

Historic

Riverside Township

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Vera A. Wilt, *Supervisor*

Jay Reyes, *Clerk*

Mary Jo Miller, *Assessor*

Trustees

Mary Rob Clarke

Timothy Heilenbach

Matthew J. Decosola

Kelly Navarro

MINUTES OF THE SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE

RIVERSIDE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2026

AT THE RIVERSIDE TOWNSHIP HALL, 27 RIVERSIDE ROAD, RIVERSIDE

CALL TO ORDER

Minutes of the Scheduled Meeting of the Riverside Township Board of Trustees, held on Tuesday, May 12, 2026, at the Riverside Township Hall located at 27 Riverside Road, Riverside, Illinois. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Wilt at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Supervisor Vera Wilt, Clerk Jay Reyes, Trustee Mary Rob Clarke, Trustee Matt Decosola, and Trustee Kelly Navarro.

ABSENT: Trustee Timothy Heilenbach

ALSO PRESENT: MICHAEL J. HAYES, TOWNSHIP COUNSEL
Mary Jo Miller, Township Assessor, 165 Bartram Road, Riverside, IL

Therefore, Supervisor Wilt declared a quorum and opened the Scheduled Meeting for the transaction of business.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A Motion was made by Trustee Navarro to approve the April 14, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: Trustee Navarro
SECOND: Trustee Decosola
ROLL CALL: Clarke – Yes; Decosola – Yes; Navarro – Yes; Supervisor Wilt - Yes
VOICE VOTE: Yes – 4 No - 0 Abstention – 0 MOTION CARRIED

A Motion was made by Trustee Clarke to approve the April 14, 2026 Closed Session Board Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: Trustee Clarke
SECOND: Trustee Decosola
ROLL CALL: Clarke – Yes; Decosola – Yes; Navarro – Yes; Supervisor Wilt - Yes
VOICE VOTE: Yes – 4 No - 0 Abstention – 0 MOTION CARRIED

A Motion was made by Trustee Decosola to approve the May 5, 2026 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: Trustee Decosola
SECOND: Trustee Navarro
ROLL CALL: Clarke – Yes; Decosola – Yes; Navarro – Yes; Supervisor Wilt - Yes
VOICE VOTE: Yes – 4 No - 0 Abstention – 0 MOTION CARRIED

COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk Reyes reported that the Township received communications from the Riverside Junior Woman's Group, thanking the Board for their support of their Derby Event fundraiser.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Supervisor Wilt presented her report to the Board.

1. Food Pantry

Supervisor Wilt noted that Food Pantry donations have exceeded expectations lately. The Riverside Chamber of Commerce collected donations at their holiday party in January, and presented a check at their April meeting, Hauser Jr. High School had an extra incentive to bring in cereal for the Food Pantry at the end of last month and brought a large quantity of that, and

other items, on Friday May 1st. The Shred-A-Thon Event participants brought in more donations than usual, and the U.S. Postal Service letter carriers had their annual food drive last weekend, so both the pantry and the overflow closet are currently very well stocked. Utilization has stabilized, but with new SNAP rule enforcement, she expected need to continue. She thanked the North Riverside Department of Public Works for delivering the food collected by the letter carrier food collection.

2. Re-dedication Plaque

Supervisor Wilt noted that she had been trying to find someone to mount the plaque onto the Swinging Bridge for the re-dedication, but has not had much luck so far. She noted that it will probably need to be mounted after the event on Friday, May 15th, which will involve cutting the ribbon, presenting the plaque at the re-dedication, and displaying it at the indoor event that follows.

3. General Assistance clients

Supervisor Wilt also reported that she still had a large number of General Assistance clients, but one found a job and another is now earning full-time pay so two have "graduated" from GA, while some others seem to be very close to finding full-time work. She noted that she still gets frequent inquiries for assistance.

4. Nurse's Closet

Supervisor Wilt explained that the Nurse's Closet seems busier than ever, and since there are very few such facilities, the Township receives many calls, including from residents outside of the Township, which the Township cannot serve because the people are outside our service area. Supervisor Wilt noted that the Township had been serving the entirety of the Village of Brookfield and the Village of North Riverside, though parts of those municipalities were not in the Township, but beyond that, it would become too unruly.

5. Community Partnership Applications

Supervisor Wilt was surprised to note that no applications for Community Partnerships were received for the month. She did note, however, that one usual applicant came in yesterday, after the required legal posting of an agenda, inquiring if they were too late, which they were.

6. Status of Drafting Project

Supervisor Wilt explained that she was in the process of completing a draft for the matters the Board discussed at the Committee of the Whole. She indicated she would work to prepare a loose draft for our next meeting.

7. Fourth of July Parades

Supervisor Wilt informed the Board that the office had received parade handouts in anticipation for the 4th of July.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT

Assessor Mary Jo Miller reported that her office had been busy with assessment appeals. She urged Township residents to attend an event at Riverside Township Hall on May 13th, at 6:00 pm.

She noted that the triennium assessment had occurred and the appeal process would be open until June 8th.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

Trustee Clarke reported that she traveled to Springfield for TOI Lobby Day, which went well. She mentioned that she thought there would be another attempt to eliminate townships.

She noted that TOI would hold a presentation on artificial intelligence in July. She expected the session would lead to model language for townships to adopt to establish an AI policy.

Trustee asked where the push to eliminate townships was coming from. Trustee Clarke expressed a common position, which was that the elimination of townships would somehow reduce government costs, but in reality, she noted that those costs are transferred to the counties, with minimal, if any, savings.

MENTAL HEALTH BOARD'S REPORT

Supervisor Wilt noted that the Mental Health Board report was in the Board packets.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Adopt 2026-2027 Township Budget

Supervisor Wilt explained that the budget ordinance for adoption of the 2026-2027 Township Budget was contained the Board packet. She urged the Board to adopt the budget.

A Motion was made by Trustee Clarke to approve the 2026-2027 Township Budget as presented.

MOTION: Trustee Clarke

SECOND: Trustee Navarro

ROLL CALL: Clarke – Yes; Decosola – Yes; Navarro – Yes; Supervisor Wilt - Yes

VOICE VOTE: Yes – 4 No - 0 Abstention – 0 MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

A) North Riverside Mayor's Golf Outing

Supervisor Wilt introduced the North Riverside Mayor's Golf Outing, explaining that the golf outing was to benefit their scholarship fund for Township-based high school students.

A Motion was made by Trustee Decosola to approve the sponsorship for two "doctorate degree" level sponsorships.

MOTION: Trustee Decosola

SECOND: Trustee Clarke

ROLL CALL: Clarke – Yes; Decosola – Yes; Navarro – Yes; Supervisor Wilt - Yes

VOICE VOTE: Yes – 4 No - 0 Abstention – 0 MOTION CARRIED

B) Food Pantry Vouchers for Riverside Farmer's Market

Supervisor Wilt introduced the discussion of continuing the Food Pantry voucher for the Village of Riverside's Farmers' Market.

Trustee Navarro asked for clarification of the use of the vouchers, with the \$5 minimum purchase requirement. She also noted vendors had questions about redeeming vouchers. Supervisor Wilt explained that she would be physically present to redeem vouchers for cash or otherwise mail checks to vendors.

A Motion was made by Trustee Clarke to approve the use of Food Pantry vouchers at the Village of Riverside's Farmers' Market.

Assessor Miller asked whether everyone was entitled to a voucher or whether only Food Pantry recipients were eligible. Supervisor Wilt explained they were for Food Pantry recipients only.

MOTION: Trustee Clarke

SECOND: Trustee Navarro

ROLL CALL: Clarke – Yes; Decosola – Yes; Navarro – Yes; Supervisor Wilt - Yes

VOICE VOTE: Yes – 4 No - 0 Abstention – 0 MOTION CARRIED

FYI

- A) America 250 Commemoration / Bridge Rededication – Friday, May 15, 2026, 6 pm.**
- B) North Riverside Senior Fair - Tuesday, May 19th, 9 am - Noon**
- C) TOCC Annual Conference - Thursday, June 18th**

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS:

Trustee Navarro moved to authorize and ratify payment of the bills identified on the General Warrant for May 2026 in the amount of \$45,492.62.

MOTION: Trustee Navarro
SECOND: Trustee Decosola
ROLL CALL: Clarke – Yes; Decosola – Yes; Navarro – Yes; Supervisor Wilt - Yes
VOICE VOTE: Yes – 4 No - 0 Abstention – 0 MOTION CARRIED

Trustee Navarro moved to authorize and ratify payment of the Utility Warrant in the amount of \$1,319.63; Payroll Warrant in the amount of \$18,778.00; Health Warrant in the amount of \$3,722.00; General Assistance Warrant in the amount of \$10,944.89; Township Radio Players Warrant in the amount of \$180.00; and the Food Pantry Warrant in the amount of \$70.00.

MOTION: Trustee Navarro
SECOND: Trustee Decosola
ROLL CALL: Clarke – Yes; Decosola – Yes; Navarro – Yes; Supervisor Wilt - Yes
VOICE VOTE: Yes – 4 No - 0 Abstention – 0 MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to transact, Trustee Decosola moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m.

MOTION: Trustee Decosola
SECOND: Trustee Clarke
ROLL CALL: Clarke – Yes; Decosola – Yes; Navarro – Yes; Supervisor Wilt - Yes
VOICE VOTE: Yes – 4 No - 0 Abstention – 0 MOTION CARRIED

Vera A. Wilt, Township Supervisor

Jay Reyes, Township Clerk

5-12-2026