Canaan Township Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
September 8, 2026
Minutes

Chairman Tyler Levering called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Roll call showed all trustees and the fiscal officer present. Also present was township resident Samantha Swope.

The fiscal officer presented the minutes from the August 11, 2026, meeting. Mr. Carwell made the motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Bayles seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The fiscal officer reported receipts and balances to date in all funds. The bank reconciliation report was also presented. Automatic drafts were examined. The Park National Bank and STAR Ohio Statements were also distributed. Credit card purchases for August and early September were reviewed and the attestation statement signed by Mr. Levering . The 2nd Half Real Estate Tax Settlement was also received for the General, Road and Bridge, and Fire Fund. Mr. Carwell made the motion to approve the reports and pay the bills. Mr. Levering seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Communications included:

- The Grassroots Clippings newsletter
- August 2026 Zoning Report
- August 2026 Mt. Gilead Fire Report
- MCTA Quarterly Meeting - Thursday, September 18, 2026, at 6 p.m. at the Morrow County Highway Department
- Update on Mt. Gilead Yard Waste Facility
- (2) Records Requests

The August Zoning Report showed 25 Zoning Permits, 23 Lot Splits, and 9 New House Numbers issued. The Board of Zoning Appeals heard and approved a Conditional Use application on August 11, 2026, submitted by Lester Fisher for a home business involving a Poly Outdoor Furniture Store on an agriculturally zoned property at 6400 Co. Rd. 9 in Gilead Township. Regional Planning also approved the final application for Makeever's Iron Bull Industrial Park in Bennington Township on August 26, 2026.

Chief Carey submitted, by email, the Mt. Gilead Fire Department Report for August. There were 67 calls during the month, bringing the year-to-date total to 525. Fourteen of the August calls were in Canaan Township.

An update was received from Jenna Hicks of DKMM regarding the Village of Mt. Gilead's Yard Waste Facility. Cones were recently placed to maintain a 30-foot setback from the creek in accordance with state guidelines, significantly reducing the composting area and causing it to fill quickly. A permanent solution is expected in the coming months. In the meantime, DKMM is asking townships, villages, and county departments to stop taking material to the facility.

An email was received from Valerie Bluhm, Customer Representative for Palmer Energy, regarding Canaan Township's electric aggregation through the County Commissioners Association of Ohio. Palmer Energy is beginning the RFP process for the next aggregation contract and plans to combine four or five counties to create a larger aggregation with greater purchasing power. The goal is to obtain better rates and attract more suppliers. The program applies to Ohio Edison customers within the township.

Two recent public records requests were received by email. The first, received August 26, 2026, from Oshea Smith of Instant Sunlight Access, requested an electronic summary of Canaan Township purchase orders and payments from March 1 through July 31, 2026. The request was fulfilled electronically on August 28, 2026. The second request was received September 2, 2026, from Bethany Walsh of The Data Branch and requested records relating to vendors with whom the township had no business. No records were provided because there were no responsive records.

The roads were checked by the trustees on Wednesday, September 2, 2026. The Road Sign Inventory and Management form was completed and placed on file. The TR 67 sign is missing at the northwest corner of TR 60 and TR 67. The TR 60/TR 61 sign post is also broken and needs repaired.

The OPWC Grant for Round 41/FY 28 was discussed. The trustees plan to apply for a grant to resurface Township Road 73 and will contact the County Engineer for an Engineer's Estimate. The trustees and fiscal officer will begin compiling information for the application, which is due November 6, 2026.

The current OPWC project is the Township Road 133 Improvements. Small's Asphalt Paving was the winning bidder. A completion date has not yet been determined, but the trustees hope to have an update soon.

John Bayles reported on the most recent First Consolidated meeting. Medicount collections were at $108,000 through the end of August, and rate adjustments are being made to bring the rates up to date. Several new employees are beginning water rescue training. The County will soon take over a portion of the former General Telephone building. The State of Ohio is increasing safety requirements for Ohio festivals. Keith Seckel is willing to sell additional land if needed for the proposed new fire station at SR 95/SR 98.

Matt Carwell reported on the most recent Regional Planning meeting and confirmed approval of the Iron Bull Industrial Park. The Bloomfield Meadows Subdivision, which has a common access drive on CR 204 south of SR 656, has been reviewed by Regional Planning approximately four times with revisions. The subdivision consists of five housing lots. Also it was reported that Chester Township is considering zoning language changes regarding solar energy systems, mobile food vendors, venues, and short-term rentals, including replacing the current solar section. A map amendment is also being considered to change property from agricultural to neighborhood business for an indoor batting facility on private property.

Tyler Levering reported that the annual fire inspection is scheduled with A & E Fire and Safety Services for later this week.

A letter was received from ODOT regarding a proposed project to realign State Route 95 from east of County Road 28 to northwest of County Road 130 in Canaan Township. The project may require right-of-way acquisition to facilitate construction and is intended to improve roadway safety. Construction is currently scheduled to begin in early 2029, with land acquisition expected to begin in early 2027.

Tyler Levering shared that he received a request from township resident Melvin Hissong regarding a walnut tree located within the road right-of-way that may be obstructing farm equipment, primarily combines, traveling along the road. The resident requested that the township share in the cost of trimming the tree. The trustees discussed the request but took no action. The trustees will review the location and condition of the tree and determine whether any trimming is warranted as part of the township's road maintenance responsibilities.

There being no further business to come before the board, Mr. Carwell made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Levering seconded the motion. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Trustee: _____ Trustee: _____

Tyler Levering, Chairman John Bayles, Vice Chairman

Trustee: _____ Fiscal Officer: _____

Matthew Carwell Jill Retterer

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August 2026 Receipts:

Date:	Amount:	Receipt #:	From:	For:
8/13/2026	$741.20	71-2026	Morrow Co. Auditor	August Local Government Distribution
8/13/2026	$528.32	72-2026	Morrow Co. Auditor	August Local Gov. Dis. Per sec 57
8/17/2026	$81.28	73-2026	Ergon Oil Purchasing	Interest - Guy Heffley Well
8/19/2026	$25.00	74-2026	Brittany Heilman	Township Hall Rental
8/20/2026	$10,466.71	75-2026	Morrow Co. Auditor	August Excise Gas Tax
8/20/2026	$2,627.34	75-2026	Morrow Co. Auditor	August cents per gallon Gas Tax
8/20/2026	$804.17	76-2026	Morrow Co. Auditor	August License Tax - State
8/20/2026	$388.50	76-2026	Morrow Co. Auditor	August License Tax - County
8/28/2026	$25.00	77-2026	Cheryl Linder	Township Hall Rental
8/31/2026	$1,083.98	78-2026	STAR Ohio	August Income Dividend Reinvestment Interest
8/31/2026	$102.24	79-2026	Park National	August ICS Interest
TOTAL:	**$16,873.74**			

August 2026 Payments:

Date:	Amount:	Voucher/Warrant:	To:	For:
8/3/2026	$1,057.10	70-2026	OPERS	July 2026 Payroll
8/5/2026	$44.66	71-2026	Ohio Edison	Climax Street Lights
8/5/2026	$59.55	71-2026	Ohio Edison	Denmark Street Lights
8/11/2026	$1,428.57	4516	Zach Faust	August 2026 Mowing Contract
8/11/2026	$463.10	4517	John Bayles	July Health Ins. Reimbursement
8/11/2026	$472.68	4518	Matthew Carwell	July Health Ins. Reimbursement
8/11/2026	$301.48	4519	Tyler Levering	July Health Ins. Reimbursement
8/11/2026	$463.75	4520	Jill Retterer	July Health Ins. Reimbursement
8/12/2026	$1,640.00	4521	Rinehart-Walters-Danner Ins.	2026 -2027 Insurance Premium
8/12/2026	$122.05	72-2026	Ohio Edison	Township Hall Electric
8/18/2026	$16.00	73-2026	Delco Water	Township Hall Water
8/31/2026	$821.59	4522	John Bayles	August Payroll
8/31/2026	$845.19	4523	Matthew Carwell	August Payroll
8/31/2026	$851.18	4524	Tyler Levering	August Payroll
8/31/2026	$957.16	4525	Jill Retterer	August Payroll
TOTAL:	**$9,544.06**			

Bank Balance August 31, 2026

Park National Checking Balance:	$75,135.01
Park National MM Balance:	$58,264.38
STAR Ohio	$319,246.46
TOTAL:	$452,645.85