**Minutes of Reorganizational Board Meeting**

**Walker Township Board of Supervisors**

**DATE :** Tuesday, January 3, 2017

**TIME :**  7:30 PM

**PLACE:** WALKER TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING

9 TOWNSHIP RD., TAMAQUA, PA 18252

**ATTENDEES:** WILLIAM MCMULLEN

CHRISTINE TROXELL

CRAIG WAGNER

**OTHER:** ANN OSTERGAARD --SECRETARY

CHAD FELTY—ROADMASTER

The meeting was called to order by Secretary Ann Ostergaard. Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by a moment of silence.

**REORGANIZATION**

MOTION: Craig Wagner made and Christine Troxell seconded to appoint Bill McMullen as temporary Chairperson. All in favor, motion carried.

MOTION: Craig Wagner made and Christine Troxell seconded to appoint Bill McMullen as 2017 Chairperson of the Board of Supervisors. All in favor, motion carried.

MOTION: Christine Troxell made and Bill McMullen seconded to appoint Craig Wagner as 2017 Vice Chairperson of the Board of Supervisors. All in favor, motion carried.

MOTION: Craig Wagner made and Christine Troxell seconded to hire Ann Ostergaard as Township Secretary at a salary of $3500. All in favor, motion carried.

MOTION: Craig Wagner made and Christine Troxell seconded to hire Dana Brubaker as Township Treasurer at a salary of $6500. All in favor, motion carried.

MOTION: Christine Troxell made and Craig Wagner seconded to hire Ann Ostergaard as secretary of the Planning Commission. All in favor, motion carried.

MOTION: Craig Wagner made and Christine Troxell seconded to hire Ann Ostergaard as secretary of the Zoning Hearing Board. All in favor, motion carried.

MOTION: Christine Troxell made and Craig Wagner seconded to set the 2017 Treasurer’s bond to $250,000. All in favor, motion carried.

**APPOINTMENTS**

MOTION: Craig Wagner made and Christine Troxell seconded to appoint Chad Felty as Township Road master. All in favor, motion carried.

MOTION: Craig Wagner made and Christine Troxell seconded to appoint Chad Felty as Emergency Management Coordinator. All in favor, motion passed.

MOTION: Craig Wagner made and Christine Troxell seconded to appoint Dave Duffy as Asst. Emergency Management Coordinator. All in favor, motion passed.

The motion to appoint a township solicitor was tabled at this time.

MOTION: Craig Wagner made and Christine Troxell seconded to appoint Dave Horst, Alfred Benesch as Township Engineer. All in favor, motion passed.

MOTION: Craig Wagner made and Christine Troxell seconded to appoint Patton & Co., Pottsville as Township Auditors. All in favor, motion passed.

MOTION: Craig Wagner made and Christine Troxell seconded to appoint Bill Brior as Sewage Enforcement Officer. All in favor, motion passed.

MOTION: Craig Wagner made and Christine Troxell seconded to appoint Bruce Dobash as Alternate Sewage Enforcement Officer. All in favor, motion carried.

MOTION: Craig Wagner made and Christine Troxell seconded to appoint Dave Horst as Zoning Officer. All in favor, motion carried.

MOTION: Craig Wagner made and Christine Troxell seconded to appoint Ann Ostergaard as Assistant Zoning Officer. All in favor, motion carried.

MOTION: Christine Troxell made and Craig Wagner seconded to appoint Kyle Kehoe as Building Code Officer. All in favor, motion carried.

The motion to appoint a Chairperson of the Vacancy Hearing Board was tabled at this time.

MOTION: Craig Wagner made and Christine Troxell seconded to appoint Christine Troxell and Ben Turrano as delegates for the Eastern Schuylkill Recreation Commission. All in favor, motion passed.

MOTION: Craig Wagner made and Christine Troxell seconded set the Mileage Reimbursement at $.535 per mile as per IRS, Jan 1. All in favor, motion passed.

**RESOLUTIONS PASSED**

MOTION: Craig Wagner made and Christine Troxell seconded to adopt Resolution #1 of 2017, the reenacting of all local taxes for 2017. All in favor, motion passed.

MOTION: Craig Wagner made and Christine Troxell seconded to adopt Resolution #2 of 2017 the appointment of Patton & Co as 2016 auditors. All in favor, motion passed.

MOTION: Craig Wagner made and Christine Troxell seconded to adopt Resolution #3 of 2017 to set wages and salaries for 2017. All in favor, motion passed.

MOTION: Christine Troxell made and Craig Wagner seconded to adopt Resolution #4 of 2017 to appoint the SEO and fee schedule. All in favor, motion passed.

MOTION: Craig Wagner made and Christine Troxell seconded to adopt Resolution #5 to set the depositories for the township. All in favor, motion passed

MOTION: Craig Wagner made and Christine Troxell seconded to adopt Resolution #6 to set depository for Tax Collection. All in favor, motion passed.

MOTION: Craig Wagner made and Christine Troxell seconded to adopt Resolution #7 to reappoint Zoning Hearing Board Members, Bruce Leiby for a 2 year term and Ronald Farrell, alternate for 1 year term. All in favor, motion carried.

MOTION: Craig Wagner made and Christine Troxell seconded to adopt Resolution #8 to reappoint planning commission member Bill McMullen for a 4 year term. All in favor, motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Resident Randall Bensinger expressed concerned over the safety at the recycling bins in bad weather, stating that it was very icy around them. He questioned who’s responsibility is it to maintain this area in wintery conditions, the township’s or the county’s. Chad Felty responded that it should be his responsibility. He stated he would take care of it from now on.

Resident Margaret Bensinger asked why only two zoning hearing board members were reappointed. It was explained to her that only the members who terms were expiring at the end of 2016 needed to be reappointed.

Resident Ron Farrell expressed concern over the safety of the bus stop where his grandson was being dropped off at afterschool on the corner of Meadow Lane and Catawissa Rd. There is a blind curve coming down Catawissa Rd there. He said they picked up on Valley in the morning. He asked if they would be able to drop off at Leiby’s Farm Market where the sight distance is better. Ann Ostergaard will call the school district office to make arrangements.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

ROADS: Chad Felty reported oil was purchased from K&K oil for $1.89 gal. Gave a report on maintenance done on various vehicles. There is a problem with the boom arms on the skid loader. It is not usable anymore and it is expensive to fix. The pins and bushings need to be replaced. Salt and anti-skid material supply for winter road maintenance is still good. Chad is looking into setting up the Schuylkill Alert system which is free for the county to be able to get messages out to township residents.

Craig Wagner suggested looking at getting some of the waste diesel fuel which is on hand due to the Turkey Hill fiasco of putting diesel fuel in gas holding tanks and selling it. Chad will look into it.

POLICE REPORT: No Report.

ZONING REPORT: No report at this time.

SEWAGE ENFORCEMENT: A written report was submitted.

ENGINEERS REPORT: No report.

SOLICITOR: Vacant

PLANNING COMMISSION: No report.

TAX COLLECTOR: No report

TREASURER REPORT: The 2015 Liquid Fuels Audit is completed with no findings. The 2016 W-2 forms were mailed. The yearend tax reports are in progress.

NEW ENGLAND FIRE CO.: No report.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A joint meeting will be set up with West Penn Supervisors the week of January 16 to discuss the ACT 537 plan.

Bill McMullen also noted the trailer on the Heisler property has been officially and completely removed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Randall Bensinger noted that unscheduled special meetings need to be posted on the website. Ann Ostergaard will take care of doing that this year. She also suggested we make minutes available on website for public to view.

**CORRESPONDANCE**

Ostergaard reviewed the correspondence file with monthly letters to township. A letter from DEP concerning Ostergaard subdivision was received, the zoning decisions on the KOCH expansion was received from ATTY. Frycklund.

No other business to discuss the meeting was adjourned. Motion by Craig Wagner and seconded by Christine Troxell.

Respectively Submitted by:

Ann Ostergaard

Walker Township Secretary