

CENTRAL OHIO JOINT FIRE DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
July 17, 2024

A regular meeting of the Central Ohio Joint Fire District Board was held on Wednesday, July 17, 2024, at the firehouse located at 5138 Columbus Road Centerburg, OH 43011. The following attended:

Board Members

Peter Dickerson
Tom Stewart
Eric Cochran

Staff

Chief McCann
Courtney DeCosky, Fiscal Officer

Mr. Stewart called the regular Board meeting of the Central Ohio Joint Fire District to order at 7:01p.m.

HONOR FLIGHT PRESENTATION

Chief McCann introduced Honor Flight Representatives and shared information about the successful Mother's Day Flower Sale, held at the firehouse, in which all proceeds collected went toward Honor Flight Columbus. All in attendance watched a short video presentation about the Honor Flight Columbus program. Executive Director Beth Johnson shared information about the organization, which is a nonprofit organization dedicated to honoring America's veterans with a trip to Washington DC to visit their service and war memorials. They strive to help veterans share their stories with future generations, as well as celebrate their service to our country with a proper homecoming that many of them never received. With the conclusion of the 2023 flight season, they have successfully flown 128 missions that totaled over 9,300 veterans. The organization is funded entirely by donations from various businesses, foundations, school organizations, and other grateful Americans. Ms. Johnson thanked all for their hard work.

Chief McCann introduced Durena Holobaugh, coordinator and sponsor for the Honor Flight Columbus benefit, *Never Forget Cruise In*, held on May 11. Ms. Holobaugh shared information on the event, which raised \$8,125. Checks were presented to Executive Director Johnson.

Chief McCann presented Bill and Durena Holobaugh with a Certificate of Appreciation for their dedication to the *Never Forget Cruise In*.

LARRY HILES, PREACHING MINISTER AT MILFORD CHURCH OF CHRIST

Chief McCann introduced Larry Hiles, Preaching Minister at Milford Church of Christ. Minister Hiles had reached out to Chief McCann previously, interested in lending his support to the department. He has been through crisis training and received his Masters of Divinity from Liberty University. Chief McCann recommended the board hire Minister Hiles as Volunteer Chaplain for the Central Ohio Joint Fire District (COJFD), with the primary purpose of offering additional mental health support to the firefighters. In his volunteer role, he would need access to the building and permission to go on runs. Mr. Stewart made a motion to hire Larry Hiles as Volunteer Chaplain, and Mr. Cochran seconded the motion. In the affirmative: Mr. Cochran, Mr. Dickerson and Mr. Stewart. In the negative: None.

2025 BUDGET

Mr. Cochran made a motion to approve the 2025 budget as presented by Chief McCann and Fiscal Officer DeCosky, and Mr. Stewart seconded the motion. In the affirmative: Mr. Cochran, Mr. Dickerson and Mr. Stewart. In the negative: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Stewart moved to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on June 19, 2024, and Mr. Dickerson seconded the motion. In the affirmative: Mr. Cochran, Mr. Dickerson and Mr. Stewart. In the negative: None.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Mr. Dickerson moved to approve the warrants presented, and Mr. Cochran seconded the motion. In the affirmative: Mr. Cochran, Mr. Dickerson and Mr. Stewart. In the negative: None.

Ms. DeCosky presented the monthly bank reconciliation; fund status ledger, appropriation ledger; receipt ledger and payment register for the Board's review and approval.

REPORTS

Chief McCann Report – (Attached)

Mr. Dickerson moved to discard the gray round conference table, having no further use or value, and Mr. Stewart seconded the motion. In the affirmative: Mr. Cochran, Mr. Dickerson and Mr. Stewart. In the negative: None.

Grant information shared as presented in Chief McCann's report. The Ohio Ambulance Impact Grant, obtained with the help of Lt. Andrian, will be the largest single grant in twenty-five years, in the amount of \$105,794.00. This was applied for to assist with pay raises and must be used specifically for employee pay and retention.

On Chief McCann's recommendation, Mr. Stewart made a motion to hire Daniel Ellinger to PART-TIME FF/Paramedic at \$19.00 per/hr. and serve a one-year probationary period and pass all background requirements. Should Daniel Ellinger be promoted, he would serve one additional year of probation, effective July 17, 2024. Mr. Dickerson seconded the motion. In the affirmative: Mr. Cochran, Mr. Dickerson and Mr. Stewart. In the negative: None.

On Chief McCann's recommendation, Mr. Stewart made a motion to extend Probationary FF Matt Roberts probationary period three months (October 7th, 2024), and Mr. Cochran seconded the motion. In the affirmative: Mr. Cochran, Mr. Dickerson and Mr. Stewart. In the negative: None.

Mr. Stewart moved to regretfully accept the resignation of PTFF Conner Mitchell, effective July 23, 2024. Mr. Dickerson seconded the motion. In the affirmative: Mr. Cochran, Mr. Dickerson and Mr. Stewart. In the negative: None.

Fire Report (Attached)

EMS Report (Attached)

EMS Billing Received – EMS Billing received for the month of June was \$3,274.89

Training Report- (Attached)

Inspector Report- (Attached)

NEW BUSINESS

The Animal Station bought property North of the fire department. COJFD has not seen the drawing yet. This will likely increase traffic at the Vanatta/Columbus Road intersection.

5.925 LEVY (EXPIRING 2024)

MR. STEWART MOVED THE ADOPTION OF THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS, THE BOARD, APPROVED THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION DECLARING THE NECESSITY TO LEVY A TAX IN EXCESS OF THE TEN-MILL LIMITATION:

RESOLUTION NO: 7.17.2024

DATE APPROVED: JULY 17, 2024, AND;

WHEREAS, THE KNOX COUNTY (“AUDITOR”) HAS CERTIFIED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO THE BOARD:

- 1. THE TOTAL CURRENT TAX VALUATION OF THE DISTRICT IS AS FOLLOWS:
\$244,317,660
- 2. THE NUMBER OF MILLS REQUIRED TO GENERATE A SPECIFIED AMOUNT OF REVENUE IS, OR:

SPECIFIED AMOUNT OF REVENUE: \$ _____

REQUIRED NUMBER OF MILLS: 5.925

- 3. THE DOLLAR AMOUNT OF REVENUE THAT WOULD BE GENERATED BY SPECIFIED NUMBER OF MILLS IS:

SPECIFIED NUMBER OF MILLS: 5.925

DOLLAR AMOUNT OF REVENUE GENERATED: \$1,447,600

THIS RATE AMOUNTS TO THE FOLLOWING FOR EACH ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS OF TAX VALUATION:

\$ 207

RESOLUTION

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE BOARD, AT LEAST TWO-THIRDS (2/3) OF ALL MEMBERS OF THE BOARD CONCURRING, AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. THE BOARD SHALL PROCEED WITH THE SUBMISSION OF THE QUESTION OF THE TAX ELECTORS.
- 2. THE RATE AMOUNTS TO THE FOLLOWING FOR EACH ONE HUNDRED OF TAX VALUATION AS ESTIMATED BY THE AUDITOR, IS AS FOLLOWS:
 - a. 5.925 MILL(S);
 - b. THIS RATE AMOUNTS TO THE FOLLOWING FOR EACH ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS OF TAX VALUATION:

\$ 207

- c. IF THE LEVY IS A RENEWAL LEVY OR REPLACEMENT LEVY, THIS RATE: x IS THE SAME RATE AS THE EXISTING TAX LEVY.

- 3. PURSUANT TO R.C. 5705.03 (B)(1):
 - a. THE PURPOSE OF THE TAX IS AS FOLLOWS:
 - b. *(I) For providing and maintaining fire apparatus, mechanical resuscitators, underwater rescue and recovery equipment, or other fire equipment and appliances, buildings and sites therefor, or sources of water supply and materials therefor, for the establishment and maintenance of lines of fire-alarm communications , for the payment of firefighting companies or permanent, part-time , or volunteer firefighting, emergency medical service, administrative, or communications personnel to operate the same, including the payment of employer contributions required for such personnel under section 145.48 or 742.34 of the Revised Code, for the purchase of ambulance equipment, for the provision of ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services operated by fire department or firefighting company, or for the payment of other related costs; pursuant to Revised Code 5705.19(I);*
 - c. THE TYPE OF LEVY IS AS FOLLOWS:

 X REPLACEMENT LEVY: INCREASE DECREASE

- d. THE SECTIONS OF THE REVISED CODE AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF THE QUESTION OF THE TAX ARE R.C. 5705.03, 5705.191, AND 5705.25 AND THE FOLLOWING:

5705.19(I);

- e. THE TERM OF THE TAX IS AS FOLLOWS (IN YEARS OR CONTINUING):

FOUR (4) YEARS;

- f. THE TERRITORY WHERE THE TAX IS TO BE LEVIED IS AS FOLLOWS:

X UPON THE ENTIRE TERRITORY OF THE DISTRICT

- g. THE DATE OF THE ELECTION AT WHICH THE QUESTION OF THE TAX SHALL APPEAR ON THE BALLOT IS AS FOLLOWS (“ELECTION”);

NOVEMBER 5, 2024;

- h. THE TERRITORY WHERE THE BALLOT MEASURE IS TO BE SUBMITTED IS AS FOLLOWS:

X UPON THE ENTIRE TERRITORY OF THE DISTRICT.

- i. THE TAX WILL BE FIRST LEVIED AND COLLECTED AS FOLLOWS:

THE TAX YEAR IN WHICH THE TAX WILL FIRST BE LEVIED IS 2025;

THE CALENDAR YEAR IN WHICH THE TAX WILL FIRST BE COLLECTED IS 2026;

- j. THE TOWNSHIP HAS TERRITORY IN KNOX COUNTY AND EACH OF THE FOLLOWING LISTED COUNTIES:

MORROW.

4. THE FISCAL OFFICER IS HEREBY DIRECTED TO CERTIFY THE LEVY TO THE AUDITOR AND THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS, KNOX COUNTY, OHIO (“BOE”). CERTIFICATIONS SHALL INCLUDE COPIES OF ALL OF THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:

a. RESOLUTION OF NECESSITY (RESOLUTION NO. 06.19.2024 ADOPTED ON JUNE 19, 2024); AND,

b. CERTIFICATION OF THE AUDITOR; AND,

c. RESOLUTION TO PROCEED (THIS RESOLUTION).

CERTIFICATION SHALL OCCUR BY NO LATER THAN 4:00 PM ON AUGUST 7, 2024 (90 DAYS PRIOR TO THE ELECTION)

THE FISCAL OFFICER SHALL ALSO NOTIFY THE BOE TO CAUSE NOTICE OF THE ELECTION ON THE QUESTION OF LEVYING THE TAX TO BE GIVEN AS REQUIRED BY LAW.

5. THE BOE IS HEREBY DIRECTED TO SUBMIT SUBSTANTIALLY THE FOLLOWING QUESTION TO THE ELECTORS AT THE ELECTION:

OFFICIAL QUESTIONS AND ISSUES BALLOT

2024 ELECTION

NOVEMBER 5, 2024

PROPOSED TAX LEVY (REPLACEMENT)

CENTRAL OHIO JOINT FIRE DISTRICT

KNOX COUNTY, OHIO

A MAJORITY AFFIRMATIVE VOTE IS NECESSARY FOR PASSAGE

AN ADDITIONAL TAX FOR THE BENEFIT OF CENTRAL OHIO JOINT FIRE DISTRICT, KNOX COUNTY, OHIO FOR THE PURPOSE OF

(I) For providing and maintaining fire apparatus, mechanical resuscitators, underwater rescue and recovery equipment, or other fire equipment and appliances, buildings and sites therefor, or sources of water supply and materials therefor, for the establishment and maintenance of lines of fire-alarm communications, for the payment of firefighting companies or permanent, part-time, or volunteer firefighting, emergency medical service, administrative, or communications personnel to operate the same, including the payment of employer contributions required for such personnel under section 145.48 or 742.34 of the Revised Code, for the purchase of ambulance equipment, for the provision of ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services operated by fire department or firefighting company, or for the payment of other related costs; pursuant to Revised Code 5705.19(I); THAT THE COUNTY AUSAITOR ESTIMATES WILL COLLECT \$1,447,600

ANNUALLY, AT A RATE NOT EXCEEDING 5.925 MILLS FOR EACH \$1 OF TAXABLE VALUE, WHICH AMOUNTS TO \$ 207 FOR EACH \$100,000 OF THE COUNTY AUDITOR'S APPRAISED VALUE, FOR FOUR (4) YEARS COMMENCING IN 2025, FIRST DUE IN CALENDAR YEAR 2026.

FOR THE LEVY
AGAINST THE LEVY

6. ALL FORMAL ACTIONS OF THIS BOARD CONCERNING AND RELATING TO THE PASSAGE OF THIS RESOLUTION WERE ADOPTED IN AN OPEN MEETING OF THE BOARD AND ALL DELIBERATIONS OF THIS BOARD AND OF ANY OF ITS COMMITTEES THAT RESULTED IN SUCH FORMAL ACTION WERE IN MEETINGS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC IN COMPLIANCE WITH ALL LEGAL REQUIREMENTS, INCLUDING R.C. 121.22.

MR. DICKERSON SECONDED THE MOTION.
VOTED ON AND SIGNED THIS JULY 17, 2024 IN CENTRAL OHIO JOINT FIRE DISTRICT,
KNOX COUNTY, OHIO.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES:
CENTRAL OHIO JOINT FIRE DISTRICT, KNOX COUNTY, OHIO

TOM STEWART, TRUSTEE	YES
ERIC COCHRAN, TRUSTEE	YES
PETER DICKERSON, TRUSTEE	YES

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Central Ohio Joint Fire District, at 8:15 p.m., Mr. Cochran made a motion to adjourn until the next regular meeting at 7:00 p.m., on August 18, 2024, unless called upon for urgent business. Mr. Stewart seconded. In the affirmative: Mr. Cochran, Mr. Dickerson and Mr. Stewart. In the negative: None.

Clerk
