

THE DULY ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO, MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON DECEMBER 19, 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:

Kathy Thieman, Human Resources
Kimberly Hinkle, Child Support Enforcement Agency
Lessa Grubb, I.T.
Karl Comstock, Maintenance
Flite Freimann, JFS
Crystal Schau, EMA
James Booth
Glen Pawloski
Marcia Pawloski
Tammy Bates, Treasurer
Dawn Rauch, WMCAP
Karissa Reynolds, Humane Society
Bri Deem, Humane Society
Mike Montgomery, Humane Society
Michele Newbanks, *The Marietta Times*
Ben Cowdery, Fiscal Manager/Clerk

**Washington County Commissioners
AGENDA
9:00 am, December 19, 2019**

9:00 Business Meeting
9:30 Investment Committee
9:45 WMCAP
10:00 Humane Society Update

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Job & Family Services – Resolution for Mobility Manager
Liquor Permit Transfer

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Agenda
Approval of previous meeting minutes
Bills from various departments
Then & Now
Engineer – 2020 Frost Law Resolution

DATES TO REMEMBER

Courthouse Closed for Christmas on Wednesday December 25
Adopt 2020 Appropriations Meeting, 9 am, Monday December 30, Commissioner Room
Courthouse Closed for New Years on Wednesday January 1, 2020
Annual Organizational Meeting, 9 am, Monday January 6, Commissioner Room
Monthly County Home Meeting, 8:30 am, Tuesday January 14, at County Home

RE: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Feathers moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve the agenda with the following changes:

Add:

Additional Appropriation – County General (2)
Transfer – RSVP
Sheriff – Contract for housing prisoners
Flite Freimann – 211 Services

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 December 12, 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: 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>
Municipal Court	100-0240-51001	\$ 1,435.20
Probate	100-0220-51000	\$.04

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

RE: TRANSFER

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

<u>Department</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
RSVP	210-0710-51102	210-0710-51001	\$ 5.60

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 Certificates:

<u>Department</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Sheriff	200-0630-53000	Evans Construction	\$ 15,280.00
	100-0384-53000	Sprint	\$ 100.00
Commissioners	100-0366-57501	MACC	\$ 218.00
	100-0101-53400	Kyle Boker	\$ 385.00
	100-0100-57100	MRDD	\$ 4,800.00

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

RE: ENGINEER – 2020 FROST LAW RESOLUTION

Mr. Feathers moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to adopt the 2020 Frost Law Resolution, effective January 1 2020 through April 15, 2020, as submitted by the county engineer. The resolution requires reduced weight limits during times of thaw and moisture on various roads in the county. Said reduction is to be 30% in axle loads and gross vehicle weights. The Engineer may issue special permits for vehicles. The fees for permits vary depending on vehicle weight.

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

RE: SHERIFF – CONTRACT FOR HOUSING PRISONERS IN MONROE COUNTY

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Feathers seconded a motion to approve a contract between Monroe County, Ohio and Washington County, Ohio for housing prisoners. The contract is effective January 1, 2020 to house prisoners from Washington County in the Monroe County Jail at a rate of \$65 per day for each person incarcerated. Commissioner White said that is the same rate the Washington County Jail charges.

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

RE: COMMENTS

James Booth asked if the budget for 2020 has been approved. The Commissioners said the Annual Appropriations Meeting for 2020 is scheduled for December 30, 2019 at 9 am.

Christopher Wilson, Building Department, said there will be a meeting with the Longridge Engineer to determine if the old Ormet site needs to follow code.

Kimberly Hinkle, CSEA, asked if the county cost allocation plan is complete. Commissioner White said the consultant is working on the plan and it is not yet complete.

Glen Pawloski said he appreciates the Commissioners' fight against the OEPA over the years and wished the Commissioners a Merry Christmas.

RE: JUDGE WILLIAMS STATEMENT

Judge Williams, Probate/Juvenile Court, prepared the following statement:

I would like to comment on the actions of the County Commissioners over these past few weeks with respect to myself, my employees and the Court. The County Commissioners Association of Ohio Handbook makes the following statement:

"Recognizing that the Courts are an independent branch of government with inherent authority to effectuate an orderly and efficient Administration of justice acknowledges that a healthy tension must exist between the Court's authority and the Commissioner's obligation."

What I have seen transpire recently is anything but healthy tension! In my 23 years as a Judge I have never seen County Commissioners behave the way you three have.

For those uninformed, the conflict between the County Commissioners and the Court started when I ordered my budget which included Pay Scale Adjustments for 21 out of 38 employees. Regardless of what has been said, these were not raises or cost of living increases. These adjustments were given to those of my employees who I felt were underpaid in light of the new pay range scale approved by the County Commissioners for Children Services workers who unionized as a result of the merger between the Department of Job and Family Services and Children Services Board.

As I said when interviewed by the Marietta Times, I have no issue with those increases for Children Services or with the Unions. Unions fight for their members. Why aren't nonunion department heads allowed to fight for better wages for their employees? If not treated fairly compared to County union employees, why wouldn't the County's nonunion employees unionize if allowed by law?

I will not go into detail again about the pay scale adjustments granted to Children Services employees and my employees. Commissioner Ritter stated to me and the newspaper that the pay adjustments requested by me were reasonable and that his disagreement is with the manner in which those increases were implemented.

Children Services employees deserved their increases, but so did my employees. In fact, there are other nonunion employees in other county departments that deserve increases as well. Unfortunately, I can only advocate and protect my employees.

According again to the County Commissioners Association of Ohio Handbook:

"The principles of law with respect to budget disputes between Commissioners and Judges can be summarized as follows:

First, common pleas courts and their divisions have inherent power to order funding that is reasonable and necessary to the courts' administration of their business.

Second, the board of county commissioners is obligated to appropriate the requested funds, unless the board can establish that the court abused its discretion by requesting unreasonable and unnecessary funding.

Third, a court's funding orders are presumed reasonable, and the board must rebut the presumption in order to justify its noncompliance with the funding orders.

Fourth, absent an abuse of discretion on the part of the judge, the board of county commissioners is obligated to appropriate annually such sum of money as will meet all the administrative expenses of such court which the judge thereof deems necessary.

Fifth, the reasonableness of a court's funding request must be determined only from a consideration of the request in relation to the factual needs of the court for the proper administration of its business.

Sixth, the board of county commissioners cannot simply substitute their judgment for that of the Judge in these matters."

As stated in the Ohio Judicial Conference Budget Resource Handbook which was compiled as a collaborative project by participation of the Ohio Supreme Court, various Ohio Judges, the County Commissioners Association of Ohio and other related entities:

"The judiciary is a separate and co-equal branch of government with separate and distinct powers and responsibilities."

"When the Ohio Constitution vest judicial power in the Courts, it is granting certain inherent powers to the Courts that enable them to preserve and protect their own existence and to safeguard their capacity to perform judicial functions. It is widely understood that courts have the power to keep the judiciary secure from any encroachment, direction, control or impediment from other branches of government. Correspondingly, the other branches of government (i.e. legislative/commissioners) have a responsibility to ensure that the Judiciary has the necessary funding and resources to administer justice. It is under the theory of inherent powers that courts are constitutionally entitled to financial support and authorized to order funding authorities to provide said support."

"It is unconstitutional for the legislature (county commissioners) to encroach on the judicial authority to determine the court's funding needs and to impede the judiciary in the administration of justice."

"A board of county commissioners has a mandatory duty to comply with the Court's request even if to do so would constitute an undue hardship and burden on other offices according to a ruling from the Ohio Supreme Court."

Luckily, my court's adjustments will have no impact on other offices despite what the commissioners have said. As of the end of November 2019, the county had an unencumbered balance (a savings account if you will) of \$8.2 million over and above all of the appropriated budgets of the county departments. As such, my pay adjustments of

\$60,000 will have no impact on the other county offices. Commissioner Ritter is telling the other departments that they will have to do with less as a result of my actions. This is not true.

I understand the commissioners are upset with me and the fact that Courts under Ohio law operate different from other departments when it comes to the budget process, but this whole episode has turned ugly and unprofessional.

When I had one of my employees deliver my court ordered budget to the County Commissioner offices, she was met by Commissioner White. Upon finding out what she was delivering, he called me 'a son of a bitch' in front of her. A few minutes later, again in front of her and several of his staff, he cursed again and referred to me as a 'kindergarten judge'.

I find this behavior to be unprofessional and not appropriate for an elected County Commissioner. My Court and the General Division of the Court of Common Pleas have been ordering our budgets for approximately the last 12 years. This year is no different. My actions are justified in light of the union contract agreed to by the Commissioners and Children Services.

I am tired of losing workers to other unionized county departments who pay higher wages.

Commissioner Ritter has also accused me of purposely over-appropriating my budget since I am returning unspent money back to the county at the end of this year. He, in my opinion, is accusing me of being incompetent when it comes to budgeting. I can assure the public I am a "good steward" of their funds. This year, the majority of the funds being returned were due to having employee turnover due to paying low wages and having positions unfilled throughout the year while trying to hire replacements. Additionally, our utility bills were lower than last year and, happily, the number of children that I had to place in detention (lock up) was down, so my cost for out-of-county lock ups was down.

Some years I have very little funds to return at the end of the year and others I have more.

Another issue I would like to address that Commissioner Ritter posted about is the fact that my employees at the Juvenile Center are not required to have degrees and the Children Services employees are. Not sure where he got his information, but he is incorrect. Those that work with the children are required to have a minimum of a two year degree.

Commissioner Ritter also implied that since Children Services workers are unionized and mine aren't that they therefore aren't entitled to similar wages. Really? He also in his post attacks my Court Administrator by asking if it is reasonable for her to make \$30,000 more than the Court Administrator in the General Division. The simple answer, yes it is! They have different duties and responsibilities.

My Court Administrator, Rae Ward, who has held that position for approximately 22 years, oversees a staff of 38 compared to 5 in the General Division. She is responsible for running and/or overseeing the Probate Court, the Juvenile Court, and clerk's office in each court, a Juvenile Probation Department, and the Juvenile Center. She is on call 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. She is also nationally certified as a Court Administrator. Her salary is in line with other courts around the state given her responsibilities.

Commissioner Ritter goes on to question whether it is reasonable for me to pay her more than 7 of the elected county officials. Elected officials salaries are set by the legislature. I believe that our county elected officials all do a great job, but I don't set their salaries.

In fact, my Court Administrator isn't the only one who makes more than those 7 department heads. Approximately 60 county employees in other departments make more than those 7 department heads. I am guessing if you include overtime paid by other departments that number may be close to 100.

Commissioner Ritter also asks whether it is reasonable for me to pay my Court Administrator \$8,000 more than the Sheriff. I don't know where he got his information but this is untrue. Sheriff Mincks makes over \$2,000 more, in accordance with the Statute in Ohio that sets his salary. Is he paid enough? Absolutely not. His car is usually the last car left in the county parking lot at the end of the day and I usually see it there on the weekends. He is one of the hardest working persons I know.

One final comment and I will shut up because I have spoken long enough and I am sure you are tired of hearing from me.

This concerns the fact that the Commissioners were checking with the Auditor and State about the retirement of my Court Administrator. Yes, it is true that on paper she retired on February 28, 2019 after 22 years at age 70 ½ so that she can start collecting her PERS state retirement that she earned and is entitled to receive. Effective March 1, she became reemployed in the same position and the same salary as is allowed by Ohio law, as I asked her if she would continue working for me as my Court Administrator since she would be hard to replace.

Her rehiring is not costing the county any additional money. If she fully retired I would have to replace her with a qualified person who would be paid a similar salary.

In closing, I hope we can put all of this nonsense behind us and we, the Court and County Commissioners, can work together in the future.

The following is a transcript of Judge Williams' comments at the meeting:

"I'd like to speak about the actions of the County Commissioners over these past few weeks with respect to my employees and the court. The County Commissioners Association of Ohio Handbook makes the following statement:

'Recognizing that the Courts are an independent branch of government with

inherent authority to effectuate an orderly and efficient administration of justice acknowledges that a healthy tension must exist between the Court's authority and the Commissioner's obligation.'

What I have seen transpiring recently is anything but healthy tension. In my 23 years as a judge I've never seen County Commissioners behave the way the three of you have recently.

For those uninformed, the conflict between the County Commissioners and the Court started when I ordered my budget, which included pay scale adjustments for 21 out of 38 employees. Regardless of what has been said, these were not raises or cost of living increases. These were adjustments given to those of my employees who I felt were underpaid in light of the new pay range scale approved by the County Commissioners for Children Services workers who unionized as a result of the merger between DJFS and Children Services.

As I said when interviewed by the Marietta Times, I have no issue with these increases or the unions. Unions fight for their members. Why aren't nonunion department heads allowed to fight for better wages for their employees?

If not treated fairly compared to County Union employees, why wouldn't the county's nonunion employees unionize if allowed by law?

I will not go into detail again about the pay scale adjustments granted to Children's Services employees and my employees. Commissioner Ritter stated to me and the newspaper that the pay adjustments requested by me were reasonable and that his disagreement is with the manner in which those raises were implemented.

Children Services employees deserved their raises, increases, but so did my employees. In fact, there are other nonunion employees in other county departments that deserve increases as well. Unfortunately, I can only advocate and protect my employees.

According again to the County Commissioners Association of Ohio Handbook:

'The principles of law with respect to budget disputes between Commissioners and Judges can be summarized as follows:

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Sixth, the board of county commissioners cannot simply substitute their judgment for that of the Judge in these matters.'

The judiciary is a separate and coequal branch of government with separate and distinct powers and responsibilities.

When the Ohio Constitution vests judicial power in the courts, it is granting certain inherent powers to the courts that enable them to preserve and protect their own existence and to safeguard their capacity to perform judicial functions. It is widely understood that courts have the power to keep the judiciary secure from any encroachment, direction, control or impediment from other branches of government. Correspondingly, the other branches of government (i.e. the legislature which are the commissioners) have a responsibility and duty to ensure that the Judiciary has the necessary funding and resources to administer justice. It is under the theory of inherent powers that courts are constitutionally entitled to financial support and authorized to order funding authorities to provide said support.

It is unconstitutional for the legislative authority to encroach on the judicial authority to determine the court's funding needs and to impede the judiciary in the administrations of justice.

A Board of County Commissioners has a mandatory duty to comply with the Court's request even if to do so would constitute an undue hardship and burden on other offices according to a ruling from the Ohio Supreme Court.

Luckily, my court's adjustments will have no impact on other county offices despite what the commissioners have said.

As of the end of November of 2019, the county had an unencumbered balance, a savings account if you will, of \$8.2 million over and above all of the appropriated budgets in the county departments. As such my pay adjustments of approximately \$60,000 will have no impact on the other county offices. Commissioner Ritter is telling the departments that they will have to do with less as a result of my actions. This is untrue.

I understand the commissioners are upset with me and the fact that Courts under Ohio law operate different from other departments when it comes to the budget process, but this whole episode has turned ugly and unprofessional.

When I had one of my employees deliver my court ordered budget to the County Commissioners offices, she was met by Commissioner White. Upon finding out what she was delivering, he called me a son of a bitch in front of her. A few minutes later, again in front of her and several of his staff, he again cussed and referred to me as a kindergarten Judge. I'm not sure what that means, but I find this behavior to be unprofessional and not appropriate for an elected County Commissioner.

My Court and the General Division of the Court of Common Pleas have been ordering our budgets for approximately the last 12 years. This year is no different. My

actions are justifiable in light of the union contract agreed to by the Commissioners and Children Services.

I am tired of losing workers to other unionized county departments who pay higher wages.

Commissioner Ritter has also accused me of purposely over-appropriating my budget since I am returning unspent money back to the county at the end of this year. He, in my opinion, is accusing me of being incompetent when it comes to budgeting. I can assure the public I am a good steward of their funds. This year the majority of the funds being returned were due to employee turnover due to paying low wages and having positions unfilled throughout the year while trying to hire replacements. Additionally, our utility bills were also lower than last year and happily the number of children that I had to place in detention, or lock up, was lower so my cost for out of county lock ups was down. Some years I've had very little funds to return at the end of the year to the County Commissioners and others I have more.

Another issue I would like to address that Commissioner Ritter has posted about is the fact that my employees at the Juvenile Center are not required to have degrees and the Children Service employees are. Not sure where he got his information, but that is incorrect. Those that work with children at the Juvenile Center are required to have a minimum of a two year degree.

Commissioner Ritter also implied that since CSB workers are unionized and mine aren't that they therefore aren't entitled to similar wages. Really? I find that to be disappointing.

He also in my post attacks my Court Administrator, Rae Ward, who is with me today, asking if it is reasonable for her to make \$30,000 more than the Court Administrator in General Division. I have all the respect for the Court Administrator in General Division. The simple answer, yes it is logical to pay Rae Ward more money. They have different duties and responsibilities.

My Court Administrator, who has held that position for approximately 22 years, oversees a staff of 38 compared to the other Court Administrator overseeing a staff of 5.

She's responsible for running and overseeing the Probate Court, the Juvenile Court, which are separate courts, a clerk's office in each court, so two clerk's offices, a Juvenile Probation Department, and a Juvenile Center. She's on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. I should also note that she is nationally certified as a Court Administrator which is not true with the other position. Her salary is also in line with other courts around the state given her responsibilities.

Commissioner Ritter further goes on to question whether it is reasonable for me to pay her a salary that is higher than seven of the elected county officials. I don't set elected county officials salaries, the legislature does that. I believe that all of our elected officials do a great job and deserve more quite honestly in my opinion but again, I don't set their salaries.

In fact, my Court Administrator isn't the only one who makes more than those seven department heads, as you'd be led to believe if you read the post. Approximately sixty county employees in other departments make more than those seven department heads which Commissioner Ritter is referring to. She's not the only one. I am guessing if you look at the overtime in some of the other departments, there's probably closer to about a hundred employees in this county that make more than seven department heads. Again, they deserve more but that's not up to me.

Commissioner Ritter also asks whether it is responsible for me to pay my Court Administrator \$8,000 more than our County Sheriff, Sheriff Mincks. I don't know where he got this information because that is untrue. The Sheriff's salary is set by statute. If you look at that salary, you check with the Auditor's office he makes over \$2,000 more than my Court Administrator. Is he paid enough? Absolutely not. He is one of the hardest working employees this county has. Typically, when I leave at night he and I are the last there. I'm leaving, he's still there. When I come in on the weekend he's already there. Is his salary of \$84,000 enough? Absolutely not. If I could do something about that I would.

One final comment and I'll shut up because I'm keeping all of you here and you probably don't even want to hear this.

It has come to my attention that one, two, or three Commissioners are all upset about my Court Administrator for the reason that she chose after 22 years to retire on paper. February 28th she came to me and said she was going to retire. She was 70 ½. She wanted to start enjoying life, collecting her PERS. She's going to be hard to replace. So I talked her into coming back. So we worked it out where she would retire on paper. Go to Columbus file those papers as allowed by law to start collecting her retirement. That was on the 28th of February. Next day March 1st and she was right back to work. Nothing changed. She's still being paid that salary as she's allowed under Ohio Law. It's not costing the Commissioners or this County any additional money than she was making before retirement. She's entitled to collect her PERS pension, she's doing that. She's still employed full time. She's entitled to that salary. It's not costing any more. I don't know whether questions about her are being asked to the Auditor and to Columbus and her retirement because somebody believes she shouldn't work when she reached 70 ½. Whether they don't like her but, it was her choice and my choice to rehire her and I'm glad she's back so I don't know why that's an issue. There's been lots of employees over the years, I've been here 23 years, that have retired, come back to work. We still have other employees in other departments that do the same thing. It's allowed by Ohio Law.

To close, I'd just like to say, I understand you're upset but let's get over it, move past it. I'm protecting my employees just as you protected the employees at Children Services and other unions. There are seven unions in this county. You have no problem signing off, giving them increases. I don't either. They do their job, great, but I don't know

why you're not willing to do the same for not just my office but, for instance, Clerk of Courts, Treasurer, Auditor, you name them, any other nonunionized office.

What's going to happen is those offices should consider unionizing if that's what it takes. That's going to cost you a lot more money.

Let's be reasonable, let's be polite, professional. We have to work together. Thank you."

RE: INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

Tammy Bates, Treasurer, shared with the commissioners the latest results of the county's investments. The year-to-date interest earned with Meeder Investment Management is \$536,513.72, a little over a 2% return. The year-to-date interest earned with Peoples Bank is \$257,429.25. Total interest earned year-to-date on county investments is \$793,942.97.

RE: WMCAP – HUD & TRANSIT AGREEMENTS

Mr. Feathers moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve a Programmatic Agreement for HUD-funded programs.

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

Mr. Feathers moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve the Fee for Service Contract for Transit Services 2020. Under the contract, WMCAP agrees to provide a minimum of 11,152 hours of transportation service at \$54 per hour. Actual farebox revenue will be deducted monthly.

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

RE: HUMANE SOCIETY UPDATE

Three members of the Humane Society provided the commissioners with a brief update. There are currently 98 cats and 59 dogs at the shelter. The HSOV has several new board members.

RE: FLITE FREIMANN – 211 SERVICES

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Feathers seconded a motion to approve a request for \$500 to support 211 Services. Flite Freimann, Director of JFS, said 211 is an integral partner in helping the most at-risk for a large portion of the population without internet. He said a human will answer the phone and they follow up with each caller a week later.

Commissioner White feels it is improper for the county to give tax money to a nonprofit. He said he is willing to volunteer his own time to fundraising efforts and encourage others to give, but it would be hypocritical of him to give taxpayer money for this.

Commissioner Ritter said that in principle he agrees with Commissioner White's opposition to giving public monies to a project of this nature. Nevertheless, because of the narrow scope of the request and because of the lack of internet coverage in some areas of the county he is inclined to support this limited request.

Commissioner Feathers said when 211 began in 2014 he was against giving tax money for it, but because 211 is such a vital service now in our community, it is with careful thought and consideration he believes funding with tax money would be a benefit.

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

RE: EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 10:26 am, Mr. Freimann requested to enter executive session to discuss real estate.

Mr. Feathers moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to enter executive session. Motion passed by unanimous approval.

At 10:33 am, the commissioners resumed the regular meeting.

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 10:34 a.m.

_____, President

_____, Vice President

_____, Member

_____, Clerk