

Huntington Township Regular Meeting

August 5, 2023

President Gary Hopkins called the August 5, 2023, meeting to order at 9:08AM at the Fire House.

Roll Call:	Gary Hopkins	Present
	John Cottrill	Present
	Larry Kellough	Present

Motion by John Cottrill, second by Larry Kellough to approve the July 11, 2023, regular meeting minutes.

Vote:	John Cottrill	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes
	Gary Hopkins	Yes

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by John Cottrill to approve the July 24, 2023, special meeting meetings.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough to approve payment of the July 2023 bills.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes

Fire Department Business – Chief TJ Oyer

- 1) Fire Prevention Week is coming in October. We make purchases from Positive Promotions with a budget of \$2,000. Oyer requested an increase in that budget to \$2,500.

Motion by John Cottrill, second by Larry Kellough to approve the increase of the budget for Fire Prevention Week supplies from \$2,000 to \$2,500.

Vote:	John Cottrill	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes
	Gary Hopkins	Yes

Huntington Township Regular Meeting
August 5, 2023

- 2) Chief Oyer requested that the board approve a change in employment status for Kathy Dye from part-time to volunteer.

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough to approve moving Kathy Dye from a part-time employee with the paid crew to volunteer status.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes

- 3) There were two more OT mandates the last month of our FT crew for coverage purposes.
- 4) July 2023 run stats: 92 calls of which 13 were fire and 79 were EMS. We received 8 mutual aid and gave 12 with 8 runs into Twin Twp. We refused to give 3 mutual aids.
- 5) Oyer asked the Board to set the status of Krystyna Davis a volunteer. She does not have any certifications, although she will take an EMT class this fall at Pike CTC. We will be reimbursed through the training grant for the expense.

Motion by John Cottrill, second by Gary Hopkins to set Krystyna Davis's status as a volunteer.

Vote:	John Cottrill	Yes
	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

- 6) The next cycle of the Ohio First Responder Grant was discussed by Oyer with the Board. EH would like to obtain around 22 MARCS radios that cost around \$3 to \$4,000 a radio, plus the subscription fee. The fee to write the grant will be \$1500 payable to Ohio First Responders Grants, LLC. If the grant is awarded, a 5% bonus payment of the entire award is then payable to the grant writer. If the Twp wins the award, but then declines it, the grant writer is still due 50% of what the total bonus would have been.

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by John Cottrill to enter into agreement with Ohio First Responder Grants, LLC to apply for the next cycle of the AFG Grant.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

Huntington Township Regular Meeting
August 5, 2023

7) Oyer presented 8 purchase requisitions for approval totaling \$10,809.12 as follows:

1. ESO	\$2,990	Annual subscription for EHR
2. Buckeye Apparatus	\$7020.53	Annual inspections on vehicles -ARPA
3. VCNB-Amazon	\$263.14	Supplies for 905
4. O'Reilly	\$138.98	Battery 917
5. O'Reilly	\$84.36	Starter on 904
6. Adena	\$140.68	EMS Supplies - medications
7. Citizens First	\$40.43	905 adapter
8. Citizens First	\$131	Hydraulic tool service

Oyer explained that Adena is now willing to provide supplies for sale, and that it is more affordable to go with them. Snyder has not yet received invoices.

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by Larry Kellough to approve all eight (8) purchase requisitions discussed above.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes

GUEST: Joan Stephens, resident of Keiser Road, spoke to the Board regarding her frustration with the condition of the township road along which she resides. She explained that she lives at the top of the hill, and asked the trustees what they were going to do with it. Trustee Cottrill stated that there is not a good answer for that road. Trustee Hopkins said he felt they should return the road to gravel since chip and seal does not appear to be a good alternative. They said that road is their number one priority, and they would try to get it fixed this week by working both sides of the hill on either side of Pennington. Use the grader and grade down parts of it on Friday. Then do some repair work Monday. They are going to try out "grinding millings", blacktop that has been milled, to see if it is a better solution. Ms. Stephens shared that the ditches are difficult along that road, stating that the township clears them out, but then after one rain the gravel fills them back up and the water runs across the road again. Kellough estimated it would cost \$160,000 to blacktop Keiser. Cottrill discussed that we had applied for an infrastructure grant to pave township roads. Ohio 40B. Trustee Darbyshire of Twin Twp is making another effort on behalf of all townships in Ohio. She asked about trees that were not cut in order to move the ditch back, sharing that she knew the landowner had agreed. Trustee Kellough stated that was his fault.

Huntington Township Regular Meeting

August 5, 2023

Fiscal Officer Business

- 1) The Board selected two dates for possible community meetings regarding the electrical aggregation issue on the ballot this fall in Huntington Township: first choice is October 19, and the second choice is October 16. Snyder will communicate the dates.
- 2) Snyder shared that the next National Opioid settlement payment will be \$605.66, bringing the total to \$1,771.41.
- 3) Ross County Safety Council is enrolling people in a series of safety classes that could reduce our BWC premium up to 3%. 10 meetings must be attended between July 2023 – June 2024. Held at Adena PACCAR on the 2nd Thursday of each month from 11:30AM – 1:00PM. Lunch is provided at \$12 a person. No one was interested in attending.
- 4) Snyder asked the Board to approve the following re-appropriation.

Reappropriate:

From	To	Amount
FD training 2111.230.318	FD Operating Supplies 2111.230.420	\$3000

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by John Cottrill to approve the certifications, appropriations, and re-appropriations as identified above.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

Road Department and Cemetery Business

- 1) Cottrill stated that the Ohio Department of Commerce cemetery grant application has been submitted for \$1000. The DMMG work has yet to be completed – the cement curbs – but expect it to be completed in August.
- 2) The next hearing for Floral Hills is August 17 at 2:30 in Ater's courtroom. Hopkins and Cottrill stated that they plan to get on the agenda for the next Ross Co Commissioner's meeting to discuss Floral Hills, the expense necessary, and if there is an opportunity that the Commissioners could support Huntington if the cemetery would end up with the Twp.
- 3) The Board discussed the need for a new tractor for the mowing. We will receive \$16,000 from insurance as the proceeds. Discussed 5 Points Implements as a supplier under the state contract. Oyer mentioned Ricers in Pike County as another option with Kubota tractors.

Huntington Township Regular Meeting August 5, 2023

4) Trustee Cottrill discussed his changing position on the agreement with Twin Township and the mutual aid contract in Ross County. He said that he had reviewed meeting minutes and came up with a timeline. June 2021 terminated the county wide agreement, then reached out to individual townships to sign either a fire or fire/ems mutual aid agreement with our township. April 2022, we signed an agreement with Twin to bill them for transport at \$350, and non-transport at \$250. In February 2023 we were then asked to renew that agreement, but a more expanded agreement to cover 1/3rd of Twin Twp. At that time the Board tabled the agreement. At a special meeting February 28, 2023, the Board turned the agreement down. It was revisited 3 months later at the June 7, 2023, meeting. At that time the agreement was approved. He stated that recent social media posts were inaccurate, and he wanted to set the record straight. He also said that he does not support any of the FB groups.

A question: How do we get the right news and information out to counter the inaccurate FB posts? We do not want a "Facebook war".

J Stephens asked how mutual aid benefits the township.

Snyder shared that the township averages 2 to 3 calls a day. We could get two calls at either the same time, or the second one comes in while we are on the first call – but both calls are within our township. When that happens, we often will need mutual aid from a surrounding township. If so, do not give mutual aid, we will not get it.

It was noted that Twin does still have a fire department and is there if we need them for fire coverage.

Cottrill then stated that at first, he was opposed to mutual aid and the contract with Twin. His changed his mind when he considered that if Scioto was covering Twin, and we would then be called to cover Scioto while they were out, then Twin pays Scioto, but we are not paid by Scioto. He felt that made no sense and that we may as well go into Twin and get paid.

Motion by Gary Hopkins, second by John Cottrill to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 AM.

Vote:	Gary Hopkins	Yes
	John Cottrill	Yes
	Larry Kellough	Yes

Huntington Township Regular Meeting
August 5, 2023

ATTESTED:

President

Vice President

Trustee

Fiscal Officer