

THE DULY ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO, MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON MARCH 21, 2019 IN ACCORDANCE WITH OHIO REVISED CODE 305.05, WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT: DAVID A. WHITE, PRESIDENT, RONALD L. FEATHERS, VICE PRESIDENT, AND KEVIN J. RITTER, MEMBER. THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 9:00 A.M. BY THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD. MR. WHITE LED THOSE ATTENDING IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO OUR FLAG.

Also attending were:

Flite Freimann, Director, Job and Family Services
Tim Marty, Buildings & Grounds Superintendent
Shawn Dalrymple, Wastewater Superintendent
Kim Hinkle, Child Support Enforcement Agency
Rich Hays, EMA Director
Donnie Rader, I.T. Department
Kathy Thieman, Director of Human Resources
Glenn Ray, Board of Elections
Dennis Sipe, Board of Elections
John Halliday, Board of Elections
Mandy Amos, Board of Elections
Gary Doan, Muskingum Township Trustee
Karen Doan
Alice Stewart, Children Services
Lisa Ball, Children Services
Rachel Pannell, Children Services
Yvonne Garvey, Children Services
Tonya Kidder, Children Services
Laken Camino, Children Services
Ren'ee Brown, Congressman Bill Johnson's Office
Chad Adkins, *The Marietta Times*
Rick Peoples, Clerk

**Washington County Commissioners
AGENDA
9:00 a.m., March 21, 2019**

9:00 Business Meeting
9:30 Flite Freimann, JFS – Merger Update
10:00 Bonnie Walters – Humane Society of the Ohio Valley Update
10:30 Ray Smith, Public Defenders Office – Contract Renewal
11:00 Public Hearing #1 – CHIP Program

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Agenda
Approval of previous meeting's minutes
Bills from various departments
Resolution – Tax Incentive Review Council Recommendation
Additional Appropriation – Court Records Preservation, Clerk of Courts
Additional Appropriation – Remote Ballot Marking System, Board of Elections
Additional Appropriation – County General, Jail
Additional Appropriation - Transit
Transfer – County General, Board of Elections
Then & Now's
Travel – Clerk of Courts
Jail Contracts (2)
Engineer – Resolution to Participate in the ODOT Winter Salt Bid for 2019-2020

DATES TO REMEMBER

Township Association Meeting, 6:30 p.m., **Thursday**, March 28, at Engineer's Office
Monthly Meeting at County Home, 8:30 a.m., **Tuesday**, April 9
Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m., **Monday**, April 15
Finance Committee, 10:00 a.m., **Tuesday**, April 16, in Annex Conference Room A

RE: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Feathers moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve the agenda

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

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Feathers moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to dispense with the reading and approve the minutes of the March 14, 2019 Regular Meeting.

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

RE: BILLS FOR PAYMENT

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Feathers 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: David White aye, Ron Feathers aye, Kevin Ritter aye. Motion passed.

RE: RESOLUTION, TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION

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

***WHEREAS**, in order to encourage and promote the creation of employment and investment opportunities within Washington County, the Board of Commissioners of Washington County sponsors the State of Ohio's Enterprise Zone program; and*

***WHEREAS**, an integral part of the Enterprise Zone program is the annual review of those Agreements entered into by the local public partners and private businesses committed to the creation of job and investment opportunities within Washington County; and*

***WHEREAS**, consistent with State law Washington County has caused to be created a Tax Incentive Review Council for the purpose of reviewing Enterprise Zone Agreements and recommending an appropriate course of action to the Board of Commissioners with regard to continuance, modification, or termination of the aforementioned Agreements; and*

***WHEREAS**, the Tax Incentive Review Council assigned review responsibility has conducted its responsibilities for the period January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018; and*

***WHEREAS**, the Tax Incentive Review Council has recommended that Agreements monitored during the review and reporting period be continued without modification for the following:*

Washington Electric Cooperative, Inc.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners of Washington County does hereby accept the recommendations of the Washington County Tax Incentive Review Council, and does hereby continue the Agreement in place with Washington Electric Cooperative, Inc.*

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

RE: ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. Feathers moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve requests for the following additional appropriations:

<u>Department</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Clerk of Courts	200-0234-54000	\$ 1,000.00
Board of Elections	215-0162-54400	\$ 956.00
Co. Gen., Jail	100-0381-53700	\$ 1,225.00
Transit	215-0855-57401	\$ 39,780.00

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

RE: TRANSFER

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

<u>Department</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Board of Elections	100-0160-51006	100-0160-51001	\$ 4,060.00

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

RE: THEN & NOW

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Feathers seconded a motion to approve the following Then & Now:

Dept	Account	Vendor	Amount
Commissioners	100-0109-54000	R.D. Wilson	\$ 202.80

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

RE: TRAVEL REQUEST

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Feathers seconded a motion to approve the following request for reimbursement of expenses for training and travel pursuant to the policies and procedures and in compliance with the Annual Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2019 and any and all amendments subsequent thereto:

Clerk of Courts

Brenda Wolfe, Paula Hendrickson: One-day trip to Columbus to attend Ohio Clerk of Courts Association Meeting and Title Seminar; April 18, 2019.

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

RE: JAIL CONTRACTS

Mr. Feathers moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve contracts with the following entities to house their prisoners in the Washington County Jail, during the period May 1, 2019 through April 30, 2020, at the daily rate of \$68.00:

Gallia County
Jackson County

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

RE: RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE IN ODOT WINTER SALT BID

Mr. Feathers moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve a request from County Engineer Roger Wright to approve a Resolution authorizing Washington County to participate in the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) winter salt bid for the 2019-2020 winter season.

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

RE: COMMENTS FROM VISITORS

Mandy Amos from the Board of Elections reported early voting for the May 7, 2019 primary will begin in April. She noted only registered Republicans of the City of Belpre will be eligible to vote in this primary.

Tim Marty, Buildings & Grounds Superintendent, reported a circulating pump at the Courthouse needs emergency repair, with an estimated cost of \$5,000.00.

Donnie Rader, I.T. Director, said the back-up cooling system in the server room is now being installed.

Muskingum Township Trustee Gary Doan asked the Commissioners for an update on the Devola sewer line installation project. President White said a Request for Qualifications is soon to be issued to select appropriate engineering firms for the project. He said one firm will be used to design the project, and another to oversee the project. Mr. White noted the firms will be selected primarily on their qualifications, experience and expertise, but not on their fees. He said fees are negotiable upon selection of desired firms. Commissioner Feathers said he expects proposals from engineering firms to be submitted around April 18. He said the County's consultants have requested additional time from the Ohio EPA to pursue necessary easements, which will allow for lower construction costs and less damage to properties. Mr. White said a public meeting for Devola residents will be held after engineers are selected and ready to share project plans. He said it is important to keep Devola residents well-informed throughout this project.

RE: JFS AND CHILDREN SERVICES MERGER UPDATE

President White noted he said at the Commissioners' meeting on March 14 that he was opposed to Job and Family Services (JFS) moving to 204 Davis Avenue. He clarified that, saying that he is not opposed to such a move but cautions it will not be a quick move primarily due to the needs of the Board of Elections. He said it is imperative the Board of Elections is able to conduct elections that are honest and fair, without interruption.

Flite Freimann, Executive Director of Washington County Department of Job and Family Services (JFS), updated the Commissioners on the merging of JFS and Washington County Children Services Agency.

Mr. Freimann reported Children Services has a current cash balance of \$399,574, which will carry them through March. He said he will be asking for an advance of appropriated funds to provide adequate cash flow until the levy funds are available. He said he is pleased to report Children Services is on track to meet budgetary goals for the fiscal year.

Mr. Freimann said he prepared, at the request of the Commissioners, a phasing plan for the option of moving JFS to 204 Davis Avenue. He described each of the three phases:

Phase I

Move Social Services from JFS to 204 Davis Avenue, and the Commissioners from 204 Davis Avenue to JFS.
Renovate space at 204 Davis Avenue to house Public Assistance from JFS.
Move Public Assistance from JFS to 204 Davis Avenue.

Phase II

Identify new location for Board of Elections (possibly 202 Davis Avenue).
Move Family & Children First to JFS.
Renovate 202 Davis Avenue to accommodate Board of Elections.
Move Board of Elections to 202 Davis Avenue.

Phase III

Move Ohio Means Jobs, Workforce Development, State Offices and Fiscal from JFS to 204 Davis Avenue.

Mr. Freimann provided a summary of estimated costs involved, a timeline of events, and an estimate of annual rents to be paid by JFS to the County. He said his proposed phasing should be finished by mid-2021. He noted the renovation of facilities will likely be a bond construction project.

Mr. Freimann said he believes it will be minimal cost to move the Commissioners into the JFS facility. He said the State has agreed it is acceptable for the Commissioners to share the space at JFS, as long as the Commissioners do not have access to the JFS server.

President White said he hopes the County will have no need to rent space during this transition and relocation of departments.

RE: BOARD OF ELECTIONS UPDATE

Dennis Sipe, Washington County Board of Elections, informed the Commissioners his Board will meet on April 10 to hear presentations of three vendors proposing to provide new voting machines to Washington County. He invited the Commissioners to attend these presentations.

Mr. Sipe said he expects to receive a report from the Department of Homeland Security on recent testing of the County's cyber security measures. He reminded the Commissioners their full presidential year election activity begins around August of 2020, and continues into the following year.

RE: HUMANE SOCIETY UPDATE

Bonnie Walters and Mike Montgomery updated the Commissioners on the activities of the Humane Society of the Mid-Ohio Valley.

Ms. Walters provided to the Commissioners a report on services provided by, and payments made to, area veterinarians. She said she is pleased to report the process for payment to veterinarians has improved, and payments to them are now up-to-date.

Ms. Walters distributed a list of upcoming fund-raisers for the Humane Society. She noted the Fur Ball on March 30 is sold out, and it is their largest fund-raiser. She encouraged the Commissioners to participate in their events. She said she believes the Commissioners will be very impressed with what her Board intends to do over the next year, and beyond.

President White congratulated Ms. Walters and Mr. Montgomery for helping to improve the Shelter. He said the animals are receiving better care, and are in turn less expensive to maintain. He said it is refreshing to hear good news from the Humane Society. Mr. White said although the Commissioners have no say in how the Board operates the Shelter, they do care about the treatment and care of animals at the Shelter.

Commissioner Feathers said the Commissioners want to partner with the Humane Society as long as there are sufficient funds available. He said the updates the Commissioners now receive are invaluable.

Commissioner Ritter offered to assist with promotion of fund raisers and needs at the Shelter.

Mr. Montgomery noted the Shelter just received 25 kittens and 4 cats from one residence. He said they also have 8 new puppies. He said the Shelter now has an agreement with a rescuer in

Pittsburgh. Mr. Feathers suggested they might also consider placing some of their older dogs at nursing homes, agreeing, though, to pay expenses of care for the dogs.

Mr. Montgomery said the Humane Society Board now has nine members, who bring with them not only professional knowledge and experience, but also emotion, enthusiasm and creativity.

RE: PUBLIC DEFENDERS CONTRACT

Ray Smith, Office of the Ohio Public Defenders, informed the Commissioners the budget proposal presented by Governor DeWine includes a large increase in the reimbursement to Counties for indigent defense expenses. He said the Governor's proposal is to increase the reimbursement rate from the current 42% to an amount between 70% and 75%. The Commissioners said this increase in share of cost by the State of Ohio is long overdue, and expressed hope the proposal by the Governor survives the budget process. Mr. Smith said the new State budget begins July 1.

President White informed Attorney Smith that Phoenix Associates has been awarded the contract to renovate new facilities to house the Public Defenders, and they will soon begin work on the project. Commissioner Feathers noted this will be a phased project, and the Public Defenders will be invited to participate in the facilities design once the shell of the building is completed.

RE: PUBLIC HEARING – CHIP APPLICATION

At 11:00 a.m. the Commissioners conducted the first Public Hearing to receive comments on the County's application for Community Housing Impact and Preservation (CHIP) Program funds. The only attendee was Dawn Rauch, Washington-Morgan Community Action Program (WMCAP). WMCAP administers the CHIP Program on behalf of the Commissioners.

Ms. Rauch said this application, which must be submitted by May 3, 2019, is for \$620,000. She said Washington County partners with the City of Belpre in this application for grant funds, but the City of Marietta is a stand-alone program. Ms. Rauch noted the program period is September 2019 through December 2021.

Ms. Rauch said the goal of the program is to preserve existing housing stock by providing repair and rehabilitation assistance to eligible Washington County and City of Belpre residents. She explained eligible activities for use of funds, and that CHIP funds are leveraged with Fair Housing activities, WMCAP utilities programs, and WMCAP program income funds.

Ms. Rauch said there will be a second Public Hearing on the CHIP application on April 18, 2019.

RE: ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Feathers moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to adjourn. A calling of the roll resulted in a unanimous vote in favor. The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

_____, President

_____, Vice President

_____, Member

_____, Clerk