

# Richland Township Preservation Board Meeting Minutes

July 11, 2018

Submitted by Rich Sadler

## Members Present

In attendance were Kathy Fedorocsko, Rich Sadler, Dale Henniger and Joe Geib. Staff member present was Rich Brittingham. Guests: Supervisors Tim Ritter & Rick Orloff

## A. Minutes

April's minutes approved as written

**B. Financial Report:** On July 9th, 2018 we had \$707,725.10 in our fund. According to our township treasurer, Chuck, we paid \$284,312.60 debt service on the bond in 2017, \$390 in agent fees, & \$4550.00 for purchases & expenses, totaling 289,252.50 in expenditures for the year. The 0.1% income tax earmarked for preservation brought in \$361,780.29 in 2017. Since historically we receive more funds for the tax than we pay in debt service & expenses, we will pay off the bond before the end of the year. Assuming we receive the same tax income at a constant rate in 2018, & that debt service will be the same as in 2017, the bond will be paid off approximately at the end of October 2018; the referendum passed so we will continue receiving our 0.1% of the EIT until June 2023 with no future debt service since there is no bond. Again, assuming the income from the tax & non-easement expenses remain the same thru 2023, we will have approximately \$2,211,439.00 to spend on preservation thru June 2023. The Hermann & Bonk properties are not included in these calculations.

## C. Property Reports, Active:

1. **Walter & Martha Herrmann, 36-039-037, 76 acres on Rich Hill Rd, 65 acres in easement.** The BOS reviewed the revised figures (without the Natural Areas funding) & passed a revised resolution to purchase the Easement. The survey was completed, with high, standard & exclusion areas. Paul Stepanoff signed off on the survey. Rich B forwarded it to Rich Harvey. Heritage will monitor & defend the easement for \$7500
2. **South Mine Road, 36-05-26, Lichtenstein, Donated property; NO CHANGE.** The property has title problems and has a lien against it; it would cost the township \$3000-\$5000 to obtain a quiet title. The Preservation Board wrote a letter to the BOS in support of getting the title straightened out; the last correspondence with Paul Stepanoff, had him email us that he felt that the Preservation Board's idea of paying to clear the title with our available funding would be acceptable with the supervisors visions for the township. We will pursue this next year after we determine our costs associated with the Herrmann property. Kathy will write a letter outlining this to Mrs. Lichtenstein.
3. **Delores Bonk, Meadow Rd., 36-29-78, 119 acres.** Mrs. Bonk agreed to preserve her land through an easement purchased primarily through the County Ag program, who will pay \$9000/Acre. The Bonks want \$10,000/acre. We reached a deal with Heritage where Richland & Heritage will each pay \$500/ acre. The BOS approved the acquisition with Resolution 1812.
4. **Horse Farm on Raub road, 36-29-47 & 36-29-50-1** has been approved for inclusion in our Ag Security District.

8/13/2018

**D. Property Reports: Pending Contact / Action:**

1. **Swartley, Trumbauersville Road, 81 acres; NO CHANGE**; Kathy & Laura met with Mr. Swartley & gave him an Ag Security application. Laura will attempt to recontact him.
2. **Zavitsanos; NO CHANGE**; We'll try again for preservation after determining what funding we have available.
3. **Windsor Farms, 48 acres**; Mr. Coleman wants to purchase it & asked if it could be pre-preserved; we can't do that.

**E Maintenance policy on Township owned preserved properties:** 1/3 of The Romano tract was mowed this winter by Richland Township.

**F. Baseline Monitoring: NO CHANGE**; Landis & Burkey properties were monitored by Heritage & Neil; no problems on Landis, Burkey had some dumping. Neil reported problems with the Lisbon tract. 27, 29, & 31 Essex Court are encroaching on Lisbon. There is trash scattered, bushes cleared & 4-wheeler tracks, The County has been notified & hopefully will go after the offending parties.

Since Sept, Thompson, Milner, Wukovitz, Berger, Coby and Mann were monitored by Taylor and Neil. We need contact address for Mr. Berger. Coby needs to move a manure pile to a 22 x 27 pad, which will be followed up with. Monitoring is now complete for this cycle. The next cycle will begin in 2019.

**G. Signs-** should we ask BOS for funding for an additional purchase?

**H. Village signs-** Kathy will look into it

**I. Preserved Acreage;** Supervisor Orloff requested that Rich B tally up how many acres are preserved in the township

**Motion to Adjourn-** Joe motioned, Dale seconded, unanimous approval.

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 8, 2018 7:00 PM**