

THE DULY ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO, MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON JUNE 3, 2021 IN ACCORDANCE WITH OHIO REVISED CODE 305.05, WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT: KEVIN J. RITTER, PRESIDENT. CHARLIE L. SCHILLING, VICE PRESIDENT. JAMES W. BOOTH, MEMBER. THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 9:00 A.M. BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD. MR. RITTER LED THOSE ATTENDING IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO OUR FLAG, AND MR. RITTER OFFERED PRAYER.

Also attending:

Flite Freimann, Director of Job & Family Services
Rick Dostal, Building Department Official
Diane Davis, Director of Human Resources
Jim Carpenter, Health Department
Jesse Roush, Port Authority
Emily Griffin, Engineer's Office
Donnie Rader, Director of I.T.
Gary Doan, Muskingum Township Trustee
Karen Doan
David Browne, Behavioral Health Board
Glen Pawloski
Michele Newbanks, *Marietta Times*
Ben Cowdery, Fiscal Manager/Clerk

Washington County Commissioners
AGENDA
9:00 am, June 3, 2021

9:00 Business Meeting

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Agenda
Approval of previous meeting minutes
Bills from various departments
Additional Appropriation – Sheriff
Additional Appropriation – Dog & Kennel
Additional Appropriation – Family & Children First
Additional Appropriation – Common Pleas
Transfer – Treasurer
Transfer – Sheriff
Then & Now
Travel – FCF, Commissioners, Children Services
WCBDD – Board Appointment
Building Department – Request to purchase new software
Common Pleas – ODRC Subsidy Grant Agreement PSI Grant
Family & Children First – Contract for Interpreter Services
Jail Contract with Monroe County
Delinquent Sewer Accounts
Certification of Delinquent Sewer Accounts
Covid Taskforce – Request #2021-16
Engineer – Change Order #1-Final for C-126 Landslip

DATES TO REMEMBER

Tax Budget Hearing, Thursday 9:45 a.m., July 1, at 1115 Gilman Avenue
Courthouse closed for Independence Day, Monday, July 5

RE: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve the agenda with the following changes:

Add: Additional Appropriation – CHIP CDBG
Sheriff – Monthly Report on Care of Prisoners for May
Engineer – Bid Specifications for C-6 Landslip
Engineer – Bid Specifications for C-21 & C-79 Landslip

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Kevin Ritter aye. Charlie Schilling aye. James Booth aye. Motion passed.

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling seconded a motion to dispense with the reading and approve the minutes of the May 27, 2021 regular meeting.

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Kevin Ritter aye. Charlie Schilling aye. James Booth aye. Motion passed.

RE: BILLS FOR PAYMENT

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth 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: Kevin Ritter aye. Charlie Schilling aye. James Booth aye. Motion passed.

RE: ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

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

<u>Department</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Sheriff	100-0384-54407	\$ 29,165.00
Dog & Kennel	200-0363-51104	\$ 3,500.00
Family & Children First	602-2031-53005	\$ 12,420.00
Common Pleas	200-0235-51001	\$ 750.00
Common Pleas	200-0235-51101	\$ 11.00
Common Pleas	200-0235-51102	\$ 105.00
Common Pleas	200-0235-51120	\$ 15.00
CHIP CDBG	210-0807-53000	\$ 41,200.00
CHIP CDBG	210-0807-57404	\$ 130,000.00

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Kevin Ritter aye. Charlie Schilling aye. James Booth aye. Motion passed.

RE: TRANSFERS

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

<u>Department</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Treasurer	100-0130-51006	100-0130-51001	\$ 1,353.00
Sheriff	100-0384-57800	100-0384-54005	\$ 2,000.00

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Kevin Ritter aye. Charlie Schilling aye. James Booth aye. Motion passed.

RE: THEN & NOW

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

<u>Department</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Sewer	400-0113-54400	Electric Motors	\$ 5,100.00
Building Department	100-0170-52001	Commissioners	\$ 552.48
Engineer	200-0540-54301	Kelly Paving	\$ 1,276.58

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Kevin Ritter aye. Charlie Schilling aye. James Booth aye. Motion passed.

RE: TRAVEL REQUESTS

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve the following requests for reimbursement of expenses for training and travel, pursuant to county policy and in compliance with the annual appropriations for fiscal year 2021 and any and all amendments subsequent thereto:

Family & Children First
Elaine Corbitt: Albany, Ohio for a client on June 3, 2021

Commissioners
Kevin Ritter, James Booth, Joseph White: Tour of sewer operations in Bowling Green on June 8 & 9, 2021

Children Services
Ashley Harris: Required child visit in Mt. Vernon on June 8; University Heights on June 15; Training in Athens on June 22 & 23, 2021

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Kevin Ritter aye. Charlie Schilling aye. James Booth aye. Motion passed.

RE: WCBDD – BOARD APPOINTMENT

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling seconded a motion to approve the recommendation from Washington County Board of Developmental Disabilities to appoint Meghan Rexroad to the Board of DD. Ms. Rexroad meets the requirement set forth in ORC 5126.22 (B) to have “an immediate family member of an individual eligible for early intervention services” on the Board of Developmental Disabilities.

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Kevin Ritter aye. Charlie Schilling aye. James Booth aye. Motion passed.

RE: BUILDING DEPARTMENT – REQUEST TO PURCHASE NEW SOFTWARE

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve a request from the Building Department to purchase Muncity software. The current software being used by the Building Department, Tyler Tech, is inefficient and has technical problems. Rick Dostal, Building Department Official, believes that switching software will save the county approximately \$96,000 over the next five years. The initial first year cost to purchase Muncity will be \$125,950.

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Kevin Ritter aye. Charlie Schilling aye. James Booth aye. Motion passed.

RE: COMMON PLEAS – ODRC SUBSIDY GRANT AGREEMENT PSI GRANT

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve a subsidy grant agreement for Community-Based Nonresidential Corrections Programs with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, Division of Parole and Community Services, Bureau of Community Sanctions. The community-based corrections program services are designed to reduce or divert the number of persons committed to state penal institutions and/or local corrections agencies. The grant is for \$96,000 to be paid in eight equal quarterly installments of \$12,000. The funds will be used for Pre-Sentence Investigation services. The grant will be effective from July 1, 2021 until June 30, 2023.

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Kevin Ritter aye. Charlie Schilling aye. James Booth aye. Motion passed.

RE: FAMILY & CHILDREN FIRST – CONTRACT FOR INTERPRETER SERVICES

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling seconded a motion to approve a contract on behalf of Family & Children first for Interpreter Services with Monica Carhuay. The contractor will provide interpreter services to Spanish-speaking families served in the Help Me Grow Program. The contract is effective from May 24, 2021 through June 30, 2022. The contractor will be compensated at a rate of \$30 per hour.

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Kevin Ritter aye. Charlie Schilling aye. James Booth aye. Motion passed.

RE: JAIL CONTRACT WITH MONROE COUNTY

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling seconded a motion to approve a contract for housing Washington County prisoners in the Monroe County Jail. Washington County will pay \$65 per day for each person incarcerated in Monroe County Jail. The contract will be effective until December 31, 2021.

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Kevin Ritter aye. Charlie Schilling aye. James Booth aye. Motion passed.

RE: DELINQUENT SEWER ACCOUNTS

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth 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: Kevin Ritter aye. Charlie Schilling aye. James Booth aye. Motion passed.

RE: CERTIFICATION OF DELINQUENT SEWER ACCOUNTS

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling seconded a motion to certify with the County Auditor the following list of delinquent sewer accounts. The Board of Commissioners requests the auditor to collect the delinquent amounts with the taxes due for the property.

<u>Parcel</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Parcel</u>	<u>Amount</u>
05-0009964-000	\$ 311.96	11-0047947-000	\$ 311.96
11-0045784-003	\$ 311.96	26-0035939-000	\$ 311.96
07-0024070-000	\$ 321.94	07-0023252-000	\$ 394.94
07-0023348-000	\$ 321.94	05-0011292-000	\$ 311.96

05-0012280-000	\$ 311.96	05-0013212-000	\$ 311.96
05-0012544-000	\$ 311.96	11-0046188-000	\$ 470.85
05-0011716-000	\$ 311.96	05-0011716-002	\$ 311.96
07-0023148-000	\$ 321.94	05-0009476-001	\$ 935.85

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Kevin Ritter aye. Charlie Schilling aye. James Booth aye. Motion passed.

RE: COVID TASKFORCE – REQUEST #2021-16

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve the Washington County COVID-19 Taskforce Request #2021-16. The taskforce reviewed ongoing COVID related expenses and requests a total of \$38,376.84 for payment from the CARES Act funds received by the county.

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Kevin Ritter aye. Charlie Schilling aye. James Booth aye. Motion passed.

RE: ENGINEER – CHANGE ORDER #1-FINAL FOR C-126 LANDSLIP

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling seconded a motion to approve Change Order #1-Final for the County Road 126 Landslip Repair. Bob Lane’s Welding is the contractor for the repair. The change order is an increase of \$1,389.25 for a new total cost of \$22,928.

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Kevin Ritter aye. Charlie Schilling aye. James Booth aye. Motion passed.

RE: ENGINEER – BID SPECS FOR C-6 EMERGENCY LANDSLIP REPAIR

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve the bid specifications for County Road 6 (Burnett Road) Emergency Landslip Repair. The Engineer’s estimate for the project is \$59,214.75. The project will be paid with Motor Vehicle Gas Tax funds. The bid opening is set for Tuesday, June 22, 2021 at 11:30 a.m. at the Office of the Engineer.

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Kevin Ritter aye. Charlie Schilling aye. James Booth aye. Motion passed.

RE: ENGINEER – BID SPECS FOR C-21 & C-79 EMERGENCY LANDSLIP REPAIRS

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling seconded a motion to approve the bid specifications for County Road 21 (Leith Run Road) and County Road 79 (Huck Road) Emergency Landslip Repairs. The Engineer’s estimate for the project is \$134,398. The project will be paid with Motor Vehicle Gas Tax funds. The bid opening is set for Tuesday, June 22, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. at the Office of the Engineer.

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Kevin Ritter aye. Charlie Schilling aye. James Booth aye. Motion passed.

RE: SHERIFF – MONTHLY REPORT ON CARE OF PRISONERS FOR MAY

The Commissioners acknowledged receipt of the monthly report on the care of prisoners at the Washington County Jail for the month of May 2021. The report shows a total prisoner count of 325. The Jail will receive \$30,022 for housing prisoners from other jurisdictions during May.

RE: COMMENTS

Commissioner Booth said he recognizes and appreciates the hard work of Job & Family Services employees in helping those in need in our community.

Glen Pawloski, Devola resident, said there is no consent decree for Devola Sewer and still believes Devola will win at ERAC. Mr. Pawloski said he will provide up to \$1,000 per Commissioner for bond for contempt.

Deanna Green, Director of Washington County Home, said the County Home meeting on June 8th will be at 8:30 a.m., instead of 11 a.m.

Commissioner Schilling read the following statement:

As a candidate and as a commissioner I promised transparency and efficiency in your local government. I promised to always explain our decisions and that every decision that this board made would improve the efficiency of government. Today, I am proud to unveil our plan to improve your government and increase revenue to the County.

We will be moving several county offices to new locations. Each change will increase the ability of county offices, agencies, and departments to work together; make it easier for citizens to find needed services and save the county money.

First, we center our county government, our workforce development and our economic development downtown. The Board of Commissioners will be returning to their

previous office in the Courthouse Annex. The Ohio Means Jobs Center and our Workforce Development will be housed across the parking lot at 313 Third Street and we will provide offices for the Southeast Ohio Port Authority as well. Your economic development and local government will be centered in the downtown of our County Seat.

Second, the public assistance functions of Job and Family Services, the Behavioral Health Board, and the County Health Department will all be located at 1115 Gilman Avenue. These three agencies will be able to work together to provide needed services to our most at-risk citizens.

Third, the administrative functions of JFS along with Children Services will remain at 204 Davis Avenue. This will limit traffic in a residential neighborhood while continuing to provide services to our families.

Fourth, we will consolidate our Adult and Aging Services at the County Home. By placing Adult Protective Services in the County Home we will have a hub for seniors at our historic County Home.

Finally, I would like to note that on April 1, 1858, Catherine Ewing took in the nine children from the County Poor House. Her efforts led to the first children's home in Ohio, the first tax-payer supported children's home in the nation and provided the blueprint for the Ohio General Assembly to mandate a Children's Home in every county.

We are blessed to have such a historic treasure in Washington County. While we no longer house children in the Children's Home, Catherine Ewing's mission continues. We will place the Family and Children First Council, the OSU Extension Office, and the Americorps office in the Old Children's Home. These organizations are dedicated to providing opportunities for our young people through direct service coordination, 4H and educational opportunities and volunteers. We believe that having these organizations in the Old Children's Home honors the commitment of Catherine Ewing and provides support for our children and families in the 21st Century.

We have spoken with the leadership of every organization affected by these moves. We have listened to their concerns and made adjustments accordingly. Not everyone is getting everything that they wanted. But every organization was heard and has told us that they can support these changes.

Not only do these changes improve the services to our citizens by co-locating like-minded agencies, these moves save the county money. Certain agencies, such as JFS, can pay a form of rent to the County. Making these changes will net the County over \$91,000 more in revenue each year. Not only can we improve services, but we can generate additional revenue for the County.

We have inspected the buildings; we have our report from the building department. We have met with the leadership of these agencies and we have reviewed the final costs. I believe we are ready to move forward.

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve the proposed relocations. A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Kevin Ritter aye. Charlie Schilling aye. James Booth aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Ritter read the following statement:

At our last meeting, each of the Commissioners spoke passionately about the Sewer Project. Since then, further information has come to light and I would like to take this opportunity to amplify our statement from last week.

The County Commission, in conjunction with Sunday Creek Horizons, is currently working with the Governor's Office and the state legislature to earn their support and secure funding for the County Sewer Project.

We were recently made aware of a list of statewide water and sewer projects that Governor DeWine's administration has marked as priorities. During this fact finding, we learned that our project has not yet been identified as a priority. For the reasons cited below, we believe this sewer project deserves a spot on that list.

Currently, Washington County sewer customers pay a monthly bill of \$76.65. After the completion of this EPA-mandated project, the price of the monthly bill is projected to increase to \$100-\$110 a month, unless additional financial assistance from the state is secured.

In addition, new sewer customers in Devola will likely pay a tap fee of between \$10,000-\$12,000. This increased financial obligation will discourage people from buying homes in the neighborhood, while it penalizes other county residents living outside Devola.

We believe the sewer project is important for future Washington County economic development. Certainly County residents deserve clean water at a feasible cost. And as parts of the expansion are related to pending building projects for business development, pipe expansion is necessary and it will ultimately be an asset to local economic development. But if businesses have to pay more for sewer, they will likely go elsewhere.

We understand and respect that the Governor and his staff are facing many challenges, and that there are many other projects, in communities like ours, that also are in need of funding. However, our county has been court-ordered to construct this system, and we simply do not have the financial means to shoulder this large burden without state assistance.

Forcing county ratepayers to shoulder the cost of this project, regardless of their socioeconomic standing, will serve to impose onerous fees on many who simply cannot afford to pay them.

Sadly, COVID has impacted the economic livelihood of many Washington County residents, and the additional burden associated with the cost of this project will compound the difficult financial situation that many currently face.

Through the American Rescue Plan Act, the State of Ohio received nearly \$6 billion in funding from the federal government, and we urge our state's elected leaders to utilize these funds to address this important infrastructure challenge.

Our earnest desire is to work with Governor DeWine, Lt. Governor Husted, their staff, and the state legislature to do right by their, and our, constituents. Thank you.

Diane Davis, HR Director, requested an executive session to discuss the dismissal of a county employee.

RE: EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL ISSUE

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling seconded a motion to enter executive session to discuss the dismissal of a county employee.

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Kevin Ritter aye. Charlie Schilling aye. James Booth aye. Motion passed. The Commissioners, Clerk, Sewer Manager, and HR Director entered executive session at 9:34 a.m.

The Commissioners adjourned the executive session and returned to the regular session at 9:45 a.m.

RE: REGULAR SESSION RESUMED

Diane Davis, HR Director, made a request to terminate a county employee.

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling seconded a motion to approve the request to terminate the employee.

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Kevin Ritter aye. Charlie Schilling aye. James Booth aye. Motion passed.

RE: ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling seconded a motion to adjourn. A calling of the roll resulted in a unanimous vote in favor. The meeting adjourned at 9:49 a.m.

_____, President

_____, Vice President

_____, Member

_____, Clerk