We are working with our representative from Summit Insurance to evaluate our coverages further to see where we can continue to save. OTARMA will also continue to offer grant opportunities with the MORE Grant and the Police and Fire/EMS Grant for up to \$1,000 each.

**250410-09** Edward Diebold made a motion to approve the Township Property and Liability renewal effective date of April 28, 2025, with the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA) through Summit Insurance in the amount of \$98,443. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

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

**David Gissinger** (absent/excused) The period-to-date financial reports have been presented to the Board, and are in their office for them to sign off on.

**250410-10** Edward Diebold made a motion to receive all bills and salaries, warrant numbers 77444 to 77521 as certified by Fiscal Officer, David Gissinger, and subject to audit. (A listing of the warrants will be made a part of these minutes.) Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

## **Budgetary – Purchase Orders**

**250410-11** Jeff Houck made a motion to approve a purchase order for the Auditor of State for \$4,296.00 for UAN Fees. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

**250410-12** Edward Diebold made a motion to approve a purchase order to Roetzel and Andress, LPA for \$59,400 for Legal Fees. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

**250410-13** Edward Diebold made a motion to approve a blanket certificate for Copier Lease/Maintenance & Supplies for \$5,700.00. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

## **Reports by Trustees:**

**George Beckham** reported attending the joint workshop held for the Board of Zoning Appeals and Zoning Commission. They will be working to review and revise the variance process. He would also like to look into implementing an architectural review board. As mentioned earlier, the Library issue is on the May ballot. Another critical issue is Issue 2, a 10-year bond for 2.5 million dollars that will fund State infrastructure under Ohio Public Works. This is very important to Townships, we can apply for these funds to assist with projects. Please support Issue 2.

**Jeff Houck** stated that he supports the Library issue, uses the library a lot, and knows many community members need it. He reported that he has a bi-weekly teleconference with the County, which mainly centers around the Health Department. Recently, there has been a lot of discussion about measles. There are no cases currently in Summit County. Ohio has an 89% immunity rate, so if you know of anyone who has not had the MMR vaccine, please keep them safe.

**Edward Diebold**, reported that we have broken ground for the Logan Field House project, so it's taking a lot of effort, but we are heading in the right direction. We are hoping for a late summer completion. Lael has just done a lot of work at Ingleside Park, removing a bunch of trees to prevent damage. Ingleside will be next for rehab after Logan. The PLAY Center has also just seen some tree work. We cleaned up the hill and are in the process of grading out the hill to make it safer. He stated he also attended the joint zoning meeting. It's good to sit and work together. He attended the last Township Association (TASC) dinner, where George is the TASC-Master. Just one of the many great things that George does. He stated that he learned a lot about the

Land Bank. Also, in the last month, our Fire Department has gone online with Summit County Dispatch, so we are getting our alarms 1-2 minutes faster. That transition has gone relatively smoothly. He wished everyone a Happy Easter.

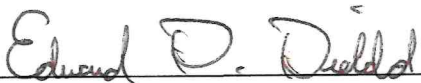
**Public Comments:**


- Tricia Ortscheid – 404 Finland: reported a nuisance property at 407 Finland with cars, an old pool, a garage falling down, trash in the road, and other issues. George Beckham advised her that it is on the zoning inspector’s list of complaints. He advised Rob Henwood to send a certified letter citing the zoning violations, and to possibly get the health department involved because of the stagnant pool water.
- John Bower – 3037 S. Prior: reported the KFC retention basin has been leaking since it was installed, and now the new Dairy Queen is clearing their land, so twice as much water is flowing off onto his property. Dairy Queen’s excavation equipment flattened the ditch from KFC’s retention basin, and now water at the other end of the ditch needs to be cleaned out. He wants to know if there is anything the Township can do. Lael said he can do the Township’s portion, but the real part will be the connection through (Mr. Bower’s) private property. He advised Mr. Bower to let him know when he is ready to install the pipe, and he can meet him out there to mark where the catch basins will go. There was discussion over a drainage easement and possibly getting the business to relieve him of the pipe’s cost. Lael Stouffer also suggested possibly getting the engineer’s office out there to get an opinion on what size pipe to use.
- Chris Ross – 3052 S. Prior Rd.: advised the Board that after all of the issues with KFC coming in, the neighbor sold when they heard Dairy Queen was coming. He stated that he has decided to sell his house in June. He doesn’t have a lot of confidence after KFC coming in and is worried DQ will create more issues. He will leave when his tenant’s lease expires on May 31<sup>st</sup>. He stated he knows he won’t get market value because of this mess. He feels the Trustees should be protecting the residents. He understands business revenue, but there shouldn’t be a compromise regarding people’s homes. He asked Lael if the ditch would be done before June. Lael Stouffer explained that it would depend on Mr. Bower and the Engineer. Mr. Ross stated that it’s been rough. He hopes it all works out for everyone involved.

**Motion to Adjourn the Regular Meeting:**

Edward Diebold made a motion to adjourn the Regular 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 6:58 p.m.

  
Chairman

  
Fiscal Officer