

Union Township Trustees
Organizational~Regular Meeting
January 5, 2026

Fiscal Officer Karen Nethers called the 2026 Union Township Organizational meeting to order on January 5, 2026, at 7:00pm. Roll Call showed Trustees Roger Start, Jeff Sharps and John Slater present. Mrs. Nethers led the Pledge of Allegiance. Township Administrator Paula Greene proceeded with the following resolutions:

Resolution 2026-1 To Select the President of the Board of Trustees

Mr. Start nominated Mr. Sharps to be President of the Board. Mr. Slater seconded the Motion.

Roll Call: Start-yes Sharps -yes Slater-yes

Resolution 2026-2 To Select the Vice-President of the Board of Trustees.

Mr. Slater nominated Mr. Start to be the Vice President of the Board of Trustees.
Mr. Sharps seconded.

Roll Call: Start-yes Sharps-yes Slater-yes

Resolution 2026-3 Set Trustee Pay – ORC 505.24

Mr. Start motioned to pay the Trustees' salary at the maximum salary at the maximum allowance provided by ORC 505.24 for 2026. Mr. Sharps seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Start-yes Sharps-yes Slater-yes

Resolution 2026-4 Set Fiscal Officer Pay – ORC 505.24

Mr. Start motioned to pay the fiscal officers' salary at the maximum salary at the maximum allowance provided by ORC 505.24 for 2026. Mr. Sharps seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Start-yes Sharps-yes Slater-yes

Resolution 2026-5 Meeting Schedule

Mr. Slater motioned and Mr. Start seconded the 2026 meeting schedule as follows:

The regular meetings of the Union Township Trustees shall be held on the first and third Mondays of each month except when the meeting falls on a Federal Holiday then the meeting will be the following evening. Meetings will be called to order at 7:00pm at the Union Township Complex, 1380 Beaver Run Road, Hebron Ohio. The May 6 and November 4 regular meetings will be held on Wednesday following Election Day.

Roll Call: Start-yes Sharps-yes Slater-yes

Resolution 2026-6 Health Insurance ORC 505.60

Mr. Sharps motioned and Mr. Slater seconded to provide payment for health insurance or reimbursement for health insurance for elected and full-time employees with a portion paid by the Elected Official and Employees.

Roll Call: Start-yes Sharps-yes Slater-yes

Resolution 2026-7 Mileage and Necessary Expenses

Mr. Slater motioned and Mr. Sharps seconded to authorize necessary expenses for meetings, including parking fees, and mileage at 68 cents per mile, the IRS reimbursement rate, pertinent to Township Business, outside the Township.

Roll Call: Start-yes Sharps-yes Slater-yes

Resolution 2026-8 Clothing Reimbursement

Mr. Slater motioned and Mr. Start seconded to authorize a Clothing Allowance for full-time employees up to \$700 and part-time employees up to \$350 for the year 2026.

Roll Call: Start-yes Sharps-yes Slater-yes

Resolution 2026-9 Out of Meeting Check Signing

Mr. Sharps motioned and Mr. Start seconded to approve the authorization of checks, regular monthly bills and all previously approved expenditure outside of meetings.

Roll Call: Start-yes Sharps-yes Slater-yes

Resolution 2026-10 Trustees approval of purchase up to \$2500

Mr. Slater motioned and Mr. Start seconded to authorize a Trustee to approve a purchase not to exceed \$2500 for Township purposes. Any expenditure exceeding \$2500 must have the approval of at least two Trustees.

Roll Call: Start-yes Sharps-yes Slater-yes

Resolution 2026-11 Meeting Reimbursements

Mr. Start motioned to approve and Mr. Sharps seconded to authorize to approve payment of required fees and necessary expenses for elected officials to attend and participate in county and state, seminars, and conventions.

Roll Call: Start-yes Sharps-yes Slater-yes

Resolution 2026-12 Appointment to Board of Buckeye Lake Region Corporation Representative.

Mr. Sharps motioned, and Mr. Start seconded to Authorize Paula Greene to represent Union Township on the Board of Buckeye Lake Region Corporation.

Roll call: Start-yes Sharps-yes Slater-yes

Resolution 2026-13 Appointment of Trustee to the Tax Incentive Review Council as Union Township Representative ORC 5709.85

Mr. Slater moved and Mr. Start seconded to appoint Trustee Sharps as the Union Township Representative to the Tax Incentive Review Council for 2027 -2028.

Roll Call: Start-yes Sharps-yes Slater-yes

Resolution 2026-14 Appoint Members to the Township Board of Zoning Appeals ORC 519.04

Mr. Start motioned and Mr. Sharps seconded to appoint the following seven persons all of whom reside within the unincorporated area of the Township:

1. Rob Griffith, whose term shall expire on 01/15/2027.
2. Jeff Bashman, whose term shall expire on 01/15/2028.
3. Jack Justice, whose term shall expire on 01/15/2029.
4. Julie Hall, whose term shall expire on 01/15/2030.
5. Travis Milliser, whose term shall expire on 01/15/2031.
6. Shawn Murphy (alternate, whose term shall expire on 01/15/2031.
7. Brent McDonald (alternate), whose term shall expire on 01/15/2031.

Roll Call: Start-yes Sharps-yes Slater-yes

Resolution 2026-15 Appoint Members to the Township Board of Zoning Appeals ORC 519.04

Mr. Slater motioned and Mr. Start seconded to appoint the following five (5) people and two (2) alternates, all of whom reside within the unincorporated area of the Township, to the Union Township Zoning Commission:

1. Tonya Painter, (board) whose term shall expire on 01/15/2027.
2. Michelle Doran, (board) whose term shall expire on 01/15/2028.
3. Jennifer Kurkowski, (board) whose term shall expire on 01/15/2029.
4. Casey Curtis, (board) whose term shall expire on 01/15/2030.
5. Curt Painter, (board) whose term shall expire on 01/15/2031.
6. Mike Hittle, (alternate), whose term shall expire on 01/15/2027.
7. Cory Zigan, (alternate), whose term shall expire on 01/15/2028.

Roll Call: Start-yes Sharps-yes Slater-yes

At 7:13pm, Mr. Slater moved to close the Organizational Meeting. Mr. Start second. Motion carried.

Regular Meeting

At this time President Sharps began the regular meeting. Note: Road Superintendent Dave Cable and guest Martha Cable were present.

Minutes-Mr. Slater moved and Mr. Sharps moved to approve December 15 minutes. Motion carried.

Bills—A Lightle Enterprises invoice was questioned, as Dave believed it was for street sign fasteners bought with the ODOT grant. The invoice will be reviewed. With no further questions, Mr. Start moved to approve; Mr. Slater seconded. Motion passed.

Public Comments- None

Fiscal Officer

Licking County Trustees and Clerks Luncheon – Saturday, January 10

-Mr. Start, Mr. Sharps and Ms. Greene will attend.

OTA Winter Conference – February 4-6 (Final sign-up Friday, January 9)

Completing tasks related to year-end responsibilities.

Road and Bridge

Beaver Run Tree Trimming -Dave reported that L & L Property Services completed less work than expected, trimming trees up to 60'. The location and height likely slowed progress. The group discussed continuing only if financially feasible and possibly limiting future trimming to 20-25'. Mr. Slater noted some trees along Beaver Run hit the tops of semis. It was agreed that remaining trees needed to be trimmed. L & L charge \$2,800 per day for three days; FO Nethers confirmed contract funds are available. Mr. Slater asked Dave to try negotiating a lower rate.

Motion – Mr. Slater motioned and Mr. Start seconded to retain L & L Property Services continues trimming trees on Beaver Run Road, not to exceed 25' in Height for three days at \$2800per day. Motion carried.

Canal Road ROW application - Dave and Mr. Slater met with project manager to learn more about the request. It was learned that to investigate whether the soil would sustain a waterline 14 test holes would be drilled through the pavement between State Route 79 (south) and the southern property of the Fish Hatchery. Mr. Slater discussed the need to shore up the canal embankment and requested the repairs be included in the project. ODOT did not believe the request could be fulfilled with this project but did believe should the waterline be viable, Canal Road could be widened and leveled to the bridge south of the Fish Hatchery entrance. The project manager said the holes would be filled with asphalt, but Mr. Slater felt soft set concrete would be a better option. The Trustees directed Dave to contact the project manager with the Townships conditions. If the Project Manager agrees, the Township will sign off on the ROW application.

Salt Status – Mr. Start inquired about the current salt inventory. Dave replied that the storage bin was about half full, and around 600 tons of salt would be delivered this week. The stored salt is rotated to ensure older stock is used first.

Administration

Licking County Load Limit Reduction – Paula presented the Trustees with a copy of the County Resolution regarding specific Township Roads, detailing that weight limits will be enforced until April 15, 2026.

Robarlyn Trace HOAS– The Board discussed HOA request for the Township to cover street light costs. The Board reaffirmed that such expenses are the HOA's responsibility, not the Township's. Mr. Slater instructed the Administrator to communicate this if contacted again by the HOA.

Covestro Crosswalk – Robertson Construction advised construction of the crosswalk on Millikan would begin on January 6.

Economic Development

JEDD public hearing – A public hearing will be held February 2 at 7:00pm for the purpose of adding new parcels into the Luray JEDD. The notice has been published in the Newark Advocate and notice was made to the Village of Hebron.

Public Comments

None

Trustees

None

There being no further business, Mr. Slater moved to adjourn at 7:55pm and Mr. Start seconded. The next meeting of the Union Township Trustees will be held on February 2, 2026


Jeff Sharps President


Roger Start Vice President


John Slater Trustee


Karen Nethers Fiscal Officer

