

# Mad River Township Trustees

Regular Meeting: Thursday, Aug 21, 2014, Meeting time: 7:30 pm

Trustees Present: Mike Ward (president), Dave Riley (vice president), Brent Laughman

Fiscal Officer Present: Richard Ford

Others Present: Harold Dixon, Everett Keller, Jane Napier

Meeting called to order followed by Pledge of Allegiance.

## Minutes and Financials

Fiscal Officer presented Trustees with Minutes, financials, and bills/checks.

Trustees reviewed the minutes from meeting date 8/7/2014.

Trustees reviewed the financials and bill/checks to be paid and signed.

**Motion:** Brent Laughman motioned to approve minutes. Dave Riley seconded. Motion unanimously approved. Dave Riley motioned to approve financials, bills/checks. Brent Laughman seconded motion. Motion unanimously approved.

## Community Discussion/Concerns

-Jane Napier was present to follow up on Shaffer Cemetery and Rector-Gard Cemetery. Phil Louden a trustee of the Covenant Lutheran Church had asked the trustees a couple of months ago, what the Church needed to do to turn Shaffer Cemetery over to the Township. According to Jane Napier, the township legal representative, the Church is allowed to turn it over to the Township even if the Township does not want it or have fund to take care of it.

The discussion on Rector-Gard Cemetery was that she had been contacted by the historical society since there was no access to Rector-Gard and they wanted access to it. The farmer who owns the land to access it had denied them access. The options were to have the Church give the Cemetery to the township and the township would then be obligated to provide access which could get expensive if they built a bridge access or they could use eminent domain laws and use the farmer's land to build an access road. Brent Laughman said he would discuss this with the farmer to see if he would just allow the historical society access in hopes of avoiding these types of scenarios.

Brent Laughman asked Jane Napier if the township could hold fundraisers to help pay for expenses like the cemeteries as we do not have enough income in the Cemetery Fund to pay for added expenses like these. She stated that they could do it as long as the township did not spend any funds to do so. She recommended having someone else have the fund raiser and donate the proceeds to the township. Mr. Laughman asked if a trustee could be the one to hold the fundraiser and she said they could as long as no township money was used for the event.

-Dave Riley updated regarding the Larmee's concern from our prior meeting about a tree that was blocking the view at the end of their lane. Mr. Riley had verified that the tree is on township property, and that we would remove the tree within a week or so depending on weather.

-Mr. Riley updated on the complaint regarding the "Jake Brake" sign on Valley Pike (agenda stated County Line, but it was supposed to be Valley Pike). He had talked with the County Engineer about it. The Engineer was going to look into it and get back with Mr. Riley.

-Mike Ward presented a request for the Hunter's Education Class to use the Township hall for their classes. Classes are Sept 15,16,18 and Oct 13,14,16 and Nov 10,11,13.

**Motion:** Brent Laughman motioned to allow at no charge the classes to be held at the Township Hall on the dates specified. Dave Riley seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved.

-Mr. Riley read aloud a letter from Kent Smith. It was in regards to a section of road on Bair Road that needed mowed. The township had been asked by another property owner not to mow it. Since we received the complaint from Kent Smith, the trustees decided to start mowing it again.

## Roads and Bridge

-Dave Riley updated that he was working on the list from their quote (Meade Construction) to let them know which projects the township wanted completed this year within the \$15,000 approved motion from our Aug 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.

-No update on the Riley Asphalt approved projects.

**Cemeteries**

-Dave Riley updated the trustees on the complaint they had received about removing a dead tree in Terre Haute Cemetery. He had asked for quotes to take the tree down to about 16 foot trunk and the township would do the rest. Two quotes came in at \$450 and one at \$424, however the one at \$424 did not have liability insurance.

**Motion:** Dave Riley motioned to use L.A. Tree for the removal pending proof of liability insurance. Brent Laughman seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved.

**Equipment**

-Brent Laughman updated that a cylinder on the snow plow needed replaced so they can lift the blade.  
-Trustees reviewed a quote on repairs on one of the trucks from J.R.'s Garage. The quote gave different options the brand of parts and the Trustees agreed that we should use the quote for the O'Reilly part as it was less expensive than the other options.

**Zoning**

- Bob Purk was not present to provide an update on Zoning.
- No update on the Humphrey's property that had a deadline of July 31.
- Charlie Schwinn moved his old vehicles behind his barn so they would no longer present a problem to the public.
- Brent Laughman said he had asked Mr. Purk about the Complaint from the property on Coffin Station (complaint was that it looked like a farm with farm equipment, animals, etc. in a residential neighborhood). Mr. Purk had said that he was told on the phone by the resident that trailer and animals were now gone and that the rest would be cleaned up and removed by the end of September.
- Mr. Purk updated Mr. Laughman that he had talked to the State about the process of the township stepping in to remove old vehicles and that it would be expensive to do so.
- Mr. Laughman also discussed with Mr. Purk that the Trustees would like to him to move all of the Zoning files to the township office since we are responsible for them.

**Other Administrative**

Richard Ford presented an Amendment to our Records Retention policy to include a policy for Transient Documents (like notes, drafts, etc.).

**Motion:** Dave Riley motioned to accept the Amendment to the Records Retention policy for Transient Documents. Brent Laughman seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved.

**Motion:** Brent Laughman motioned to adjourn meeting at 8:40pm. Dave Riley seconded motion. Motion unanimously approved.

Minutes Approval Date: \_\_\_\_\_ by Trustee: \_\_\_\_\_

Attested \_\_\_\_\_

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