

THE DULY ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO, MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON SEPTEMBER 17, 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. FEATHERS OFFERED PRAYER.

Also attending:

Flite Freimann, Job & Family Services
Kimberly Hinkle, Child Support Enforcement Agency
Kathy Thieman, Human Resources
Tammy Sams, Human Resources
Donnie Rader, I.T.
Chris Wilson, Building Department
Karl Comstock, Maintenance
Bruce Kelbaugh, Board of Health
David Browne, Behavioral Health Board
John Hannan, Barlow Township Trustee
Richard Best, Barlow Township Trustee
James Booth
Charlie Schilling
Cora Marshall
Scott Hatfield, Humane Society
Bri Deem, Humane Society
Mike Montgomery, Humane Society
Michael Anthony, Dietz Futrell & Walters Insurance
Michele Newbanks, *Marietta Times*
Ben Cowdery, Fiscal Manager/Clerk

**Washington County Commissioners
AGENDA
9:00 am, September 17, 2020**

9:00 Business Meeting
9:25 Barlow Township
10:00 Humane Society Update

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Warren Schools – Township Road Name Request

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Agenda
Approval of previous meeting minutes
Bills from various departments
JFS – Loan agreement for Davis Avenue renovations
Additional Appropriation – Sewer
Additional Appropriation – Critical Infrastructure
Additional Appropriation – County General
Additional Appropriation – Common Pleas
Additional Appropriation – Senior Levy
Additional Appropriation – Job & Family Services
Additional Appropriation – Children Services
Additional Appropriation – Family & Children First (2)
Additional Appropriation – Board of Elections
Additional Appropriation – Engineer
Transfer – County General (2)
Transfer – Board of Elections
Transfer – Sheriff
Transfer – Job & Family Services
Transfer – Children Services
Then & Now
Travel – FCF
Grandview VFD – CDBG Contract, Notice of Award, Notice to Proceed
Maintenance – Fire Alarm Service Contracts
JFS – Contract with RSVP for Senior Wheels Program
Building Department – Contract with Village of Brookside
Certification of Delinquent Sewer Accounts
BHB – Reappointment of Eric Johnston to Board
Engineer – Change Order #1-Final, C-12 Landslip Repairs

DATES TO REMEMBER

RE: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

- Add: Additional Appropriation – Auditor
- Transfer – County General
- RFP Opening – Employee Health Insurance at 11 a.m.

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. White moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to dispense with the reading and approve the minutes of the September 10, 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: JFS – LOAN PROPOSAL FOR DAVIS AVENUE RENOVATIONS

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. White seconded a motion to approve a loan proposal from Peoples Bank for the renovation of Job and Family Services and Children Services building on Davis Avenue. The loan term is 240 months for the lesser of \$500,000 or renovation cost. Flite Freimann, Director JFS, said terms are identical to the proposal that was approved earlier in the year, except the current interest rate is lower.

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

<u>Department</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Sewer	400-0113-53000	\$ 6,000.00
Critical Infrastructure	210-0830-53000	\$ 222,283.04
County General	100-0150-51101	\$ 2,215.00
Common Pleas	100-0201-51104	\$ 8,643.28
Senior Levy	200-0703-53000	\$ 37,469.37
Job & Family Services	200-0720-57400	\$ 66,690.89
Children Services	200-0740-53000	\$ 400,000.00
Children Services	200-0740-57000	\$ 250,000.00
Family & Children First	602-2031-53400	\$ 3,000.00
Family & Children First	602-2031-53006	\$ 11,438.20
Family & Children First	602-2032-53500	\$ 1,669.30
Engineer	300-0551-55000	\$ 3,600.41
Auditor	200-0106-57400	\$ 121.50

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

Mr. White moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to table the following request for an additional appropriation from the Board of Elections:

<u>Department</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Board of Elections	215-0163-54402	\$ 10,000.00

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

RE: TRANSFERS

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

<u>Department</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
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County General	100-0130-52000	100-0130-51104	\$ 2,000.00
County General	100-0130-53403	100-0130-51104	\$ 486.64
County General	100-0202-51101	100-0202-51001	\$ 0.50
County General	100-0100-53401	100-0101-53000	\$ 8,400.00
Job & Family Services	200-0720-59001	200-0720-59000	\$ 300,000.00
Job & Family Services	200-0720-52000	200-0720-51101	\$ 7,000.00
Job & Family Services	200-0720-53400	200-0720-51102	\$ 49,271.83
Children Services	200-0740-51001	200-0740-57000	\$ 28,775.00
Children Services	200-0740-51101	200-0740-57000	\$ 1,000.00
Children Services	200-0740-51102	200-0740-57000	\$ 6,976.00
Children Services	200-0740-51104	200-0740-57000	\$ 15,000.00
Children Services	200-0740-52000	200-0740-57000	\$ 20,000.00

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

Mr. White moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to table the following requests for transfer of funds from Board of Elections:

<u>Department</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Board of Elections	100-0160-51002	100-0160-51001	\$ 10,000.00
Board of Elections	100-0160-53000	100-0160-51001	\$ 5,700.00
Board of Elections	100-0160-52000	100-0160-51104	\$ 1,500.00

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>
Commissioners	100-0101-53400	Gottlieb Johnston	\$ 1,890.00
Sewer	400-0113-53000	State Chemical Sol.	\$ 860.40
Sewer	400-0113-53500	Darla Wilson	\$ 492.08

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. Ritter moved and Mr. White 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

Jon Higgins: Help Me Grow program in Noble County on September 15, 2020

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

RE: GRANDVIEW VFD – CDBG CONTRACT

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. White seconded a motion to approve a Notice of Award, Notice to Proceed, and contract with Johnson’s Fire Equipment Company to purchase gear for Grandview VFD. The awarded bid amount for the Lion turn out gear was \$14,868 and must be completed by November 30, 2020. The purchase of gear for Grandview VFD is part of the 2019 CDBG Allocation project.

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

RE: MAINTENANCE – FIRE ALARM SERVICE CONTRACTS

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. White seconded a motion to approve two service agreements with Johnson Controls for fire alarm services. The first agreement is for service at the Courthouse. The agreement is effective from September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2025 with an annual cost of \$5,500. The second agreement is for service at the Health Department, located at 342 Muskingum Drive in Marietta. The agreement is effective from September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2025 with an annual cost of \$575.

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

RE: JFS – CONTRACT WITH RSVP FOR SENIOR WHEELS PROGRAM

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. White seconded a motion to approve a contract with Washington County Department of Job and Family Services to provide funding for the RSVP Senior Wheels Program. The contract is effective from October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021. JFS will provide funding to RSVP for a total amount not to exceed \$15,000. RSVP will provide transportation for medical appointments for County residents age 55 or older who are approved to participate in the RSVP Senior Wheels Program.

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

RE: BUILDING DEPARTMENT – CONTRACT WITH VILLAGE OF BROOKSIDE

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. White seconded a motion to approve a contract for the Washington County Building Department to perform inspections and exercise enforcement authority for the Village of Brookside. The agreement grants Washington County Building Department full authority to administer and enforce Ohio Building Code within the incorporated areas of the Village of Brookside. Washington County Building Department will retain all permit and inspection fees authorized by the State of Ohio for such purposes.

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: BHB – REAPPOINTMENT OF ERIC JOHNSTON

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. White seconded a motion to approve the reappointment of Eric Johnston to the 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: ENGINEER – CHANGE ORDER #1-FINAL, C-12 LANDSLIP REPAIRS

Mr. White moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve Change Order #1-Final for County Road 12 Landslip Repairs. The contractor for the repairs is Bob Lane's Welding. The change order is an increase of \$21,324.66 for a new total amount of \$133,273.16.

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

RE: COMMENTS

Commissioner White introduced Tammy Sams, who was recently hired to replace Kathy Thieman for the position of Human Resources Director.

RE: BARLOW TOWNSHIP

John Hannan and Richard Best, Barlow Township Trustees, presented the Commissioners with a resolution to have the new access road south of Warren School Campus be owned and under jurisdiction of Warren Schools. Commissioner White said the procedure is to first have a public viewing and hearing on the matter. Mr. Best said the new access road is nothing more than a driveway for the school.

RE: HUMANE SOCIETY UPDATE

Commissioner Ritter read the following statement:

Yesterday (9-16-20), I spoke on the phone with the County Dog Warden, Kelly McGilton. During the call she explained to me some of her ongoing frustrations with the Human Society. At the least, let me say I was alarmed by what I heard. As such, I took it upon myself to begin calling local veterinary offices to see what their experience had been with the Human Society.

By-in-large they told the same story:

They talked about frequent turnover at the organization.

They were unanimous in making clear they believed the people there had the "best of intentions."

However, they were also unanimous in describing an ongoing lack of organization that had, and still has, a negative impact on the animals in care.

More than one person told me there is no discernible program for basic care in place for the animal population.

They talked about missed vaccinations leading to outbreaks of disease at the facility.

They highlighted the increased costs of dealing with sick animals as opposed to those that had received scheduled vaccinations.

The Dog Warden herself told me she's been repeatedly asking for weeks for evidence of a regular vaccination schedule and she has yet to receive a satisfactory answer.

She told me that recently two "evidence dogs" she placed into care at the facility have contracted Parvo because they have not been properly vaccinated.

More than one person I spoke to yesterday said it appears the tendency at the Humane Society has been to spend a disproportionate amount of funds in caring for one or two animals at the expense of the basic care of the entire population.

Another theme in the conversations I had was the Humane Society's inability to pay veterinary bills in a timely fashion.

One vet told me they had written off thousands of dollars of care in an effort to support the organization.

Another told me that while their bill was ultimately paid, they will no longer provide service for the Humane Society because of a years-long track record of missed payments.

Humane Society officials reported to this Board of Commissioners earlier this year that thanks to a generous donation they had been able to pay off what they owed to area vets. While that sort of windfall is welcome, I'm left to wonder what will happen when those donation monies have been spent?

I been in office for a little over a year and a half and I have listened intently to monthly reports from the Humane Society describing the improvements that have been made (and I know there have been improvements).....BUT, I am very disheartened by the report from the County Dog Warden and from the vets I spoke with yesterday.

Commissioner White said the county added \$18,000 to the budget a couple of years ago for the Humane Society to pay vet bills, as well as have local vets provide oversight of the Humane Society. Mr. White said there is no doubt the Humane Society needs the \$18,000, but it's not achieving its purpose of oversight. Commissioner Feathers said he hears a lot about a new building needed for the Humane Society, but there are other needs that are more urgent. Commissioner Ritter said the Commissioners need to justify to sixty thousand taxpayers that they are being fiscally responsible and the Humane Society Board needs to understand the seriousness. Kelly McGilton, Dog Warden, said she has been unable to rely on the Humane Society for veterinary services this year. The Dog Warden needs the \$18,000 for veterinary services.

RE: RFP OPENING – COUNTY EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE

The county received two proposals for county employee health insurance and pharmacy benefit services. Michael Anthony of Dietz Futrell & Walters provided a proposal. CEBCO also provided a proposal. Kathy Thieman, Human Resources, opened the proposals. The county will review the proposals and make a decision at a later date.

RE: ADJOURNMENT

Mr. White 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 11:14 a.m.

_____, President

_____, Vice President

_____, Member

_____, Clerk