

**SHAWNEE TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
March 9, 2026**

On March 9, 2026, the Shawnee Township Board of Trustees met at the Shawnee Township, 2530 Fort Amanda Road, Lima, Ohio, for a Regular Meeting of the Board.

Chairman Neff called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

The roll call indicated the following present: Trustee Neff, Trustee Gross, Trustee Recker, Police Chief Kohli, Fire Chief Austin Miller, Howard Gray, Kevin Cooley, Teresa Pulfer, Lesa Wende, Clay Balyeat, and Valerie Lester.

- Trustee Gross motioned to accept the February 23, 2026, Regular meeting minutes. Trustee Recker seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

REPORT OF THE FISCAL OFFICER:

- Nothing to report

REPORT OF THE LAW DIRECTOR:

- Nothing to report

PRESENTATIONS:

- **Rebecca Phillips – Allen County Regional Planning Commission:** Spoke regarding the purpose, function, and funding of the Regional Planning Commission. Ms. Phillips explained the Safe Routes to School Grant and that the School, Township, and RPC are currently working together to produce a school travel plan to be submitted for grant funding. Megan discussed the timeline for developing the school travel plan and the types of input that will be incorporated into it. She explained the grant specifications and other funding sources.
- **Rob White – ODOT:** Spoke about the community gateway monument. Shawnee Township would like to place a “Welcome to Shawnee Township” sign at the proposed roundabout at 501 and 117. Mr. White presented the requirements for sign placement. He spoke about the cost, maintenance, permitting, specifications, and requirements. There was discussion about the Township’s desire to place “Welcome” signs in other locations within the Township. There was also discussion about the visibility at the bridge over I75, and the general problems around Breese, Industrial Drive, and I75, including the crash data.
- **Brandon - Local 2075 Tombstone Project:** Requesting permission to work in the Shawnee Township Cemetery to clean tombstones. The project is no cost to the township.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

- **Jim Thompson –** Spoke about the potential of Data centers in Shawnee Township, the Township Comprehensive plan, and requested that the Trustees pass a resolution of a temporary moratorium on data centers in agricultural districts in Shawnee Township. Trustee Gross explained that the Trustees would like time to review the data and the proposed resolution. They would also like it to be reviewed by legal counsel.
- **Bev Beery – Lima Small Business Advocacy Group –** Spoke on the conditions of Breese Road/ I75 corridor and Dixie Highway area, including the old skating rink. The group has spoken to interested businesses that may consider bringing their businesses to the area. The area needs to be beautified to attract business. Mr. Neff offered to be on the committee with the group, and the Township is on board with the project.

RESOLUTION 42-26

Memorandum of Understanding with LACRPC Safe Routes to School

BE IT RESOLVED, the Shawnee Township Board of Trustees accepts the attached Memorandum of Understanding with Lima Allen County Regional Planning Commission to plan and assist Shawnee Township with the Safe Routes to School program for Shawnee Local Schools.

Trustee Gross motioned for approval, Trustee Recker seconded, and the motion carried 3-0
Roll Call: Mr. Gross, Yes Mr. Recker, Yes Mr. Neff, Yes

RESOLUTION 43-26

Authorization for Todd Lause to Represent Shawnee Township for the Safe Routes to School Program

BE IT RESOLVED, the Shawnee Township Board of Trustees authorizes Todd Lause to represent Shawnee Township for the Safe Routes to School Program working in conjunction with Lima Allen County Regional Planning Commission and Shawnee Local Schools.

FURTHER, Mr. Lause shall be compensated \$25.00 per hour for his work on the project, effective March 9, 2026.

Trustee Gross motioned for approval, Trustee Recker seconded, and the motion carried 3-0
Roll Call: Mr. Gross, Yes Mr. Recker, Yes Mr. Neff, Yes

RESOLUTION 44-26

Acceptance of Service Agreement with Clemans Nelson and Associates

BE IT RESOLVED, the Shawnee Township Board of Trustees accepts the Service Agreement with Clemans Nelson and Associates to represent Shawnee Township as the management consultant effective March 1, 2026.

Trustee Gross motioned for approval, Trustee Recker seconded, and the motion carried 3-0
Roll Call: Mr. Gross, Yes Mr. Recker, Yes Mr. Neff, Yes

RESOLUTION 45-26

Authorization to Hire Part-time Civilian Police Department Employee Albert Hughes IV

BE IT RESOLVED, the Shawnee Township Board of Trustees authorizes the hiring of Albert Hughes IV as a part-time civilian employee of the Shawnee Township Police Department at an hourly rate of \$20.00, effective March 9, 2026.

Trustee Gross motioned for approval, Trustee Recker seconded, and the motion carried 3-0
Roll Call: Mr. Gross, Yes Mr. Recker, Yes Mr. Neff, Yes

RESOLUTION 46-26

Authorization to Purchase New LED Sign

WHEREAS the Township electronic sign is no longer functioning properly, and parts are no longer available for repair, and;

WHEREAS quotes were obtained from New Signs Ohio and IC Signs for the replacement of the Township sign, and;

WHEREAS New Signs Ohio provided the lowest quote for the replacement of the sign, and;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Shawnee Township Board of Trustees authorizes the purchase of a double-sided, full color, 6mm EMC CIRRUS sign from New Signs Ohio LLC at a cost of \$27,429.00, including removal and disposal of the old sign, and installation of the new sign.

Trustee Gross motioned for approval, Trustee Recker seconded, and the motion carried 3-0
Roll Call: Mr. Gross, Yes Mr. Recker, Yes Mr. Neff, Yes

RESOLUTION 47-26

Acceptance of Resignation – Aaron Baker

BE IT RESOLVED, the Shawnee Township Board of Trustees accepts the resignation of full-time Police Officer Aaron Baker, effective March 8, 2026.

Trustee Gross motioned for approval, Trustee Recker seconded, and the motion carried 3-0

Roll Call: Mr. Gross, Yes Mr. Recker, Yes Mr. Neff, Yes

RESOLUTION 48-26

Appointment of Acting Police Sergeant – Briley Hillard

BE IT RESOLVED, the Shawnee Township Board of Trustees appoints Briley Hillard as acting Police Sergeant effective March 8, 2026, with compensation corresponding with the current Labor Agreement between FOP and the Shawnee Township Board of Trustees.

Trustee Gross motioned for approval, Trustee Recker seconded, and the motion carried 3-0

Roll Call: Mr. Gross, Yes Mr. Recker, Yes Mr. Neff, Yes

DEPARTMENTS:

Fire

1. I75 Incident
 - a. Commendation for Athena and Jess in dispatch
 - b. Commendation for Lyle Dray, Todd Gardner, Bryon Stumbaugh, Mike Hasenstaub, Kyle Fronning, Trent Jorgensen, and Garrett Smith
2. Critical Incident Therapy Team
3. Thank you to Brian Miller for the wreckers

Police

1. Monthly report review
2. New directional signs on the building

Roads

1. Monthly report review
2. Commendation to Aaron Crider for helping elderly women who had fallen in the snow
3. Working on Sign Grant

Zoning

1. Wawa opening
2. Commission member resumes
3. Signs in road right-of-way
4. Abandon properties

Dispatch

1. Monthly report review

Cemetery

1. Clean up time

TO PAY THE BILLS:

Trustee Gross made a motion to pay the bills, and Trustee Recker seconded. The motion passed 3-0.

Roll Call: Mr. Gross, Yes Mr. Recker, Yes Mr. Neff, Yes

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Website up and running
- Marathon working in rights-of-ways
- Allen County Soil and Water rain barrel and fish stock sales

Trustee Gross made a motion to accept reports, and Trustee Recker seconded. The motion passed 3-0.

Roll Call: Mr. Gross, Yes Mr. Recker, Yes Mr. Neff, Yes

Mr. Gross made a motion to recess the regular meeting of the Board to go into Executive session to discuss complaints against a public employee. There will be no business when the meeting is reconvened. Trustee Recker seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Gross, Yes Mr. Recker, Yes Mr. Neff, Yes

RECESSED: 8:26 p.m.

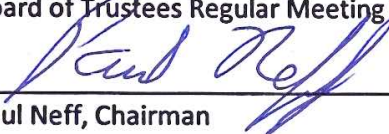
Mr. Gross made a motion to reconvene the regular meeting of the Board. Trustee Recker seconded.

Roll Call: Mr. Gross, Yes Mr. Recker, Yes Mr. Neff, Yes

Adjournment

With no further business to be brought before the Board of Trustees, Trustee Gross motioned for adjournment, Trustee Neff seconded, and the motion carried 3-0.

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting held March 9, 2026



Paul Neff, Chairman

Kenny Gross, Vice Chairperson



Joe Recker, Trustee at Large

Minutes prepared by Missy Van Meter, Administrative Assistant, Shawnee Township.