

## **Minutes of May 12, 2026**

### **Record of Proceedings**

The Washington Township Board of Trustees regularly scheduled meeting held at Washington Township Administration Building, 6200 Eiterman Road, Dublin, Ohio, on May 12, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., with Mr. Charles Kranstuber, Chairman, calling the meeting to order, and it opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call – Mr. Charles Kranstuber, Chair – Present

Mr. Stu Harris, Vice Chair – Present

Mr. Jan Rozanski, Trustee – Present

### **Franklin County Deputy Sheriff's Report:**

Deputy Burton Haren with Franklin County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) was not present to provide a report.

### **Opportunity for Residents to Speak:**

Ms. Amy Swank, a resident of Ballantrae, expressed her appreciation to the crews for their response to the fire at the Asherton Apartment complex. She shared concerns regarding the behind-the-meter resource usage and explained that her purpose for attending was to provide an update on Dublin's West Innovation District (WID) following the review of code amendments during the previous week's Planning and Zoning meeting. She noted the creation of the ID-6 zoning district, which would permit lower-intensity industrial uses. Ms. Swank expressed surprise regarding the level of detail included in the regulation of food trucks discussed at the previous evening's City Council meeting compared to the relatively few changes proposed to the ID-6 zoning district, which had been developed over an eight-month period with the assistance of a consultant. Her request to the Trustees was two-fold: to express any concerns regarding fire safety and to publicly state any safety concerns related to the area.

At Mr. Kranstuber's request, Chief Smith provided a review of the Township's role in the administrative process. He explained that the Township does not participate in the zoning process and is involved only with roadway access for fire apparatus and the review of building plans for fire code compliance. He further explained that the Township's ladder truck is nearly the maximum height available and that taller buildings must rely on additional fire safety measures through building construction and fire protection systems.

Mr. Kranstuber expressed concern regarding the lack of definition in the code. He noted that providing an example of light manufacturing does not adequately define the use. Additional concerns included industrial properties located immediately adjacent to residential properties and the lack of consideration given to incorporating green space.

Responding to Mr. Harris, Ms. Swank expressed concern that the anticipated permitted uses would allow research and development companies that produce prototypes. She noted that such companies often use incinerators to dispose of unwanted prototypes, which could result in potentially toxic emissions affecting Darree Fields and the surrounding community. Ms. Swank encouraged Dublin, at minimum, to categorize uses involving potentially toxic emissions as a conditional use, which would require specific approval.

Mr. Todd Hemmert joined the meeting following Ms. Swank's departure to discuss the same topic. He explained that the issue tabled last June involved all nine parcels recently acquired by the City of Dublin. He stated that Dublin Planning and Zoning had indicated the matter would likely be brought back soon and that parcels west of the railroad tracks would remain proposed as ID-3 zoning district, which permits heavy industrial uses, warehouses, and distribution centers. He explained that the only use removed from consideration was data centers. Mr. Hemmert stated that he had requested Dublin to remove the reference to Cosgray Road from the proposed ID-6 zoning district and revise the proposed land use designation for Houchard Road to ID-6 or ID-2. He noted that using the railroad tracks as a

dividing line would not prevent emissions from crossing the invisible boundary and affecting Ballantrae residents. Following discussion, Mr. Richter indicated he would request a meeting with City staff and Mr. Hemmert to discuss the proposal for land outside the ID-6 area prior to the May 21 Planning and Zoning meeting. Mr. Rozanski noted he would also be available to attend the meeting.

Mr. Gene Bostic provided a brief update regarding the proposed Memorial Garden at St. John Lutheran Church. He noted that a letter from residents expressing concern regarding the number of burial sites had been sent to Dublin's Development Director for Zoning. The item will not be reviewed by Planning and Zoning again until June. He explained that the Cemetery Committee at the church invited residents to a meeting on May 20 to address concerns. He also noted that the proposed Monterey Square development is continuing to advance.

Mr. Bostic noted that he will serve as Master of Ceremonies for the 4 Unit celebration next month. He also shared that retired Captain Terry Hetzer will be honored during the ceremony.

**Resolution to Promote Jaxon L. Swank to Full-Time Probationary Firefighter/EMT-B:**

**Motion:**

Mr. Kranstuber introduced and moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION TO PROMOTE JAXON L. SWANK TO FULL-TIME PROBATIONARY FIREFIGHTER / EMT-B**

WHEREAS, Washington Township provides fire suppression and prevention and emergency medical services to its constituents, and;

WHEREAS, a need to fill a vacancy, occurring in 2026, in the position of Firefighter / Paramedic, and;

WHEREAS, to adequately provide services, it is necessary to fill the vacancy in the position, and;

WHEREAS, the appointment is being recommended by the human resource manager, fire chief and township administrator;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE BOARD OF TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES OF WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP, FRANKLIN, DELAWARE, AND UNION COUNTIES, OHIO THAT:

Section 1: The Board approves the promotion of:

Name: Jaxon L. Swank  
Position: Probationary Firefighter / EMT-B  
Classification: Uniformed Full-Time Non-Exempt  
Base Salary: \$73,355.90  
Effective date: May 23, 2026

Section 2: It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of the Board and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 3: This Resolution shall take effect and be in force at the earliest time permitted by law.

Mr. Harris seconded. Mr. Harris, yes; Mr. Kranstuber, yes; Mr. Rozanski, yes.

Resolution adopted May 12, 2026.

#2026.05.12.001

Append #001

**Resolution to Hire Sarah B. Hostetler as a Probationary Part-Time Firefighter/Paramedic:**

**Motion:**

Mr. Rozanski introduced and moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION TO REHIRE SARAH B. HOSTETLER AS A PART-TIME PROBATIONARY FIREFIGHTER / PARAMEDIC**

WHEREAS, Washington Township provides fire suppression and prevention, emergency medical services and other Township administrative duties to its constituents, and

WHEREAS, a need to fill a vacancy in the position of part-time firefighter, and  
WHEREAS, to adequately provide services, it is necessary to fill the vacancy in the position, and  
WHEREAS, the appointment is being recommended by the township administrator, human resource manager, and fire chief;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE BOARD OF TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES OF WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP, FRANKLIN, DELAWARE, AND UNION COUNTIES, OHIO THAT:

Section 1: The Board approves the rehiring of:

Name: Sarah B. Hostetler  
Position: Firefighter / Paramedic  
Classification: Uniformed / Part-Time Non-Exempt / Fire  
Hourly Rate: \$25.18  
Effective date: May 3, 2026

Section 2: It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of the Board and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 3: This Resolution shall take effect and be in force at the earliest time permitted by law. Mr. Harris seconded the motion, and the roll was called, and all members of the Washington Township Trustees who were present voting Aye. Resolution adopted May 12, 2026. #2026.05.12.002

Append #002

**Resolution to Authorize and Direct the Township Administrator to Execute an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Dublin for Fire Hydrant Inspection and Flow Testing:**

**Discussion:**

Mr. Richter explained that the contract with Dublin for semi-annual fire hydrant testing and inspection had not been updated in several years. This revision includes an incremental increase in the per-hydrant charge. Chief Smith noted the cost reflects consideration that the work is being completed for a partner agency on hydrants utilized by the Township for fire suppression.

**Motion:**

Mr. Kranstuber introduced and moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORKING AGREEMENT BETWEEN WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP AND THE CITY OF DUBLIN FOR FIRE HYDRANT INSPECTION AND FLOW TESTING, AND TO NOTIFY THE CITY OF DUBLIN OF ANY DEFECTIVE, LEAKING AND/OR INOPERATIVE HYDRANTS.**

WHEREAS, the City of Dublin services agreement with Washington Township for fire hydrant and flow testing has expired, and the City wishes to continue this agreement for the term May 1, 2026 through December 31, 2027; and

WHEREAS, Washington Township maintains many collaborative working relationships with the City of Dublin; and

WHEREAS, the Washington Township Fire Department is uniquely qualified to assist the City of Dublin in fire hydrant and flow testing of more than 3,400 fire hydrants throughout the City; and

WHEREAS, the City of Dublin wishes to enter into a new Services Agreement with the Board of Trustees of Washington Township.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Washington Township, Franklin, Delaware, and Union Counties, State of Ohio:

Section 1: The Board of Trustees hereby authorizes and directs the Township Administrator to execute an Agreement with the City of Dublin (as set forth in the Services Agreement).

Section 2: It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of the Board and that all deliberations of the Board and any of the decision making bodies of the Board of Trustees which resulted in such formal actions were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements of the State of Ohio.

Mr. Harris seconded the motion, and the roll was called, and all members of the Washington Township Trustees who were present voting Aye. Resolution adopted May 12, 2026. #2026.05.12.003

Append #003

**Resolution to Authorize the Payment from the General Fund for Expenses Incurred for Removal of Wild Vegetation and Debris at 6114 Shier Lane:**

**Motion:**

Mr. Kranstuber introduced and moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

**AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT FROM THE GENERAL FUND FOR EXPENSES INCURRED FOR REMOVAL OF WILD VEGETATION AND TRASH DEBRIS**

Ohio Revised Code § 505.87

WHEREAS, the occupants at 6114 Shier Lane, Dublin, Ohio, 43016, Washington Township, Franklin, Delaware and Union Counties, Ohio (the "Property"), have been determined to have established and perpetuated an actionable nuisance violation at the Property; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the nuisance being maintained by the occupants at the Property threatens the public health, safety and environment; and

WHEREAS, in the interests of the public health, safety and environment, the Board desires to provide for the immediate abatement, control and/or removal of the nuisance being maintained by the occupants of the Property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES, WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP, FRANKLIN, DELAWARE AND UNION COUNTIES, OHIO, THAT:

Section 1: The Board hereby authorizes payment, if necessary, from the Township General Fund, for removal of wild vegetation and trash debris at the Property.

Section 2: The Administrator and Fiscal Officer are authorized, on behalf of the Board, to arrange and effectuate the removal of the wild vegetation and trash debris at the Property and to arrange a lien on the Property relating to the cost of such removal.

Section 3: It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of the Board concerning and relating to the passage of this resolution were taken in an open meeting of the Board, and that all deliberations of the Board and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22.

Mr. Rozanski seconded the motion, and the roll was called, and all members of the Washington Township Trustees who were present voting Aye. Resolution adopted May 12, 2026. #2026.05.12.004

Append #004

**Motion to Authorize Updates to the Township's 2026 Compensation Plans for both Uniformed and Non-Uniformed Personnel to Reinstate the Absence Bonus Program:**

**Discussion:**

Ms. Grossman reviewed the removal of the Absence Bonus Program from the 2026 Compensation Plans when they were presented last fall. She explained the program had been removed in anticipation of future changes. Following first-quarter discussions with the Employee Communications Committee, it

was determined that additional data is needed to ensure the plan remains fiscally responsible. To support this effort, CBIZ and an actuary will review data and provide recommendations. Mr. Richter reiterated that the goal is to make sure the program is equitable and fair to both employees and the Township.

**Motion:**

Mr. Rozanski moved to introduce and authorize updates to the Township’s 2026 Compensation Plan for both Uniformed and Non-Uniformed Personnel to reinstate the Absence Bonus Program, seconded by Mr. Kranstuber. Motion passed with all members of the Washington Township Trustees who were present voting Aye.

#2026.05.12.005  
Append #005

**Motion to Rescind the Approval of the Minutes of the March 24, 2026 Meeting:**

**Discussion:**

Mr. Richter explained that this action was necessary because Mr. Harris voted to approve the minutes at the previous meeting despite having not attended the March 24 meeting.

**Motion:**

Mr. Kranstuber moved to introduce and rescind the approval of the minutes from the March 24, 2026 Board of Trustees Meeting, seconded by Mr. Rozanski. Motion passed with all members of the Washington Township Trustees who were present voting Aye.

#2026.05.12.006

**Motion to Approve Meeting Minutes:**

Mr. Kranstuber moved to introduce and approve the minutes from the March 24, 2026, Board of Trustees Meeting, seconded by Mr. Rozanski. Motion passed with Mr. Kranstuber and Mr. Rozanski voting Aye, Mr. Harris abstained.

#2026.05.12.007  
Append #006

**Motion to Approve Meeting Minutes:**

Mr. Harris moved to introduce and approve the minutes from the April 14, 2026, Board of Trustees Meeting, seconded by Mr. Rozanski. Motion passed with Mr. Harris and Mr. Rozanski voting Aye, Mr. Kranstuber abstained.

#2026.05.12.008  
Append #007

**Motion to Approve Meeting Minutes:**

Mr. Kranstuber moved to introduce and approve the minutes from the April 22, 2026, Preliminary Zoning Resolution Review Meeting, seconded by Mr. Harris. Motion passed with Mr. Harris and Mr. Kranstuber voting Aye, Mr. Rozanski abstained.

#2026.05.12.009  
Append #008

**Motion to Approve Consent Agenda:**

Mr. Kranstuber moved to introduce and approve the Consent Agenda as presented and as follows, seconded by Mr. Harris:

- Bills: April 15, 2026 \$ 134,924.40
- Bills: April 29, 2026 \$ 87,424.71
- April 2026 Electronic Payments \$1,354,876.08
- April 2026 Medical Payments \$ 79,491.21
- Payroll: April 24, 2026 \$ 586,391.04
- Payroll: May 8, 2026 \$ 563,959.12
- Payroll: Monthly May 1, 2026 \$ 9,980.84
- February 2026 Monthly Report
- March 2026 Monthly Report

Motion passed with all members of the Washington Township Trustees who were present voting Aye.

**Round Table Discussions:****Township Administrator Eric Richter:**

- Mr. Richter noted that Consortium I is in the process of soliciting bids for recycling and solid waste for the next contract cycle. Rumpke appears to be the best conforming bid, and participating communities are reviewing the memorandum prior to a follow-up meeting to discuss questions. Following a final recommendation, Mr. Richter will discuss the selection with Dublin. The current agreement expires December 31, 2026, and the new contract would be for five years.
- Mr. Richter provided the Trustees with updates regarding the West Innovation District, which Dublin distributed by email on April 27 and earlier today.
- Mr. Richter attended the Dublin Wellness Alliance steering committee meeting, which has recently been reorganized. Mr. Richter provided Trustees with a printout of the presentation shared during that meeting. He noted that some programming focuses on youth alcohol and drug intervention and stated he wants to ensure those efforts align with initiatives already underway through the Dublin Education Foundation. The group will provide its semi-annual update to the Trustees during the June or July regular meeting.
- Mr. Richter provided an update on the 161 Corridor Planning Collaboration. A small group is scheduled to meet on May 27, followed by a full meeting on May 29. At this time, no recommendations have been made.
- Mr. Richter provided an update regarding the shared use path along Shier Rings Road. The construction bid came in at \$467,884. Factoring in the grant and cost-sharing with Dublin, the Township's contribution is expected to be \$115,943 of the total project cost of \$709,993. Project completion is anticipated in the fall.
- Mr. Richter reviewed upcoming zoning-related meetings. On May 14, the Board of Zoning Appeals will consider two variance requests from the owner of 6927 Rings Road regarding lot depth and front porch dimensions. On May 20, the Zoning Commission will sit as the Architectural Review Board to consider construction materials proposed for use at 6927 Rings Road. The Zoning Commission will also receive an introduction to the Gateway Crossing Development Plan and rezoning request from developer K2.  
Responding to Mr. Kranstuber, Mr. Richter noted there were no objections to the construction proposed at 6927 Rings Road. He stated that K2's development plan and rezoning request are being presented only as an introduction to the proposed development and rezoning request. Pursuant to the Township Zoning Resolution and Ohio Revised Code, the Zoning Commission must consider comments from the Franklin County Planning Commission prior to taking action, and the project is currently scheduled for the Planning Commission's June 10 agenda.
- During the Dublin City Council meeting on April 27, Councilmember and Washington Township Liaison Wendy Johnson complimented Washington Township regarding its fiscal responsibility during discussion of the potential property tax constitutional amendment. Mayor Groomes noted the topic remains on everyone's radar. Mr. Richter stated that, based on the most recent information available to him, the initiative had obtained only approximately half the number of signatures required for ballot placement.
- Mr. Richter noted he will be out of the state May 21 through May 26.

**Assistant Chief Adam Smith:**

- Chief Smith presented the April monthly report.
- Chief Smith provided a review of the fire at the Asherton Apartment complex on Sunday, May 3. He noted that strong winds contributed to an extended operation. Crews performed exceptionally well, and personnel remained on scene for several hours, including maintaining a company overnight to ensure scene integrity and address any potential reignition. He explained that a third alarm was issued to relieve crews who had been on scene for an extended period. He commended the Dublin Police Department for its assistance throughout the incident and for establishing a gathering location for families at the complex clubhouse. Additionally, Dublin City Schools provided support for a hearing-impaired individual. Megan Schiff, the Township's Community Safety Liaison, coordinated with a local hotel and OneDublin to support the displaced families.
- Chief Smith commented on the update Chief Donahue emailed regarding the dive incident in Plain City. He explained that the Washington Township dive team was not involved in the initial dive efforts but assisted approximately 10 days later during a secondary dive operation to ensure nothing further remained in the water.
- The annual Flower Sale last weekend sold out and included a raffle for a quarter beef and freezer package. Chief Smith commended the continuous fundraising efforts of Firefighter Chuck Catrell in support of Honor Flight Columbus.
- Engine 92 was involved in a minor accident over the weekend at the roundabout at Coffman Road and Brand Road. A private car pulled over, as required, to allow the engine to pass; however, the roadway was too narrow and the engine's muffler scraped along the vehicle from the driver's door to the quarter panel. The department is working cooperatively with the other party regarding insurance and repairs.

**Human Resources Manager Catherine Grossman:**

- Ms. Grossman noted that the Township is beginning implementation of PowerReady this week following Trustee approval at the previous meeting. Position competencies are currently being updated.
- Ms. Grossman provided an update on the part-time hiring process. The physical agility test is scheduled for this week, with 68 candidates registered.

**Trustee Jan Rozanski:**

- Mr. Rozanski attended the gala at the Art Museum hosted by the Japan America Society of Central Ohio and noted it was a very nice event.
- Mr. Rozanski noted the two-term limit on Dublin's Veterans Committee and expressed uncertainty whether the City would request another Township representative.

**Executive Session – Personnel – To Consider the Appointment of a Public Employee or Official by Division (G)(1) of Section 121.22 of the Revised Code:**

Mr. Kranstuber introduced and moved to enter into Executive Session to consider the appointment of a public employee or official by division (G)(1) of section 121.22 of the Revised Code at approximately 7:00 p.m., seconded by Mr. Harris. Motion passed with all members of the Washington Township Trustees that were present voting Aye. #2026.05.12.011

**Reconvened and Meeting Adjourned:**

The meeting was reconvened with no action taken. Mr. Kranstuber adjourned the meeting of May 12, 2026 at approximately 7:05 p.m. #2026.05.12.012

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Mr. Charles Kranstuber, Chair

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Mr. Scott Melody, Fiscal Officer