

ARTICLE 17 - ZONING COMMISSION

17.00 Organization

The Board of Township Trustees of any township proceeding under Sections 519.01 to 519.99 of the Revised Code, shall create and establish a township zoning commission. The commission shall be composed of five members who reside in the unincorporated area of the township, to be appointed by the board for a term of 5 years. The Board of Township Trustees may appoint two alternate members. An alternate member shall take the place of an absent regular member at any meeting of the township zoning commission according to procedures prescribed by resolution by the Board of Township Trustees. An alternate member shall meet the same appointment criteria as a regular member. When attending a meeting on behalf of an absent member, the alternate member may vote on any matter on which the absent member is authorized to vote. The terms of the regular members shall be of such length and so arranged that the term of one member will expire each year. Each regular or alternate member shall serve until the member's successor is appointed and qualified.

17.01 Removal of Members

Members of the zoning commission shall be removable for nonperformance of duty, misconduct in office, or other cause by the Board of Trustees, upon written charges being filed with the Board of Trustees, after a public hearing has been held regarding such charges, and after a copy of the charges has been served upon the member so charged at least ten days prior to the hearing, either personally, by registered mail, or by leaving such copy at the member's usual place of residence. The member shall be given an opportunity to be heard and answer such charges. Vacancies shall be filled by the Board of Trustees and shall be for the unexpired term.

17.02 Powers and Duties

The township rural zoning commission shall submit a plan, including both text and maps, representing the recommendations of the zoning commission for the carrying out by the Board of Township Trustees of the powers, purposes, and provisions set forth in Sections 519.01 to 519.99, inclusive, of the Revised Code, including additions to territory in which a township zoning plan is in effect.

The zoning commission may, within the limits of the moneys appropriated by the Board of Trustees for the purpose, employ or contract with such planning consultants and executive and other assistants as it deems necessary. The zoning commission shall organize, adopt rules for the transaction of its business, and keep a record of its actions and determinations. Members of the zoning commission may be allowed their expenses, or such compensation, or both, as the Board of Trustees may approve and provide. No township trustee shall be employed by the zoning commission of his township.

The zoning commission shall make use of such information and counsel as is available from appropriate public officials, departments, and agencies and such officials, departments, and agencies having information, maps, and data pertinent to township zoning shall make them available for the use of the zoning commission.

In any county where there is a county or regional planning commission, the zoning commission may request such planning commission to prepare or make available to the zoning commission a zoning

plan, including text and maps, for the unincorporated area of the township or any portion of the same.