

**MINUTES OF THE ROOTSTOWN TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES  
JOINT ZONING BOARDS MEETING  
February 16, 2012**

The special Joint Zoning Boards meeting of the Rootstown Township Trustees opened at 6:30 p.m. on February 16, 2012. Those in attendance were Trustees Diane Dillon, Brett Housley and Joe Paulus, Jim Mahood, Van Black and Julie Gonzales.

The following members were present from the Zoning Commission: Karen Henry, Board Chairperson, Bob Moses, George Tishma and Ginny Hamilton.

The following members were present from the Zoning Board of Appeals: Troy Cutright, Board Chairman, Derek Ball and Jim Manion.

Also attending: City of Ravenna Mayor Joe Bica, Kerry Macomber, City of Ravenna Economic Development Director, John Wray, Vice President of Administration and Finance of NEOMED and Andrew Hawkins, Superintendent of Rootstown Local Schools.

Mr. John Wray, NEOMED discussed the physical facilities on the NEOMED campus is currently at capacity. The University is constantly searching for ways to accommodate the needs of the existing educational programs. Without the construction of new academic space the university cannot accept the additional students authorized by the Ohio General Assembly when they lifted the cap on enrollment this year. In addition, NEOMED could be forced to move elements of our existing academic programs to other locations. The University has plans for shifting personnel and programs to off-campus sites in both Akron and Cleveland. This expansion would benefit the Rootstown community such as a health and wellness center, medical office facility, bio med academy STEMM School for Portage County, recreational facilities, bike path and nature trail and much more.

On February 27<sup>th</sup> NEOMED Selection Committee will be to conduct a final meeting with both teams.

Kerry Macomber, Director of Economic Development for the City of Ravenna discussed the AMATS Connecting Communities Grant for an infrastructure necessary to accommodate alternative modes of transportation on the State Route 44 Corridor. Mrs. Macomber discussed a potential JEDD with Rootstown Township.

Joe Paulus adjourned the meeting at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Diane Dillon, Chairperson

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JoAnn Townend, Fiscal Officer