

**Franklin Township Board of Trustees**  
**January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026**  
**Organizational meeting**

The Franklin Township Board of Trustees met for the 2026 Organizational meeting January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026 with Daniel May, Dennis West present. Merv Mast was absent. The meeting opened with meeting with John Hower, with Rinehart Insurance. He reviewed our 2026 Insurance policy. The minutes of the December 29<sup>th</sup> meeting were read and approved by Daniel and seconded by Denny. The vote was unanimous.

The Fiscal officer took nominations from the floor for Chairman and Vice Chairman. Daniel made a motion to have Merv Mast as Chairman and Daniel as Vice-Chairman. Denny seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Harlan Barrick, Chief of the Johnsville Fire Department was present to present the 2026 (1 year) Fire Contract. The Daniel moved to accept the contract for \$55,000 and Denny seconded the motion. The vote was Daniel- yes and Denny-yes.

Commissioner Tim Seigfried was present to give an update on the County. They received a grant for remodeling the jail and are working on the bids.

Branch Wyatt was present and asked about the fire contracts. Daniel explained the new contracts. He asked about the 23 project coming through Morrow County. He recommended to go to the website Us23fix.com. There is a form letter to fill in your opinion. There will be a public meeting in February.

Daniel moved to place zoning on the ballot this fall. Denny seconded the motion. The was Daniel-yes and Denny-yes. The Resolution will be turned into the Commissioners.

The Trustee discussed the TR 14 clean-up. They will wait to see if any grant funds become available.

Daniel moved to have the following Trustees on the committees:

Northfork Cemetery – Denny	Bryn Zion Cemetery – Daniel
Health Department – Merv	Regional Planning – Merv
Fire Department – Daniel	

Denny seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Denny moved to Accept the Amounts and Rates for 2025 paid in 2026 as determined by the budget commission. Daniel seconded the motion. The vote was Daniel-yes and Denny-yes.

Daniel moved to accept 2026 Appropriations of \$987,303 and Certificate of Estimated Resources for a total of \$1,385,616.05. Denny seconded the motion. The vote was Daniel-yes and Denny -yes.

Denny asked about the Bridges in the Township, specifically the bridge on TR 115. This bridge is caving in on the edges. The County is in charge of this bridge and says it isn't ready for repair yet.

The Township received a Notice of Forfeiture for a property at Hidden Lakes owned by Barbara Whitmer. The Trustees will allow this property to go to the County Land Bank.

Denny moved to accept the Engineers Mileage Certification for 24.196 miles. Daniel seconded the motion. The vote was Daniel-yes and Denny-yes.

Faith stated the financial report is complete and filed with the Auditor of State Office.

Daniel talked to Dale Mitchell about providing a quote for stone hauling for the new year.

Bob brought up needing stone on TR 120. The Trustees will have Mitchell haul some to TR 120 and stock 57's at the Township House. He also brought up needing 2 batteries for the Ford Truck. Bob also needs tools due to Steve removed all of his tools. Daniel moved to buy shop tools with Bob, Denny seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Daniel moved to pay bills and sign PO's. Denny seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Daniel moved to pay Bob \$30 per hour, Denny seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.