

Middleton Township Trustees

Wednesday, October 1, 2025

6:00 p.m.

Mr. Cromley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was spoken. In attendance were Trustees Cromley, Moulton, and Vetter as well as Fiscal Officer Limes.

The sign-in sheet for employees and visitors is attached with the approved minutes.

Noted on the sign in sheet is a statement indicating the meeting may be recorded or streamed live to the internet by a visitor - not at the authority of the township trustees.

FISCAL OFFICER REPORT

- **Mr. Moulton moved, Mr. Vetter seconded a motion to approve the September 17, 2025 meeting minutes as provided. Motion approved.**
- **Mr. Moulton moved, Mr. Cromley seconded approval of accounts and payroll as submitted. Motion approved.** A payment register is attached to the approved minutes.
- Mrs. Limes provided the August bank reconciliation for review.
- The Board reviewed the document provided by the Wood County Auditor with regard to 2026 levy rates. The Board and Mrs. Limes reviewed, determining that all levy values and timelines were accurate.
Mr. Moulton moved, Mr. Vetter seconded a motion to approve Resolution 25-1001 – Approving Amounts and Rates as determined by the Wood County Budget Commission. Role was called: Mr. Cromley – YES; Mr. Moulton – YES; Mr. Vetter – YES.
- The Board noted that only one candidate was slated for the township nomination to the Northwestern Water & Sewer Board.
Mr. Vetter moved, Mr. Moulton seconded a motion to approve Brooke Hahn as the township representative to the Northwestern Water & Sewer District Board of Trustees. Motion approved.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

- Chief Andy Carter provided a variety of run reports noting he is working on a more comprehensive list of reports to include Plain Township and Webster Township data.
- Chief Carter indicated he was working with Road Supervisor Chase Greulich on a plugged CCU box on the ambulance and parts have been ordered for the repair.
- The EMS and Fire departments were requested by Washington Township to have the ambulance on site at Otsego High School football games as backup. Staff are available to cover the games.
- Chief Carter stated his thanks to all who helped support Safety Day and helping him navigate the event.
- A resignation was received from Jeff Schneiderman who had been hired as a full-time paramedic went to part-time and has now resigned from all duties.
- Fire Department Lieutenant Clint Weckesser submitted his resignation after 13 years of service to the township.
- A joint training session will be held October 7 with neighboring departments at the Bowling Green Flight Center to focus on response to airplane crashes.
- A Trunk or Treat event is scheduled for October 27 from 6:00–7:30 p.m. at the Wood County Sheriff's offices.
- The fire, EMS and road departments will be involved in a "Touch a Truck" event to be held at Tractor Supply Company (TSC) on Saturday, November 1, 2025. Mr. Vetter questioned Plain Township's involvement. Mr. Greulich will contact Plain Township personnel.
- Fire Prevention Day at Otsego Schools is scheduled for October 10 from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. The township will be represented at same.
- Chief Carter expressed his thanks to the Trustees supporting his participation in the recent Ohio Fire Chief's Association (OFCA) symposium.
- Discussion revolved around the elimination of property taxes and the negative impact on township government and ability to finance its departmental needs.
- A review of fleet vehicle maintenance status was held:
 - Tanker 661 – electrical issues
 - Pumper 662 – passed inspection, dealing with an oil leak and a new passenger mirror is being ordered due to a minor accident
 - Engine 681 – brakes, tires and lighting were reviewed noting that the engine would be taken to W.W. Williams for brake service and wiring is being corrected. Tires for the engine need requoted and it appears there is a dent in the fuel tank.
 - A broker is available to purchase used equipment / vehicles. Discussion revolved around the way townships can sell equipment per O.R.C. standards.

- The Fire Fighter Association was thanked by the trustees for its support of the CARFIT event in providing volunteers and food.
- Assistant Chief Brian Kotula noted that the parking lot at Station 2 was recently graded with new stone.

EMS DEPARTMENT

- Chief Jerry Saunders reviewed the run volume reports.
- Chief Saunders reported that Medic 680 is using a lot of oil and is being inspected regularly to ensure oil is properly topped off until a repair can be scheduled.
- The broken armrest in the ambulance was repaired by Mr. Vetter.
- The new ambulance chassis has been delivered to the manufacturer and May 2026 is now the target date for completion of the ambulance.
- The new tactical helmets have been placed in inventory and will be submitted for repayment on the EMS grant through State of Ohio.
- A full-time paramedic is still needed to cover the ‘float’ position.
- Part time paramedics Jerod Wright and Brandon Abke have passed all pre-employment testing and screening.
- Chief Saunders indicated he will need to fill shifts with EMT’s due to staffing issues. It was noted that three EMT’s are in paramedic school currently.

VISITOR COMMENTS

- Victor Coleman, township representative to Toledo Edison was in attendance to check in on the township and discuss any questions/concerns. Street lighting outages were discussed as well as generation rates and the electric aggregation program. The township’s current electric aggregation program will expire in December. Beginning in 2026 the price will be 8.78 cents/kwh.
- Tim Hannan, Devils Hole Road resident, thanked the Trustees for the road work recently completed on Devils Hole Road.

OLD BUSINESS

- Mr. Vetter noted that review of the issues with the Reitz Road ditch are still on-going.
- Mr. Moulton noted there is a new manager at the Curling Center and Mr. McDowell will be asked to contact them about the lighting.
- The America-250 celebration will include an art contest for 5-10 year olds.

NEW BUSINESS

- Mr. Vetter discussed the need to pursue right-of-way work and find out what is expected at the township level.
- The elimination of property tax initiative was reviewed and it was noted that the Wood County Auditor and State Representative Haraz Ghanbari are speaking out against it.
- A new county-wide comprehensive plan is being developed. A meeting has been scheduled at the Wood County Planning Commission for December for public input.
- A cyber security plan must be in place for the township by June 2026.

Mr. Moulton moved, Mr. Vetter seconded adjournment of the meeting at 7:15 pm. Motion approved.

Donald E. Cromley, Chairman

Michael Moulton, Vice Chairman

Fred E. Vetter, Trustee

Laurie L. Limes, Fiscal Officer