

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF POLK TOWNSHIP  
CRAWFORD COUNTY, OHIO**

**Regular Meeting  
February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
7:00 P.M.**

The board met in a regular meeting pursuant to notice in the local newspaper and called to order at 7:01 PM. by Chairman Tom Ray. The Chairman called the roll, and the following members were present: Trustees: Tom Ray and Glenn Cheesman; Fiscal Officer -Brett Young. Absent- Russell Sellman. Also attending were Zoning Inspector - Rick Jeffrey.

The minutes of the regular meeting on January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026 were pushed to March meeting due to members not present to pass.

**February Check Register**

13-2026	Columbia Gas of Ohio	868.34
14-2026	Elan Financial Services	173.99
15-2026	Delta Dental	174.06
16-2026	Vector Security	56.89
17-2026	Park National Bank	4,119.49
18-2026	City of Galion Utility Office	550.03
19-2026	MedMutual Life	94.50
20-2026	Frontier	144.53
21-2026	Truly Nolen	65.00
23-2026	OH Deferred Comp	750.00
10533	Crawford County Engineering Dept	2,691.74
10534	Gledhill Road Machinery	1,491.14
10535	AIM Media Midwest	106.15
10536	City of Galion, Auditor	18,331.25
10537	Stacey Ferguson	85.00
10538	Crawford County Sheriff's Department	3,223.09
10539	Keller Auto Parts, INC	128.72
10540	Ryan Bash	183.12
10541	Glenn Cheesman	299.84
10542	Kevin Furr	546.18
10543	Ricky Jeffrey	559.90
10544	Sharon Kempf	308.38
10545	Thomas Ray	1,069.65
10546	Russell Sellman	1,069.65
10547	Brett Young	1,658.97
10548	Public Employee Retirement System	1,846.08
10549	Crawford County Engineering Dept	3,589.99

Total Payments

\$44,185.68

**RESOLUTION 4-2026:** Glenn Cheesman moved to accept the adoption of Resolution 4-2026 to approve the beginning Check No. 10533 as the check number following the last Check No. 10532 from the last months check register, Tom Ray seconded the motion and the roll called with the following results; Tom Ray and Glenn Cheesman voted ‘Aye’. So, the resolution was adopted and the motion carried.

**‘2026’ Galion Fire Department Run and EMS Response Report:**

<u>FIRE/Ems</u>	<u>Fire/EMS</u>	<u>Mutual Aid</u>	<u>Collected</u>
January			
February			
March			
April			
May			
June			
July			
August			
September			
October			
November			
December			
<b>EOY Total:</b>		<b>F-0/EMS- 0</b>	<b>\$</b>

**‘2025’ Galion Fire Department Run and EMS Response Report:**

<u>FIRE/Ems</u>	<u>Fire/EMS</u>	<u>Mutual Aid</u>	<u>Collected</u>
January	11/25	F-0/EMS-0	\$ 3,812.06
February	2/25	F-0/EMS-0	\$ 749.79
March	12/22	F-0/EMS-0	\$ 5,481.32
April	3/15	F-0/EMS-0	\$ 4,183.96
May	6/17	F-0/EMS-0	\$ 3,826.37
June	9/20	F-0/EMS-0	\$ 4,116.37
July	3/20	F-0/EMS-0	\$ 3,360.03
August	8/17	F-0/EMS-0	\$ 5,801.45
September	5/19	F-0/EMS-0	\$ 2,206.05
October	8/18	F-0/EMS-0	\$ 4,244.65
November	5/13	F-0/EMS-0	\$ 5,197.84
December	4/15	F-1/EMS-0	\$ 4,567.28
<b>EOY Total:</b>	<b>76/226</b>	<b>F-0/EMS-0</b>	<b>\$47,547.17</b>

*Galion millage for fire is .39% and 50%=.89% total.  
EMS calls are about 60% and the Fire 40%*

**GUEST: John Hower (Rinehart Insurance) – Motion to approve the Insurance Proposal by Glenn Cheesman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom Ray. On Vote: Glenn Cheesman and Tom Ray voted ‘yes’. Motion Passed.**

**READING OF COMMUNICATIONS:**

**Complaints: Salt/Plow Intersection of Fairview/Bennett(Ryan took care of it);  
Dead Deer on Winchester Rd.**

**Free CDL Training available online via ODOT LTAP**

**CC Township Association Rotations of Meetings and Fair Booth setup**

**OTA Meeting Last night @ Fairgrounds discussing Property Tax Reform**

**Miscellaneous:**

**OTA Legislative Alert:**

**Auditor of State Bulletin 2025-003  
Cannabis Revenue**

**Auditor of State Bullentin 2026-001  
Consumer Price Index**

**Governor DeWine Warns Against Eliminating Property  
Taxes**

Last Thursday, February 5, Governor DeWine spoke to township officials from across the state at the OTA's 2026 Winter Conference General Session. During his remarks, the Governor addressed the proposed constitutional ballot issue that would eliminate property taxes entirely.

Governor DeWine stated, "If that were to happen, it would create an immediate and severe crisis. Many local services that depend on property tax funding would disappear almost overnight. Property taxes are relatively predictable unlike income and sales taxes which fluctuate more with economic conditions. These fluctuations make budgeting for public services more uncertain."

He went on, "As discussions continue in the media and in communities about proposals like this, it's important to consider the real-world consequences. No one likes paying taxes, but some taxes are necessary to maintain essential services. Eliminating property taxes would also mean a loss of local

control. Today, voters can approve or reject levies in their communities. If funding shifted entirely to the state level, that local authority would largely disappear.”

Ohio benefits from stable taxation and a competitive income tax rate. Governor DeWine shared that Ohio’s state income tax rate is now 2.75% — the second lowest among states in the U.S. that have an income tax. He noted that to replace lost property tax revenue through income taxes, the state rate would need to increase to somewhere between 11 and 15 percent. Alternatively, if the replacement came through sales tax, the current 5.3% state sales tax rate would have to rise to roughly 15-18%.

The 2026 OTA Conference General Session was recorded, and the OTA will make the audio available to members once conference recordings are processed.

## **Zoning: Zoning Inspector (Rick Jeffrey) Report January 2026/February 2026**

**2/8: Call from Erin @ Earhardt Appraisal Company about 6718 Crawford Morrow County Line Rd.**

**2/11: Called Erin @ 419-565-3477 about 6718 Crawford County Line Rd – tell him Residential.**

**Called Rick Griffenstein about Electrical update @ 1125 Westmoor Dr– No permit needed.**

**2/18: Call from Joel Morrison about 1102 County Rd 175 wants to put a trailer on property 567-805-8112.**

**Call from Tina Bagnoli from Kelly Williams Legacy Group about 1102 County Rd 175 want to know if they can build a duplex on was a single-family home on property but has been demolished. 567-203-7507.**

**Stopped and spoke with property owner about Fence @ 6175 Brandt Rd. Will get it taken care of.**

### ***PROPERTIES IN NONCOMPLIANCE AFTER POSTING:***

- ***Penn property on SR309.***
- ***Nickler property on Hosford Rd.***
- ***Brammer Property on Greenbrier/Chiswick***
- ***Brandt Road Property - fence on property***
- ***Biddle/County Line – Trucks and other things***

**There being no further zoning business, the chair called for the consideration of old business.**

**Fire Levy:** Paperwork is turned into Board of Elections. Brett had to go back and sign off on a correction and sent back into the state. Still waiting for final confirmation.

**There being no further old business, the chair called for the consideration of new business:**

Taylor Steamers – Clean Carpet in Hall, Offices and Chairs. Quote Has Protector included but can be removed. Hasn't been done for several years.

**When: Wednesday, March 25, 2026**

**Where: Crawford County Fairgrounds - Youth Building**

**Time: Doors open 5:30 PM; Dinner served 6:00 PM**

During our portion of the meeting, we will receive your requests for road project estimates and review other information of interest. Our "Estimate and Request" worksheet is attached for you to use. If there are specific issues you would like to have addressed at the meeting, please let us know as soon as possible.

Dinner will be served to begin the meeting, and presentations and discussion will follow. Spouses and significant others are welcome to attend. Please contact our office with the number of dinner reservations for your Township by March 18, 2026.

Vector Security- New Locking Mechanism for Side Door. With Key Fobs

**BWC Safety Consultation Request: Scheduling a Safety Consult for the Township. No date yet.**

**ROAD REPORT:**

**Glenn: Nothing**

**Tom:**

The trustee certified that there was money in the funds to pay the bills.

**MOTION: Glenn Cheesman moved to pay the township bills and Tom Ray seconded the motion, on vote: Glenn Cheesman and Tom Ray, “aye”, motion carried.**

**There being no further business, Motion to adjourn meeting by Glenn Cheesman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom Ray. On vote Glenn Cheesman and Tom Ray, “aye”. Motion carried.**

**Adjourned @ 19:38.**

**Chairman Tom Ray:**

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**V-C Glenn Cheesman:**

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