



**GERMAN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 27, 2020**

**VISITORS:**

Name	Address	Name	Address
Mark Cross	7444 S. Stivers Rd.	John & Sue Holbrook	12843 St. Rt. 725
David Gehron	14239 Keifer Rd.	Brian Wafzig	165 S. Main St.
Lynn Cleveland	11858 Oxford		

**PROCEEDINGS:**

The meeting was held at the German Township hall located at 12102 St. Rt. 725 West, Germantown, OH 45327. The meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:05 p.m. by Board President Abra Reed. Attendees included:

Trustee Jacob Stubbs                      Trustee Matt Burns                      Trustee Abra Reed  
Fiscal Officer Mark Keener

The purpose of the meeting was to have an informational session for questions and answers regarding a proposed Joint Economic Development District (JEDD) at the site of Valley View High School. Brenda Wehmer, a partner in the law firm of Dinsmore & Shohl, LLP, made a brief presentation to the Board outlining the basic requirements of a JEDD.

Significant points of her presentation and subsequent questions included:

- A JEDD is a taxing district that imposes an income tax on workers and businesses in the JEDD
- Members of the JEDD must include at least one jurisdiction that is allowed by law to collect an income tax. Townships are not allowed to collect income taxes, unless they are a party to a JEDD
- The income tax rate within the JEDD cannot exceed the highest income tax rate of any of the participating municipalities. In this case, Germantown's income tax rate is 1.5% and Farmersville's rate is 1%, so the JEDD rate may not exceed 1.5%
- Each party to the JEDD must "contribute" something to the JEDD. The law is not specific on what the contribution has to be, but all parties must agree on the contributions. A contribution cannot be something that the party to the JEDD is already legally obligated to provide to the JEDD (ie – Fire Protection)
- All parties to the JEDD must consent to be a member of the JEDD. In the case of cities/villages, the consent has to be by a majority of the Council members. In the case of townships, the vote must be unanimous by the township's Board of Trustees. If this is not met, then the creation of a JEDD must be put on the ballot in a general election within the jurisdiction that has not met those requirements.

- The JEDD will have a board of directors that will consist of people that represent the various parties to the JEDD
- The JEDD must retain a small percentage of the funds collected to pay administrative expenses of the JEDD. Examples of these expenses include insurance, bonds for the board members, etc.
- Once the JEDD has been approved by all parties, there must be a public hearing for each party. There must be a 30 day notice of these meetings. Once the public hearings have been held, the parties each must pass a resolution to enact the JEDD.

**VISITOR COMMENTS:**

**Mark Cross** – Mr. Cross asked what the actual purpose of the JEDD was, other than a money grab from school district employees not already being taxed. He questioned the fairness of taxing the employees at the High School who were not currently subject to an income tax.

**David Gehron** – Mr. Gehron expressed concern of a Board that had no oversight by the public and was not elected by the public. He did not want a repeat of what happened with the Valley View Water & Sewer district.

With no further business, a motion was made by Abra Reed and seconded by Matt Burns to adjourn the meeting. MOTION passed – The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Signed: Abra Reed  
Abra Reed, President, Board of Trustees

Attest: These minutes were approved by the Board of Trustees at their meeting on May 11, 2020.

Signed: Mark A. Heistand  
Mark A. Heistand, Fiscal Officer