

THE DULY ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO, MET IN SPECIAL SESSION ON DECEMBER 30, 2016 IN ACCORDANCE WITH OHIO REVISED CODE 305.05, WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT: RICK G. WALTERS, PRESIDENT, RONALD L. FEATHERS, VICE PRESIDENT, AND DAVID A. WHITE, MEMBER. THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 4:00 P.M. BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD.

Also attending were County Auditor Bill McFarland, Sam Shawver from *The Marietta Times*, and Clerk Rick Peoples.

**Washington County Commissioners
SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA
December 30, 2016**

4:00 Business Meeting

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Agenda
Approval of previous meeting's minutes
Resolution to Adopt Appropriations for Washington County Family & Children First Council for Fiscal Year 2017
Resolution to Adopt Appropriations for Washington County for Fiscal Year 2017

INFORMATION

Courthouse Closed for New Year's, **Monday**, January 2
Organizational Meeting, 9:00 a.m., **Monday**, January 9

RE: AGENDA

Mr. White moved and Mr. Feathers seconded a motion to accept the agenda, with the following adjustments:

Add: Additional Appropriation – Clerk of Courts
Transfer – Clerk of Courts
Appointment of Special Counsel
Resolution Approving Distribution Formula for 2017 Permissive Sales Tax Funds

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Rick Walters aye, Ron Feathers aye, David White aye. Motion passed.

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Feathers moved and Mr. White seconded a motion to dispense with the reading and approve the minutes of the December 29, 2016 meeting.

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Rick Walters aye, Ron Feathers aye, David White aye. Motion passed.

RE: ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

Mr. White moved and Mr. Feathers seconded a motion to approve the following request for Additional Appropriation:

Clerk of Courts	200-0233-57100	\$ 150,000.00
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A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Rick Walters aye, Ron Feathers aye, David White aye. Motion passed.

RE: TRANSFER

Mr. Feathers moved and Mr. White seconded a motion to approve the following request for Transfer of funds:

	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Clerk of Courts	200-0233-57100	100-0100-49100	\$ 450,000.00

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Rick Walters aye, Ron Feathers aye, David White aye. Motion passed.

RE: APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL COUNSEL

Mr. White moved and Mr. Feathers seconded a motion to appoint Attorneys James R. Gorry, Kelly A. Gorry, and Mark H. Gills, all affiliated with Rich & Gills Law Group, LLC, as Special Prosecuting Attorneys to represent the Washington County Auditor and/or the Washington County Board of Revision, as needed and directed by either the Washington County Auditor or the Washington County Board of Revision, in cases involving tax appeals during the period January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2018.

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Rick Walters aye, Ron Feathers aye, David White aye. Motion passed.

RE: RESOLUTION TO SET FORMULA FOR DISTRIBUTION OF 2017 PERMISSIVE SALES TAX FUNDS

Mr. Feathers moved and Mr. White seconded a motion to adopt the following Resolution:

***WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners of Washington County adopted a 1% Permissive Sales Tax in Washington County for the purpose of increasing revenue for the County's general fund.*

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of Commissioners of Washington County, Ohio that the 2017 allocation of Permissive Sales Tax revenues be one-third of the monthly distribution, not to exceed \$2,278,090 for the year, to the 1% Permissive Sales Tax Fund, and two-thirds (approximately \$4,556,180) to the County General Fund, of the first \$6,834,270.*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that any excess above Six Million, Eight Hundred Thirty-Four Thousand, Two Hundred Seventy dollars (\$6,834,270) will be paid in to the County General Fund.*

County Auditor Bill McFarland noted this is the same distribution formula that was used in fiscal year 2016, with 22% of Permissive Sales Tax revenues being paid to townships and the County Engineer for road and bridge repair and/or construction. He said recipient entities will receive less in 2017 than in 2016 because sales tax collections in 2016 decreased by 4.9% from the previous year. He reiterated this is not a "cut", but a "reduction" to due declining revenues.

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Rick Walters aye, Ron Feathers aye, David White aye. Motion passed.

RE: CERTIFICATE OF TOTAL AMOUNT AVAILABLE FOR EXPENDITURES

The Commissioners acknowledged receipt from the Budget Commission of a Certificate of the Total Amount from All Sources Available for Expenditures and Balances as of December 31, 2016. The Clerk noted the document was received on December 30, 2016, and was signed by each member of the Budget Commission. He said the Commissioners can only appropriate up to what is indicated on the Certificate as anticipated revenues plus current balances in each of the County's funds.

RE: RESOLUTION TO ADOPT APPROPRIATIONS FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY FAMILY & CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017

Mr. Feathers moved and Mr. White seconded a motion to adopt the following Resolution:

***BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of Commissioners of Washington County, Ohio, that to provide for the current expenses and other expenditures of Washington County Family & Children First Council, during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2017, the following sums be and the same are hereby set aside and appropriated for the several purposes for which expenditures are to be made for and during said fiscal year.*

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Rick Walters aye, Ron Feathers aye, David White aye. Motion passed.

The Clerk noted the following total appropriations were made in Family & Children First funds:

Unrestricted	\$ 101,937
Restricted	\$ 111,603
Various	\$ 41,200
Help Me Grow	\$ 363,033
Healthier Buckeye Council	\$ 384,750

RE: RESOLUTION TO ADOPT APPROPRIATIONS FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017

Mr. White moved and Mr. Feathers seconded a motion to adopt the following Resolution:

***BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of Commissioners of Washington County, Ohio, that to provide for the current expenses and other expenditures of said County, during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2017, the following sums be and the same are hereby set aside and appropriated for the several purposes for which expenditures are to be made for and during said fiscal year.*

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Rick Walters aye, Ron Feathers aye, David White aye. Motion passed.

The Clerk noted total appropriations for all Washington County funds equal \$56,867,732, including appropriations of \$16,677,575 in the County General fund. He said that while anticipated expenses exceed revenues by about \$1,717,450, offsetting that are “unused” appropriations of approximately \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2016. County Auditor Bill McFarland said these appropriations factor in a projected reduction in sales tax revenues of about 3.9%. The Commissioners agreed that a declining revenue stream over a period of a few years will necessitate more drastic measures to reduce expenses, so the budget being adopted for fiscal year 2017 is “cautious” but won’t negatively impact services provided to Washington County citizens. Commissioner Feathers said the reductions in local government funding and Medicaid sales tax are taking a significant toll on Washington County, and it has been a big challenge to compile a budget under those circumstances. President Walters said a part of the nearly \$500,000 increase in spending in 2017 over 2016 is due to an increase of 8.9% in health insurance premiums for next year. Although the County received nearly zero percent increases the past two years, he said, the 8.9% increase unfortunately comes at a time when revenues are declining. Commissioner White said reductions in contributions from the County General fund to several agencies are included in this budget, and there is much focus on essential services provided to Washington County citizens. He said although a budget is a working document, or a “financial blueprint” for the County, he doesn’t anticipate additional funds to become available through fiscal year 2017.

RE: ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Feathers moved and Mr. White seconded a motion to adjourn.

A calling of the roll resulted in a unanimous vote in favor. The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

_____, President

_____, Vice President

_____, Member

_____, Clerk