

Jersey Township, Licking County

Board of Trustees

Special Meeting Minutes

September 29, 2025 - 7:00 a.m.

Attendees:

Dan Wetzel, Chairman

Jeff Fry, Vice-Chairman

Ben Pieper, Trustee

Staff Present:

Rob Platte, Administrator

Visitors: John Jones (resident)

Trustee Wetzel called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was foregone at the agreement of the Board.

Mr. Platte called the roll, confirming that Trustees Wetzel, Fry, and Pieper were in attendance.

Trustee Wetzel moved to approve the agenda as presented. Trustee Fry seconded the motion and with no further discussion, the motion was approved via unanimous roll call vote.

Cybersecurity Policy

Mr. Platte stated that HB96, passed on June 30, 2025, requires the township to adopt a Cybersecurity Policy. The Prosecutor's Office has provided a memo, template policy, and draft resolution for the Board to consider. The Board decided that the Fiscal officer would be the responsible person for the policy, similar to records responsibility.

Resolution 25-09-29-01: Trustee Wetzel moved "Resolution Adopting a Cybersecurity Policy" as presented. Trustee Pieper seconded the motion and with no further discussion, the motion was approved via unanimous roll call vote.

City of Johnstown's Emailed Request for a Closed-Door "Water Wars" Meeting

Trustee Wetzel shared that he had received an email from Johnstown's mayor stating that a meeting would be held on September 30, 2025 to try to resolve the so-called "Water Wars". Trustee Wetzel explained that to the extent any water wars were taking place, they would be due to Johnstown and its "JAG" cohorts doings, and that the township has repeatedly asked to be excluded from "JAG's" municipal service desires. Trustee Wetzel shared that he had met with Donald Barnard earlier this year and thought they could find a path forward, only to realize later that Donald had been negotiating in bad faith, even as recently as August 27, 2025. Trustee Wetzel asked for the Board's input on how to proceed with this most recent meeting request/demand. Trustee Pieper suggested that the township not meet with Johnstown until such time as they uphold their commitments from previous meetings. Trustee Fry agreed and stated that any future meetings need to be in good faith and productive. Trustee Wetzel is working on a draft response to Donald and will release it once it has been reviewed by legal counsel.

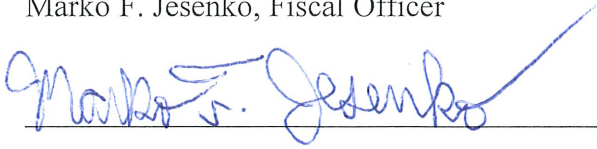
Public Comments – No Public Comments were provided.

Trustee Comments – No Trustee Comments were provided.

Trustee Wetzel moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Pieper seconded the motion and the voice vote on the motion was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Marko F. Jesenko, Fiscal Officer



Attest:

Dan Wetzel, Chairperson _____

Jeff Fry, Vice-Chairperson _____

Ben Pieper, Trustee _____

