

**Minutes – Board of Town Trustees  
November 10, 2016**

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
Crawford County  
Town of Robinson

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES met at the Robinson Township Office at 6:00 p.m. November 10, 2016.

The following official business was transacted. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Larry McCoy.

Clerk Vickie Gribben then called the roll.

PRESENT:	Larry McCoy	Township Supervisor
	Vickie Gribben	Township Clerk
	Dave Lachenmayr	Township Highway Commissioner
	Sue Roberts	Assessor
	Shirley Berry	Township Trustee
	Lori Hodge	Township Trustee
	Pat Richards	Township Trustee
	Greg Wolfe	Township Trustee

Persons from the public attending the meeting were as follows: Stan Mullins, Becky Taylor, Janie Thackrey, and Matthew Wilson.

Item 3, the Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Under Item 4, Mr. McCoy called for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2016 and the October 19, 2016 regular Monthly Board Meeting. Mr. McCoy said that although no action was taken, the minutes needed to be approved. Mr. Pat Richards said, “I think we need a little discussion on that, uh, you didn’t have a quorum so why’d you have the meeting?” Mr. Richards continued by saying that he had called Springfield and “Springfield said you didn’t have a quorum, shouldn’t been a meeting.” Mr. McCoy said that he too had spoken with Bryan Smith and Jerry Crabtree and that he had the option to hold or not hold the meeting. Mr. Richards disagreed with Mr. McCoy, but told Mr. McCoy to “go ahead.” Greg Wolfe made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Larry McCoy seconded. More discussion followed. Motion failed with vote as follows: Lori Hodge-no; Greg Wolfe-yes; Larry McCoy-yes; Shirley Berry-no; Pat Richards-no.

Under Item 5A, the Supervisor’s report, Mr. McCoy referred the trustees to the paper showing the account balances on the Road and Bridge and Town accounts. He also noted that the interest rate has remained the same on the Certificates of Deposit at First Robinson Savings Bank. He noted the number of cases done through the intergovernmental agreements for fiscal year April 1, 2016 to October 31, 2016. He said the trustees should have a copy of the budget through October, then stated he had nothing further to report unless there were questions.

Under Item 5B, the Highway Commissioner thanked Matthew Wilson for helping the road crew. They had a breakdown and Mr. Wilson helped load the side boom on the truck to take back to the barn for repair. Also, because of the beautiful weather, the crew has been doing a lot of ditching which takes a lot of gravel to be placed on the roads to cover the dirt dragged up on the road. It has used a lot of

IMFT money, but is well worth it because of the progress made. The crew is looking ahead to winter and getting the equipment ready for snow plowing. As to the new barn, the approach to the garage doors has been poured.

Under Item 5C, Assessor's report, Sue Roberts said she had nothing to report at this time.

Under Item 5D, Cemetery Report: Mr. Mullins passed out a report to retile the southeast part of Section 6. He quoted the price for tile and a trencher. Discussion followed about the trencher versus the trackhoe. He then included a price for a thumb for the trackhoe ranging from \$700 to \$2400. He wants to clear brush with it along with cleaning out fencing and concrete borders around some of the lots in Robinson Old Cemetery. He then referred to a drug testing program from Mid West Services. Discussion followed concerning the drug testing and counseling program in the employee handbook. Mr. McCoy said that Acute Medical Care through Good Samaritan Hospital is what the township has used to test cemetery and community work program participants.

The final point Mr. Mullins made concerned salaries for the cemetery help. He handed out a proposed salary range for cemetery employees. Mr. Mullins said his employee has IMRF and medicare taken out which lowered his take home pay. Mr. Mullins said he had a paper with suggested salaries for cemetery help. Mr. Richards asked why his employee hadn't had a raise since he was hired full time. Mr. Mullins responded that Supervisor McCoy would not approve it. Mr. McCoy responded that Mr. Mullins remarks were not exactly accurate. He did not approve the amount Mr. Mullins wanted to pay. Mr. Mullins said, "Well you could have talked with me on it and we could have come to an agreement but you wanted to make another issue out of it. So we left it at that." Mr. McCoy said Mr. Mullins did not even talk to him about it. Mr. Mullins responded, "No I didn't....I didn't know I was supposed to. I didn't know I was supposed to talk to you personally." Mr. McCoy asked, "Who did you talk to?" Mr. Mullins responded, "Well, I talked to some of the board members advising them that I was going to hire him."

Mr. Richards said Mr. Mullins had talked to him.

Clerk Gribben asked for permission to ask a question. "Why do we have a board if we're going to one person? Do we not have a board here no more?"

Mr. Richards asked what her title is. He said this is a board matter, it should be a board matter, what the pay scale is for a full time employee so that the employee could get a raise.

Mrs. Berry also said she had discussed a pay raise with Mr. Mullins when she was out at the cemetery.

Discussion ensued with requests from Mr. Richards, Ms. Berry and Ms. Hodge about possibly placing items on the agenda for next month. Mr. McCoy said that every board member who wants to place something on the agenda needs to request it in writing in the form of a motion no later than Friday before the coming meeting.

Item 6A, Approval of Town, General Assistance, and Payroll bills. Greg Wolfe moved to authorize payment of Town, G.A., and Payroll bills. Larry McCoy seconded the motion. Mr. Richards questioned why there was a bill from the lawyer to discuss the litigation that has been ongoing with the Road District. Mr. Richards asked why the supervisor could not have explained what the attorney said to Mr. McCoy and Mr. McCoy explain to the board instead of bringing the lawyer to the meeting. Mrs. Berry said she had made an objection and may have mentioned that Dave, the highway commissioner was out of town.

Mr. Richards said he did not think it was right because Dave was not here. Mr. Richards said he was not accommodated because he had other plans. The meeting could have been moved and Mr. Lachenmayr would have been able to be present.

Mr. McCoy said the lawsuit does not pertain actually to the Township but has always been strictly relevant to the Road District, not to the Township. He said that he felt caught in the middle of a lawsuit and that he did not know why he has been the one who has dealt with the lawyer. Mr. Richards asked why then didn't Mr. McCoy refer the lawyer to Mr. Lachenmayr. Mr. McCoy responded that Dave (Mr. Lachenmayr) usually asked him to contact him (Mr. Uppencamp). Mr. McCoy said that the day he got the decision on the last appeal by email, he forwarded it to Dave and he called him. Mr. Lachenmayer has been aware of everything.

Mr. Richards again asked why Mr. McCoy couldn't have explained the decision to the board instead of paying the lawyer to come down and explain it. Mr. McCoy responded that the lawyer did not explain the decision on the phone. Mr. McCoy said the Township has paid Mr. Uppencamp approximately \$3000 in eight years time and he has won every step of the way. Mr. McCoy told the board he was not an attorney and that he brought him to the board meeting as a courtesy to the board in case the board had questions. Mr. Richards said he thinks "We're wasting taxpayers' money every time you turn around to have a lawyer come down just to announce something...."

Ms. Hodge said the lawyer could have emailed the information.

Mr. McCoy said he has the decision if anyone wants to read it.

Mr. McCoy said that there's a motion on the table which has been seconded and instructed the clerk to call the roll. Motion carried with vote as follows: Larry McCoy-yes; Greg Wolfe-yes; Shirley Berry-yes; Pat Richards-no; Lori Hodge-yes.

Item 6B, Pat Richards made a motion to authorize payment of the Road District bills. Greg Wolfe seconded the motion. Motion carried with vote as follows: Greg Wolfe-yes; Shirley Berry-yes; Pat Richards-yes; Lori Hodge-yes; Larry McCoy-yes.

Item 6C: Larry McCoy made a motion, seconded by Greg Wolfe, to authorize pre-approve payment of Elected Officials for the time period of October 21, 2016 through December 15, 2016. Mrs. Berry and Mr. Richards asked if the members had been paid. Mr. McCoy read aloud the resolution made by the Robinson Township Board on April 21, 2016. He said he had read this to Mr. Smith when he called Springfield and Mr. Smith said it was all right to pay October's bills. Motion carried with vote as follows: Shirley Berry-yes; Pat Richards-yes; Lori Hodge-yes; Larry McCoy-yes; Greg Wolfe-yes.

Item 6D: Pat Richards made a motion, seconded by Lori Hodge, to pay per diem expenses. Motion carried with vote as follows: Pat Richards-yes; Lori Hodge-yes; Larry McCoy-yes; Greg Wolfe-yes; Shirley Berry-yes.

Item 7A. Greg Wolfe made the motion to authorize takeover and maintenance of burials in and records of Duncanville, IL Cemetery. Larry McCoy seconded. Discussion followed. Mr. Richards asked if there were any money. Stan Mullins asked will the mowing include the church? Mr. McCoy said no to both questions. The motion carried with vote as follows: Greg Wolfe-yes; Larry McCoy-yes; Shirley Berry-yes; Pat Richards-yes; Lori Hodge-yes.

Item 7B: Mr. McCoy said it wasn't necessary to go into closed session. Mr. McCoy told the board that he could tell them in open session what happened. The appeal was turned down and another appeal was made this time to the Supreme Court.

Item 7C: Pat Richards made the motion to authorize election of David C. Miller for IMRF executive trustee. Greg Wolfe seconded the motion which carried with vote as follows: Larry McCoy-yes; Shirley Berry-yes; Pat Richards-yes; Lori Hodge-yes; Greg Wolfe-yes.

Item 7D: Larry McCoy made the motion to authorize adoption of Public Act 99-004-Local Government Travel Expense Control Act. Shirley Berry seconded the motion which carried with vote as follows: Shirley Berry-yes; Pat Richards-yes; Lori Hodge-yes; Greg Wolfe-yes; Larry McCoy-yes;

Item 7E. Motion and second to authorize elected official salaries for term beginning in May 2017. The current salaries were discussed and the supervisor, township clerk, assessor, and trustees are satisfied with their salaries. The highway commissioner said he would like a \$10,000 pay raise to \$49,600 with a salary increase each of the subsequent years in office. Shirley Berry started to make the motion to have the salaries remain the same for everyone but the highway commissioner and to raise his to \$49,600. The highway commissioner's pay will remain the same for his four year term. Larry McCoy also restated the motion with further clarification listing the actual amounts each office will be paid. The motion was seconded by Greg Wolfe and carried with vote as follows: Pat Richards-yes; Lori Hodge-yes; Greg Wolfe-no; Larry McCoy-no; Shirley Berry-yes.

Item 7F. Tentative Tax Levies Copies for Town & Road with final action to be taken at the December board meeting. Mr. Lachenmayr said he had spoken with Justin Childress and he told Mr. Childress he did not want to keep the fund at the maximum tax rate at this time. The Road and Bridge Funds are at a healthy level. A motion was made by Greg Wolfe and seconded by Lori Hodge to take final action on the tax levies for the Town and Road at the December 15, 2016 board meeting. Motion carried with vote as follows: Lori Hodge-yes; Greg Wolfe-yes; Larry McCoy-yes; Shirley Berry-yes; Pat Richards-yes.

Item 8: There were no comments from the public.

Item 9: Shirley Berry made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Lori Hodge seconded. Motion carried with all present voting aye.

Meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Vickie Gribben  
Township Clerk

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Larry McCoy  
Township Supervisor