

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be:
“The Mahoning County Township Association”

ARTICLE II – PRINCIPLES

Local self-government is a vital principle of free institutions. This principle is recognized in the case of municipalities by giving Ohio cities the right to frame and amend their own charters. The people living in unincorporated communities are likewise entitled to control their own local affairs. This can only be done by electing officials who are directly responsible to the voters, and by entrusting them the control of township affairs. Township officials are neighborhood officials and hence, are more directly responsible to the voters than any other officials can possibly be.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

All township trustees and fiscal officers in Mahoning County shall be entitled to active membership in this Association. Former trustees, fiscal officers and others interested in local self-government shall be entitled to HONORARY membership. Only active members will be allowed to vote on matters pertaining to the Association. (To be an active or honorary member, the yearly dues must be paid).

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS

1. The officers of this Association shall consist of a PRESIDENT, a VICE-PRESIDENT, a SECRETARY-TREASURER, and an EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PERSON. They shall be elected at the NOVEMBER meeting of the Association for a one year term and they shall take the oath of office at the December meeting and assume their duties January 1st. The PRESIDENT shall serve no more than 2 consecutive one year terms.
2. Nominations shall be presented at the November meeting by a nominating committee, which shall be appointed by the President at the August meeting. The nominating committee shall consist of five members from five different townships, with the immediate past President serving as Chairman of the committee. Additional nominations for any office may be made from the floor from any member and the election shall be determined by a majority vote of the Townships present. If the past President is not available, the PRESIDENT of the Association will appoint a chairperson.

ARTICLE V – MEETINGS

1. There will be four (4) Chairperson business meetings yearly for active members on the fourth Thursday of the months of February, May, August and November.
2. The President may call special meetings to cover any immediate pending business. Notice of such meeting will be given to each township trustee board chairperson. It is then the responsibility to notify the township trustee board and fiscal officer.
3. There will be four (4) dinner/business meetings to be hosted yearly by Association Townships for all active and honorary members.
4. Meeting dates for the year will be set at the November meeting.

ARTICLE VI – PURPOSE

The purpose of this Association shall be the following:

1. To protect the township against any attempt to abolish it as a governmental unit.
2. To resist any effort at further centralization of governmental powers by depriving the township of any rights, duties or privileges, which it now possesses.
3. To secure, through friendly meetings, a better acquaintance among township officials.
4. To promote a better knowledge of the rights and duties of township officials and by comparison of experiences and interchange of ideas, to arrive at the best way to discharge those duties.
5. To secure from the General Assembly legislation, this will enable township government to function more efficiently.
6. To secure for the tens of thousands of miles of township roads in Ohio, an equitable share of gasoline tax and other road revenue. Such revenue to be expended on township roads by township officials.

ARTICLE VII – AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

Revisions to the Constitution must follow the following procedure:

- A. Written request for a revision must be submitted to the President two (2) months prior to a general meeting.
- B. Members should be notified to the revision request and the meeting date that the motion will be heard.
- C. Two thirds majority of the townships represented and voting at the meeting will be needed to pass the revision.

ARTICLE VIII – QUORUM

The quorum for all business, dinner or special meeting is two (2) officers and eight (8) active members representing eight (8) different townships.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE A – DUTIES OF OFFICERS

1. The officers, aided by committees, shall have general charge of the affairs of the Association and each of them shall discharge the duties usually incident to his office.
2. The PRESIDENT shall preside at all regular and special meetings of the Association. In the event the President cannot attend a meeting, he/she will appoint a designee and provide a letter of approval from the Association.
3. The President or his/her designee shall represent the Association at all of the following:
 - HAZ MAT meetings
 - ISSUE II meetings
 - SOLID WASTE meetings
 - County Budget meetings

and will act as the Chairman of the budget committee and the Vice President of the Solid Waste Management Policy Board.

Financial compensation for mileage and necessary expenses for the President or the designee to attend meetings for the Association shall be paid by the Association.

4. The VICE-PRESIDENT shall perform the duties of the PRESIDENT during his/her absence or inability to perform the duties of the office or in case of vacancy in the office of PRESIDENT. The VICE-PRESIDENT shall have the responsibility as Publicity Chairman, sending announcements and press releases to the media.
5. The SECRETARY-TREASURER shall keep the minutes and records of the Association; shall mail notices of meetings and dinner meetings to all members; shall be the contact person for all dinner meetings with the host township; shall collect membership dues and pay all bills as approved by the Executive Committee.
6. One member shall be elected by this Association to serve as an EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PERSON. The PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT or SECRETARY-TREASURER may be chosen to fill this position. He/she shall be the representative of this Association on the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE OHIO TOWNSHIP (OTA). The chairperson will be our Association liaison with all state and county officials and organizations.

ARTICLE B – DUES

The annual active membership dues in this Association shall be \$20.00 plus the state set dues. Ten dollars (\$10.00) will be the dues of honorary members. Dues shall be paid in accordance to membership deadline of the OTA.

ARTICLE C – COMMITTEES

To assist officers in carrying out the aims and purposes of this Association, there shall be the following standing committees – Legislation, Finance, Publicity and Health Committee.

C 1 – LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

There shall be a Legislation Committee of 2 members appointed by the PRESIDENT.

It shall be the duty of the Legislation Committee to have full charge of legislation affecting township interests. All such proposals shall be referred to said committee during the meetings of the Association or at any time during the year by the PRESIDENT. Legislative updates of issues before the Ohio State Legislature of interest to our Association will be brought to the attention of the Association.

C 2 – FINANCE COMMITTEE

There shall be a Finance Committee of three members, appointed by the PRESIDENT. It shall be the duty of the finance committee to supervise the finances of the Association and to assist in raising funds of the Association. This committee shall also examine the books of the Secretary-Treasurer and make annual report the same to the Association at the February meeting.

C 3 – PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

The duties of the Publicity Committee are:

- A. Help with press releases
- B. Help the Secretary-Treasurer during dinner meeting registration
- C. Help with other functions as declared by the Chairperson or the Committee Head

C 4 – BOARD OF HEALTH COMMITTEE

Appointment of Board of Health members ORC 3709.03.

Association members shall be notified in November of the annual Board of Health appointment to be held in the March of the following year. All trustees and fiscal officers will have the opportunity to request a resume from any qualified person or before January 31st of the following year. All resumes shall go to the Screening Committee chairperson. Their duties shall be to interview all applicants including the sitting board member up for renewal. The Screening Committee will then recommend one candidate at the February chairpersons meeting and nominated at the ANNUAL Board of Health Advisory Committee March meeting.

The council, make up of each member township chairperson or their designee, shall meet annually for the purpose of electing a Chairperson and Secretary, also appointing a member of the board of health receiving and considering the annual or special reports of such board. Designee must have an authorization letter signed by the Township Chairperson to present to the health district advisory board at its annual meeting.

The Advisory Board meeting shall be held the first week in MARCH, the time and place to be declared by the Chairperson of the Advisory Board.

On certification of the Chairperson and Secretary, delegates to an annual or special meeting shall be paid 5 dollars a day and other necessary expenses by the township they represent. These expenses are in addition to the delegates normal compensation.

At its annual meetings, the District Advisory Council shall appoint one member to the Board of Health. At least one member of the Board of Health shall be a physician. Appointments shall be made to regards to representation of all parts of the district.

ARTICLE D – AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

Refer to Amendments to the Constitution

ARTICLE E – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Meetings will be run by Parliamentary Procedure as stated in Roberts-“Rules of Order”.

ARTICLE F – ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. PRESIDENT calls Association to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll-call of townships by Secretary-Treasurer
4. Introduction of Honorary members
5. Reading and approval of minutes
6. Approval of Treasurers' report
7. Reports of standing Committees
8. Reports of special Committees
9. Old business
10. New business
11. Guest Presentations
12. Open Forum
13. Adjournment

Revised 2015