

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

23 MAPLE DRIVE SPECIAL MEETING/FEBRUARY 19, 2003

The special meeting of the Prairie Township Board of Trustees, which was posted in three places in the Township, was called to order by the Chairperson, Ms. Keller, with Mr. Nourse and Ms. Easter present. Also attending were: Mr. Gary Moore; The Nature Conservancy, Mr. Hector Santiago; Franklin Soil & Water Conservation District and Ms. Mary Ann Core; NRCS District Conservationist.

Mr. Gary Moore stated that the purpose of the meeting was to determine what The Nature Conservancy can offer Prairie Township with regard to the restoration of the Phillips property that the Township purchased in December, 2002. Mr. Moore stated that monies, resources and people are available, now we need a plan. The Wildlife Restoration Project (WRP) has funding in the amount of \$67,000 available which would apply to the 200 acres, excluding the high ground.

A timeline was presented by Mr. Moore (TNC) which includes channel restoration planning, hydrologic (wetlands) restoration planning and vegetation restoration planning.

Mr. Nourse recommended the formation of a Phillips Restoration Advisory Committee to consist of 5 citizens of the Township, 1 trustee and one corporate sponsor, i.e. AEP, Lamar Advertising. A Phillips Restoration Technical Committee was also discussed and would include a representative from The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). The citizens involved in the Advisory Committee would be average citizens with an interest in the property. These committees will change from time to time and members of the Advisory Committee must be available during normal working hours (M-F 8:00 – 5:00 p.m.) and the size of the committees should be more than 7 people but less than 12.

Mr. Hector Santiago would like the Technical Committee and Advisory Committee develop a relationship with residents of the Township. The Advisory Committee would be very technical in the beginning.

Ms. Keller moved, Mr. Wharton seconded the Board approve the appointment of Mr. Jeff Nourse, as the primary Trustee to the Advisory Committee. Vote; Aye.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Friday, February 28, 2003 at 8:00 a.m. at the Township Hall for the purpose of appointing members to the committees and further planning.

Mr. Nourse stated that the Board of Trustees have appropriated \$65,000 to burn the home on the high ground of the property, install a driveway, signage and asbestos removal.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Chairman

Clerk