

MAD RIVER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Regular Session – June 3, 2019

The Mad River Township Trustees met in regular session Monday, June 3, 2019.

Present: Trustees Bob McClure, Joe Catanzaro and Kathy Estep and Fiscal Officer David Rudy were present.

Trustee McClure called the meeting to order at 7:34 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a welcome to the audience.

Trustee Estep asked for a moment of silence for Memorial Day tornado victims and victims of the shooting in Virginia Beach.

Trustee Estep moved to suspend the reading of the minutes of the May 20, 2019 regular session and the May 24, 2019 special session, seconded by Trustee Catanzaro. Motion carried 3-0.

Trustee Estep moved to approve the minutes of the May 6, 2019 regular session and the May 24, 2019 special session, seconded by Trustee Catanzaro. Motion carried 3-0.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

### **Enon Fire and EMS**

Chief Tim Wendling discussed the activities of the department, which included the 14 employee resignations and the 12 new hires as well as presenting an additional 4 applications to the Trustees. Tim mentioned contacting neighboring departments to express a desire to work and train together. A large group of the department participated in the Memorial Day parade that included a picnic at the fire station with food provided by Huber Fire Chief Mark Ashworth. Tyler Sindle, who Chief presented an appreciation certificate, organized a large food and supply collection and distribution for the Tornado relief. Chief presented detailed run statistics, which included 81 runs from 5/21 – 6/3 and 103 runs from 5/1 – 6/3. Ten mutual aids were received in the total of 184 runs. Scott Sells was promoted to Lieutenant and orientation is underway for the new members. The SCBA's have been tested and certified for 2019. The Cadet program will continue under Tyler Sindle. Chief reported that a number of the department member would be taking the 36 hour FF Class as well as the EMT-B class. The current roster has a combined 300 plus years of service to the Mad River Township department. The Trustees commended the highly qualified crews for stepping up to cover the runs.

### **Hustead Fire**

Chief Larry Ridenour reported 6 runs in the last 2 weeks, including trees on power lines on Qu Wood, an alarm drop in Pitchin, a structure fire on Mosier Road, a structure fire in Yellow Springs that required a large mutual aid response. The large event was a house fire on Rocky Point that required mutual aid from Enon, Pitchin and Springfield Township. The response from all departments saved a number of the family's belongings including a gerbil. Chief was pleased with all the mutual aid support. For the year, the department has 62 runs. Chief did remind the public that if a door is closed in a fire, it is best to keep it closed to limit the oxygen to the fire.

### **Hustead EMS**

Chief Heather Kauffman reported the department had 34 runs this May compared to 36 runs in 2018 and 160 runs year to date in 2019 compared to 179 runs in 2018. The department also performed 2 safe and sound checks. Hustead is also a drop off point for disaster relief items. The department is still prepping for the Pancake Breakfast during the July 13-14 Barnstorming Festival at the airport. Breakfast will be served from 8-11.

### **Road and Cemetery**

Don O'Connor stated some of the farm fields flooded sending a large amount of corn stalks into the ditches and along the road. Don completed repairs on a culvert near the Brandeberry Winery that was plugged and washed out the driveway. The department will be completing ditch repairs on Manete and South Tecumseh as well as more patching of potholes. Road mowing will begin again with hopes to mow the wet ditch areas. The culvert and ditch repairs for Broadway could start by the end of the week, depending on the weather. The recycling center was closed last week after Rumpke had a change in drivers and the route was missed. In the cemetery, mowing and weed eating continue and 20 military markers had been set. Trustee McClure stated he received a number of compliments on the appearance during Memorial Day weekend. Don mentioned that the wind continues to blow a number of the items across the cemetery.

### **Sheriff Deputy**

Deputy Brandon Baldwin stated that things had been relatively quiet. He continued to work on the nuisance tall grass complaints and noted that most are in foreclosure.

Fiscal Officer Rudy presented the most recent credit card statements for Trustee McClure to review and signoff on as well as bank reconciliations and monthly reports to the Trustees.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

The 2019 Pavement Marking contract with the county totaling \$3,025.01, was given to the Trustees to sign.

Broadway Road will be paved from South Tecumseh Road to the Village of Enon limit.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Trustee Catanzaro moved to hire Miranda Collins, Madeline Stout, Trace Kinel and Ann Klingenpeal pending completion of pertinent background and reference checks to be completed by Clemens-Nelson Associates and subject to a one year probationary period as mandated by the policy manual, seconded by Trustee Estep, motion carried 3-0.

Trustee Estep noted that Alan Armstrong had requested to cancel the Joint Board Meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 6.

At 8:11 pm, Trustee McClure moved to enter into executive session to discuss the employment of a public employee, seconded by Trustee Estep. Motion carried 3-0.

At 8:54 pm, Trustee Catanzaro moved to come out of executive session, seconded by Trustee Estep. Motion carried 3-0.

### **AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

Trustee McClure read a statement that the Trustees accepted the findings of the Clemens Nelson report and would not be asking questions or discussing the report.

Mr. Ned Clark asked about the records retention committee and policies as required by the Ohio Revised Code, and concerns about the disposal of records.

A number of the audience members asked about the number of members of the department who have resigned in the last year and if reasons were given with their resignations. Trustees stated they were reviewing the hiring process and the policies and procedures for the department. They also plan to have better communication and more training for the department. Another audience member asked if exit interviews were completed after the resignations.

Trustee McClure stated the background checks provided by Clemens Nelson was a new step in the hiring process.

Mrs. Kathy Voytko read anonymous letters concerning the department and the implications of a hostile work environment. She also questioned the interview process, since the same persons who hired Mr. Shaffer were still involved in the process. Mrs. Voytko asked if the money for the raises given was in the budget and if someone other than a member of the department could perform the payroll process.

Mrs. Jordan read a letter written by her son who was a member of the cadet program.

Mr. Kyle Bussey asked if the Trustees gave approval for Chief Wendling to record the directive meetings. Trustee Estep responded yes. Mr. Bussey also asked about training for sexual harassment. Trustee Estep stated she was looking into training for the department.

Ms. McConehea asked why Hustead was no longer called for mutual aid after 6 pm. Trustees stated they would revisit it again.

Mrs. Coy stated it was brought to the Joint Board, but the Hustead chiefs were not able to respond.

Mr. Chris Price asked who determines the activation of the tornado sirens during the storms. It was determined that the National Weather Service triggers the alerts.

Mrs. Gardone asked about the shredding of records.

Mrs. Kathy Clark asked about the records commission policy and the public meeting of the commission.

An audience member asked who was the administrator of the Facebook page.

A current member of the department spoke about their trust in the leadership of the department and felt the department was headed in the right direction.

An audience member asked if the department members who had schooling paid for by the Township were required to commit to a certain time period of service or pay back the tuition.

A couple of other audience members were concerned about the amount of experience lost by the resigning members.

Trustee Catanzaro moved to adjourn at 10:50 pm, seconded by Trustee Estep. Motion carried 3-0.