WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OCTOBER 7, 2026

As per Resolution 26-03, the Board of Washington Township Trustees met in regular session at the Washington Township Hall on Wednesday, October 7, 2026 at 6:30 pm with all members present.

Also, present were: Deputy Chris Jarman, Fire Chief Jim Haas, Assistant Prosecutor Brian Shrive, Tim Suter, Ross Hughes, Rhonda Brittain, Brian Brittain, Gail Fawley, Chris Padgett, Kevin Newberry, Don Jones, Carla Benjamin, Chip Combs and Lisa Haas.

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

Public Hearing

Mr. Cooper announced the first business matter would be the public hearing for the proposed non-maintained portion of Big Indian Road and opened the public hearing to members of the public for their input.

Assistant Prosecutor Shrive swore in Mr. Chip Combs so that he could present information regarding the proposed non-maintained portion of Big Indian Road.

Mr. Combs inquired as to the seventy-five (75) feet proposed non-maintained portion being different from vacating the road. Mr. Shrive stated that it started at Mr. Combs' property. Mr. Combs then inquired as to why the Board of Trustees were taking such action. Mr. Shrive expressed that the hearing is to have public input as to whether or not the Board should do so and the hearing was not the time to ask questions. Mr. Combs provided a document from Thomson Law which stated three is no legal easement to his property and he further stated the ORC 5571.20 states that a road can not be put on non-maintained status when there is no means of access. He stated that there had never been request for bids for improving the road and the township previously did some work but what had been done had washed down the creek. He expressed that wanting the Board to do something didn't mean building a bridge and that if the Board chose to put the road on non-maintained status it would only lead to additional litigation. Mr. Shrive provided an opinion letter from the Clermont County Engineer regarding changing the road status. Mr. Shrive also read ORC 5571.20 for the Board.

Resolution

26-61 Motion by: Mr. Maus Seconded by: Mr. Cooper

WHEREAS, consistent and in compliance with Section 5571.20 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Board of Township Trustees have held two public hearings to allow for public comment on the question of placing an unimproved or graveled seventy-five-foot portion of the Big Indian Road on non-maintained status and published notice of such hearings at least ten days prior to the first hearing on the matter; and

WHEREAS, the portion of Big Indian Road to be placed on non-maintained status is the northernmost 75 feet, beginning approximately 3,441 feet from the intersection of Big Indian Road and the centerline of State Route 743 as measured along the centerline of Big Indian Road, and terminating 75 feet north-northwest to the point of terminus of Big Indian Road; and

WHEREAS, the County Engineer has submitted his opinion on the question finding that placing the such portion of Big Indian Road will not unduly adversely affect the flow of traffic on Big Indian Road or impact the existing motor vehicle accessibility of any adjacent properties; and

WHEREAS, the portion of Big Indian Road to be placed on non-maintained status is not passable year-round as defined in Section 5571.20 of the Ohio Revised Code.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Washington Township Trustees hereby direct as follows:

Section 1. That the portion of Big Indian Road beginning at approximately 3,441 feet from the intersection of Big Indian Road and the centerline of State Route 743 as measured along the centerline of Big Indian Road and terminating 75 feet north-northwest to the point of terminus of Big Indian Road is hereby placed on non-maintained status.

Section 2. The County Engineer is hereby directed to take all necessary action to update the township's road records to indicate this action.

Section 3 The Washington Township Board of Trustees finds and determines that all formal actions relative to the passage of this resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board and its committees, if any, which resulted in formal action were taken in meetings open to the public in full compliance with all applicable legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Discussion: Mr. Maus expressed that his understanding was the property owner could still raise the road to county condition standards for the road to once again be maintained by the township. He also expressed that this option was middle ground versus vacating the road and that the burden shifts to the property owner to invest in the road versus the township tax payers.

Mr. Cooper inquired what would happen should the Board not adopt the proposed resolution. Mr. Shrive expressed that the litigation would most likely continue but the litigation could possibly continue even if the Board did pass it.

Mr. Laubach expressed that if he had two accesses to his property and one was being taken away, he to would be upset however the non-maintained status was better than vacating the road.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Cooper, Present Mr. Laubach, No Mr. Maus, Yes

Mr. Cooper expressed that he had voted "Present" as he had no knowledge of the Ohio Revised Code that had been referenced.

Minutes Approval
Mr. Cooper called for additions or corrections to the meeting minutes of September 9, 2026, September 23, 2026 and September 30, 2026, there being none, the minutes were approved as presented.

Fiscal Officer Report
Mrs. Dufau reported that the township had received a premium rebate refund from the Bureau of Worker's Compensation in the amount of $10,000.00.

The following amounts were received from the indicated sources:

Clermont County Auditor	159-2026	1000-532-0000	$20,395.76	2026 - 2nd half - TPP CAT Replacement
		2031-532-0000	$27,495.10	2026 - 2nd half - TPP CAT Replacement
		2111-532-0000	$73,933.55	2026 - 2nd half - TPP CAT Replacement
		2281-532-0000	$45,890.03	2026 - 2nd half - TPP CAT Replacement
Clermont County Treasurer	160-2026	1000-101-0000	$30,658.55	2026 - 2nd half Property Tax Settlement
	160-2026	2031-101-0000	$54,235.09	2026 - 2nd half Property Tax Settlement
	160-2026	2081-101-0000	$12,252.73	2026 - 2nd half Property Tax Settlement
	160-2026	2111-101-0000	$129,211.68	2026 - 2nd half Property Tax Settlement
	160-2026	2281-101-0000	$45,578.21	2026 - 2nd half Property Tax Settlement

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

Mark D Baird	563-2026	2111-220-190-0000	$215.87
		2281-230-190-0000	$215.88
Kyle A Baylor	564-2026	2031-330-190-0000	$1,054.07
		2111-220-190-0000	$296.07
		2281-230-190-0000	$296.06
Gregory Beasley	565-2026	2111-220-190-0000	$805.88
Ian Bocciarelli	566-2026	2111-220-190-0000	$212.13
		2281-230-190-0000	$211.99
Paul Brewer	567-2026	2111-220-190-0000	$723.50
		2281-230-190-0000	$723.53
Dennis R. Cooper	568-2026	1000-110-111-0000	$1,139.29
Alan Dodson	569-2026	2031-330-190-0000	$1,329.29
Sheila G Dufau	570-2026	1000-110-121-0000	$1,855.27
Donald Gates	571-2026	2111-220-190-0000	$378.71
		2281-230-190-0000	$378.53
James Haas	572-2026	2111-220-190-0000	$1,001.96
		2281-230-190-0000	$1,001.96
Curtis Ray Henderson	573-2026	2111-220-190-0000	$730.65
		2281-230-190-0000	$730.62
Travis Hull	574-2026	2111-220-190-0000	$335.97
		2281-230-190-0000	$335.99

Robert Laubach III	575-2026	1000-110-111-0000	$1,167.79
Richard A. Maus	576-2026	1000-110-111-0000	$1,106.26
Robert D Mercer II	577-2026	2111-220-190-0000	$786.83
		2281-230-190-0000	$786.86
Garrett Mousir	578-2026	2111-220-190-0000	$52.42
		2281-230-190-0000	$52.44
Justin Pendergrass	579-2026	2111-220-190-0000	$340.58
		2281-230-190-0000	$340.59
Trevor Riley	580-2026	2111-220-190-0000	$71.99
		2281-230-190-0000	$71.98
Jayden Swader	581-2026	2111-220-190-0000	$86.95
		2281-230-190-0000	$86.96
Michael Tolin	582-2026	2111-220-190-0000	$146.87
		2281-230-190-0000	$146.73
Makenna N Weaver	583-2026	2111-220-190-0000	$86.71
		2281-230-190-0000	$86.71
Dustin M White	584-2026	2111-220-190-0000	$597.39
		2281-230-190-0000	$597.35
James Wilson	585-2026	2111-220-190-0000	$183.61
		2281-230-190-0000	$183.63
Theresa Ann Wright	586-2026	2111-220-190-0000	$529.37
		2281-230-190-0000	$529.39
Aaron Young	587-2026	2111-220-190-0000	$399.45
		2281-230-190-0000	$399.46
Ohio Public Employees	589-2026	2111-220-190-0000	$255.00
		2281-230-190-0000	$255.00
Regional Income Tax Agency	590-2026	2111-220-190-0000	$91.85
		2281-230-190-0000	$91.80
RiverHills Bank	591-2026	1000-110-111-0000	$82.89
		1000-110-121-0000	$95.64
		1000-110-213-0000	$90.37
		2031-330-190-0000	$294.02
		2031-330-213-0000	$45.70
		2111-220-190-0000	$1,308.08
		2111-220-212-0000	$391.89
		2111-220-213-0000	$143.60
		2281-230-190-0000	$1,180.46
		2281-230-212-0000	$391.88
		2281-230-213-0000	$143.55
Duke Energy	68254	1000-120-351-1011	$21.68
Duke Energy	68255	1000-120-351-0000	$15.52
		2031-330-351-0000	$15.52
Duke Energy	68256	1000-120-351-1008	$338.57
		2031-330-351-0000	$338.57
Henry Schein, Inc.	68257	2281-230-420-0000	$1,272.71

Bound Tree Medical, LLC	68258	1000-120-420-0000	$289.48
		2031-330-420-0000	$357.79
		2281-230-420-0000	$1,234.98
Charter Communications	68259	2111-220-360-0000	$137.72
Charter Communications	68260	2111-220-360-0000	$280.34
Standard Insurance Company	68261	1000-110-111-0000	$27.92
		1000-110-121-0000	$24.42
		2031-330-190-0000	$41.86
		2111-220-190-0000	$32.21
		2281-230-190-0000	$32.19
Stryker Sales Corporation	68262	2281-230-360-3023	$11,500.00
		2281-230-360-3023	$11,419.40
Duke Energy	68263	2031-330-351-0000	$561.64
Rumpke	68264	1000-320-360-0000	$1,092.41
Rumpke	68265	1000-610-360-1011	$498.32
Henry Schein, Inc.	68266	2281-230-420-0000	$623.98
ESO Solutions, Inc.	68267	2111-220-360-0000	$3,478.85
Maximum Termite & Pest Control	68268	1000-120-323-1008	$45.00
		2111-220-323-0000	$45.00
Duke Energy	68269	2111-220-351-0000	$956.33
Verizon Wireless	68270	2281-230-420-0000	$20.10
The Dexter Company	68271	2021-330-323-1018	$1,147.31
		2021-330-420-0000	$754.00
		2031-330-323-0000	$500.00
		2031-330-323-1018	$675.31
Bound Tree Medical, LLC	68272	2111-220-599-0000	$2,306.47
Southeastern Equipment	68273	2021-330-420-0000	$281.09
Wright Brothers	68274	2281-230-360-3010	$71.60
Cardio Partners	68275	2111-220-599-0000	$615.56
UES Professional Solutions 25, LLC	68276	2021-330-360-0000	$2,800.00
Standard Insurance Company	68277	1000-110-389-6006	$62.79
		2031-330-389-6006	$45.34
		2111-220-389-6006	$68.15

Resolutions

26-62 Motion by : Mr. Cooper Seconded by : Mr. Laubach

WHEREAS, Alan Dodson, Road Superviser has submitted Retirement Notification to the township effective December 1, 2026, and

WHEREAS, additional staffing will be needed for the township road and bridge department upon Mr. Dodson's retirement, and

WHEREAS, the Washington Township Board of Trustees desires to advertise for applications and resumes for a part-time road maintenance worker,

THEREFORE, BE RESOLVED, the Washington Board of Trustees approve advertising for a part-time road maintenance worker with applications and resumes being due at the township by October 23, 2026 at 4:30 p.m.

Discussion : Mr. Cooper expressed that Mr. Dodson had been with the township for twenty-one (21) years and would be missed.

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

The Board also discussed advertising for part-time positions for the township road and bridge department and tentatively agreed applicants would be interviewed on October 28, 2026 at 2 :30 p.m. with an alternate date of November 4, 2026 at 4 :30 pm.

26-63 Motion by : Mr. Maus Seconded by : Mr. Laubach

WHEREAS, Trevor Riley was appointed to the position of Part-time Freefighter/EMT-A with Washington Township Fire & Rescue, Clermont County, Ohio, effective October 2025 ; and

WHEREAS, Trevor Riley has completed the required probationary period and has demonstrated satisfactory performance in the position ; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Township Trustees desires to formally remove Trevor Riley from probationary status and confirm his employment status as a Part-time Firefighter/EMT-A with Washington Township Fire & Rescue ;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Township Trustees of Washington Township, Clermont County, Ohio, as follows : The Board of Township Trustees hereby removes Trevor Riley from probationary status in the position of Part-time Firefighter/EMT-A, effective October 7, 2026. All other terms and conditions of employment shall remain unchanged.

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

Administrative Report/Road Summary

Mr. Cooper reported on the following :

- Written road department report available to the public.
- Township Personnel Policy needs updated.
- Township Park Policy needs updated.
- Spoke to Mark Knape, a subcontractor with American Tower. They will be relocating the cell tower on Utter Road.
- Received six calls from realtors regarding purchasing property in the township. One realtor indicated her client desired to purchase a large parcel in the township.
- Vistra was awarded 4.2 billion dollars to upgrade their power plant.

Sheriff Report
Deputy Jarman provided a verbal statistical report.

Fire Report
Chief Haas presented a written report which included the following :

Emergency Responses
EMS Responses: 33 (7 mutual aid responses)
Fire Responses: 33 (4 mutual aid responses)
Total Emergency Responses for September: 66 incidents
Station 66- Nothing to report
Grants- Purchased the CPR equipment that is using the EMS P1 grant; waiting on the quote for the Ultrasound that was requested by Dr. Khan and will utilize the EMS hardship grant,
Vehicles- Nothing to report
Personnel and Training- Resolution.
Equipment- The Med vaults and medication dispensing machine have been ordered for DEA compliance. It is about a 6-week turnaround and will utilize the Opioid funds.
Other Business- Had 2 open meetings with the public regarding the levy.

Public Participation
Mr. Ross Hughs with the Clermont County Library, Felicity Branch shared resources available at the library as well as upcoming events and education programs.

Mr. Chris Padgett addressed the Board regarding the junkyard in the township and inquired if it could be considered a health code violation. He also expressed that the State of Ohio requires a fence around the junk yard. Deputy Jarman stated he would reach out to the Brown County EPA officer to obtain more information.

Ms. Carla Benjamin referenced the previous month's meeting minutes regarding the Board doing something with the park. Mr. Cooper expressed the township's insurance carrier had referenced several repairs that needed completed in the park.

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

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Dennis Cooper, Chairman **Sheila G. Dufau, Fiscal Officer**