

Official Proceedings of the Washington Township Board of Trustees
February 2, 2026
Washington Township Center
30200 Town Center Road, Beecher, IL

Supervisor Stanula called the meeting to order at **7:01 p.m.** to pay bills for the month of **January** and transact any other business that may come before the Board of Trustees. The meeting agenda and guest sign-in sheet are attached. Stanula led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call:

Present: Supervisor Mike Stanula **Trustees:** Tracy Heldt, Mark Herlitz and George Obradovich

Absent: Paul Goldrick

Other Officials present:

Clerk Joe Burgess and Assessor Patricia Peters

Approval of the Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes Dated January 5, 2026:

Supervisor Stanula asked if there were any corrections or additions to the January 5, 2026, Board meeting minutes as presented. Being none, he asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

Motion:

Trustee Herlitz made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2026, board meeting as presented. Trustee Heldt seconded the motion. There was no discussion, and the motion was **unanimously approved by voice vote.**

Public Commentary: None

Reports:

1. **Road Commissioner** - Commissioner Smith was not in attendance but left a written report for the Board (attached). Supervisor Stanula read the report to the Board.
2. **Assessor** – Assessor Peters reported the county has opened changes to properties and her office has begun assigning values to new builds and updating properties that pulled building permits last year. Her office will be busy measuring properties in 2026 because 2027 is a quadrennial assessment year, and all properties are to be updated.
3. **Clerk** – Clerk Burgess reported 44 seniors attended the January 21st Pizza & Movie Matinee at the Washington Township Center.
4. **Supervisor's Report** – Supervisor Stanula reported the township still has a balance of **\$56,617.52** from the American Rescue Grant the township received from Will County. The township must utilize the grant by the end of 2026 or will lose the remaining funds. The Washington Township Community Building will be replacing their HVAC system in the coming weeks and that project would qualify for the grant. Stanula asked the Board if there were any objections to utilizing the funds for the project. The Board had no objections and Stanula will request those funds for the HVAC project. The grant is a “reimbursement” grant, and the release of the funds would occur after the project is completed, and all required paperwork has been submitted.

The township's accountant (Mark Dahlberg) utilizes QuickBooks accounting software for the township's funds. The current program allows up to five accounts and is owned by Crete Township, and he utilizes one of the extra accounts for Washington Township. Crete Township has no issues with the arrangement but would like to be reimbursed for 50% of the program. Dahlberg is recommending Crete Township and Washington Township enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) to share and split the cost of the program. This will save both township's money and ensure the understanding continues as is. Stanula has received the draft of the IGA, and it has been reviewed by the township's attorney. Washington Township will pay for 50% of the program going forward and will owe Crete Township approximately \$3500 for their share of the 2025 and 2026 QuickBooks software subscription.

5. Trustees Report – No report.
6. Transportation Report – The Dial-a-Ride service provided 63 trips in January at a cost of **\$1629.22**. An appointment has been made to take the Pace bus to a maintenance shop in Merrillville (IN) to have the lift inspected by a certified Pace vendor.
7. General Assistance Report – There were no General Assistance payouts in January.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Consideration and Approval of Revised Washington Township Employee Handbook – There was no action on this item.
2. Consideration and Approval of the Washington Township Social Media and Electronic Communication Policy – The proposed changes recommended at the January meeting were sent to the township's attorney, and we are waiting for his opinion regarding the updates.
3. Thriveworks Mental Health Program – Supervisor Stanula and Clerk Burgess met with Deputy Chief Tim McGannon and Fire Chief Joe Fallashetti of the Beecher Fire District to discuss the Thriveworks program and the Will County Mental Health grant application. During discussion the fire district indicated that they would prefer to apply for the Mental Health grant and assume full control of the Mental Health Program. All funding and payments would be transferred from the township to the fire district. The fire district will then be able to recover some of their labor and other costs associated with running the program. The township currently has an agreement with Thriveworks and would continue to fund the program until the fire district receives their grant funding. At that time, the township would cancel their agreement with Thriveworks, and the fire district would enter into an agreement with them.

The grant should enable the fire district to continue running the program with no interruptions. The cost of the program has grown substantially since the program was started by the township and fire district nearly 18 months ago and the township Board was considering ending the program because of the cost to the taxpayers, unless a grant could be secured. The Board will consider adding some funding to support the program in the 2026-27 budget that could be utilized if the fire district needed some assistance. Any funding would be a one-time payment and would not exceed the budgeted total.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Consideration and Approval of Pending Zoning Applications – There were no new zoning applications to discuss.

2. Consideration to Open the Closed Executive Session Minutes Dated July 7, 2025 – The Board determined that 7/7/25 closed minutes will remain closed.

MOTION:

Trustee Heldt made a motion that the Closed Session minutes dated July 7, 2025, remain closed to the public. Trustee Herlitz seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion, and the motion was **unanimously approved by voice vote**.

3. Senior Spring Breakfast – The Board agreed to hold the 2026 Senior Spring Breakfast on April 18 at the Beecher Amvet Hall, pending confirmation that the date is available.
4. Concert in the Park Sponsorship – Clerk Burgess sits on the Village’s Concert in the Park Committee and has been asked if the township would be offering a \$10,000 sponsorship for the 2026 concerts. The committee is meeting on February 3rd, and Burgess would like to have a response to their request because bands have already been contacted. Trustees Herlitz and Obradovich both support the concerts because the event is for all ages and believe it’s a good program for the community. Trustee Heldt had some concerns regarding the concerts and if the township should still be involved. Overall concerns centered on creating a better experience for residents with more signage, confirming there is enough food and beverages available, improved advertising and ensuring the township is getting credit for their share of sponsorship. Clerk Burgess will report these concerns at the committee meeting. Trustee Heldt said she would support this year’s event but would be looking for those improvements in 2026.

MOTION:

Trustee Obradovich made a motion to approve a \$10,000 sponsorship for the 2026 “Concert in the Park” series with the Village of Beecher. Trustee Herlitz seconded the motion. There was no discussion, and the motion was **unanimously approved by voice vote**.

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

Town Account (including Transportation Fund)

The board reviewed the **January** bills as reviewed by the Supervisor and presented by the Clerk. There were no questions regarding the bills.

Motion:

Trustee Heldt made a motion to authorize payment of all applicable payroll, bills, debits, and appropriate transfers from the Town Account for the month of **January** totaling **\$17,963.20**. Trustee Obradovich seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion, and the motion was **unanimously approved by voice vote**.

Road & Bridge Bills

The board reviewed the Road District’s **January** bills as reviewed by Commissioner Mike Smith and presented by the Clerk.

Motion:

Trustee Herlitz made a motion to authorize payment of all applicable payroll, bills, and appropriate transfers or debits from the Road & Bridge Account for the month of **January** totaling **\$45,105.75**. Trustee Obradovich seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion, and the motion was **unanimously approved by voice vote**.

Upcoming Seminars and Meetings

- **March 2 - Monthly Board Meeting @ 7 pm at the Washington Township Center**

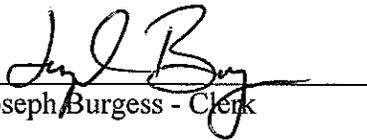
Announcements:

- None

Adjournment:

Being no additional business to discuss Trustee Heldt made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Herlitz seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion, and the motion was **unanimously approved by voice vote**. The Board Meeting adjourned at **8:20 pm**.

Respectfully submitted,


Joseph Burgess - Clerk

Approved by Board of Trustees: 3/2/2026

Washington Township

Highway Department

30200 Town Center Dr.

Beecher, Illinois 60401

708- 946-6459 Fax 708-946-6459

Michael Smith Highway Commissioner

Feb. 2, 2026

1. We have been busy with the multiple rounds of winter weather. We are looking forward to a break so we can get back to our other projects.
2. We will be back on hauling seal coat chips and road mix for the upcoming construction season
3. We are working on building maintenance between winter weather events. Overhead door maintenance, opener maintenance, etc.
4. We are doing winter patch/repair work when weather permits.

Michael Smith

Highway Commissioner

**Approved Claims - Board of Township Trustees
Road & Bridge Account**

State of Illinois)
Will County) ss.
Washington Township)

We the undersigned, comprising the Board of Trustees of
Washington Township, having duly met at the Clerks office on **February 2, 2026**, for the
purpose of auditing the Road & Bridge account, do hereby certify that the following claims or demands
against said township were presented, and examined, were allowed at said meeting, to wit:

Claim #	Date	To Whom Allowed	Ck #	Nature of Claim	Amount
9463	1/15	Airgas USA	9913	Welding gas - Inv # 9168058931	\$ 301.12
9464	1/15	AT&T Mobility	9914	Wireless charges - Inv #287293840112X1/9/2026	\$ 155.94
9465	1/15	Beecher Fuel Account	9915	Equipment Fuel - 12/1/25 to 12/31/25 - Inv # 1073	\$ 2,323.98
9466	1/15	ComEd	9916	Utilities - Acct #2497892222 - Bill date - 1/7/26	\$ 198.46
9467	1/15	NICOR	9917	Acct #58285823769 / Bill date 12/29/25	\$ 273.41
9468	1/15	Surf Internet	9918	Internet service - Acct # 93011007437 - Bill date 1/1/26	\$ 69.95
9469	1/15	Dahlberg Accounting Solutions	9919	Professional services (Dec) - Inv # 450	\$ 681.44
9470	1/15	DeJong Equipment	9920	Parts (Clutch) - Inv # CR70000	\$ 1,899.77
9471	1/15	NAPA Auto Parts	9921	Parts - Inv # 131816 / 132073	\$ 593.44
9472	1/15	TIFCO Industries	9922	Shop supplies - Inv # 72153846 / 72151749 / 72151856	\$ 1,291.33
9473	1/15	Cintas Uniforms	9923	Uniforms - Acct # 14943430 (Dec)	\$ 598.05
9474	1/15	R.P. Lumber	9924	Supplies - Inv # 4418507 / 4459639 / 4462314 / 4558668	\$ 250.51
9475	1/23	Village of Beecher	EFT	RB Health Insurance - Inv # 2026-01	\$ 6,259.34
9476	1/30	January Payroll - QuickBooks	Misc.	Payroll, IMRF & other government payroll liabilities	\$ 30,209.01
				Total disbursements	\$ 45,105.75

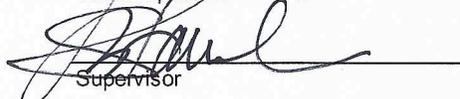
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we, the members of said Board of Trustees, hereunto
set our hands on **February 2, 2026**.



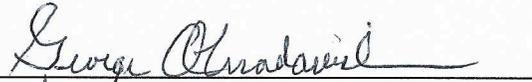
Road Commissioner



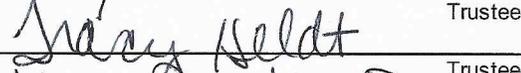
Township Clerk



Supervisor



Trustee



Trustee



Trustee

Trustee

Approved Claims - Board of Township Trustees
Town Account

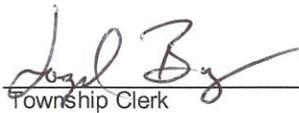
State of Illinois)
Will County) ss.
Washington Township)

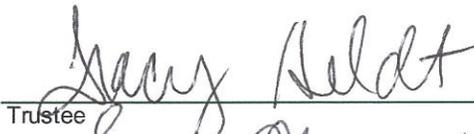
We the undersigned, comprising the Board of Trustees of Washington Township, having duly met at the Township office on **February 2, 2026**, for the purpose of auditing Town accounts, do hereby certify that the following claims or demands against said township were presented, and examined, were allowed at said meeting, to wit:

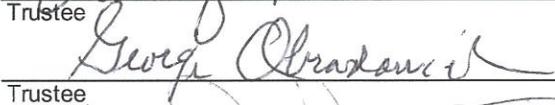
Claim #	Date	To Whom Allowed	CK	Nature of Claim	Amount
6928	1/15	Beecher Fuel Account	9662	Bus fuel - 12/1/25 to 12/31/25 - Inv # 1074	\$ 62.92
6929	1/15	Pace Vanpool	9663	Monthly Van rental - Inv # 662086	\$ 100.00
6930	1/15	Michael Fuhrmann	9664	Travel expenses - Riverside (Transportation)	\$ 34.07
6931	1/15	Pat Peters	9665	Travel expenses - Will County Monthly Meeting (1/8/26)	\$ 75.33
6932	1/15	Michael Summers	9666	Travel expenses for measuring (Dec / Jan) (Assessor)	\$ 46.96
6933	1/15	Berkot's Super Foods	9667	Food pantry	\$ 1,754.72
6934	1/15	CLR Digital	9668	Calendar App Monthly Fee - Inv # 2997	\$ 125.00
6935	1/15	Comcast	9669	Internet - # 10295 - Bill date - 12/24/25	\$ 246.90
6936	1/15	ComEd	9670	Electric bill - Acct # 4544334000 - Bill date 1/6/26	\$ 425.68
6937	1/15	Dahlberg Accounting Solutions	9671	Professional services - (Dec) Inv # 449	\$ 851.80
6938	1/15	NICOR	9672	Utilities gas - #55877029193 - Bill date - 12/9/25	\$ 257.21
6939	1/15	R.P. Lumber	9673	Safety Salt - Inv # 4498912	\$ 8.99
6940	1/15	Quill Corporation	9674	Office supplies - Inv # 47330301	\$ 24.58
6941	1/15	Melanie Brenenstall	9675	Reimbursement for mileage & supplies	\$ 62.21
6942	1/19	Cytracom	EFT	Phone Service - Inv # 449496	\$ 293.40
6943	1/20	Tony's Pizza	9676	Senior Catering (Pizza & Movie Matinee) - Inv #	\$ 240.00
6944	1/27	Riverside Workforce Health	9677	Driver Required Screenings - Inv # 135100	\$ 284.00
6945	1/27	Melanie Brenenstall	9678	Reimbursement for notary & supplies	\$ 239.67
6946	1/30	January Payroll - QuickBooks	ACH	ALL payroll, IMRF & other government payroll liabilities	\$ 12,829.76
				TOTAL ALL DISBURSEMENTS	\$17,963.20

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we, the members of said Board of Trustees, hereunto set our hands on **February 2, 2026**.


Township Supervisor


Township Clerk


Trustee


Trustee


Trustee

Trustee

Washington Township Board Meeting
February 2, 2026 - 7:00 pm
Meeting Agenda

Call to Order / Roll Call

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Board Meeting Minutes Dated January 5, 2026

Public Commentary

Reports

1. Road Commissioner
2. Assessor
3. Clerk
4. Supervisor's Report
5. Trustee's Report
6. Transportation Report
7. General Assistance Report

Old Business

1. Consideration and Approval of Revised Washington Township Employee Handbook
2. Consideration and Approval of Washington Township Social Media Policy
3. Thriveworks Mental Health Program

New Business

1. Consideration and Approval of Pending Zoning Applications
2. Consideration to Open the Closed Executive Session Minutes Dated **July 7, 2025**
3. Senior Spring Breakfast
4. Concert in the Park Sponsorship

Payment of Bills

Town Acct, Road District, General Assistance (as required)

Upcoming Seminars and Meetings

- **March 2** – Monthly Board Meeting @ 7 pm

Announcements

Adjournment

Any disabled person requiring special accommodations should notify Supervisor Mike Stanula *prior* to the meeting date to make necessary arrangements. Supervisor Stanula may be reached at 708-946-2026.

The Washington Township Public Commentary Policy will be followed and is printed on back of the agenda.

A CLOSED (EXECUTIVE) SESSION MAY BE HELD AT ANY POINT DURING THE MEETING.