

THE DULY ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO, MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON JULY 6, 2017 IN ACCORDANCE WITH OHIO REVISED CODE 305.05, WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT: RONALD L. FEATHERS, PRESIDENT, DAVID A. WHITE, VICE PRESIDENT, AND RICK WALTERS, MEMBER. THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 9:00 A.M. BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD. MR. FEATHERS LED THOSE ATTENDING IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO OUR FLAG.

Also attending were Muskingum Township Trustee Gary Doan, Glen Pawloski, Melody McKay, Alicia Dickinson, Shelly Vincent, Mike Webber, Sam Shawver from *The Marietta Times*, and Clerk Rick Peoples.

**Washington County Commissioners
AGENDA
9:00 a.m., July 6, 2017**

9:00 Business Meeting
9:30 Chris Wilson, Building Official – Department Update
10:00 Public Hearing – 2018 Tax Budgets
10:30 Randy Barengo & Alison Redmond, CORSA – Insurance Stewardship Report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Proposal to Study Effectiveness of Courthouse Back-Up Generator
Liquor Permit Application, Outdoor Heaven, Inc.

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Agenda
Approval of previous meeting's minutes
Bills from various departments
Transfer – Children Services
Then & Now's
Travel – JFS
Summer Youth Employment Program Contract
Contract Extension with Building Bridges to Careers – JFS
Hiring of New Employee - JFS
Contract Amendment, Home Visiting Central Administration – Family & Children First
Change in Appropriations Distribution Schedule for Children Services
Monthly Report on Care of Prisoners at Washington County Jail
Contract for Transit Tech Ohio (T20) Project with ODOT (TIGER Grant)
Delinquent Sewer Accounts
Certification of Delinquent Sewer Accounts
Engineer – Ohio Public Works Grant, County Roads Pavement Project
Engineer – Ohio Public Works Grant/Loan, Combined Road Base Stabilization Project

DATES TO REMEMBER

Monthly County Home Meeting, 8:30 a.m., **Tuesday**, July 11
2nd Public Hearing, 2017/2018 CDBG Allocation, 9:30 a.m., **Thursday**, July 13
2nd Public Hearing, CDBG Critical Infrastructure Grant, Village of Beverly,
9:45 a.m., **Thursday**, July 13
Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m., **Monday**, July 17
Finance Committee, 10:00 a.m., **Tuesday**, July 18

RE: AGENDA

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

Add: Agreement to Serve as Administrative Agent for Family & Children First
Request to Hire Permit Technician in Building Department
Travel - CSEA

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

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Walters moved and Mr. White seconded a motion to dispense with the reading and approve the minutes of the June 29, 2017 meeting.

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

RE: BILLS FOR PAYMENT

Mr. White moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to approve the list of bills from various departments for payment, as prepared by the County Auditor.

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

RE: TRANSFERS

Mr. Walters moved and Mr. White seconded a motion to approve the following requests for transfer of funds:

	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Children Services	200-0743-51001	200-0743-51110	\$ 4,197.70

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

RE: THEN & NOW'S

Mr. White moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to approve the following Then & Now's:

<u>Dept</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Common Pleas Court Commissioners	200-0207-57400	Marietta Office Supply	\$ 1,587.00
JFS	100-0100-54000	Washington Co. Engineer`	\$ 227.79
JFS	200-0720-59000	Par Mar Oil Co.	\$ 14,400.00
Maintenance Commissioners	200-0720-57400	Washington Co. Commissioners	\$ 919.26
	100-0109-53000	Brady's Pest Control	\$ 150.00
	100-0870-53006	WWW Interstate Planning	\$ 5,940.00

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

RE: TRAVEL REQUESTS

Mr. Walters moved and Mr. White seconded a motion to approve the following requests for reimbursement of expenses for training and travel pursuant to the policies and procedures and in compliance with the Annual Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2017, and any and all amendments subsequent thereto:

JFS

Tom Ballengee, Candy Nelson, Laura Adams, Peggy McElfresh: One-day trip to Noble County to attend Southeast Ohio Regional Plan Rollout event; July 24, 2017.

CSEA

Kim Hinkle, Devin Thieman: One-day trip to Columbus to attend RMS Summer Symposium; July 14, 2017.

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

RE: SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM CONTRACT

Mr. White moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to approve a contract with Kelsey Sampson to participate in the Summer Youth Employment Program during the period June 12, 2017 through August 31, 2017, at the hourly rate of \$8.15, and to allow Mr. Feathers to sign the Contract, as prepared by Candy Nelson, Washington County Department of Job and Family Services.

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

RE: CONTRACT EXTENSION WITH BUILDING BRIDGES TO CAREERS

Mr. Walters moved and Mr. White seconded a motion to approve an extension to the contract between Washington County Department of Job and Family Services and Building Bridges to Careers, for the period July 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018, with all other terms and conditions of the original contract signed May 4, 2017, remaining unchanged, as requested by Dawn Lucas, Washington County Department of Job and Family Services.

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

RE: REQUEST TO HIRE UNIT SUPPORT WORKER II, JFS

Mr. White moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to approve a request from Tom Ballengee, Washington County Department of Job and Family Services, to hire Andrea Perine as Unit Support Worker II, with an hourly rate of \$14.47 and start date of July 24, 2017.

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Ronald Feathers aye, David White aye, Rick Walters

aye. Motion passed.

RE: CONTRACT AMENDMENT, FAMILY & CHILDREN FIRST HOME VISITING PROGRAM

Mr. White moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to approve a contract amendment for the Washington County Family & Children First Council Home Visiting Program, with the Ohio Department of Health, increasing the award by \$2,252.08 and changing the end date to July 31, 2017, and to allow Mr. Feathers to sign the Amendment.

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

RE: AGREEMENT TO SERVE AS ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT FOR FAMILY & CHILDREN FIRST

Mr. Walters moved and Mr. White seconded a motion to approve an Administrative Agent Agreement between Washington County Family & Children First Council and Washington County Commissioners, designated the Washington County Commissioners as Administrative Agent for Washington County Family & Children First Council during the period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018, as prepared and requested by Cindy Davis, Washington County Family & Children First Council.

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

RE: CHANGE IN DISTRIBUTION SCHEDULE FOR CHILDREN SERVICES APPROPRIATION

Mr. White moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to approve a request from Jamie Vuksic and Sherri Tucker to accelerate the distribution of appropriations from County General to Children Services, allowing the August payment to be made in July.

The Clerk noted this change in distribution does not change the annual appropriation to Children Services. Commissioner White said Children Services Agency is "beyond struggling", and it is obvious to him the original appropriation to Children Services won't carry them throughout the remainder of this fiscal year. He said changes will need to be made, noting the Children Services Board has decided to put a levy on the ballot but not until next year. Mr. White said this is "close to a desperate situation" at Children Services.

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

RE: MONTHLY REPORT ON THE CARE OF PRISONERS AT WASHINGTON COUNTY JAIL

The Commissioners acknowledged a report on the care of prisoners at the Washington County Jail for the month of June 2017, revealing a prisoner count of 351 and revenues of \$161,820.00

RE: CONTRACT FOR TRANSIT TECH OHIO PROJECT WITH ODOT

Mr. White moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to approve a Transit Tech Ohio (T20) Project Grant with the Ohio Department of Transportation, grant #0088-TTGER-160100 (TIGER Grant), in the amount of \$63,000, for the period July 1, 2017 through December 31, 2018.

Commissioner White reported he consulted with Dawn Rauch and Kenny Vigneron from Washington-Morgan Community Action Program to learn of progress and detail of this grant. He said there has been extensive work to reach the point of vendor selection, and the Commissioners in March 2017 agreed to participate in the project. Mr. White noted the grant will provide enhanced scheduling, tracking, and reporting on the Community Action Bus Line (CABL), and will pay the full expenses for the first three years of the project. He said there may be minimal annual software maintenance fees after the first three years.

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

RE: DELINQUENT SEWER ACCOUNTS

Mr. Walters moved and Mr. White seconded a motion to approve sending letters to the following holders of delinquent sewer accounts, requesting them to immediately make payment on those accounts:

Dave Burt (10880 and 10850 State Route 550, 419 & 405 Warrior Drive, 4855 SR 339)
Sherry Fulton
Sarah Carpenter
Donald Tallman
Fredabella Pomroy
Zachery Goudy
Denise Vigneron
Angela Rhodes

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

RE: CERTIFICATION OF DELINQUENT SEWER ACCOUNTS

Mr. White moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to approve certification of the following delinquent sewer accounts to County Auditor Bill McFarland, requesting him to add delinquent amounts to property tax bills:

Chris Dickson	Christopher & Patty Carver	Kenneth Blanchard
Caroline Putnam	Anthony & Emma Wiley-Adams	Charles Seaman
Karen Anstatt		

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

RE: OPWC GRANT, COUNTY ROADS PAVEMENT PROJECT

Mr. Walters moved and Mr. White seconded a motion to approve a grant in the amount of \$399,905 from the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) for the Washington County Roads 27, 804, 805, 806 and 3 Paving Project, and to allow Mr. Feathers to sign the grant.

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

RE: OPWC GRANT/LOAN, 2017 COMBINED ROAD BASE STABILIZATION PROJECT

Mr. Walters moved and Mr. White seconded a motion to approve a grant/loan in the amount of \$540,383 from the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) for the Washington County 2017 Combined Road Base Stabilization Project, and to allow Mr. Feathers to sign the grant.

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

RE: LIQUOR PERMIT APPLICATION

Mr. Walters moved and Mr. White seconded a motion to return from Unfinished Business consideration of an application for a liquor permit from Outdoor Heaven, Inc.

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

Mr. White moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to direct the Clerk to return the Notice to Legislative Authority for application by Outdoor Heaven, Inc., for a D1 and D2 liquor permit to the Ohio Division of Liquor Control, requesting a hearing on the matter to be held in Marietta.

Commissioner White explained the process for liquor permit application. He said the Commissioners are requesting a hearing on the request to be held locally, as there are currently no buildings or facilities on the property at 773 Arends Ridge Road. He said the Muskingum Township Trustees having requested a hearing as well.

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

RE: COMMENTS FROM VISITORS

Glen Pawloski said a recent article in *The Marietta Times* pertaining to the sewer issue in Devola is misleading and damaging. He noted the City's hire attorney refers to projected costs as being exaggerated. Mr. Pawloski suggested this attorney is deceitful and fraudulent, and the lies he is spreading are being promoted by local media. He said nobody every believed any resident would have to write a check for \$15,000 to tie into a sewer line in Devola, but that apparently is what this attorney is suggesting. Mr. Pawloski said the proposal to construct a sewer line in Devola is a double remedy, as the water system upgrade brought nitrate levels to acceptable parameters. He referred to the EPA's directive as "environmental economic tyranny". He cautioned the Commissioners to not enter mediation with the City of Marietta, as that may signal acceptance of this "non-transparent" project the City has undertaken. Mr. Pawloski reminded those attending that it was the former Commissioners who entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Marietta, but that agreement was unnecessary and developed without input from residents and experts. He encouraged the Commissioners to stand their ground and "fight the fight" on behalf of the citizens in Devola.

Commissioner White said he is preparing a letter in response to the article in the local paper, referring to it as "dismal journalistic practice" at *The Marietta Times*.

Melody McKay and Alicia Dickinson introduced themselves. Ms. Dickinson said she is a current student in the Government course at Washington State Community College. President Feathers welcomed them to the meeting.

RE: REQUEST TO HIRE PERMIT TECHNICIAN, BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Mr. White moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to hire Sarah Boshan for the position of Permit Technician in the Southeast Ohio Building Department, with an hourly rate of \$10.00 (with an additional \$0.25 per hour upon satisfactory completion of 90-day probationary period), and a start date of

July 17, 2017, as requested by Building Official Chris Wilson.

Mr. Wilson said Ms. Boshan has worked part-time in the Building Department, and due to anticipated changes in his office he now has a need for a full-time employee. He noted this is a result of staffing an office in Belmont County in the near future, and resignation and retirement of two employees. He said there would be no additional appropriations needed for her salary this fiscal year.

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

RE: BUILDING DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Building Official Chris Wilson updated the Commissioners on Building Department activities and initiatives:

- Revenues for the month of June were approximately \$66,000, with non-residential permits exceeding expectations and residential permits running lower than normal.
- Intentions are to staff an office in Belmont County, if all progresses as planned.
- Mr. Wilson recently attended a conference on the Consumer Rating Program for floodplain management. He said he will obtain more information on requirements of staff to allow for reduction in upcoming significant flood insurance premiums of residents and businesses. He noted Washington County does not currently participate in the program. Commissioner Walters said flood insurance costs are skyrocketing, and could result in closing of businesses and difficulty in selling houses. He said if Mr. Wilson can do something to reduce costs for flood insurance, then every effort should be made.

RE: PUBLIC HEARING, 2018 TAX BUDGETS

At 10:00 a.m. the Commissioners conducted a Public Hearing on the fiscal year 2018 Tax Budgets for Washington County and Washington County Family & Children First Council. Attending were:

Susan Tilton	Debbie Ramsey	Mary Pachuta	Jennie Kiegul
Carrie McNamee	David Brightbill	Jonathon Harris	Karen Lowe
Taneka Ponchak	Malisa Barnes	Brenda Riffe	Erin Lockhart
Robin O'Neal	Jeff Campbell	Bill McFarland	Royetta Cline
Tiffany Neill	David Raber	Jackie Biggins	Regina Duff
Sam Shawver	Rick Peoples		

The Clerk said the proposed Tax Budgets for Fiscal Year 2018 have been compiled in accordance with Ohio law. He said the Commissioners are required to approve Tax Budgets for 2018 and forward them to the County Auditor by July 15, 2017. The Clerk said this process allows the Commissioners to have some indication of what to expect in both revenues and expenses for next year, although more accurate predictions will be made closer to the end of this fiscal year.

The Clerk said anticipated revenues are about 3% higher than this year's tax budget, and expenses are about 7% higher. He noted that no adjustments were made to departmental budget requests at this point in the year, but significant changes will be necessary before an appropriations resolution can be agreed upon at the end of this year. The Clerk said total expenses in this tax budget for the County are approximately \$61,407,000.

President Feathers said this year the Commissioners made an effort to meet with representatives of all county levies, including 911 System, Senior Citizens, Developmental Disabilities, County Home, and Public Library. He said that while voters approved a maximum millage to be levied, it is the Commissioners responsibility to determine if levy revenues are used in an appropriate manner.

Mr. Feathers said the Commissioners are not intending to request a change in millage in 2018 for the following levies:

911 System
Senior Citizens
County Home

He said the Commissioners are considering, however, the following changes to levy millage:

Developmental Disabilities	Reduction by 0.50 mils, to 3.10 mils
Public Library	Reduction by 0.35 mils, to 0.65 mils

Mr. Feathers cited the following reasons for these reductions:

Consistently large end-of-year fund balances
Levy language does not allow for build-up of reserves
No clear plan for use of reserves
Levy revenues are not being used for current operating expenses

Mr. Feathers said the intent of the Commissioners to ensure levy proceeds are being used as intended by voters. He said building and sustaining a large reserve does not demonstrate appropriate use of funds. He noted this request to the Budget Commission by the Commissioners is not meant to remove and cut back on any services provided by the Library Board or the Board of Developmental Disabilities, but merely to discourage the appearance of "stockpiling" revenues. He said it will also lower the tax

burden on County residents.

Susan Tilton, Superintendent for the Ewing School and Developmental Disabilities, said that on behalf of the Board of Developmental Disabilities she considers this reduction to be unfair and unacceptable. She said their carryover of funds is earmarked for various services and capital improvements. She noted her department is currently spending \$500,000 to replace the roof on the Ewing School, and last year spent \$200,000 to replace the roof on the adult services building. She said she believes their stewardship of taxpayers' funds to be good, noting that projected expenses for next year exceed anticipated revenues.

Mr. Feathers said the high fund balance suggests she could operate several years, even with this reduction in millage.

Commissioner White said he truly believes Ms. Tilton and her staff are being good stewards of taxpayers' funds. However, he said, it is only prudent to have modest carryover of funds. Mr. White said he considers the consistent "high" end-of-year balances to be more than modest, even substantial. He said he supports a request for the Budget Commission to lower the millage for next year.

Brenda Riffe from Developmental Disabilities said it is not clear when you look at a financial report or budget all the services and commitments provided for by the agency. She said they are responsible for providing the services of 5 or 6 providers, they must pay Medicare match, and there are emergency needs that must be funded. Ms. Riffe said a reserve is necessary, as they don't know who might need their services on short notice, or how much those services might cost. She said their budget is built on historical data, current needs, and anticipated needs. She said she believes the fact that her agency has not been on the ballot for many years has opened the door for other agencies to pursue tax levies. Ms. Riffe said the budget for her agency is very complex, and she welcomed the Commissioners to sit down with her to learn more about it.

Mr. Feathers reiterated that this is an annual review, and if there is change to millage made then it can be re-addressed next year at this time.

Commissioner White said it is difficult to determine what an appropriate carryover should be for Developmental Disabilities, but the approximate \$4 M seems excessive.

A member of the audience suggested many Ewing School students and WASCO Workshop clients would suffer if funds are reduced. Mr. White reminded her it is not the intent of the Commissioners for the Board of Developmental Disabilities to reduce or eliminate services provided to students and clients. Mr. Feathers encouraged the staff at Ewing to continue to develop plans and programs. He said if this recommendation is accepted then it may be in place for only a year, but hopefully the reserve will lower to a more reasonable and responsible level.

Robin O'Neal, Fiscal Officer, said the agency is in the middle of transitioning WASCO to a private entity, and Development Disabilities doesn't yet know the full impact of this separation. She said she considers this to be an unfortunate time to consider reduction in revenues. She suggested a better time to consider it might be a year from now, as more data will be available pertaining to the separation of the workshop from agency.

Tiffany Neill said the agency last month put three people on waiver, and that resulted in significant expense. She said the agency never knows how many people must be waived, so they must have sufficient funds available at all times.

Ms. Tilton suggested she might be able to transfer funds to Family & Children First, which she considers to be an appropriate use of levy funds. Mr. Feathers said nothing in the ballot language allows for such transfer of funds, but only for current operating expenses. Ms. Tilton said this might be accomplished through allocation of the transfer to the Pooled Funds Group which assists with placement costs.

President Feathers thanked those attending for sharing their thoughts, and expressed his appreciation for their participation in the budget process.

President Feathers exited the meeting at 10:30 a.m. Vice President White led the remainder of the meeting.

RE: CORSA INSURANCE STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Randy Barengo, Peoples Insurance Agency, and Alison Redmond, County Risk Sharing Authority (CORSA), shared with the Commissioners a report on the use of available CORSA resources by Washington County during 2016. Also attending was Director of Human Resources, Safety & Loss Control Kathy Thieman.

Ms. Redmond said the County continues to make good use of CORSA which, in the long run, reduces costs to the County. Commissioner Walters estimated these cost reductions to be close to \$10,000 per year. Mr. Barengo reminded the Commissioners that much of what CORSA offers is at no additional cost to the County.

RE: ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Walters 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 11:00 a.m.

_____, President

_____, Vice President

_____, Member

_____, Clerk