

WCTA Meeting Minutes
August 18, 2022

The third quarterly meeting of 2022 of the Williams County Township Association was held at the Williams County Engineers Office on August 18, 2022.

The business meeting was called to order by Vice President Mike Elser. The meeting started with Mike Elser leading those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary Treasurer, Deanne Batterson, completed roll call with seventeen (17) members present from eight townships in Williams County.

Guest present were Lew Hilkert, County Commissioner; Todd Roth, County Engineer, and several employees from the Engineers office; Patty Rockey, County Recorder; Jim Watkins, County Health Department; Brad Price, County Health Department; Tom Kochert, County Sheriff; Doug Crawford, ODOT Transportation; and Robert Langford, Toledo Edison.

Minutes were read from the May meeting; Motion to approve the minutes by Chrys Maneval, seconded by Tim Nofziger and the motion carried.

Deanne Batterson, Secretary-Treasurer, reported on the Treasurer's Report. Ed Ruffer made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Willie Grime, and the motion carried.

Robert Langford, Toledo Edison, introduced himself. He has replaced Tim Suter from Toledo Edison.

Lew Hilkert, County Commissioner, reported that the Commissioner's Office has moved to the East Annex, due some asbestos issues; they are receiving a grant for repairs, and this project will go out for bid. Courthouse is in the process of having energy efficient windows; should be finished some time in 2023.

Sheriff Kochert reported on the happenings at the sheriff's office. There has been a lot of accident's lately, they are continuing with their training. Sheriff Kochert asked the townships to report things that we see; these things seen can help lead them to illegal activity. He still would like to have his deputies come to our township meetings. Sheriff Kochert reported he received email from Rhonda Fisher that the Ohio Supreme Court stated we are no longer allowed to site the railroad companies at railroad crossings (by Federal Law).

Todd Roth, County Engineer, reported on the Engineer's Office. They have been working on paving roads, chip seal and spot projects which are done for the year. They did 42 miles of chip seal this year, and will looking at doing 30 miles next year for chip seal, and 20 miles for spot paving. OPWC project finish Montpelier schools; looking at 3 bridges – large coverts for next year (CR R, CR F, and CR 1). They are looking at bids for pavement makings, striping, and railroads. New staff at the Engineer's was introduced; Ron Buda, Jared Rediger, and Steve Humphrey. OPWC project deadline is September 9, 2022.

Patty Rockey, County Recorder, reported that Bridgewater Township had reached out to her regarding the issues the Township Fiscal Officers were having getting their SAMS number with the Federal government due to difficulty proving when they were organized. The Recorder's office searched old records and found when each township in Williams County was organized.

Doug Crawford, ODOT Transportation, reported that any equipment they have they will share with us. They are hosting a snow/ice open house on October 19, 2022, vendors will be there, and Doug passed out formal invitations to all the townships that were present. Mowing project has been hammered this year, they will begin a second round in this upcoming Fall season. Someone at the meeting expressed their concern regarding the high grass and thistles on Hwy 6. Regarding deer, you can call ODOT to have the deer picked up. Township roads / County roads that cross State Highways – crossover pipes (right at intersection) now belong to ODOT; if it needs repair contact ODOT.

Brad Price County Health Department, Environmental limited to public health use, what will transmit diseases. We all need to work together in this; Brad is working with the Prosecutors office to see what we can do to work together – what townships can do and what the health department can do. Complaints must be in writing. There is another round of septic system grants (year 8); if someone has a failing septic system, they may qualify. Letters going out soon to Pulaski Township & Center Township residents. Northwest Township will start week after the fair; there will be classes to educate.

Jim Watkins, County Health Department, we are in a better phase now with Covid, people are getting vaccinated. The strain now seems to be dominating and holding off other strains from coming in. Presently there are a high number of cases in the county, however, the number of cases being hospitalized is down. Last Fall, we received the drug free grant \$125,000 for 5 years; trainings for schools, parents, and the community. There is project with Ohio and three other states studying opioids to see what works and what doesn't work in prevention. The health department received the award for the new building; new site will be at CR E, west of the garage.

Townships were reminded to bring their Fair Booth posters to the Fair. Representative Hoops will provide the flag for the Fair.

Patricia Creek, Fiscal Officer Superior Township, reported on the most recent Fiscal Officer meeting. The fiscal officers sorted through their ideas of what their townships were using the ARPA funds for, and the issues with registering with SAMS.

Next Township Association meeting is scheduled for November 17, 2022 for the annual Township Association Banquet. All present agreed to continue to have this meeting at St. Mary's in Edgerton, OH.

Motion to adjourn by Tim Nofziger, seconded by Dan Gillen and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Deanne Batterson