CENTRAL OHIO JOINT FIRE DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 15, 2025

A regular meeting of the Central Ohio Joint Fire District Board was held on October 15, 2025, at the firehouse located at 5138 Columbus Road Centerburg, OH 43011. The following attended:
Other attendance sheet attached.

Board Members	**Staff**
Peter Dickerson	Chief McCann
Daniel Hardwick	
Eric Cochran	Jill Hunter, Fiscal Officer

Mr. Cochran called the regular Board meeting of the Central Ohio Joint Fire District to order at 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
Wendy Stratton questioned how many years each board member had been a public servant
Eric 9 years, Pete 6 years, Daniel 2 years, also questioned the board if they were aware of the Sunshine Law. Mr. Cochran stated that the boards intent was to gather information, make no decisions and go over the budget nothing was being hidden. The board did reach out to the prosecutor and had been informed that what took place was wrong. The intent of the meeting was to be educated if the levy does not pass.

Julie stated that the board cannot just keep asking and expect the people to get behind this. Public meetings not being open and not being transparent is not a way to make this happen. The Board broke the law and she can file a lawsuit to get the board to comply. She asked when the levy passes can the department maintain operating with what they are currently at? It was stated that the department would be at 4 full time, 1 part time and the chief and fire reduction. No other decisions about staffing have been made not looking that far ahead. She also asked about staff reduction from the last levy replacement failing, she was informed those positions were not terminated that it just so happened the employees left due to attrition. Julie also questioned the account for Contracted Services Software License and what makes up the $41,000.00, the chief would be getting her exact info on this.

George Blocker wanted to know if the department would be working on getting a 5th person on. It was stated that with the renewal we can have 4. He feels that if would be more comfortable with 5. He also questioned if the board could make South Bloomfield fully vested. It was stated that they pay for 1.5 firefighters but if the department does not have that contract 20% of the EMS revenue would be lost. Possibly look into that contract within the year.

Jen B questioned soft billing in the district and hard billing outside the district, she also stated that maybe the 1st inspection be free and the department charges for a second one. Also questioned the salary for the fire prevention and stated that some of them are strictly paid by the fees. Property taxes may eventually not be sustainable income and suggest that we start lobbying with the County and State.

The rest of the concerned citizens that attended the meeting had nothing but compliments and shared what they had experienced with the department in their time of need.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Mr. Cochran moved to approve the minutes as stated from the regular meeting on September 17, 2025 and Mr. Dickerson seconded the motion. In the affirmative: Mr. Cochran and Mr. Dickerson. 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 and Mr. Dickerson. In the negative: None.

Jill 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)
The board discussed the damage to the door and determined it should be turned in to the insurance.

The contract for the cots to be inspected was also approved.

Inspector Report- (Attached)
Fire Report (Attached)
EMS Report (Attached)
Training Report- (Attached)
EMS Billing Received – EMS Billing received for the month of June $41,385.06

NEW BUSINESS
Mr. Stewart has moved to a new position and will no longer be on the Fire Board. Chief McCann did the swearing in of Daniel Hardwick. He will be the new board member for the Fire Department.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Central Ohio Joint Fire District, at p.m., Mr. Cochran made a motion to adjourn until the regular meeting on November 19 at 7:00 p.m., unless called upon for urgent business. Mr. Dickerson seconded the motion. In the affirmative: Mr. Cochran, Mr. Dickerson and Mr. Hardwick. In the negative: None.

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Clerk

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