

THE DULY ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO, MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON JULY 25, 2019 IN ACCORDANCE WITH OHIO REVISED CODE 305.05, WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT: DAVID A. WHITE, PRESIDENT. RONALD L. FEATHERS, VICE PRESIDENT. KEVIN J. RITTER, MEMBER. THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 9:00 A.M. BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD. MR. WHITE LED THOSE ATTENDING IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO OUR FLAG, AND MR. RITTER OFFERED PRAYER.

Also attending were:

Kimberly Hinkle, Child Support Enforcement Agency
Kathy Thieman, Director of Human Resources
Erica Folden, Building Department
Donnie Rader, I.T. Department
Emma Rader, I.T. Department
Flite Freimann, Job and Family Services
Shawn Dalrymple, Wastewater Superintendent
Richard Hays, Washington County EMA
Roger Wright, Washington County Engineer
Karl Comstock, Maintenance
David Browne, Behavioral Health Board
Deanna Robinson
Jean Yost, Sons of the American Revolution
Betty Tucker
Michele Newbanks, *The Marietta Times*
Ben Cowdery, Clerk/Fiscal Manager

Washington County Commissioners
AGENDA
9:00 a.m., July 25, 2019

9:00 Business Meeting

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Appointment to Washington County Behavioral Health Board

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Agenda
Approval of previous meeting's minutes
Bills from various departments
Resolution – New Fund, Election Security Grant
Additional Appropriation – EMA
Additional Appropriation – Sheriff (2)
Additional Appropriation – Children Services
Transfer – Commissioners (2)
Then & Now
Travel – CSEA (2)
Travel – Building Department
Travel – Family & Children First
Disposal Request – Board of Elections
Disposal Request – Sheriff (2)
Bid Recommendation – Courthouse Stairs Renovation, DLH Design
Appointment of LEPC Members
Humane Society – Veterinary Invoice for July 2019
Engineer – Change Order #1, CR-14 Landslip Repair
Engineer – CR-11 Landslip Repair Agreement

DATES TO REMEMBER

Monthly County Home Meeting, 8:30 am, **Tuesday** August 13, at County Home
Monthly WCBHB Meeting, 7 pm, **Thursday** August 22, at Commissioners Public
-Meeting Room

RE: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Feathers moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve the agenda, with the following adjustment.

Add: Notice of Commencement of CR-11 Landslip Repair

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. Ritter moved and Mr. Feathers seconded a motion to dispense with the reading and

approve the minutes of the July 18, 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. Feathers moved and Mr. Ritter 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: THEN & NOW

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

<u>Department</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Engineer	200-0540-57500	Professional Land Surveyors	\$ 210.00

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

RE: RESOLUTION – NEW FUND, ELECTIONS SECURITY GRANT

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

***WHEREAS**, the Fiscal Office of the Washington County Auditor's Office has advised the Commissioners of a fund that needs to be established by resolution; and*

***WHEREAS**, the fund to be established is 215-0163 Elections Security Grant Fund; and is as follows:*

2015-0163 ELECTIONS SECURITY GRANT

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of Washington County Commissioners to hereby add the foregoing fund to the financial system of Washington County.*

The purpose of the fund is to implement the high priority items determined by the Secretary of State in Directive 2018-15, as part of the \$380 million in grants the federal government appropriated to the states to secure and improve election systems.

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>
EMA Fund	200-0315-51104	\$ 10,800.00
Sheriff Sales Tax Fund	100-0384-53800	\$ 40,000.00
Sheriff Commissary Fund	200-0383-57400	\$ 3,000.00
Children Service Fund	200-0740-53000	\$ 280,000.00

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

RE: TRANSFERS

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

<u>Department</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
County General Fund	100-0100-53203	100-0100-53202	\$ 300.00
County General Fund	100-0100-53000	100-0100-54000	\$ 600.00

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

RE: TRAVEL REQUESTS

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Feathers 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 2019 and any and all amendments subsequent thereto:

Child Support Enforcement Agency

Mindie Weber: Attorney Networking in Canton, August 2, 2019, and in Lancaster, August 22, 2019.

Family & Children First

Cindy Davis, Andrea Nichols, and Liz VanPelt: Help Me Grow Early Intervention training in Coshocton, August 14, 2019.

Building Department

Erica Folden: Annual FEMA training in Emmitsburg, Maryland, August 25-30, 2019.

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

RE: DISPOSAL REQUEST, BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Mr. Feathers moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve a request from the Board of Elections to dispose of eight plastic voting booths. The voting booths are broken and have no monetary value.

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

RE: DISPOSAL REQUEST, SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Mr. Feathers moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve two requests from the Sheriff's Office to dispose of unserviceable items. The first request is to dispose of a broken table with no monetary value. The second request is to dispose of twenty old inmate mattresses. The mattresses are unserviceable and Major Nohe, Jail Administrator, requests authorization to repurpose the mattresses to the Humane Society of the Ohio Valley. Commissioner White noted it is a commendable purpose for the old mattresses to be used by the Humane Society.

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

RE: BID RECOMMENDATION – COURTHOUSE STAIRS RENOVATION

Mr. Feathers moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve a bid recommendation from DLH Design to award the Courthouse Stair Renovation contract to the low bidder, MidState Contractors, Inc. Commissioner Feathers said the contractor has excellent references and has previously worked on the Logan County Courthouse and the Licking County Courthouse.

The estimated cost of the project was \$105,000 and MidState Contractors Inc. submitted the low bid of \$83,688.

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

RE: APPOINTMENT OF LEPC MEMBERS

Mr. Feathers moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve the list of members for the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), submitted by Richard Hays, Washington County EMA. LEPC members are appointed for a period of two years, and these members will serve for the period from August 14, 2019 to August 10, 2021.

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

RE: HUMANE SOCIETY, JULY 2019 VETERINARY INVOICE

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Feathers seconded a motion to approve the Veterinary Services invoice for July 2019, submitted by the Humane Society of the Ohio Valley. The total amount due for the invoice is \$1,500.00.

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

RE: ENGINEER – CHANGE ORDER #1 – FINAL, CR-14 LANDSLIP REPAIR

Mr. Feathers moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve the Change Order #1 – Final request from the Washington County Engineer for the CR-14 Landslip Repair project. The change order is for an additional \$848.44 due to the difference between estimated and actual cost once on site. The original contract amount of \$12,671.50 will increase to \$13,519.94.

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

RE: ENGINEER – CR-11 LANDSLIP REPAIR AGREEMENT

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Feathers seconded a motion to approve an agreement between Washington County and Bob Lane’s Welding for a landslip repair on CR-11 at a total cost not to exceed \$46,715.70. The repair will be funded with Motor Vehicle Gas Tax funds, as the landslip is located on the federal aid portion of the route and grant funding is not available.

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

RE: NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT OF CR-11 LANDSLIP REPAIR

Mr. Feathers moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve a Notice of Commencement of Public Improvement for the CR-11 Emergency Landslip Repair. The notice identifies the principal contractor as Bob Lane’s Welding of Marietta, Ohio, with surety provided by American Southern Insurance Co., of Reynoldsburg, Ohio.

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

RE: VISITOR – JEAN YOST, SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Jean Yost, representing the Marietta Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, requests the Commissioners lead the community with a proclamation requesting all to come together to plan for the 250th anniversary of America’s Declaration of Independence to occur in 2026. He presented the Commissioners with a description of the overall project, estimated to cost \$6,065,000, intended to secure our national monument for future generations and enhance Marietta’s position as a national gateway for tourism and recreation.

RE: COMMISSIONER RITTER STATEMENT

Commissioner Ritter prepared the following statement, from which he read aloud:

Approximately a week ago I received an email informing me that Dr. Richard Wittberg, the head of our County Health Department, had been dismissed by the Board that oversees this department. Whether or not Dr. Wittberg was forewarned of his dismissal I don’t know.

What the exact issues were that led to his dismissal are also unknown. When questioned by the press concerning the abrupt dismissal, the head of the Health Board offered no specific reasons, simply saying the problems with Dr. Wittberg are “documented.” Unsatisfied by this answer, the Marietta Times published an editorial on July 18th calling for more transparency from the Board.

Furthermore, despite holding one of three County Commissioner seats, I was not forewarned of this dismissal either. To my knowledge neither were either of my colleagues. The point is.....the Board didn’t make so much as a quick phone call to let their intentions be known.

Of course, this sort of warning is NOT required by state law but it IS the mark of professional courtesy and of responsible oversight.

In retrospect, I have no doubt the Board acted in what they believe to be the best interests of the Health Department. Still, because of the lack of transparency, two Health Department Board Members have now resigned in protest.

Today, I am calling on the head of the Washington County Health Board to clearly state the reasons Dr. Wittberg was dismissed and to outline a plan for moving forward.

RE: ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Feathers seconded a motion to adjourn. A calling of the roll resulted in a unanimous vote in favor. The meeting adjourned at 9:24 a.m.

_____, President

_____, Vice President

_____, Member

_____, Clerk