

Austinburg Township Minutes
July 6, 2026

The regular meeting of the Austinburg Township Board of Trustees opened at 7:30 pm. In attendance were Brian O'Dell, Rob Lapuh, Mark Byram, Laurie Robishaw, Lorna Masek, Jeremy Hall, Scott Yamamoto and Brian Dovian.

The roll call: Haase, aye. Dutton, aye, Kusar aye.

Res. 105-26 John moved to accept the minutes as written, Byron seconded. The roll call: Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar aye.,

Res. 106-26 Pete moved to pay the bills, John seconded. The roll call: Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye. Bills paid were \$178,081.74 and receipts were \$21,055.32.

In terms of correspondence, we received an email from the County Prosecutor with more guidelines for Cyber Security. We received a letter from Melanie Eager on Orchard Grove Dr in regards to a tree issue.

The Fiscal Officer reported that the proposed budget for 2027 needs to be approved and sent to the County Commissioners.

Res. 107-26 John moved to accept the 2027 proposed budget; Pete seconded. The roll call: Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

The Fiscal Officer reported we received our renewal for health benefits starting September 1, 2026. There is an overall decrease of 10.99%. However, there is an increase in certain specialty medications going up \$100.

Res. 108-26 John moved to renew the health benefits for our employees, Byron seconded. The roll call: Haase, aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

Zoning Administrator Rob Lapuh reported he is working on the verification letter for the new hotel. Rob is working on the zoning application for the old Mr C's which is soon to be a new gas station/convent store. Also, he is working on a house permit for the new house on Mechanicsville Road.

Fire Chief Bill Wilms no report.

Road Dept. no report.

County Auditor Scott Yamamoto was at the meeting to explain House Bill 186. Property tax bills are late coming out because of having to implement the House Bill 186 regulations.

Pete went over the prices for screened topsoil from Brobst and Geneva Materials. Pete suggested going with Brobst at \$28 a yard for 10 truckloads for \$280 of topsoil picked up. The topsoil will be used to refill holes in the cemeteries. Pete met with Tom at the County Engineers Office to work on the specs for Mill St in regards to the OPWC grant. It was discussed that we may skip doing an OPWC application for 2027 which was to do work on Millcreek Road.

Byron reported on the NAD meeting. Noah from the County Environmental Services needs an updated list of our service addresses in case of a water issue. Byron is wanting to send an inquiry into the Matrix in regards to what the Township's liability is in regards to trees that have fallen on residents' property.

John spoke with PennOhio in regards to portable restrooms for Austinburg Country Days. The cost will be around \$2,000.

Res. 109-26 John moved to go with PennOhio for the portable restrooms for Austinburg Country Days from Aug. 28th through Aug 30th, Byron seconded. The roll call; Haase aye. Dutton, aye. Kusar, aye.

John asked about placing a portable restroom at Tote Road Park. A concern was raised that the park does not have electricity to provide lighting for the restroom. However, the company that delivers and services the portable restroom carries insurance coverage for the unit. John also reported that the Township is still awaiting a response regarding the inquiry submitted

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to Matrix concerning the proposed moratorium on data centers. Zoning Chairman Laurie Robishaw stated that she continues to research issues related to data centers. She noted that the zoning process can be lengthy because the required documents must be drafted, reviewed, and formally approved before any changes can be implemented. John reviewed a printout outlining the bed tax revenue distribution, including the recipients, the amounts received, and how the funds are allocated.

Resident Mark Byram thanked the Road Dept for putting the #8 limestones on the roads with the chip n seal.

Res. 110-26 John moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 pm, Byron seconded. The roll call: Haase aye. Dutton, aye, Kusar, aye.



Kanda O'Dell, Fiscal Officer



John Kusar, Chairman