

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Oxford Township Board of Trustees
Held April 14, 2026 at 8:00 p.m., Page 736

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Oxford Township was called to order by Chairman Lewis.

Roll call: Randy Leienberger, present; Steve Lewis, present; Craig Pittman, present. Also present: Jim Viers, Road Maintenance Supervisor, Bret Bacon with the Delaware Soil & Water Conservation District, Ron & Karen Nolting, residents, Abbey Trimble with the Delaware Public Health District and Shawn Stevens, Candidate for the Ohio House 61st District.

Minutes of the March regular meeting were previously read by each trustee and a motion was made by Leienberger and seconded by Pittman to approve the minutes as read and presented. Vote: All yeas. Motion carried. The bank statement and the bank reconciliation for March were reviewed and initialed by the trustees.

Financial Report – March 31, 2026, balances Total \$426,923.51

1000 - \$185,738.40 2031 - \$ 9,169.43 4951 - \$ 2,854.69

2011 - \$ 26,879.76 2041 - \$ 2,431.28 4952 - \$ 1,435.91

2021 - \$181,754.99 2231 - \$16,597.96 9001 - \$ 61.09

Bret Bacon with the Delaware Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) discussed the current wetlands that have been purchased in Oxford Township. There are two separate companies that have purchased farm ground off of Steamtown Rd. To be proactive the SWCD responded to a public notice from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers regarding one of the purchases with their concerns. They have also reached out to the company that has purchased the land for wetlands. The SWCD is not able to stop the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers but residents can file a petition for maintenance with the SWCD to secure any water outlets. Once the petition is approved the wetland development cannot destroy the water outlets. There was further discussion with the trustees that these wetland companies do not pay taxes. This is revenue loss to Oxford Township and approximately 400 acres of farm ground loss.

Ron & Karen Nolting, residents, wanted to thank the trustees and express how much they love the updates to the park; the newly paved walking path, the new dog waste stations and appreciate Jim plowing the walking path when it was covered with snow. They also have concerns in the usage of the dumpster located at the park. They witnessed someone dumping a bed in the dumpster and wondered if that person had permission to do this. They also wanted to know if Oxford Township residents could use the dumpster for personal use. The trustees explained that the dumpster is not for personal use. It is for the Township Park trash only and they do not give permission for outside dumping. The trustees realize this has happened before but it is hard to catch the people dumping,

Abbey Trimble with the Delaware Public Health District updated trustees on the following:

- Movie Night at The Strand Theatre on April 30, 2026 at 6:00 P.M. Doors open at 5:30 P.M. The movie is: What It Takes – Recovery is Possible. There will a panel discussion immediately following the film.
- Public Health Summer Academy – July 13-17, 2026 from 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. For high school students grades 9-12. Lots of learning opportunity for students interested in public health. Applications open April 13, 2026.
- Safe Storage Saves Lives – You can request a Free X-Large, 3-Dial Lock Box for gun safety from the Delaware Public Health District. Guns are the number one contributor associated with suicide.
- Your Voice Matters! The Partnership for a Healthy Delaware County is officially launching the 2026 Community Health Assessment. They did a random mailing of the survey. If you receive a survey in the mail, please take a few minutes to complete it. Your input helps shape a healthier Delaware County for everyone. Together, they can identify priorities, address challenges, and build a stronger, healthier future. This survey is also available on-line to the public.

Shawn Stevens, candidate for the Ohio House 61st District introduced himself to the trustees. He is from Berkshire Township and has a lot of support for townships. He asked if Oxford Township had any concerns. His concerns to work on if elected to the Ohio House 61st District are as follows:

- He feels there will be major revenue concerns with the real estate tax issue that may be on the ballot in the general election. He agrees there must be some relief with taxes but eliminating real estate taxes without a plan is not the way to handle it. If elected he will work on a plan to lower taxes before this issue goes to the ballot.
- He also believes the I-71 and US 23 corridor is not necessary. He believes it would be a waste of State money. If elected he will immediately have this conversation regarding the project with the Governor's Office.

The trustees thank him for introducing himself and taking the time to come to a meeting.

The Delaware County Engineer's Office is requesting an estimate of the amount of salt (tons) the township will purchase for the 2026-2027 snow season. After discussing the amount of salt used in the previous snow seasons it was decided upon to estimate 150 tons of salt needed for the 2026-2027 season.

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Fiscal Officer Leienberger discussed signing up for an Amazon Prime Business account. This is a free service offered through the Ohio Township Association. There are also extra discounts for a prime business account. After further discussion a motion was made by Lewis and seconded by Pittman to establish a free Amazon Prime Business account for Oxford Township through the Ohio Township Association. Vote: All yeas. Motion carried. Fiscal Officer Leienberger will set up the account for the township.

Fiscal Officer Leienberger discussed the expiring Road & Bridge Levy for Oxford Township. You can no longer place a replacement levy on the ballot, only a renewal levy. The current Road & Bridge Levy is for 1.2 mills and would generate approximately \$44,800.00 in revenue. An increase would generate approximately \$5,200.00 for each .10 mills increased. After further discussion a motion was made by Leienberger and seconded by Lewis to place a renewal of 1.2 mills, with no increase, on the ballot for the general election in November. Vote: All yeas. Motion carried. Fiscal Officer Leienberger will prepare the resolutions.

Duane Matlack, Oxford Township Zoning Inspector updated trustees by email on the following:
Zoning Violation:

- A certified violation letter was sent to 7681 Strine Rd. for trash and debris on the property. As of 11/11/25 some clean-up has been completed. However, burning is now being done on the property. This issue was reported to the Health Department who turned it over to the EPA for investigation on 11/06/25. Second notice was sent 12/8/25. There have been no improvements as of 4/13/26. Violation is being turned over to the Prosecutor’s Office for further action.
- First violation letter was sent certified to 8011 Stine Rd, for trash, debris and inoperable vehicles on the property. Certified letter was accepted on 11/29/2025. Property owner has 30 days to comply. As of 12/8/25 there were no improvements noticed. A second notice was sent on 3/10/26. There have been no improvements as of 4/13/26. Violation is being turned over to the Prosecutor’s Office for further action.

Zoning Commission Board:

- The Zoning Commission Board met on 3/18/26 to go over changes recommended by the Prosecutor’s Office with Lee Ann Forgrave, Prosecuting Attorney. They reviewed recommended changes through Chapter 26. They will meet again on 4/15/26 to continue the review. This meeting should finish the review and the Zoning Commission Board should make a motion to send revised resolution to the trustees.

Trustee Pittman stated that The Ashley Union Cemetery Board asked if Jim Viers was able to grade the driveway at the cemetery. The cemetery board is wanting to clean up the cemetery for Memorial Day. Jim stated he would be happy to do it but would need some help. Trustee Leienberger stated he would talk with Dave Lockhart, Mayor of Ashley and Cemetery Board Member to see what exactly they want done and if a village employee could also help.

Jim Viers discussed the hiring of a seasonal employee for the summer with the trustees. Fred Neace was hired last year as the township’s seasonal employee and is willing to return this year. After further discussion a motion was made by Lewis and seconded by Pittman to hire Fred Neace as the township’s seasonal employee from May 1, 2026 to October 31, 2026 with the hourly rate of \$22.66. Vote: All yeas. Motion carried.

Current bills of \$79,668.09 were presented for approval and payment during April. After review, a motion was made by Leienberger and seconded by Pittman to pay same. Vote: All yeas. Motion carried. (Cks -12913 – 12953 - \$75,089.54, Vchr. 29 - \$2,802.15, Vchr. 30 - \$153.39, Vchr. 32 - \$18.00, Vchr. 34 - \$1,291.22, Vchr. 35 - \$260.11, Vchr. 36 - \$53.68. A list of these checks and their payees are on file in the fiscal officer’s office.

This concluded the business for the meeting and a motion was made by Pittman and seconded by Leienberger to adjourn. Vote: All yeas. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:38 P.M.

Approved: _____ Chairman

Attest: _____ Fiscal Officer