

**MINUTES OF THE:  
WALNUT TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SPECIAL MEETING  
December 7th, 2022 – 10:00 AM**

**Township Officials present:**

Trustees Terry W. Horn, William R. Yates and Douglas G. Leith. Fiscal Officer Pam Shaloo, absent.

**Department Heads present:**

Roads & Parks Supervisor – Nate Wagner

**Number of members of the public present: 0**

The meeting was called to order by Trustee Chairman Yates and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

**MEETING PROCEEDINGS**

**Advertised Purpose of Meeting:**

The purpose of this meeting was for:

1. To interview candidates for the Property Maintenance Inspector position.
2. To meet with Terry Fischer of Bike Buckeye Lake (BBL) to discuss signage and other items related to BBL and the formal BBL bike route through Walnut Township.

Kelly Smith came in at 10 AM for an interview and Chris Harr came in at 10:45 AM.

At 10:05 AM Trustee Horn made a motion to go into executive session to conduct interviews. Second by Trustee Leith, motion passed with 3 yes votes.

At 11:20 AM the Trustees came out of executive session.

Both candidates left the building, Ms. Smith at approximately 10:40 AM and Chris Harr at approximately 11:20 AM.

Trustee Horn made a motion to hire Chris Harr at a rate of \$17 hour, Second by Trustee Leith. Motion passed with 3 yes votes. Trustee Horn will contact Mr. Harr.

At 11:30 AM Terry Fischer joined the meeting.

Terry discussed key initiatives of BBL one of which was Tour deBuckeye Lake with 600 riders this past summer with the start and finish point at the Sweet Corn Festival grounds. Another big part of BBL will be the annual Christmas bike giveaway to underprivileged children that live around the lake. This year 131 bikes and helmets will be given away on December 12, 2023.

Terry shared 3 maps and discussed the trail that goes around Buckeye Lake called the Buckeye Lake Trail. There is a significant portion that goes through Walnut Township.

Terry is looking for a Letter of Support for the marking of Township roads with the designation of the Buckeye Lake Trail in Walnut Township. Terry has been in contact with Caitlyn Harley (sp?) of ODOT Safety. Terry thinks he can get funding for the regulatory signs and posts through ODOT. He will need letters of support from all jurisdictions that the Buckeye Lake Trail goes through. ODOT will not fund installation and way-finding signs. BBL will try and raise money for the way-finding signs. The ask from BBL to the Township is the Letter of Support and the installation of all signs. Terry believes there will be a total of 50 signs that would need to be installed in the township. On-going maintenance and replacement of signs would likely be that BBL would purchase replacement signs and the Township would install them, however Terry will verify this. The Fairfield County Engineer's Office will be involved in the placement of all signs.

Doug asked if the Township would be permitted by law to use tax revenue to install these signs, both regulatory and way-finding signs. Nate will be doing that investigation and check with the County Engineer.

Bill noted that we need to make sure there is enough legal clearance to the bike rider and the new signs.

In summary, Terry will follow up with the maintenance cost of replacement signs by BBL. And ask Eric McCrady at the Engineer's Office if the installation of the way-finding signs is permitted by law to be installed by the Township.

**Adjournment:** At 12:05 PM, Trustee Horn made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Leith seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 yes votes.

Minutes Recorded By: Terry Horn

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Pam Shaloo, Fiscal Officer

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William R. Yates, Chairman

Douglas G. Leith, Vice Chairman

Terry W. Horn