

**COVENTRY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**Regular Meeting of May 8, 2025**

The Coventry Township Board of Trustees met in regular session on Thursday, May 8, 2025, at 6:04 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**

**Old Business:**

**Presentation:** Sheriff Fatheree: Presented a recap of the Sheriff's activities and services that were provided in the Township over the last year. She announced the promotion of her three new Chiefs, Larry Brown, Tim Miller and Bill Holland. There has been a decrease over previous years in all crimes. She discussed the Knox box program for seniors. She commented on the great working relationship that has been built between her office and the Board of Trustees, and hope to see that continue. Jeff Houck stated the relationship is now the best he's seen it as an official and as a resident. George Beckham asked her about Thrive House. She explained that it was a concept to support recovery services of inmates to transition them back to normal life. It's been open for one year, and it's been extremely successful.

**Approval of Minutes**

250508-01 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Regular Meeting and Workshop of April 10, 2025, and Special Meeting of April 21, 2025. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

**New Business:**

**Special Event – Incidental Expenses**

George Beckham explained that this is to cover incidental expenses such as port-o-let rental, temporary trash receptacles, special event Sheriff's Deputy coverage, etc.

250508-02 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve a Blanket Certificate in the amount of \$5,000.00 for incidental expenses for Township special events. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

**Clock Tower Park - Electric**

George Beckham explained this is to install electricity to service special events like the Annual Clock Tower Tree Lighting, Food Truck Monday's, and other community events at the Clock Tower Park.

250508-03 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve a Purchase Order not exceeding \$12,000 to ANR Electric to install an electric panel with related equipment and labor at the Clock Tower Park. 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**

**Captain Dave McCutcheon, Summit County Sheriff Representative**, reported that there were 1,377 calls for service during April, compared to 854 last year. Year-to-date, there have been a total of 3,507 calls for service; last year at this time there were 4,523. In April, there were 49 accidents, 39 without injuries, 10 with injuries; last year's total was 29. April traffic totals were 39, with a year-to-date total of 170. April arrest totals were 19, with a year-to-date total of 96.

**Adam Rockich, Fire Chief** reported 769 calls to date. 221 in the last month. There was one structure fire in the Township in April, which was contained to a garage. He explained that he is currently working on ISO rating change review due to the new water lines going in. New hydrants in the area have changed the ISO

rating from a 4 to a 3. One staff member has already called their insurance company and was able to drop their rate by \$120, which may go down more as of June 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Fire Department Fuel**

Adam Rockich explained this is for the Fire Department's share of fuel to operate the vehicles in the fire department.

250508-04 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve the encumbrance of funds in the amount of \$10,000 for the Fire Department's share of fuel costs. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

### **Admin/Fire Department Parking Lot Maintenance**

Adam Rockich explained that this is for Bi-Annual parking lot crack sealing, asphalt sealer, and parking lot restriping/maintenance.

250508-05 George Beckham made a motion to approve the encumbrance funds in the amount of \$4,500 to Carpenter Asphalt Sealer Co. for the Admin/Fire Dept. parking lot sealing. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

### **Lifeforce Management**

Adam Rockich explained that Lifeforce Management provides ambulance billing services for the township. This amount covers their 7% fee on all recovered funds. Owing them more money means we are collecting more money, so it's not necessarily a bad thing. However, he stated that he hopes this PO will make it through the end of the year.

250508-06 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve the encumbrance funds in the amount of \$20,000 for billing services provided by Lifeforce Management. 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**, explained that they have been busy bouncing around the Township getting jobs done. His time right now is dictated by the paving contractors. He has a lot of work to do ahead of the paving project. He explained that they have done a lot of work in the parks recently with removing trees and re-grading a few areas. He is excited to see how it looks. George Beckham commented that the hill looks great even after a hard rain.

### **Road Department Fuel**

Lael Stouffer explained that these funds will cover the remainder of the year's Road Department fuel costs.

250508-07 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve BC for Road Dept Fuel in the amount of \$10,000.00. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

### **Disposition of Inventory – Road Department 2003 Ford F-350**

Lael Stouffer explained that this is to auction the 2003 F350 Ford truck, with a snow plow. George Beckham asked Lael Stouffer if he knew how much it would bring. Lael stated that he had no idea. Edward Diebold thanked him for taking such good care of the truck. The fact that we are replacing a 22-year-old vehicle is pretty remarkable. All of our departments do a great job of maintaining and extending the life of our equipment to its maximum potential.

250508-08 George Beckham made a motion to declare the 2003 Ford F350, with snow plow, obsolete, authorize it to be sold via Auction through Edinburg Auction Sales, and remove it from inventory upon sale. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

### **2025 Road Resurfacing Program**

2025 Road Resurfacing Program: Buttercup Ave., Colopy St., Cosmos St., Elderberry Ave., Forget-Me-Not St., Hyacinth Dr., Iris St., Jasmine St (North), Magnet St., Needle St., N. Bender Ave., Conlin Dr., S. Bender Ave., and Daisy Ave. This year's program will complete the Cottage Grove area.

250508-09 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve \$730,000.00 for the 2025 Road Resurfacing Program. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

### **Cottage Grove Field - Parking Lot**

Lael Stouffer explained that this project involves resurfacing the parking lot at Cottage Grove Field, and it will be completed simultaneously with the chip-sealing of the roads in the area.

250508-10 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve a blanket certificate in the amount of \$18,000.00 for resurfacing of Cottage Grove Field Parking lot. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

### **Community Center & Ingleside Park – Exterior Restoration**

Lael Stouffer explained that additional funds are needed to finish up the exterior restoration projects for the Community Center and Ingleside Park. This is solely due to the current cost of topsoil, which has become extremely expensive.

250508-11 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve a BC for the restorations at the Community Center and Ingleside Park projects, in the amount of \$10,000.00. George Beckham seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

**Rob Henwood, Zoning Inspector** reported that he issued three short term rental renewals and 6 permits in the last month. The BZA will meet on June 10<sup>th</sup> with a May 26<sup>th</sup> application deadline, and the zoning commission will meet on May 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **Nuisance Abatement – Lawn Mowing**

George Beckham explained that this motion authorizes the ZI to work with contractors to mow properties containing noxious weeds and vegetation. It references ORC 505.87 and SCCO 521.10, both of which are attached.

250508-12 George Beckham made a motion to authorize the Zoning Inspector (ZI) to act under Ohio Revised Code Section (ORC) 505.87 and Summit County Codified Ordinance Section (SCCO) 521.10 concerning removal of noxious weeds and vegetation over eight inches in height. Upon completion of notification of the property owner and the process as prescribed in ORC 505.87 and Summit County Ordinance 521.10 the Zoning Inspector shall remove the nuisance condition and have the costs assessed to the property tax along with a \$50.00 administrative fee. Jeff Houck seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

**Anna Davis, Administrator**, stated that she just wanted to mention the road department held our first Reworks Yard Waste, Drop-Off last Saturday, which, unfortunately, was a rain out, and nobody showed up. So now the final spring event will be Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. She encouraged residents to bring their yard waste. It's a great event that is funded by our Reworks Community Recycling Access Grant, and that way, all of your yard waste can be Recycled, instead of going into a landfill.

### **Solar Powered Radar/Speed Sign**

Anna Davis explained that we frequently request use of the Sheriff's Office speed trailer, especially on Portage Lakes Drive, so the Trustees had asked the Sheriff's office to look into obtaining a permanent one. Quotes were received as follows:

- a. All Traffic Solutions \$4,057 (3-year warranty) – Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing Contract
- b. Stalker Radar \$4,400 (1yr warranty)

250508-13 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve a purchase order in the amount of \$4,057.55 to All Traffic Solutions for a permanent solar powered speed sign with traffic data collection. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

Jeff Houck explained it's one of those signs that's powered by solar energy, and it keeps track and it tells you what speed you're going as you go down the road and hopefully it helps you hit the brakes before hit the speed limit.

### **Notice of Meeting Time Change – Monthly General Workshop Sessions**

Anna Davis stated she had a request for one more motion:

250508-13 Edward Diebold made a motion to approve a time change for our regularly scheduled General Workshop time from 5:00 PM to 4:30 PM every second Thursday of the month. Edward Diebold



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

Edward Diebold explained that the Regular meeting will still be at 6 o'clock; we just seem to be running short on time with our work session before this one. Anna Davis stated she will post the change on the website, Facebook, and let the media know. George Beckham also suggested hanging a paper sign with the meeting times in the Community Center doorway.

**Report by the Fiscal Officer:**

**David Gissinger**

- Period-to-date financial reports have been presented to the Board

250508-15 George Beckham made a motion to receive all bills and salaries, warrant numbers 77444 to 77634 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: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

**Budgetary – Purchase Orders**

250508-16 Jeff Houck made a motion to approve a BC in the amount of \$50,000 to cover Township IT services. Edward Diebold seconded the motion. Roll call: George Beckham, yes; Edward Diebold, yes; and Jeff Houck, yes. Motion carried 3-0.

**Reports by Trustees:**

**George Beckham** announced that we are going to do what we are calling Food Truck Monday. This is something put together by our Parks Advisory Committee. We tried it last year, and it was a big success so we're going to do three events this summer on June 9<sup>th</sup>, July 14<sup>th</sup> and August 12<sup>th</sup> at the Clock Tower. The second Monday each month this summer from 5-8, we'll have about 6 food trucks parked down at the lot by the Clock Tower, we'll have some music, parking will be at Hohman's plaza across the street. The other thing he wanted to discuss was, this past Tuesday, the state passed the bond Levy which is for public infrastructure \$250 billion a year for 10 years. This is like the fourth time this has been approved in Ohio, and it sends a lot of money to Townships and smaller cities. So, he just wanted to mention that it passed like 70-80-22, which was a pretty large margin. And then lastly, I was at the county engineer banquet this week, and one of the speakers was a gentleman from ODOT, and I thought we were out of the woods as far as traffic construction and sitting in big traffic backups, and we're not out of the woods by any means. He stated there are all kinds of projects going on and getting ready to go on and it's real frustrating, so it's going to be frustrating for quite a while. 224 is going to be a major one here, that's going to be terrible.

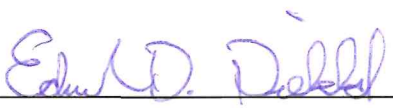
**Jeff Houck**, stated, just to piggyback off what George is saying, he is glad the Bond Levy passed because you think about the pounding that these bridges take, even just the Rt. 8 bridge that they're replacing now, how old that bridge is, and how much traffic has gone over that. It's incredible how long they last, but they don't last forever, so I'm glad that passed. He stated he was also happy to see that the library Levy passed on Tuesday. He was surprised to discover how many buildings we have that were all built at the same time and all require major work. A lot of roofs, and you know, roof replacements, just it's a thankless job, but it has to be done obviously, so he was so glad to see that. It's now the time of the year where we are going to see an uptick in the property complaints. He stated that he thinks Rob has seen that already, and we've heard a few things in meetings here. It gets frustrating because if we, you know, I think all of us in fact, probably everybody sitting at the table, right here gets a property complaint from one place or another, because we all have, friend circles and out there and so forth. It's frustrating, because what you really want to do when you see some of these properties that people have let go is just get in there with it a bulldozer and a dumpster and a tow truck and take care of it, to get it cleaned out, but everybody has property rights. That includes the people that don't really care too much about how their property looks. So, he wanted to remind everyone that there's a process we go through. We know, and we want to take care of it and we want to hear those complaints, but we also ask for patience as we move through the process.

**Edward Diebold** that nuisance properties are a process and they can be a long one. He stated that he noticed the voting turnout when he went and voted at 7:15 p.m. he was number 87. That's a really, really low turnout. He encouraged people to pay attention and to please vote.

**Motion to Adjourn the Regular Meeting:**

Jeff Houck made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Edward Diebold 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 6:50 p.m.

  
Chairman

  
Fiscal Officer