Middlefield Township
Minutes
February 9, 2026 – Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Meeting Called to Order

Present Trustees: Paul Porter, Dave Hauser and Erik Wright, Fiscal Officer Mary Ann Pierce, Roads John Omerza, Ray Dodds and Heidi Snyder.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Paul Porter, at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Additions and or Deletions for the Agenda

None.

Approval of Minutes

Upon review of the minutes for the January 12, 2026 regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees, Erik Wrights made motion to approve minutes as written. Dave Hauser seconded the motion. All in favor. Minutes approved.

Old Business

None.

New Business

A. PMG Quote: This company will review Township roads pavement cert. index ("PCI") on 0-100 rating. They survey the roads, video, note issues, includes sampling and labs. Have a subscription service ($14,800 for 2 years and a little more for third). Discussion on road sample (Swine Creek A). Level of interest discussed. This may assist in ranking future projects, with goal to get ahead of the roads in poor condition. Kirtland is utilizing this program. We will reach out for their experience.

B. BWC Grant: John Omerza has been working on two grants since last July. 1) skid steer saw but this was designated risk and not granted; and 2) mechanical tarps for the Kenworth trucks instead of the manual tarps. We have been awarded the second grant. $4,192.50 will be covered by the grant. Balance of $1,397.50 is Township portion. Will try again for the first grant, with Bridge Road and hills current concern. H&H may also be option for now.

C. H20 Rivers Initiative Grant: John Omerza, having just learned about this grant, prepared and timely submitted an application on behalf of the Township. Options for use of the funds from chloride reduction grant were presented by John. They will pay for sectional adjustable cutting edges to clean off roads better. Pay for storage facilities, like liquid holding tank – 6,000 gallon (i.e. brine). Will hear back in May who gets the grant, but this may also help is other ways, such as help to keep salt usage down / help with the buggy rut.

D. Planning Commission: Letter/request from Planning Commission reviewed. They are seeking letters

in support of the update to the Geauga County Farmland Preservation Plan. Trustees agree it is a good idea and support their efforts. Letter in support is due by February 25. Heidi Snyder will prepare draft and return to Paul Porter indicating the support of Middlefield Township Trustees [done 2/13/26].

E. Annual Audit: Pre-audit questions presented, and needs to be sent to Perry & Associates again this year. Usually in May or June. Then it will go back to being conducted by the State of Ohio.

F. John – Bonded: John Omerza needs to be bonded per Ohio Revised Code as the Roads Superintendent. Motion by Paul Porter to proceed with getting required bond, seconded by Dave Hauser. All in favor. Motion carried.

G. Land Use Plan Update: Middlefield Township has a land use plan (2007) on record and will request a copy from the County as it needs to be updated. It is recommended to be done now every ten years. Geauga County has a Land Use Plan Committee which can assist but it is by request and they only take a couple at a time. These are lengthy plans in excess of 100 pages and require many hours to update. Paul Porter will follow up regarding previous land use plan.

Reports

Roads Superintendent: We are 144% more out in field already as compared to last year. Eleven year average reviewed. Acquired 44 ton more salt from Morton's @ $62/ton, but due to John's persistence, cost given was at 50 tons to be delivered. Requested the additional taking it to 50 tons. Will also be a trucking charge. Some budgetary discussion also on specific roads, including: Peters B, Hayes B, Nauvoo B, Swine Creek A, Swine Creek C. Approximately $119,000 broken down by square feet by road, to be able to process individually. Crack sealing price also provided and gallon estimate on several roads as well (Suit Kote). Some questions/answers re status on Township levies. 2016 / 2018 road levies will be expiring. 2.50 Mil Renewals. Replacement v. Renewal discussed.

Bundysburg will be large consideration due to the traffic volume. May want to consider bonding roads adjacent for the truck traffic. Might chat with Trumbull County on the share of expense as it is half Mespo's road. Need it to be on the radar for over the next 3 years. There is base work that needs to be done.

Service Garage: Nothing that requires discussion at this time.

Fire District: Met tonight (2/9/26). Update from Paul Porter. They paid bills in amount of $258,530.50.

Ambulance service: John touched base last week and they are happy. Nothing new to report.

Sheriff's report: No report.

Fiscal Officer's Reports

Bank/Management Report: Management report reviewed in detail, including fund balances and expenditures, then signed. Bills, purchase orders and checks presented to pay bills in the amount of $69,917.92. Motion to pay bills in said amount by Dave Hauser, seconded by Erik Wright. All in favor. Checks and purchase orders signed. Bills paid in the amount of $69,917.92.

Discussion on upcoming opportunities for new Trustees to get up to speed on trainings, etc. and our November hosting of GCTA meetin. Mary Ann will book banquet facility at Mary Yoder's Restaurant.

Adjournment: No further business being before the Board, Erik Wright moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m., seconded by Dave Hauser. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Paul Porter, Chairman

Mary Ann Pierce, Chief Fiscal Officer

Minutes by Heidi Snyder, Secretary