

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING HELD

Thursday, May 7, 2026 at 7:30 pm

Meeting was called to order by Mr. Steve Swank. All members were present. Also present were Fiscal Officer, Annette Depue, Road Superintendent, Andy Romoser, and Zoning Inspector, Brett Pauley. Mr. Hurlow made a motion to waive the reading of the minutes, pay the bills, approve Purchase Orders, & approve reallocations as presented, Mr. Yoder seconded the motion and the motion carried with a roll call vote of all ayes. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mr. Steve Swank opened the floor to the public. Lexington Mayor Jarvis attended the meeting to update the Township of the new Circle K that will be built in Lexington. The current location is located in Washington Township and they are still exploring access after ODOT denied an option. Mr. Ink attended the meeting with a complaint that his ditch was not being mowed the same way as the neighbors and that he has to do the extra mowing. He wanted to know if he could be compensated for this since he feels it is a hazard for travelers on Mid-Bellville Road. He feels the township would be liable for any accidents. Mr. Romoser explained that it is maintained according to the Township and Richland County specifications and that the mower can reach better on the other side of the road and that is why the neighbors mowing is done a little further up the ditch. Mr. Ink cannot be compensated and it is maintained appropriately. The mower is set at 6"-8" high, is mowed at least 3 times a year and more if necessary and able. Failure to Control would be the result of any accidents. Mr. Ken Gibson, 4037 Norris Road attended to ask permission to dig the ditch at his driveway to prevent washout of gravel, etc. Mr. Romoser explained that the Township can take care of it, but isn't sure of the timeline. They are welcome to remedy the issue and if they have any problems, don't hesitate to contact him.

Mr. Brett Pauley read his zoning report which will be filed with the minutes. Mr. Swank also reported that he received a complaint from a resident that lives on Hanley Road that there is loud noise late at night from a neighbor. It may be because of a business and should be looked into.

Mr. Swank reported in the Chief's absence. Lexipol has started and all policies are in place.

Mr. Romoser, Road Superintendent reported he spoke with Brennstuhl Construction in regards to finishing the concrete parking lot for the 222 Vanderbilt location. They will be coming to quote it next Tuesday. Mr. Romoser received a call about a water issue on Belmar that is coming from a compromised pipe in the common park area. It needs to be determined if Washington Township is the actual owner before it can be remedied. The Vanderbilt residents expressed satisfaction for the road repair, the project cost the township approximately \$12,000. EMS 131 should be back within a day or 2.

Fiscal Officer, Mrs. Depue presented the Mosquito Contract from the Richland County Health Dept. Mr. Swank made a motion to sign it, Mr. Hurlow 2nd, & with a roll call vote all ayes, the motion passed. She distributed the cash summary by fund report.

Mr. Yoder reported that he met with Mr. Keisling and the 3 year contract is signed. He also discussed that there are some road signs that are missing, Andy is working on putting an order together for the ones that need replaced.

Mr. Hurlow received a complaint about the permit fees and evidently there was an oversight on one of them, therefore Mr. Hurlow edited the fee table. Mr. Hurlow moved to accept Resolution 9-26 that changes the fee table, Mr. Swank seconded, Mr. Yoder voted no, however a roll call majority vote passed the motion.

Mr. Swank revisited that he addressed the drilling issue with ODNR Gas & Oil Inspector, there is nothing that can be done in regards to the drilling 24 hours, 7 days a week. He also readdressed that he attended the EMA meeting in regards to the Mitigation Plan. He shared his feelings on the likeliness that Washington Twp will become a part of a Fire District in the future due to the amount of mutual aid calls. He shared an article on the theory. He also proposed a deadline to get the Possum Run building completely cleaned out. Mr. Hurlow moved that the deadline should be set for July 1, 2026, Mr. Swank 2nd, and the motion passed with a roll call vote of all ayes.

After no further business, Mr. Hurlow made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Swank seconded the motion, and the motion carried with a roll call vote of all ayes and the meeting ended at 8:49 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

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ANNETTE DEPUE, FISCAL OFFICER

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STEPHEN SWANK, CHAIR

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JOHN K. HURLLOW, V-CHAIR

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DAVID YODER, TRUSTEE