

**THE DULY ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO, MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON SEPTEMBER 2, 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. THE COMMISSIONERS LED THOSE ATTENDING IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO OUR FLAG, AND MR. RITTER OFFERED PRAYER.**

Also attending:

Diane Davis, HR Director  
Karl Comstock, Maintenance Superintendent  
Richard Hays, EMA/911  
Donnie Rader, I.T. Director  
Jesse Roush, Port Authority  
Gary Doan, Muskingum Township Trustee  
Karen Doan  
Dawn Freeland, Job & Family Services  
Caitlin Decker, Job & Family Services  
Marcus McCartney, OSU Extension Office  
Patrick Lang, OSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteer  
Robert Rothwell, OSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteer  
Troy Hawkins, Sheriff's Office  
Michele Newbanks, *Marietta Times*  
Ben Cowdery, Fiscal Manager/Clerk

**Washington County Commissioners  
AGENDA**

**9:00 am, September 2, 2021**

9:00 Business Meeting  
9:45 OSU Ext. – Gardens  
10:15 CEBCO Q2 Update

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

Approve Agenda  
Approval of previous meeting minutes  
Bills from various departments  
Additional Appropriation – County General (4)  
Additional Appropriation – Behavioral Health Board  
Additional Appropriation – Sewer  
Additional Appropriation – Engineer  
Transfer – Engineer (2)  
Transfer – Prosecutor  
Transfer – Sewer  
Travel – Children Services  
HOME Program – Homeowner Agreement (2)  
Auditor – 2020 Real Estate Tax refund  
Delinquent Sewer Accounts  
Certification of Delinquent Sewer Accounts  
Water Pollution Control Loan Fund – Nomination Form  
911 Technical Advisory Committee – Levy fund recommendations  
Washington County ARPA Plan  
Engineer – Change Order #1, C-8 & C-15 Landslip Repair

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

Courthouse closed on Monday, September 6 for Labor Day

**RE: APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

Add: Additional Appropriation – Auditor (3)  
WMCAP – Satisfaction of Mortgage (2)  
WMCAP – Partial Mortgage Release  
Opioid Litigation Update  
Broadband Coop – Glendale Tower

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. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to dispense with the reading and approve the minutes of the August 26, 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. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling 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>
Commissioners	100-0100-53700	\$ 1,200.00
Maintenance	100-0109-51001	\$ 6,000.00
Building Department	100-0170-51001	\$ 30,000.00
Building Department	100-0170-51101	\$ 250.00
I.T.	100-0190-53202	\$ 2,000.00
I.T.	100-0190-51001	\$ 10,000.00
I.T.	100-0190-51101	\$ 50.00
Behavioral Health Board	210-0612-53000	\$ 463.00
Sewer	400-0113-51001	\$ 10,000.00
Engineer	210-0541-57100	\$ 307,847.19
County General	100-0101-57500	\$ 367.44
Behavioral Health Levy	200-0611-57401	\$ 3,774.50
Behavioral Health Levy	200-0611-57500	\$ 14,437.10
Behavioral Health Levy	200-0611-57503	\$ 173.86
Various Purpose Bonds	700-0114-57500	\$ 46.61
Various Purpose Bonds	700-0114-57502	\$ 467.21
Various Purpose Bonds	700-0114-57504	\$ 992.81

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

**RE: TRANSFERS**

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth 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	200-0540-55502	200-0540-57200	\$ 8,148.55
Engineer	210-0541-57100	200-0540-49100	\$ 307,847.19
Prosecutor	100-0140-51006	100-0140-51001	\$ 7,891.00
Sewer	400-0113-51006	400-0113-51001	\$ 1,955.00

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:

Children Services

*Ashley Harris*: Required child visit in Coshocton on September 1; Bethesda on September 9; Martins Ferry on September 13, 2021

*Sabrina Buchanan*: Required child visit in Malta on September 1; Glouster on September 13; Cambridge on September 15; Frazeyburg & Cambridge on September 16; Tiffin on September 17; Newark on September 20; Powell on September 22; Washington Court House & Vinton on September 23; Cincinnati on September 29, 2021

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

**RE: HOME PROGRAM – HOMEOWNER AGREEMENTS**

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling seconded a motion to approve two (2) homeowner agreements through the Home Investment Partnerships Program, a federal program administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The first agreement is a forgivable loan in the amount of \$20,000, protected by a mortgage and promissory note filed against the residence at 1110 Lockwood Street, Belpre, Ohio. The homeowner must maintain the home as their principal place of residence for the term of ten years. After ten years, 0% of the loan is due.

The second agreement is a forgivable loan in the amount of \$31,425, protected by a mortgage and promissory note filed against the residence at 8725 Waterford Road, Waterford, Ohio. The homeowner must maintain the home as their principal place of residence for the term of three years. After three years, 10% or \$3,143 of the balance of the Note shall be due and payable to the County.

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

**RE: WMCAP – SATISFACTION OF MORTGAGES**

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling seconded a motion to approve two (2) Satisfaction of Mortgages. The first Satisfaction of Mortgage certifies that a certain mortgage deed and promissory note dated April 12, 2002 recorded in the Recorder's Office, Volume 340, Page 2668 and executed by John and Janet Lang, Route 1, Box 146, Waterford, Ohio to the Board of Commissioners, has been fully paid and satisfied and the Recorder is authorized to discharge the same record.

The other Satisfaction of Mortgage certifies that a certain mortgage deed and promissory note dated March 26, 1993 recorded in the Recorder's Office, Volume 666, Page 211 and executed by James and Darlene Stone, Route 1, Box 134, Cutler, Ohio to the Board of Commissioners, has been fully paid and satisfied and the Recorder is authorized to discharge the same record.

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

**RE: WMCAP – PARTIAL MORTGAGE RELEASE**

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling seconded a motion to approve a partial mortgage release of a certain mortgage to the Board of Commissioners, executed by Darlene Stone dated September 8, 2016 recorded in the Recorder's Office, Volume 603, Page 1456. The County has a CHIP mortgage on the property. The homeowner is sectioning off 1.5 acres of land for Habitat for Humanity to build a house.

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

**RE: AUDITOR – 2020 REAL ESTATE TAX REFUND**

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve a request from the County Auditor to issue a refund to certain taxpayers for second half 2020 Real Estate tax upon authority of Ohio Revised Code 319.36. The refunds total \$31,633.84.

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. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling 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. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth 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>
05-0012684-000	\$ 332.28	05-0011720-000	\$ 332.28
05-0009268-000	\$ 332.28	05-0009272-000	\$ 332.28
05-0011148-000	\$ 332.28	23-0076412-013	\$ 320.78
11-0047967-000	\$ 332.28	07-0024048-000	\$ 320.78
07-0024049-000	\$ 320.78	07-0024066-000	\$ 320.78
07-0023358-000	\$ 320.78	07-0024027-000	\$ 320.78
07-0024031-000	\$ 320.78	07-0024205-000	\$ 332.28
07-0022512-000	\$ 351.28	06-0016400-000	\$ 332.28

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

**RE: WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND – NOMINATION FORM**

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling seconded a motion to approve a Water Pollution Control Loan Fund Nomination Form and allow the President to sign. The purpose of the form is to seek funding from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Division of Environmental & Financial Assistance for the Devola Sewer Project. Commissioner Booth said the form is necessary to receive H2O funding.

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

**RE: 911 TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE – LEVY FUND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling seconded a motion to approve the recommendations of the 911 Technical Advisory Committee for use of 911 Levy funds. The Committee recommends appropriating \$9,600 for preventative maintenance for all fire department towers, \$20,885 to install a microwave link to the Glendale Tower, and \$99 monthly for internet service between Belpre Police Department and the EOC. Commissioner Schilling said he appreciates that the request from the 911 Technical Committee was well communicated with good explanation for the expenditures.

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

**RE: WASHINGTON COUNTY ARPA PLAN**

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve the Washington County Plan of Action for American Rescue Plan Act funds received by the County. The amounts allocated are designated as follows:

Public Health	
Public Safety Salaries	\$ 2,800,000
Health Department Building	\$ 250,000
VFD/EMS	\$ 300,000
Courthouse HVAC	\$ 1,400,000
Children Services HVAC	\$ 367,191
Negative Economic Impacts	
Aid to Nonprofit Organizations	\$ 100,000
Fairboards	\$ 75,000
Infrastructure	
Devola Sewer Project	\$ 2,000,000
County Sewer Infrastructure	\$ 2,750,000
Broadband	\$ 300,000
Revenue Replacement	
Lost Revenue	\$ 1,294,818

Commissioner Booth said the Plan is a list of priorities for the funds and that the designations are not set in stone. Commissioner Ritter said the Plan is not required but the Commissioners are setting priorities for the funds.

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, C-8 & C-15 LANDSLIP REPAIR**

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve Change Order #1-Final for County Road 8 & 15 Landslip Repair. RC Construction is the contractor for the project. The change order is an increase of \$2,788 for a new project total of \$191,925.

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

**RE: OPIOID LITIGATION UPDATE**

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling seconded a motion to approve a request to authorize Fields, Dehmlow & Vessels, the County's legal representation for Opioid Litigation, to vote in favor or against the Mallinckrodt Plan, dependent on circumstances. Having the authority to do both will maximize the group's negotiating leverage as discussions continue with other governmental creditors. Commissioner Ritter said the County relies on the attorney for something as complicated as the opioid suit.

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

**RE: BROADBAND COOP – USE OF GLENDALE TOWER**

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to allow the Southeast Ohio Broadband Cooperative conditional use of the Glendale Tower for broadband equipment. SEOBC must coordinate any access or use of the tower with Rich Hays, Director of EMA/911. SEOBC will help pay for tower costs in return for its use. A contract will be drawn up within a few weeks and future use of the tower by SEOBC is dependent upon execution of said contract. Commissioner Booth said Frontier Schools has its students doing remote learning because of the pandemic and use of the Glendale Tower can quickly provide broadband access to those students.

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

**RE: COMMENTS**

Commissioner Ritter said two weeks ago the Commissioners announced a deal with the City of Marietta to end the lawsuit regarding Devola Sewer. Mr. Ritter said that later today City Council will vote on the agreement and he hopes they approve it.

**RE: OSU EXTENSION – GARDENS**

Marcus McCartney, OSU Extension Office, and two Master Gardener Volunteers discussed moving the OSU Extension gardens to the County Health Department grounds. Troy Hawkins asked what the plans are for the old garden. Mr. McCartney agreed to coordinate with Mr. Hawkins on any plans with the old garden. Mr. McCartney presented the Commissioners with an MOU regarding the new gardens.

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling seconded a motion to table the MOU with OSU Extension. A calling of the roll resulted in a unanimous vote in favor. Motion passed.

**RE: CEBCO – 2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER UPDATE**

Justin Grant, CCAO CEBCO Benefits Specialist, reviewed 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter CEBCO data with the Commissioners. Mr. Grant said the Employee Assistance Program is now a built-in benefit for all CEBCO members starting January 1, 2022. Mr. Grant said Washington County's rolling 12 month loss ratio is 101.9%, higher than the 94% range that CEBCO would like it to be. Mr. Grant discussed the county's costs and the types of claims driving those costs.

**RE: ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to adjourn. A calling of the roll resulted in a unanimous vote in favor. The meeting adjourned at 10:41 a.m.

\_\_\_\_\_, President

\_\_\_\_\_, Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_, Member

\_\_\_\_\_, Clerk