

RUSHCREEK TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES  
SPECIAL MEETING  
07/14/2017

Hart Van Horn, Chairman called the Rushcreek Township Trustees Special Board meeting to order at 4:15pm leading with the Pledge of Allegiance dedicating it to the military who defend this nation and the law enforcement who protect our freedoms. Those in attendance in addition to Hart were: Bill Myers, Trustee; Dave Myers, Trustee, and Connie Moyer, Fiscal Officer. Hart asked that all cell phones be muted along with all fire radios except the Chief and Road Superintendent.

Visitors

Notice

The following notice was placed on the website and sent to the Eagle Gazette on July 13<sup>th</sup> at 2:39pm. *Rushcreek Township Trustees will hold a Special Meeting on July 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss replacing the contracted insurance agent for its Employee Health Care program in order to retain the original 2017 health care plan.*

Business

Trustee Van Horn reviewed for the Board the recent activities of the OPEC-HC Board of Directors and the Township's history of choices for health and medical coverage for the Township's full time Road Department employees. OPEC-HC has continued to operate in a deficit in the last few year's, requiring it's members, including the Township to pay a portion of that deficit with this year being no exception - OPEC-HC was facing deficit of over 12 million dollars by June of this year, did not pay June's premiums of 4 million dollars and made a decision to exit the existing health care plan - Jefferson Health Plan (JHP) - forcing its members into a breach of contract and adding to the deficit for a total over 27 million dollars. Hart represented Rushcreek Township along with other member entities from across the state, approximately 50 in all, at an OPEC-HC board meeting on June 26. The member entities wanted better alternatives, but the OPEC-HC Board decided against the membership wishes and exited the JHP. The OPEC-HC board ignored the regulations of the Ohio Sunshine Laws and forced member entities into a change in the health care plan without notice or the ability to be represented in a vote and still carrying the very large deficit. It should also be noted that Rushcreek Township's agents (2) of the Ohio Insurance Services serve on the OPEC-HC board, which contracts their services, creating at a minimum a perception of conflict of interest to profit from its/their decisions on the board.

As a result there have been several entities suing the OPEC-HC and leaving its membership. Entities and their legal counsel have been very good about sharing the details with each other to develop options and represent themselves directly to JHP. Burnham and Flowers, an insurance agency that Rushcreek Township already uses for property, casualty, and bond insurance, was approached and offered a procedure for entities to stay with the JHP without penalty for the two weeks that the Township was forced to accept another plan. It was noted that a JHP health care program is what the Rushcreek Trustees chose this year to save over \$23,000 in its spending for 2017.

Bill made a motion to immediately recognize The Burnham & Flower Agency as our Broker of Record for all Employee Benefit coverages. Hart seconded the motion. Roll Call: Hart, aye; Dave, aye; Bill, aye.

The Township was having problems with the fax machine and internet connection. Hart left the meeting immediately to go to the Bremen Bank and have the notice faxed to Sean Sprouse at Burnham & Flowers with a confirmation of transmission received. A telephone call was made to Sean Sprouse who confirmed receipt of the letter.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:55pm.