

**Truro Township Trustees Establish Policies to Assist Homeowners in
Maintaining Property Values by Providing Redress for Nuisances and
Deteriorating Property**

Reynoldsburg, Ohio, July 2011 -- In the June Trustee Meeting the Truro Township Board of Trustees unanimously passed a resolution and in July have implemented two policies providing for the abatement or removal of deteriorating buildings and other nuisances. This was done to provide local government assistance to its citizens looking to maintain the beauty, order and value of their neighborhoods. The policies will enable the Board of Trustees to work with Township residents toward improving the quality of life in Truro Township and maintaining property values. Trustees Dennis Nicodemus, Barb Strussion and Patrick Mahaffey were all in support of the Township's proactive approach to assisting its citizens by providing an avenue other than the County Board of Health or a resort to a legal battle in the court system.

The policies provide procedures for addressing nuisances such as poorly maintained buildings, noxious weeds, garbage, and objects located on or along township roads. The procedures generally provide for an initial inspection of the property conducted by a Township employee, including the Fire Inspector, followed by a hearing at which the Trustees determine whether a nuisance or violation of the policy or Ohio Revised Code exists. Property owners and lien holders are then notified of the Trustees' determination, and they are generally given an opportunity to remedy the situation themselves. If the nuisance is not abated or removed within a certain period of time, the Trustees provide for the abatement or removal at the property owner's expense.

Trustee Patrick Mahaffey said of the policies: "I'm grateful that we were able to promptly provide for a way to help with property values while also addressing the

concerns of Truro Township's citizens. Local government is at its best when it is responsive and efficient, and I believe these policies accomplish just that. The procedures we've set in place offer Truro Township citizens a straightforward, effective way to have their concerns heard and addressed."

The Township Trustees worked to ensure that the policies and procedures are logical and easy to follow. The Trustees will collaborate with the superintendent of the Roads Department, Stan Knoderer, and the Fire Department in enforcing the policies. All three Trustees – Pat, Barb and Dennis – all voted in favor of adoption of the policies. Contact the Truro Township Administrator, Bob Stapleton, at 614-866-1317 with any questions regarding the new policies.

CONTACT: BOB STAPLETON Township Administrator 614-866-1317