

**THE DULY ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO, MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON AUGUST 31, 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, Karen Doan, Auditor Bill McFarland, Probate Judge Tim Williams, Engineer Roger Wright, Treasurer Dorothy K. Peppel, Prosecutor Kevin Rings, Recorder Tracey Wright, Director of Human Resources Kathy Thieman, Erin O'Neill from *The Marietta Times*, and Clerk Rick Peoples.

**Washington County Commissioners  
AGENDA  
9:00 a.m., August 31, 2017**

9:00 Business Meeting  
9:30 Cindy Styer & Sara Kroll, OSU Extension – SNAP-Ed Program  
10:00 Dan Ritchey, Reno VFD Fire Chief – Co. Home Fire Hydrant; EMA Director Vacancy  
11:00 Glen Kelly, EMA Director – EMA Update

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Proposal to Study Effectiveness of Courthouse Back-Up Generator

**NEW BUSINESS**

Approve Agenda  
Approval of previous meeting's minutes  
Bills from various departments  
Transfer – Sheriff  
Transfer – MVGT  
Advance - MVGT  
Then & Now's  
Travel – Job and Family Services  
Travel – Family & Children First (2)  
Travel – Auditor  
Invoice #1, W.P. Snyder, Jr. Restoration Project Phase III  
Letters to Participants in Annual State Science Day (4)  
Delinquent Sewer Accounts  
Certification of Delinquent Sewer Accounts  
Engineer – Change in Holiday Schedule for Engineer's Office  
Resolution Recognizing Retirement of County Treasurer Dorothy K. Peppel

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

Courthouse Closed, **Monday**, September 4, Labor Day  
CCAO Budget Briefing, 8:00 a.m., **Tuesday**, September 12, at Logan  
Health Insurance Proposals Due, 11:00 a.m., **Thursday**, September 14  
Joint Solid Waste Meeting, 12:00 p.m., **Monday**, September 18, Lori's Family Restaurant  
Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m., **Monday**, September 18  
Monthly County Home Meeting, 8:30 a.m., **Tuesday**, September 19, at County Home  
Finance Committee, 10:00 a.m., **Tuesday**, September 19

**RE: AGENDA**

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

Add: Additional Appropriation – Developmental Disabilities  
Additional Appropriation – Senior Levy

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 August 24, 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: ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS**

Mr. White moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to approve the following requests for Additional Appropriations:

Developmental Disabilities	200-0620-57503	\$ 105.83
	200-0620-57502	\$ 1,832.93
Senior Levy	200-0703-57400	\$ 6,001.53

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>
Sheriff's Sales Tax	100-0384-52100	100-0384-54002	\$ 5,000.00
MVGT	200-0540-55501	200-0540-57200	\$ 177,187.00

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

**RE: ADVANCE**

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

	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
MVGT	200-0540-57200	600-3026-49200	\$ 177,187.00

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

<u>Dept</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
911 Levy	200-0650-54400	American Telephone Tech.	\$ 310.00
Commissioners	100-0100-57400	William O. & Rose Southhall	\$ 143.03
Commissioners	100-0101-53400	Peoples Insurance	\$ 1,221.00
Maintenance	100-0109-53000	Double L Construction	\$ 170.00

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

**RE: TRAVEL REQUESTS**

Mr. White moved and Mr. Walters 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 20179, and any and all amendments subsequent thereto:

JFS

Debi Humphries: One-day trip to Parkersburg, WV, to pick up 2017 clothing vouchers; September 13, 2017.

Family & Children First

Cindy Davis: One-day trip to Athens to attend OCTF SE Ohio Regional Prevention Council meeting; September 8, 2017.

Cindy Davis: One-day trip to Athens to attend HPIO Regional Health Forum; September 19, 2017.

Auditor

Bill McFarland: One-day trip to Columbus to attend CAAO Executive/Legislative Meeting; September 6, 2017.

Bill McFarland: One-day trip to Carroll for a CAAO District Meeting (tentative); September 8, 2017.

Bill McFarland: One-day trip to Logan to attend CCAO Budget Briefing with Commissioners; September 12, 2017.

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

**RE: INVOICE #1, W.P. SNYDER, JR. RESTORATION PROJECT PHASE III**

Mr. White moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to approve invoice #1 for the W.P. Snyder, Jr. Restoration Project Phase III, payable to Lepi Enterprises, Inc., in the amount of \$39,848.00, as prepared and presented by the Ohio History Connection, and to allow Mr. Feathers to sign the invoice.

The Clerk explained that this approved invoice will then be forwarded to the Ohio History Connection, and finally to the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT). He said ODOT will then process payment directly to Lepi Enterprises, and no funds will flow through Washington County records.

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

**RE: LETTERS TO OHIO SCIENCE DAY PARTICIPANTS**

Mr. White moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to send congratulatory letters to the following participants in the Ohio Science Day held at The Ohio State University on May 13, 2017:

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Award</u>
Antony Melem	St. John's Elementary	"What is the Most Common Fingerprint?"	Excellent
Abby Anderson	St. Mary's Elementary	"Which Popular Children's Beverage Causes the Most Tooth Decay?"	Excellent
Shelby Anderson	St. Mary's Elementary	"Which Household Cleaning Product is Hardest on a Manicure?"	Superior
Trey Brown	St. Mary's Elementary	"What Hits a Baseball Farther, Wooden or Metal Bats?"	Superior

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:

Michael Williamson	Robert Strong	Steven Richardson	Helen Jones
Roger Kerns	Triple H Storage	Steve Rood	Elizabeth Lehman/
Willy Fletcher	Mike Matheny	Stacy Day	Kimberly Wiseman
Nathan Roby	Kimberly Hammond	Jerry Biehl	Kathy McKitrick
Heather Mannix	H. Clifton Spencer II	Christopher Marshall	

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 to County Auditor Bill McFarland the following seriously delinquent sewer accounts, requesting him to place delinquent amounts on property tax bills:

Nancy Nida	Daniel Brown	Lucille Hupp	Jane Cunningham
Angel Johnson	Ted Williams	Erica Counts	Allen Fleming
Ernest Cornell	Allyson Call	Jean Yost	

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

**RE: CHANGE IN HOLIDAY SCHEDULE FOR COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE**

The Commissioners acknowledged receipt of notice from County Engineer Roger Wright that staff in his office and highway department will observe Friday, November 24, 2017 as a holiday, and will work Monday, October 9, 2017, instead.

**RE: RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING RETIREMENT OF COUNTY TREASURER**

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

**WHEREAS**, Dorothy K. Peppel has faithfully served the citizens of Washington County as Treasurer for

thirty-six years, completing her ninth term in this elected office on September 3, 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, prior to serving as Treasurer of Washington County, and beginning in February of 1954, Dorothy K. Peppel worked in the office of Washington County Treasurers H.H. Myers, Huldah M. Warren, Ronald A. Hartshorn, and Robert H. Fulmer as Clerk for more than twenty-seven years; and

**WHEREAS**, during her time in the Treasurer's Office Dorothy has processed an estimated 6.5 million real estate tax bills; and

**WHEREAS**, Dorothy K. Peppel is currently the longest working member in the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System, and the most senior County Treasurer in the State of Ohio; and

**WHEREAS**, Dorothy K. Peppel intends to retire from public service upon the completion of her current term of office, September 3, 2017.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of Washington County, Ohio that, on behalf of the citizens of Washington County, Dorothy K. Peppel is recognized for her outstanding service in the Treasurer's Office for more than sixty-three years, and congratulated for a job very well done; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that, in honor of her achievements, in gratitude for her service, and in celebration of her retirement, the Board of Commissioners of Washington County, Ohio declares Friday, September 1, 2017

## **DOROTHY K. PEPPEL DAY**

President Feathers read aloud the Resolution to Ms. Peppel, who then expressed her appreciation and her pleasure for having worked with so many wonderful Washington County elected officials and their employees. The following Washington County elected officials then had the privilege of being photographed with Ms. Peppel:

Commissioner Ron Feathers  
Commissioner David White  
Commissioner Rick Walters  
Auditor Bill McFarland  
Recorder Tracey Wright  
Prosecutor Kevin Rings  
Engineer Roger Wright  
Judge Tim Williams

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

### **RE: SNAP-ED PROGRAM, OSU EXTENSION**

Cindy Styer and Sara Kroll, Extension Educators in the SNAP-Ed Program at OSU Extension Office, updated the Commissioners on their activities, including:

*Kids Can Cook* classes for elementary students at Washington, Harmar, and Phillips Elementary Schools, in collaboration with GoPacks Programs at those schools  
Start-up of *Kids Can Cook* at Belpre and New Matamoras Elementary Schools  
Start-up of *Kids Can Cook* at Head Start Programs in Marietta and New Matamoras  
Filling vacancy in SNAP-Ed, to return number of Educators to three

Ms. Styer thanked the Commissioners for their support throughout the year.

### **RE: DAN RITCHEY, CHIEF, RENO VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Dan Ritchey, Chief of the Reno Volunteer Fire Department, informed the Commissioners the fire hydrant at the Washington County Home has not yet been repaired. He said it has been about three years since this was first brought to light, and will now require removal of new asphalt roadway to fix. Commissioner Walters said he will consult with the Reno Water Authority Board of Directors about this situation.

Mr. Ritchey then encouraged the Commissioners to look for a local person in their search for a new EMA Director, one with ties to the community and knowledge of the area. He said he believes such a candidate would be more likely to remain in the position.

President Feathers asked Mr. Ritchey why he made the following statement to *The Marietta Times*:

*"Basically we've been without a director since Jeff Lauer quit because none of us fire chiefs ever met the new guy that's leaving. He never made an effort to come out to work with us and get to know the needs of the stations."*

Mr. Feathers said he does not believe Mr. Ritchey "speaks the truth", and that Mr. Ritchey "impugned the integrity not only of the EMA Director, but also that of the Board of Commissioners". He said public comments by Mr. Ritchey may make it more difficult to find the right person for the job.

Mr. Ritchey responded: "Don't blame me for your failure, Mr. Feathers."

Mr. Ritchey said he simply told the truth. He said the current EMA Director came to one of the fire chiefs' meetings, but arrived late and left early. He informed the Commissioners he has yet to receive an updated Washington County Fire & EMS Directory, which has normally been distributed by the EMA Director by this time of the year.

Mr. Feathers read to Mr. Ritchey the responsibilities of the EMA Department, and noted Mr. Kelly has worked since March trying to fulfill those responsibilities. He said Mr. Kelly has:

- Coordinated and conducted with five departments an effective emergency drill
- Learned EMA requirements of the State of Ohio
- Worked closely with the Marietta Fire Chief, the Marietta City Police Chief, the Sheriff, the 911 Coordinator, the Belpre City Police Chief, and the Marietta College Chief of Police

Mr. Ritchey said Reno can be isolated in times of major flooding, and he believes the EMA Director should have made it a point to find that out and to visit his department. Mr. Feathers said Mr. Kelly has been very busy over the past several months doing what was expected of him. Commissioner Walters said it would have been appropriate for Mr. Ritchey to have invited Mr. Kelly to Reno to share with him his department equipment inventory, its needs, and the Reno community layout.

Mr. Ritchey continued to assert that in his opinion Washington County hasn't had an EMA Director during the past five months. He asked the Commissioners to "do a better background check" on candidates. He noted his department was not invited to participate in the emergency drill conducted in Coal Run, and he didn't become aware of it until it happened. Commissioner Walters said the event was very well coordinated and conducted by Mr. Kelly. Mr. Ritchey agreed with Mr. Walters that the drill was a success.

Mr. Ritchey excused himself from the Commissioners' meeting, and suggested he and Mr. Feathers will continue the discussion at a later date. Mr. Feathers responded: "No we won't. We're done here."

**RE: GLEN KELLY, EMA DIRECTOR**

EMA Director Glen Kelly told the Commissioners he is quite disappointed there appears to be an issue where there isn't really one. He said he has been blessed to have worked closely with five great fire chiefs since he has been the EMA Director. He said the County was running out of time to conduct a required exercise, and he and others were able to coordinate that with much success. He said the exercise involved 78 participants, 3 departments, and the HazMat Team.

Mr. Kelly reported he did attend the July meeting of the fire chiefs, where he had the opportunity to not only introduce himself but also to meet several of them. He said the article in the local paper was simply wrong about him not having met the local fire chiefs.

Referencing his prior work experience in the City of Morgantown, West Virginia, Mr. Kelly said he implemented significant upgrades and enhancements at the City's fire department. He said he received top notch evaluations of his work with the City, the fire department, and the airport.

He said he believes the Washington County EMA Department to have good support and facilities, but now needs a "pilot" to continue steering it in the right direction. Mr. Kelly said he strongly believes the EMA Director should work hand-in-hand with the 911 Coordinator to ensure the County has assets and resources to cover all types of situations. He encouraged the Commissioners to consider transitioning the two functions to operate under one umbrella.

Mr. Kelly thanked the Commissioners for the opportunity to work with them over the past several months, and assured them he would continue as needed until a new director is hired.

**RE: ADJOURNMENT**

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

A calling of the roll resulted in a unanimous vote in favor. The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

\_\_\_\_\_, President

\_\_\_\_\_, Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_, Member

\_\_\_\_\_, Clerk

