

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

JULY 1, 2026

As per Resolution 26-03, the Board of Washington Township Trustees met in regular session at the Washington Township Hall on Wednesday, July 1, 2026 at 6:30 PM with all members present.

Also, present were: Fire Chief Jim Haas, Lisa Haas, Sheriff Chris Stratton, Deputy Mitch Boggs, Deputy Chris Jarman, Brian Brittan, Rhonda Brittan, Chris Padgett, Steve Osterbrink, Ray Walvrin and Mark Tekulve, Clermont Co. Prosecutor.

Mr. Cooper, Chairman, called the meeting to order; opened with prayer and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Cooper called for additions or corrections to the minutes of: June 3, 2026 and June 17, 2026, there being none, the minutes were approved as presented.

Fiscal Officer's Report

Mrs. Dufau reported on the following:

- Status of EMS Soft Billing
- Proposed 2027 Tax Budget
- 2026 – 2nd half property tax settlement next expected until the end of September due to the delay in the county collection second half property taxes.

The following amounts were received from the indicated sources:

HC Claimant	97-2026	2281-299-0000	\$470.70	EMS Soft Billing
Clermont County Auditor	98-2026	1000-532-0000	\$4,422.25	Local Government
HC Claimant	99-2026	2281-299-0000	\$486.26	EMS Soft Billing
HC Claimant	100-2026	2281-299-0000	\$487.60	EMS Soft Billing
National Opioid Settlement	101-2026	2274-891-0000	\$423.32	National Opioid Settlement
Clermont County Auditor	102-2026	2011-536-0000	\$905.93	Permissive M.V., M.V. License & Gas Tax
		2021-537-0000	\$13,138.09	
		2231-103-0000	\$520.50	
HC Claimant	103-2026	2281-299-0000	\$416.00	EMS Soft Billing
HC Claimant	104-2026	2281-299-0000	\$589.63	EMS Soft Billing
HC Claimant	105-2026	2281-299-0000	\$416.00	EMS Soft Billing
Kyle Louderback	106-2026	1000-802-1015	\$30.00	Fishing Permit
Robert Louderback	107-2026	1000-802-1015	\$20.00	Fishing Permit
Robert Mason	108-2026	1000-802-1015	\$20.00	Fishing Permit
Steve Radcliffe	109-2026	1000-802-1015	\$30.00	Fishing Permit
Doug Reece	110-2026	1000-802-1015	\$30.00	Fishing Permit
Angie Stowell	111-2026	1000-802-1011	\$50.00	Picnic Shelter Rental

Bryan Howell	112-2026	1000-802-1015	\$20.00	Fishing Permit
Kristy Bruggemann	113-2026	1000-802-1011	\$25.00	Picnic Shelter Rental
Kristy Bruggemann	114-2026	1000-802-1015	\$30.00	Fishing Permit
AFLAC	115-2026	1000-892-0000	\$18.34	Premium Refund
Cincinnati Bell	116-2026	1000-302-0000	\$468.88	Franchise Fees
Charter Communications	117-2026	1000-302-0000	\$639.47	Franchise Fees
HC Claimant	118-2026	2281-299-0000	\$588.89	EMS Soft Billing
Crossroad Church	119-2026	2111-299-0000	\$954.27	Charges for Services
Medicount Management	120-2026	2281-299-0000	\$2,280.33	EMS Soft Billing
HC Claimant	121-2026	2281-299-0000	\$530.72	EMS Soft Billing
Riverhills Bank	122-2026	1000-701-0000	\$16.98	Interest - June 2026
		2011-701-0000	\$0.43	
		2021-701-0000	\$5.65	
		2231-701-0000	\$1.45	
Star Ohio	123-2026	1000-701-0000	\$5,671.51	Interest - June 2026
		2011-701-0000	\$144.98	
		2021-701-0000	\$1,892.45	
		2231-701-0000	\$488.26	

The following bills were received, approved for payment, and warrants issued:

	356-		
Mark D Baird	2026	2111-220-190-0000	\$396.88
		2281-230-190-0000	\$396.88
	357-		
Kyle A Baylor	2026	2031-330-190-0000	\$1,064.84
		2111-220-190-0000	\$311.18
		2281-230-190-0000	\$310.83
	358-		
Ian Bocciarelli	2026	2111-220-190-0000	\$401.12
		2281-230-190-0000	\$401.12
	359-		
Paul Brewer	2026	2111-220-190-0000	\$700.46
		2281-230-190-0000	\$700.49
	360-		
Dennis R. Cooper	2026	1000-110-111-0000	\$1,139.29
	361-		
Alan Dodson	2026	2031-330-190-0000	\$1,329.29
	362-		
Sheila G Dufau	2026	1000-110-121-0000	\$1,855.27
	363-		
Donald Gates	2026	2111-220-190-0000	\$460.08
		2281-230-190-0000	\$460.11
	364-		
James Haas	2026	2111-220-190-0000	\$752.19
		2281-230-190-0000	\$752.13
	365-		
Curtis Ray Henderson	2026	2111-220-190-0000	\$798.82
		2281-230-190-0000	\$798.81
	366-		
Travis Hull	2026	2111-220-190-0000	\$511.45
		2281-230-190-0000	\$511.48

Robert Laubach III	367-2026	1000-110-111-0000	\$1,167.79
Richard A. Maus	368-2026	1000-110-111-0000	\$1,106.26
Robert D Mercer II	369-2026	2111-220-190-0000	\$276.92
		2281-230-190-0000	\$276.91
Garrett Mousir	370-2026	2111-220-190-0000	\$142.96
		2281-230-190-0000	\$142.83
Justin Pendergrass	371-2026	2111-220-190-0000	\$329.38
		2281-230-190-0000	\$329.24
Trevor Riley	372-2026	2111-220-190-0000	\$148.98
		2281-230-190-0000	\$148.97
Michael Tolin	373-2026	2111-220-190-0000	\$151.61
		2281-230-190-0000	\$151.64
Steven W Troutman	374-2026	2111-220-190-0000	\$153.49
		2281-230-190-0000	\$153.49
Makenna N Weaver	375-2026	2111-220-190-0000	\$218.05
		2281-230-190-0000	\$218.04
Dustin M White	376-2026	2111-220-190-0000	\$495.47
		2281-230-190-0000	\$495.43
James Wilson	377-2026	2111-220-190-0000	\$223.48
		2281-230-190-0000	\$223.46
Theresa Ann Wright	378-2026	2111-220-190-0000	\$466.91
		2281-230-190-0000	\$466.91
Aaron Young	379-2026	2111-220-190-0000	\$492.69
		2281-230-190-0000	\$492.70
Ohio Police & Fire Pension	381-2026	2111-220-190-0000	\$1,221.41
		2111-220-215-0000	\$2,392.86
		2281-230-190-0000	\$1,221.31
		2281-230-215-0000	\$2,392.86
OPERS	382-2026	1000-110-111-0000	\$399.24
		1000-110-121-0000	\$223.99
		1000-110-132-0000	\$651.87
		1000-110-211-0000	\$1,785.14
		2031-330-190-0000	\$953.66
		2031-330-211-0000	\$1,335.13
RiverHills Bank	383-2026	1000-110-111-0000	\$82.89
		1000-110-121-0000	\$95.64
		1000-110-213-0000	\$90.37
		2031-330-190-0000	\$296.64
		2031-330-213-0000	\$45.92

		2111-220-190-0000	\$1,183.11
		2111-220-212-0000	\$397.17
		2111-220-213-0000	\$140.50
		2281-230-190-0000	\$1,183.03
		2281-230-212-0000	\$397.16
		2281-230-213-0000	\$140.51
	384-		
Ohio Public Employees	2026	2111-220-190-0000	\$305.01
		2281-230-190-0000	\$304.99
	441-		
Sam's Club	2026	2111-220-420-0000	\$199.98
	442-		
Bureau of Workers Compensation	2026	1000-110-230-0000	\$122.61
		2031-330-230-0000	\$183.93
		2111-220-230-0000	\$919.64
Pye-Barker Fire & Safety	68135	1000-120-360-0000	\$105.00
Delta Dental	68136	1000-110-389-6002	\$745.74
		2031-330-389-6002	\$338.22
		2111-220-389-6002	\$586.80
FlexTG, LLC	68137	1000-120-420-0000	\$25.20
		2111-220-420-0000	\$16.98
Fidelity Security Life Insurance Company	68138	1000-110-389-6003	\$71.82
		2031-330-389-6003	\$47.88
		2111-220-389-6003	\$71.82
Charter Communications	68139	2111-220-341-0000	\$137.72
Charter Communications	68140	2111-220-341-0000	\$280.03
Duke Energy	68141	2111-220-351-0000	\$775.47
Tate-Monroe Water, Assoc.	68142	2111-220-352-0000	\$154.50
Tate-Monroe Water, Assoc.	68143	1000-120-352-1008	\$20.19
		2031-330-352-0000	\$20.19
Tate-Monroe Water, Assoc.	68144	1000-610-352-1011	\$154.50
Duke Energy	68145	1000-120-351-1011	\$21.33
Duke Energy	68146	1000-120-351-0000	\$14.22
		2031-330-351-0000	\$14.22
Duke Energy	68147	1000-120-351-1008	\$280.48
		2031-330-351-0000	\$280.48
Verizon Wireless	68148	1000-210-341-0000	\$49.30
		2031-330-341-0000	\$49.30
Verizon Wireless	68149	2281-230-341-3014	\$20.10
COSE Health and Wellness Trust	68150	1000-110-389-6001	\$9,637.41
		2031-330-389-6001	\$4,141.17
		2111-220-389-6001	\$6,987.52
Smyth Automotive	68151	2021-330-323-1018	\$68.07
Koenig Equipment	68152	2021-330-323-1018	\$717.35
Henry Schein, Inc.	68153	2281-230-420-0000	\$21.06
Adams County Regional Medical Center	68154	2111-220-410-0000	\$15.00
Duke Energy	68155	1000-310-360-0000	\$561.64
Bound Tree Medical, LLC	68156	2281-230-420-0000	\$312.10

Mr. Cooper commended Chief Haas on the fire/EMS budget cuts that had been implemented thus far.

Résolutions

26-43 Motion by : Mr. Cooper

Seconded by : Mr. Maus

WHEREAS, the effective operation of Washington Fire & EMS requires members to maintain sufficient availability to respond to emergencies, training, and departmental activities; and

WHEREAS, Sophia Ward has failed to maintain the level of availability required by the Township policies and operational needs; and

WHEREAS, the Fire Chief has reviewed the member's attendance, response records, and availability status.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Sophia Ward is hereby be removed from membership/employment with Washington Township Fire & EMS effective July 1, 2026. The removal is based upon the member's inability to maintain sufficient availability to fulfill the duties and responsibilities required by a Fire & EMS member/employee.

Roll Call: Mr. Cooper, Yes

Mr. Laubach, Yes

Mr. Maus, Yes

26-44 Motion by: Mr. Maus

Seconded by: Mr. Laubach

WHEREAS, Jayden Swader has served the Washington Township Fire & Rescue as a volunteer firefighter, and

WHEREAS, Jayden Swader has successfully passed and is a current certified EMT, and

WHEREAS, Washington Township Fire & Rescue has identified a need for additional part-time staffing to ensure adequate emergency response coverage and maintain the efficient operation of the Department; and

WHEREAS, the Fire Chief finds it to be in the best interest of the Department and the community to transition Jayden Swader from volunteer status to part-time employment;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Jayden Swader is hired to the position of Part-Time Firefighter/EMT and serves a 1-year probationary period. Pay shall be established at the rate of \$16.00 per hour. The employee shall serve under the policies, rules, regulations, and standard operating procedures of the Department and shall maintain all certifications and qualifications required for the position. All necessary employment documents, payroll forms, and related personnel records shall be completed prior to the effective date of employment.

Roll Call: Mr. Cooper, Yes

Mr. Laubach, Yes

Mr. Maus, Yes

26-45 Motion by Mr. Cooper

Seconded by Mr. Maus

WHEREAS, the Board of Washington Township Trustees desires to vacate and close a section of Big Indian Road (T-33) beginning at the last township culvert and ending in the middle of the Big Indian Creek which is approximately 163' in length. It is noted that the distance from the middle of State Route 743 to the last township culvert is approximately 3,322' feet.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Washington Township Trustees unanimously agree to take the necessary steps to vacate and close a section of Big Indian Road (T-33) beginning at the last township culvert and ending in the middle of the Big Indian Creek which is approximately 163' in length. It is noted that the distance from the middle of State Route 743 to the last township culvert is approximately 3,322' feet.

Discussion: Mr. Maus expressed his appreciation to the Clermont County Prosecutor's office for their assistance obtaining a favorable judgement in the Recterra litigation case.

Roll Call: Mr. Cooper, Yes

Mr. Laubach, Yes

Mr. Maus, Yes

26-46 Motion by Mr. Cooper

Seconded by Mr. Laubach

WHEREAS, the Township Fiscal Officer has presented the proposed 2027 Tax Budget to the Washington Township Board of Trustees, and

WHEREAS, the Washington Township Board of Trustees has reviewed the proposed tax budget.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the proposed 2027 Tax Budget be approved and submitted to the Clermont County Auditor's Office.

Roll Call: Mr. Cooper, Yes

Mr. Laubach, Yes

Mr. Maus, Yes

26-47 Motion by: Mr. Cooper

Seconded by: Mr. Maus

WHEREAS, the Board of Washington Township Trustees has requested the assistance of the Clermont County Engineer's Office in upgrading a portion of Mullen Road and a landslide repair on Big Indian Road, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Washington Township Trustees desires in conjunction with the Clermont County Engineer's Office to apply for a grant through the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) program, Year 41 funding.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Washington Township Trustees in conjunction with the Clermont County Engineer's Office submit an application to OPWC for Mullen Road upgrades and a landslide repair (per UES report & design) on Big Indian Road., and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Trustee Laubach be appointed as the workwise account manager for the 2026 grant application process.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Cooper, Yes; Mr. Laubach, Yes; Mr. Maus, Yes

**A RESOLUTION TO PROCEED WITH SUBMISSION OF THE QUESTION OF
LEVYING A
5.5 MILLS TAX IN EXCESS OF THE TEN-MILL LIMITATION FOR SAFETY
SERVICES
(R.C. §§ 5705.03, 5705.19, 5705.191 and 5705.25)**

WHEREAS, on June 3, 2026, the Board passed Resolution No 26-42 declaring the necessity to levy a tax in excess of the ten-mill limitation; and

WHEREAS, on June 10, 2026, the Clermont County Auditor (“Auditor”) has certified the estimated tax review that would be raised for a 5.5 mills safety services levy; and

WHEREAS, the Auditor has certified that the total current tax valuation of Washington Township to be \$76,868,106 and the amount of the property tax revenue to be produced by a 5.5 mills levy, assuming the taxable value of the Township remains constant throughout the life of the levy, is calculated to be \$422,775; and

WHEREAS, the Auditor has certified that the millage for the requested levy is 5.5 mills per \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$193 for each \$100,000 of the Auditor’s market value;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Washington Township, Clermont County, Ohio with two-thirds of all members thereto concurring:

SECTION 1. The Board shall proceed with the submission of the question of the tax to the electors of the entire territory of Washington Township, Clermont County, Ohio.

SECTION 2. The proposed tax is an additional 5.5 mills levy for police, fire and ambulance, as set forth in R.C. § 5705.19(JJ) being any or all of the purposes provided in R.C. § 5705.19(I) or (J), which would be levied for five years.

SECTION 3. The Auditor has certified that the total current tax valuation of Washington Township to be \$76,868,106 and the amount of the property tax revenue to be produced by a 5.5 mills levy, assuming the taxable value of the Township remains constant throughout the life of the levy, is calculated to be \$422,775.

SECTION 4. The Auditor has certified that the millage for the requested levy is 5.5 mills per \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$193 for each \$100,000 of the Auditor’s market value.

SECTION 5. That the levy be placed upon the tax lists, commencing in 2026, first due calendar year 2027, in compliance with Ohio Revised Code section 5705.34, if a majority of the electors voting thereon vote in favor thereof.

SECTION 6. That the question of such tax levy shall be submitted to the electors of the entire territory of Washington Township, Clermont County, Ohio at the election to be held therein on November 3, 2026.

SECTION 7. The Fiscal Officer is hereby directed to certify the levy to the Clermont County Board of Elections. Certification shall include copies of **ALL** of the following documents:

- a. Resolution of Necessity (Resolution Number 26-42, adopted on June 3, 2026; and
- b. Certificate of Estimated Property Tax Revenue from the Auditor; and
- c. This Resolution to Proceed.

Certification shall occur by no later than **4:00 PM** on **August 5, 2026**.

SECTION 8. The BOE is hereby directed to submit substantially the following question to the electors at the Election

OFFICIAL QUESTIONS AND ISSUES BALLOT GENERAL ELECTION November 3, 2026	
PROPOSED TAX LEVY WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP CLERMONT COUNTY, OHIO	
<u>A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage</u>	
An additional tax for the benefit of Washington Township for the purpose of operations of fire and emergency medical services and for contract for police protection that the county auditor estimates will collect \$422,775.00 annually, at a rate not exceeding 5.5 mills per \$1 taxable value, which amount to \$193 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value for a period of five years, commencing in 2026, first due in calendar year 2027.	
	For the Tax Levy
	Against the Tax Levy

SECTION 9. That the Board finds and determines that all formal actions relative to the passage of this resolution were taken in an open meeting and that all deliberations of the Board which resulted in the passage of this resolution, were taken in meetings open to the public, in full compliance with all legal requirements including Ohio Revised Code section 121.22.

SECTION 10. That this resolution shall take effect at the earliest period allowed by law.

Mr. Cooper seconded the Resolution and on roll call the vote resulted as follows:

Dennis Cooper, Trustee, Yes

Robert Laubach, Trustee, Yes

R. Aaron Maus, Trustee, Yes

Administrator Report/Road Summery

Mr. Cooper reported on the following:

- Road & Bridge work summary report is available.
- Meeting with the Clermont County Park District. The township legal counsel is looking into the legalities of the township leasing the township park to the county.
- Moscow Village fireworks will be on July 3, 2026 at dusk.
- Contract has been signed with Mr. Jack Bedford for the hay mowing and baling. Mr. Bedford has provided the required insurance certificate as required.
- Clermont County Board of Health is addressing the used tire issue on State Route 222.
- Moscow Cemetery Road repairs should be completed this week.

Sheriff Report

Sheriff Chris Stratton addressed the Board regarding the township deputy change. Sargent, Chris Jarman will be the township's new deputy starting in August. Flex scheduling would be possible if the Board desired. Deputy Boggs' last day with the township will be July 31, 2026 as he will be going to the West Clermont School District as a resource officer.

Fire Report

Chief Haas presented a written report that included the following:

Emergency Responses

EMS Responses: 32 (2 mutual aid responses)

Fire Responses: 21 (4 mutual aid responses)

Total Emergency Responses for June: 53 incidents as of 6/28/2026

Station 66- The station washer was inspected by a technician from Day's Appliance. The drive assembly is failing, and the estimated repair cost is **\$518.94** for parts and labor. The washer is approximately six years old.

The technician recommended replacement with a commercial-grade **Speed Queen** washer. A comparable unit is available through Lee & Jack's at a cost of **\$1,299.00**. **(Chief Haas requested direction from the Board regarding replacement of the washer. It was general consensus of the Board to approve purchasing a new washer.)**

Grants- We are still awaiting the second reimbursement from the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG). The reimbursement request was submitted on **May 13, 2026**, in the amount of **\$126,128.57**.

The 2026 AFG application was not completed due to time commitments associated with DEA requirements and information technology projects.

Vehicles- Engine 66 (E66) remains out of service. The initial repair estimate exceeded **\$10,000**. An alternative vendor was identified that can complete the repairs in-house for approximately half of the original estimate.

Personnel and Training- Two personnel resolutions have been submitted for consideration.

Equipment- Staff reviewed a medication vault system with a purchase price of **\$4,577.43 per unit**. This system does not require a software subscription; however, RFID-equipped medication vials would be required to maintain accountability.

The Knox medication vault system utilizes subscription-based software. The vault units themselves are approximately half the cost of the alternative system. A formal quote from Knox is still pending. Based on preliminary information, the RFID-based vault system may prove to be the more cost-effective option over time, although a final comparison cannot be completed until the Knox pricing is received.

The **UCAPIT EMS supply management system** was quoted at **\$12,500.00**. Our billing company has indicated they may be able to assist with financing through a three-month term at five percent interest.

Other Business- Dr. Khan is scheduled to attend on **July 8, 2026**, for protocol review and training.

Chief Haas also reported that he had also begun reviewing his schedule for the Monday through Friday rotation. He would need to meet with the Fiscal Officer to ensure all necessary administrative matters are in order.

Public Participation

Clermont County Prosecutor, Mark Tekulve addressed the Board regarding his office's work on the township's litigation with Recterra and reported the township had received judgement in their favor.

Mr. Ray Walvrin with Lighting IT, introduced himself to the Board and expressed that he would be submitting a quote for the township's cyber security needs. Mr. Cooper requested Mr. Maus manage and obtain the information and quotes for the township's cyber security needs.

Chief Haas reported that he was looking into changing the township's internet provider as well as changing the township internet domain from .org to .gov.

Mr. Cooper expressed that he wanted a resolution regarding the cyber security policy at the next board meeting on August 12, 2026.

Mr. Cooper reported the new deadline for the township's website to be ADA compliant is April 2028.

There being no further business the motion to adjourn was adopted.

Dennis Cooper, Chairman

Sheila G. Dufau, Fiscal Officer