RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of New Russia Township Regular Meeting

HELD **April 21, 2026**

Chairman, Scott Justin, called the April 21, 2026 Regular Meeting to order @ 6:30 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Trustees: Cynthia Breda, Scott Justin, Michelle Tyner were present, as well as Fiscal Officer, Lisa Akers. Staff and Public: Deputy Plemons, Judy Walker, Don Case, Justin Mott, Brittany Castillo Morales, Charlie McKinley III, Steve & Diane Jackson, Rick & Pat Justin, Rick Lawson, M. White, Howard Washington

Motion to Approve April 7, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Cynthia Breda to approve the April 7, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes, seconded by Michelle Tyner. RCV: Cynthia Breda—aye; Michelle Tyner—aye; Scott Justin—aye. **MOTION CARRIED** **2026-04-386**

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT

The Financial and Investment Reports were reviewed and found in order.

Motion to Approve Warrants

Motion was made by Michelle Tyner to approve Warrants totaling $23,412.47, seconded by Scott Justin. RCV: Michelle Tyner—aye; Scott Justin—aye; Cynthia Breda—aye.
MOTION CARRIED **2026-04-387**

Motion to Approve Website and Payment Software Update

Motion was made by Scott Justin to approve website update which includes adding Zoning Boards Minutes at a cost of $480.00 and updates to the on-line payment software which reverses service charge from NRT to customer at a cost of $1,480.00 to Emerge, Inc. for a grand total of $1,960.00, seconded by Cynthia Breda. RCV: Scott Justin—aye; Cynthia Breda—aye; Michelle Tyner—aye.
MOTION CARRIED **2026-04-388**

FO reminded Trustees 2027 Budget items are due soon.

PUBLIC CONCERNS AND REQUESTS

Jeff Riddell, Lorain County Commissioner: -Four (4) year Commissioner, likes to connect with townships periodically to update happenings at County level and to listen to any concerns. Commissioners are publishing press releases in the Rural Urban for residents information regarding various topics.
-Subject matter discussed:
-Moving forward with roughly 300 acre development at Lorain County Airport. Russia and Oberlin Roads will see increased traffic to gain access to airport if Mega Site is not developed. If Mega Site is developed they will use an access

road directly off of Route 58 to reach airport property. Commissioners may even sale property to a developer if desired.
-Commissioners has reached a successful settlement with Cleveland Communications. Tower issue is resolved, three (3) towers to be turned over to the State of Ohio. The MARCS system is ready once the State of Ohio takes possession of towers. All testing standards have been met, anticipating the end-of-June activation.
-Negotiations with Republic Services is almost complete, contract expiring end-of-May. Let Thomas Patrick know if Trustees have any concerns.
-Cutting $13 million from budget, essentially operating on the 2016 Budget numbers with inflation adjustments. Government did listen to voters and trimmed services. There will be issues when determining the 2027 Budget.
-No Sheriff cars were ever in danger of being repossessed a few months back, merely a publicity stunt of some kind. Enterprise services all leased vehicles and provides excellent service.
-*Chairman Justin inquired where the septic permit fees are going?* Commissioner Riddell stated he feels the fee collection is not a good policy and the wrong people are getting charged. A class-action lawsuit is possible. Hoping the fees will be reversed and policy revised. Health Department gave a list of people to Prosecutor's Office who didn't pay their $60.00 for collection.
-*Trustee Tyner stated she is a Water Board Member and in regards to supplying water to the Mega Site, Jobs Ohio states 10 million gallons a day is needed, Avon couldn't handle the load. A large water line would need constructed which may cost as much as $450 million for upgrade per Joe Waldecker from RLCWA.* Commissioner Riddell stated he wasn't involved with the pre-planning of this matter. Plenty of attention has been given to sewer project which allows for economic development, especially in western part of county, and a larger economical sewer plant to be built.
-Trustee Tyner stated that Jobs Ohio completed a traffic study and 7,000 new homes will be built in the western part of county, how can this be supported? Commissioner Riddell stated the Commissioners did not complete a traffic study and he doesn't have any information regarding Jobs Ohio data. He stated Elyria/Lorain has maximum development capacity, Avon Lake housing will be built-out by 2030. The new Sandstone project in Amherst Township has 700 homes alone in one development with several other subdivision in planning, so it won't take long to reach 7,000 in future. In regards to high-tech manufacturing, developers need large parcels to create buffer zones and green space to shield plant. Land is consider cheap to developers in comparison to produced product.
-Trustee Breda asked about tax abatements and automation, or if industry employees out-of-state remote workers, how is tax money generated for Township? Automation means no jobs or tax revenue. How long can a developer guarantee a job? Commissioner Riddell stated everything is negotiable, you can only make your best guess and do what you think is best.
-Trustee Tyner stated using virgin ground vs. remediated land is a hard sell to residents. We have to consider what could happen decades in the future. Trustee Breda stated we have to consider the environmental impact as well. Commissioner Riddell states his job is to provide opportunity for residents of the county, if it doesn't work for NRT then it doesn't work. But the Commissioners will be developing the 300 acres at the airport with twice as much land if the Mega Site comes to fruition. The Commissioners are looking for the best deal for the 300 acres at the airport. Any proceeds is required to be reinvested in airport for further development of airport property.

-Preliminary approval has been given to the Airport Master Plan with formal approval expected in near future. *Trustee Tyner stated she learned that in order for the FAA to consider closing or relocating a current regional airport, a new regional airport would first have to be built, a process that could take 10-12 years to complete.*
-Commissioner Riddell stated that all sewer plants in the County with the exception of Avon Lake has issues with EPA and once the new plant is built the County will be in good shape with Avon Lake servicing the eastern part of County and the new plant servicing western part of County.
-Commissioner Riddell stated the County is trying to get Urban status with HUD. Urban status has nothing to do with the new sewage treatment plant or economic development. Lorain County qualifies now since it's population is over 200,000 not including Elyria/Lorain. HUD monies is federally funded directly from Washington DC and is used to update housing. County could received possibly $3 million more a year if status is changed to Urban.

Howard Washington, Parsons Road Resident: -23 year resident, during recent flooding, everything in his basement was destroyed, even electrical panel needs replaced. How is there no restitution for damage to his home from the Township? This was a Township issue, once the Township cleaned the drain all water receded from his basement. He inquired if the Township maintained ditches and drains properly? He needs help and feels this was not an act of God like Chairman Justin told him, but Township neglect. Maintenance Supervisor told him it was NRT's problem and a jet truck was called in to clear tree roots from drain. Mr. Washington stated that Chairman Justin said the Township cannot be liable but he feels differently. When he moved in his home he installed pumps and generators to help with potential issues to prevent all this from happening. He feels he did his part to protect his home but the Township did not. *Chairman Justin stated that legal council advised that he should seek legal advice and the Township cannot give him a check for damages. Trustee Tyner stated everything needs to go thru an attorney and apologized for all that he is enduring.*

Rick Lawson, Clark Lane Resident: -Similar issue last year regarding flooding on Clark Lane. A project to correct drainage was supposed to get started then the mega site happened and project was put on backburner. *Chairman Justin stated permission is needed from landowners to proceed.* Mr. Lawson stated he would like to see progress in the near future.

Trustee Tyner stated she spoke with Don Romancak regarding Cobb Ditch cleaning and eight (8) easements still need signed before project can start.

STAFF REPORTS

Charlie McKinley: -Waiting for Tom Horseman to get back to him regarding Discount Drug Mart project.
-A landowner is requesting an address on West Hamilton, would like to build a barn on 31 acres, considered ag exempt.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of New Russia Township Regular Meeting

HELD **April 21, 2026**

Deputy Plemons: Calls for Service

-March 15th, 46000 block of Russia Rd., deputies responded to an address reference an unwanted guest.
-March 16th, deputies assisted w/a temporary road closure on Russia Rd., near the airport, due to a leaning telephone pole.
-March 18th, Parsons Rd/ E. Hamilton St., deputies assisted w/a motor vehicle accident.
-March 18th, W. Hamilton St., reference found property that was turned over to deputies.
-March 19th, 44000 block of Oberlin Elyria Rd., deputies assisted EMS on a medical call.
-March 22nd, 12000 block of Rt. 58, reference an unruly juvenile complaint.
-March 25th, deputies assisted in closing a section of RT. 20 after what appeared to be a waste container from a recycle vehicle fell off same and landed along the edge of the road.
-March 26th, 9000 block of Quarry Rd., reference a welfare check of children, which later resulted in an arrest of one male.

Justin Mott: -Water issue on Parsons Road resolved.
-Resident requested tile culvert covered on East Hamilton
-Dumpsters Days was a success
-Mowing continues
-Gave Fiscal Officer 2027 Budget items

Brittany Castillo Morales: -Requesting Deed Transfer approval for cemetery plots owned of Richard and Shirley Williams to three (3) surviving children.

Motion to Approve Deed Transfer of Cemetery Plots

Motion was made by Scott Justin to approve a Deed Transfer of Cemetery Plots owned by Richard and Shirley Williams to three (3) surviving children, seconded by Michelle Tyner. RCV: Scott Justin—aye; Michelle Tyner—aye; Cynthia Breda—aye.

MOTION CARRIED **2026-04-389**

-Further rug discussion, local company stated we could purchase rugs directly from supplier and own, not rent, then local company would provide monthly cleaning. 50 rugs would be needed at a cost of $4,622.95, and $800.00 monthly cleaning fee. 50 rugs would give us double the mats, so we would have enough for change out each month. Cintas will not service our logo mats and they only offer black, only $4.00 cheaper per rug. Brittany stated she feels NRT should own rugs, that way we know where they have been. Sometimes we get rugs from auto shops, etc. After discussion it was decided in order to save money, Service Complex rugs would be purchased at a local store and clean themselves. Rugs for the Administrative Complex would be purchased from supplier and local company would clean.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of New Russia Township Regular Meeting

HELD **April 21, 2026**

Motion to Approve Rug Purchase

Motion was made by Scott Justin to approve the purchase of rugs for the Administrative Complex, not-to-exceed $3,000.00, seconded by Cynthia Breda. RCV: Scott Justin—aye; Cynthia Breda—aye; Michelle Tyner—aye.

MOTION CARRIED **2026-04-390**

TRUSTEE BUSINESS

Correspondence were reviewed and found in order.

-Trustee Breda believes we should honor the prior rate for day before rentals if customer rented before price increase. Also, feels we should revisit the day before rental rate in the near future.

Motion to Approve Honoring Day Before Rental Rate

Motion was made by Scott Justin to approve honoring the day before rental rates if customer reserved "The Lodge" before March 1, 2026, seconded by Cynthia Breda. RCV: Scott Justin—aye; Cynthia Breda—aye; Michelle Tyner—aye.

MOTION CARRIED **2026-04-391**

-Trustee Tyner believes there may be missing emails from the previous Zoning Inspector and wonder who she should speak with regarding email archives. In discussion with Jacob Barnes, he had emails suggesting that the Land Use Plan was drafted by Jacob/James Griner/Dan Jarven. She would like to know how this happened, feels that what was being drafted by the three was not what the committee wanted, nor what was discussed at meetings and does not want this to happen again in the near future. *FO advised to speak with Oberlin Cable Co-op.*

-Trustee Breda stated James Griner has told her in the past that he reports to Lisa. *The Fiscal Officer stated she has nothing to do with Zoning.*

Motion to Enter into Executive Session

Motion was made by Scott Justin to enter into Executive Session at 8:00 pm for pending litigation discussion with no business to follow, seconded by Michelle Tyner. RCV: Scott Justin—aye; Michelle Tyner—aye; Cynthia Breda—aye.

MOTION CARRIED **2026-04-392**

Motion to Adjourn Executive Session

Motion was made by Scott Justin to adjourn Executive Session t 8:13 pm, seconded by Michelle Tyner. RCV: Scott Justin—aye; Michelle Tyner—aye; Cynthia Breda—aye.

MOTION CARRIED **2026-04-393**

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of New Russia Township Regular Meeting

HELD **April 21, 2026**

Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made by Scott Justin to adjourn meeting at 8:13 pm, seconded by Michelle Tyner. RCV: Scott Justin—aye; Michelle Tyner—aye; Cynthia Breda—aye.

MOTION CARRIED **2026-04-394**

AFFIRMED by Scott Justin at May 5, 2026 Regular Meeting

ATTESTED by Lisa Akers at May 5, 2026 Regular Meeting