

THE DULY ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO, MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON MARCH 5, 2020 IN ACCORDANCE WITH OHIO REVISED CODE 305.05, WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT: RONALD L. FEATHERS, PRESIDENT. KEVIN J. RITTER, VICE PRESIDENT. DAVID A. WHITE, 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, AND MR. RITTER OFFERED PRAYER.

Also attending:

Kathy Thieman, Human Resources
Richard Hays, EMA
Kimberly Hinkle, Child Support Enforcement Agency
Roger Wright, Engineer
Flite Freimann, JFS
Donnie Rader, I.T.
Karl Comstock, Maintenance
Darlene Lukshin, WCEO
James Booth
Charlie Schilling
Gary Doan, Muskingum Township Trustee
Karen Doan
Chris Wilson, SEOBD
Tim Williams, Probate Judge
Rae Ward, Probate/Juvenile Court
Deanna Robinson
Michele Newbanks, *The Marietta Times*
Ben Cowdery, Fiscal Manager/Clerk

**Washington County Commissioners
AGENDA
9:00 am, March 5, 2020**

9:00 Business Meeting

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Agenda
Approval of previous meeting minutes
Bills from various departments
Additional Appropriation – Engineer (2)
Transfer – Engineer
Then & Now
Travel – FCF, Commissioners, HR, JFS
WCBHB – Board Reappointment Application
Jail Contract with Muskingum County
Jail Contract with Village of Lowell
Delinquent Sewer Accounts
Certification of Delinquent Sewer Accounts
Devola Sewer Engineering Option – From 2/20/2020
Material Bid Awards – Engineer (3)

DATES TO REMEMBER

Monthly County Home Meeting, 8:30 am, Tuesday March 10 at County Home
Primary Election Voting on March 17

RE: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Add: Transfer – Board of Elections
 Travel – SEOBD, FCF, County Home
 Sheriff – Report on Care of Prisoners
 FCF – Projected Expenditures
 Resolution – TIRC for Washington Electric Coop
 Engineer – Contract for Henry Covered Bridge Repair
 Morrison Quotes for Probate/Juvenile Court

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

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. White seconded a motion to dispense with the reading and approve the minutes of the February 27, 2020 regular meeting.

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

RE: BILLS FOR PAYMENT

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

RE: ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

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

<u>Department</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Engineer	210-0553-57100	\$ 10,139.96
	210-0541-57100	\$ 345.00

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

RE: TRANSFERS

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

<u>Department</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Engineer	210-0541-57100	200-0540-49100	\$ 345.00
	210-0553-57100	200-0540-49100	\$ 10,139.96
Board of Elections	100-0160-51006	100-0160-51001	\$ 3,856.00

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

RE: THEN & NOW

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

<u>Department</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
JFS	200-0720-57400	Morrison	\$ 105.00
JFS	200-0740-57000	YMCA	\$ 260.00

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

RE: TRAVEL REQUESTS

Mr. White moved and Mr. Ritter 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 2020 and any and all amendments subsequent thereto:

Family & Children First

Andrea Nichols, Liz VanPelt: Early Intervention meeting in Columbus on March 18, 2020
Elaine Corbitt: Meetings for client in Caldwell on March 2 & 24, April 14 & 20, May 20 & 21, 2020

Commissioner Office

Ben Cowdery: Rural Transit meeting in Athens County on March 3, 2020

Human Resources

Kathy Thieman: CORSA Renewal meeting in Columbus on March 20; County Loss Control Coordinator Spring meeting in Bellville on April 3; CEBCO Wellness Program meeting in Columbus on April 17; National PRIMA Conference in Nashville, TN on June 14-17, 2020

Job & Family Services

Deanna Green: OCAPS Conference in Columbus on April 22, 2020

Building Department

Russel Metz, Chris Wilson: IAEI Training Conference in Lewis Center on May 4 & 5, 2020

County Home

Susie Arbaugh: Resident doctor appointment in Parkersburg, WV on March 23 and Cambridge on March 26, 2020

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

RE: WCBHB – BOARD REAPPOINTMENT APPLICATION

Mr. White moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve an application to reappoint David H. White to the Washington County Behavioral Health Board.

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

RE: JAIL CONTRACTS

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. White seconded a motion to approve contracts with Muskingum County and Village of Lowell to house prisoners at the Washington County Jail. The contracts are effective from April 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021 at a rate of \$68.00 per day for each person incarcerated.

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

RE: DELINQUENT SEWER ACCOUNTS

Mr. White moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve sending letters to the holders of delinquent sewer accounts, requesting immediate payment on those accounts.

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

RE: CERTIFICATION OF DELINQUENT SEWER ACCOUNTS

Mr. White moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to certify with the county auditor a list of delinquent sewer accounts. The Board of Commissioners requests the auditor to collect the delinquent amounts with the taxes due for the property.

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

RE: ENGINEER – MATERIALS BID AWARDS

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. White seconded a motion to award the 2020 bids for materials as recommended by the engineer. The bid for 2020 liquid bituminous material is awarded to Asphalt Materials, Inc of Marietta. The bid for 2020 asphalt material is awarded to both Mar-Zane of Marietta and Hei-Way LLC of Sarver, PA. The bid for 2020 aggregate material is awarded to all bidders, to allow use of the vendor with the material needed for the given job with the least expense and best proximity to the work site. The bidders for 2020 aggregate material were Mar-Zane, King Quarries/Sharon Stone, Yager Materials, Price Inland, National Lime & Stone Co., and Shelly Materials.

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

RE: SHERIFF – MONTHLY REPORT ON CARE OF PRISONERS

The Commissioners acknowledged receipt of the monthly report on care of prisoners at the Washington County Jail for February of 2020. The report, submitted by the Sheriff, shows a total prisoner count of 323.

RE: FCF – PROJECTED EXPENDITURES FORM

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. White seconded a motion to approve the projected expenditures form for Family & Children First and allow the president to sign. The form shows the total amount of Family-Centered Services and Support funds awarded to FCF this fiscal year to be \$31,603, with an additional \$3,000 requested due to high needs of youth being served.

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

RE: RESOLUTION – TIRC FOR WASHINGTON ELECTRIC COOP

Mr. White moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to adopt a resolution that the Board of Commissioners of Washington County accepts the recommendation of the Tax Incentive Review Council to continue the agreement in place with Washington Electric Cooperative Inc.

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

RE: ENGINEER – CONTRACT FOR HENRY COVERED BRIDGE REPAIR

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. White seconded a motion to approve a contract for the Henry Covered Bridge scour repair. RC Construction will repair the bridge for a sum not to exceed \$25,750. The repair will be funded with Motor Vehicle Gas Tax funds.

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

RE: MORRISON QUOTES FOR PROBATE/JUVENILE COURT

Commissioner White said the third floor of the courthouse has problems with the heating system and more work needs to be done. Three proposals were received from Morrison Incorporated for the repairs. Commissioner White recommended two of the three proposals. The first, Proposal 18210, has a total cost of \$4,359.92. The second, Proposal 18211, has a total cost of \$2,467.69.

Mr. White moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve Proposal 18210 & 18211 from Morrison Incorporated.

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

RE: DEVOLA SEWER ENGINEERING OPTION – DECISION

Commissioner Feathers said there were four engineering design alternatives submitted to the Ohio EPA for the Devola Sewer Project. Those options included two gravity systems and two pressurized systems. On February 11, 2020 the Commissioners received a letter from WSP recommending Alternative #4, a pressurized system. Commissioner Feathers said the conversation to select a design began in the February 20, 2020 public meeting. At that time, the Commissioners discussed and reviewed the design alternatives.

Commissioner White said the process to select the best engineers for the project began a year ago. The Commissioners ultimately chose WSP for the project. Mr. White said he is inclined to defer to the recommendation of WSP. Mr. White said he initially favored a gravity system, but has been swayed by compelling information as to why a pressurized system is best for Devola.

Commissioner Ritter prepared and read the following statement:

Today it is our task to select a sewer system for Devola. Pressurized versus gravity. I am fully aware that whichever selection we make, we will have our detractors. If we choose a gravity system, we will be panned as incompetents for not choosing the less-expensive, less-invasive pressurized system. If we choose a pressurized system, we will be derided as cheapskates simply trying to get the job done quickly and on a budget. And since this vote shortly precedes some highly-contested primary elections we have the additional silliness of politics added to the mix.

Let nobody forget that none of us on this panel has supported the forced sewerage of Devola. My two colleagues, and my own predecessor, fought this for six years, and I ran for this seat because of a similar commitment to property rights.

We sit here today because of government overreach. We sit here today because the insidious hand of big government was invited into our community to fix a problem we were capably dealing with ourselves. Let us never forget this is a solution forced upon the citizens of Devola by a previous Board of Commissioners without the consent of the governed.

Nevertheless, we are under court order and a decision must be made.

In considering this issue, I have tried to leave politics out of it. Since the beginning of this process I have kept two questions forefront in my mind:

How do we give the people of Devola the best quality system that will serve that community well for the next fifty years?

How do we build a system in Devola at a price that does not bankrupt the rest of the County sewer customers?

With those two questions in mind I have done my research and have come to the conclusion that the pressurized system is the best choice.

Commissioner Feathers explained that with the pressurized system, the lifecycle on the pumps are ten to twelve years and require an average of \$30 to \$50 a year in maintenance. Mr. Feathers said the Commissioners have been tasked with and forced to

make a decision. He said the Commissioners have spent countless hours researching the alternatives and presented a lengthy list detailing the Commissioners research efforts. Mr. Feathers said the gravity system is not free from future expenses. Mr. Feathers said he has concluded that, because of the geological conditions of rock and sand in Devola, a gravity system is not the best option. Mr. Feathers said the clear choice is a noninvasive pressurized system. Mr. Feathers agrees with his colleagues that Alternative #4 is the best option. April 14, 2020 is the tentative date for the next public meeting for the Devola Sewer Project.

Mr. White moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve Alternative #4 as the engineering design for the Devola Sewer Project.

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

RE: COMMENTS

Flite Freimann, Director of JFS, provided an update on the Foster Family Investment Program. Mr. Freimann said he has received preliminary approval from the state and will formally submit the program in a few weeks.

Judge Williams, Probate/Juvenile Court, said the juvenile center uses an incentive program and it has proven effective.

RE: ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Ritter 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 9:39 a.m.

_____, President

_____, Vice President

_____, Member

_____, Clerk