Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Mrs. Heichel, here; Mr. Welch, here; Mr. Flaherty, here; Mr. Estep, here. The regular meeting of the Blendon Township Board of Trustees was called to order at 6:30 pm. Mrs. Heichel moved to approve and waive the reading of the minutes as presented for the April 20, 2016, meeting. Mr. Welch seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Flaherty, yes; Mrs. Heichel, yes; Mr. Welch, yes. Blendon/Westerville Fire Chief also attended. The Purchase Orders and Cemetery Deeds were signed by the Board.

Administrator’s Report:
Mr. Rhoads updated the Board on the following: Complex documents are complete with advertising in the next week, bidding out Westerville 3 project in late May or early June. “No Parking” signs are not allowed according to ODOT on Paris and Westerville 3, Senior Center is being re-bid, signal at Buenos Aires and Paris are being fabricated, playground equipment at Sunbury Woods has been installed and the Harbin Park is just about finished.

Communications:
1. **Update Reports to the Board** E-mailed from the Directors.
2. **Board of Health letter** regarding a violation.
3. **Franklin County Board of Health** Notifying Blendon Township, with the Franklin County Rain Barrel Program, to avoid mosquitoes, rain barrels need Mosquito Dunks to help avoid a Zika outbreak. This is to be put on our website.

New Business:
1. **2016 Spring Newsletter** Mrs. Heichel presented the Board for approval, the 2106 Spring Newsletter. Mr. Welch moved to approve the spring newsletter for 2016 as presented, and authorize Yes Press to print and mail 3,050 newsletters for a fee of $3,737.91, postage included. Mr. Flaherty seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Flaherty, yes; Mrs. Heichel, yes; Mr. Welch, yes. Mr. Flaherty noted the fact that the article on heroin, drug addiction, family recovery and our seminar, we are not alone, as the Westerville magazine just came out with a similar article regarding the problems. With all the communities working together, we may see change.

2. **Events Account** Mr. Flaherty suggested with all the events coming up that an “events account” is an idea to consider for controlling spending, as well as for the auditors. Perhaps we can find more sponsors by spreading contributions for all events. The Board felt it was an excellent idea and Mr. Estep has already established separate line items for Heritage Day, Memorial Day and Concerts in the Park events.

3. **Cops Grant** Mr. Rhoads discussed with the Board this grant that will allow hiring a full-time officer with salary and benefits paid at 75% of cost for 3 years and retain that officer at our cost for 1 year after. After a brief discussion, Mrs. Heichel moved to approve Mr. Rhoads to apply for the Cops Grant that covers salary and benefits for an additional officer for a 3 year period. Mr. Welch seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Flaherty, yes; Mr. Welch, yes; Mrs. Heichel, yes. Mr. Flaherty noted our receipts are up this year from last year due to JEDZ and with this, we can help support an extra officer on the street.

4. **SB 234** Mr. Rhoads discussed this bill that allows owners of vacant commercial land, have the taxes abated. The Board decided that Sen. Bacon be informed of our concerns of the disadvantages of our undeveloped land. Mr. Flaherty noted that it is nice to have a resident (Mrs. Pam Clegg) bring items such as this to our attention, and Mr. Rhoads plans to dig into the details.

5. **Evidence Software** Lt. Lephart discussed the necessity of quality control of our evidence room and the efficiency this program would provide. Mr. Rhoads also discussed the legality of this for the courts and the importance of chain of custody. Mr. Welch moved to approve the software management agreement with PD Evidence, as soon as possible, for an annual subscription price of $3,163.00. Mrs. Heichel seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Flaherty, yes; Mr. Welch, yes; Mrs. Heichel, yes.
New Business continued....

6. **Resolutions NU-01-16 to NU-13-16 Mr. Rhoads** requested adoption of 13 grass violations. Mrs. Heichel moved to approve Resolutions NU-01-16 to NU-13-16, with all resolutions due to uncontrolled vegetation and debris. Residences: NU-01-16, 3990 Bluebird Ct., NU-02-16, 3545 Dahlgreen Dr., NU-03-16 2887 Kilbourne Ave., NU-04 2679 Kilbourne Ave., NU-05-16 6469 Sagebrush Ct., NU-06-16 3693 Bader Ct., NU-07-16 3400 Paris Blvd., NU-08-16 3644 Paris Blvd., NU-09-16 3564 Stockholm Rd., NU-10-16 3464 Saddle Lane South., NU-11-16 5829 Buenos Aires Blvd., NU-12-16 4463 Yellowhammer Dr., NU-13-16 Mexico Ave. Mr. Welch seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Flaherty, yes; Mrs. Heichel, yes; Mr. Welch, yes.

7. **Economic Development Proclamation-Mr. Rhoads** noted, this is another idea of Mrs. Cleggs’, that we are members of, and the 90th anniversary of the International Economic Development Council, we honor and appreciate them as the largest professional economic development organization dedicated to serving economic developers, with this proclamation. May 8-14, 2016 is proclaimed “Economic Development Week” and this honors the communities and members, as well. Mr. Flaherty moved to adopt this proclamation in honor and appreciation of the Economic Development Council and declare May 8-14, 2016, “Economic Development Week” in Blendon Township. Mrs. Heichel seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Flaherty, yes; Mrs. Heichel, yes; Mr. Welch, yes.

**Director/Staff Updates:**

**Police Lt. Lephart** discussed the rash of car break-ins and asked the public to avoid the temptation for theft, by taking their valuables inside and lock their car doors. Several leads and progress has been made, but not make this too easy for thieves.

**Mrs. Jordan** stated they averaged approximately 77 seniors a day at the Senior Center and flyers have been distributed for our upcoming Car Show. Picture week is planned for October 6-24, 2016.

**Mrs. Harter** noted the plans for Memorial Day are in full swing and just waiting on donations. **Mrs. Bowman** plans to bake cookies thanks to a donation by **Mr. Flaherty**.

**Mr. Rhoads** plans to have proposals next meeting to cover trails and the concession stand.

**Fire Chief Miller,** discussed calling early for missing family members with dementia.” It’s crucial, before they get too far”. Also “Fire Academy” is starting August 3, 2016, for 18 years of age and older, and is very popular. It is a good way to inspire those interested in firefighting.

**Mr. Giamarco** discussed training and preparing the Community Gardens with the new Skid Steer equipment and thanked the Board. Mr. Flaherty asked Mr. Giamarco to look into repairing the back of Section C, when readying our cemetery for Memorial Day.

**Open Floor:**

**Mrs. Carolyn Cordray, 3724 Caracas Drive,** reminded everyone of the next “Active Shooter” class on Saturday. Also asked for clarification regarding the sidewalk issue, with special pricing for residents. The newsletter and our website has information available.

**Mrs. Sharon Ricker, 5562 Oslo Drive,** thanked the Board for a successful “Shred-It” Day, along with the medication drop off. And the dumpsters at Ridgewood Park that filled up.

**Mrs. Pam Clegg, 3614 Makassar,** discussed sign language education for our officers for the hearing impaired. Fire Chief Miller and Lt. Lephart are checking into it and will follow up to what more can be done to help. TTDY and outreach is available, Chief Miller stated.

**Pay bills:** Mr. Welch moved to pay the bills. Mrs. Heichel seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Flaherty, yes; Mrs. Heichel, yes; Mr. Welch, yes.

The attached list of checks was approved for payment. Being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:23pm. **Mr. Flaherty** noted that the next regular meeting will be on Wednesday, May 18, 2016, at 6:30pm.

Approved by: [Signature]

Wade L. Estep, Fiscal Officer

Approved by: [Signature]

Stewart L. Flaherty, Chairman