

**THE DULY ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO, MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON MARCH 24, 2022 IN ACCORDANCE WITH OHIO REVISED CODE 305.05, WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT: CHARLIE L. SCHILLING, PRESIDENT. JAMES W. BOOTH, VICE PRESIDENT. KEVIN J. RITTER, 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. SCHILLING OFFERED PRAYER.**

Also attending:

Flite Freimann, Director JFS  
Rob Grant, Grant Department  
Gary Doan, Muskingum Township Trustee  
Karen Doan  
Rick Dostal, Chief Building Official  
Kimberly Lowers, Child Support Enforcement Agency  
Roger Wright, County Engineer  
Jesse Roush, Port Authority  
Brenda Robinson, OhioMeansJobs  
Melissa Fowler-Dixon, County Home  
Deanna Green, County Home  
Beth Miller, County Home  
Matthew Livengood, County Auditor  
David Slaughter, Royal Ranger  
Matthew Slaughter, Royal Ranger  
Darla Miller, ODOT  
Rick Venham, ODOT  
Michele Newbanks, *Marietta Times*  
Ben Cowdery, Fiscal Manager/Clerk

**Washington County Commissioners  
AGENDA  
9:00 am, March 24, 2022**

9:00 Business Meeting  
10:30 ODOT – Upcoming Projects

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

Approve Agenda  
Approval of previous meeting minutes  
Bills from various departments  
Resolution to acknowledge tax valuation for BHB Renewal Levy  
Resolution to approve Tax Incentive Review Council recommendation  
Additional Appropriation – Engineer (3)  
Additional Appropriation – Commissioners  
Transfer – Engineer  
Transfer – County General  
Then & Now  
Travel – Family & Children First  
County Home – RFP for Medical Director  
WMCAP – Satisfaction of Mortgage  
Historical Society – HVAC upgrade  
Jail Contract – Village of McArthur, Vinton County, Athens County  
Transit – ODOT Worksheet for LTV replacement bus  
Letter of Intent for Veregy

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

Commissioners Meeting, Friday, April 15 at 9 a.m. in the Assembly Room  
Finance Meeting, April 19 at 10 a.m. in the Commissioner Assembly Room

**RE: APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

Add: Transfer – Belpre Outpost

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

**RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to dispense with the reading and approve the minutes of the March 17, 2022 regular meeting.

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

**RE: BILLS FOR PAYMENT**

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

**RE: RESOLUTION TO ACKNOWLEDGE TAX VALUATION FOR BHB LEVY**

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to adopt the following Resolution:

*WHEREAS*, the Washington County Board of Commissioners, on January 6, 2022, adopted a resolution requesting that the Washington County Auditor certify to the Board of Commissioners the total current tax valuation of Washington County and dollar amount of revenue that would be generated by renewal of .5 mill of tax for the Washington County Behavioral Health Board; and

*WHEREAS*, the Washington County Auditor, on January 11, 2022, certified the amount of revenue generated by the renewal levy is estimated to be \$775,346 with a total tax valuation used to calculate the revenue being \$361,124,940; and

*WHEREAS*, the Washington County Board of Commissioners, on January 20, 2022, adopted a resolution declaring necessity to proceed with the levy of renewal tax for the Washington County Behavioral Health Board to appear on the May 3, 2022 election ballot; and

*WHEREAS*, the Commissioners were advised of a clerical error in the Auditor's Certification as to the total valuation of the County; and

*WHEREAS*, the tax revenue to be generated was correct on the Auditor's Certification.

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED*, that the Board of Washington County Commissioners acknowledges the clerical error on the Auditor's Certification and would not alter the resolution to proceed if the Auditor's Certification had reflected the correct total tax valuation.

Matthew Livengood, County Auditor, was present to explain the clerical error. Mr. Livengood said he consulted with the Prosecutor's Office and determined there is no need for a new certificate.

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

**RE: RESOLUTION TO APPROVE TIRC RECOMMENDATION**

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to adopt the following Resolution:

*WHEREAS*, to encourage and promote the creation of employment and investment opportunities within Washington County, the Board of Commissioners of Washington County sponsors the State of Ohio's Enterprise Zone program; and

*WHEREAS*, an integral part of the Enterprise Zone program is the annual review of those Agreements entered into by the local public partners and private businesses committed to the creation of job and investment opportunities within Washington County; and

*WHEREAS*, consistent with State law, Washington County has caused to be created a Tax Incentive Review Council for the purpose of reviewing Enterprise Zone Agreements and recommending an appropriate course of action to the Board of Commissioners with regard to continuance, modification, retirement, or termination of the aforementioned Agreements; and

*WHEREAS*, the Tax Incentive Review Council assigned review responsibility, has conducted its responsibilities for the period January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021; and

*WHEREAS*, the Tax Incentive Review Council has agreed that the Agreements monitored during the review and reporting period were upheld and should be allowed to expire, per the original Agreement, without penalty as of December 31, 2021 for the following:

Washington Electric Cooperative, Inc.

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED*, that the Board of Washington County Commissioners does hereby accept the recommendations of the Washington County Tax Incentive Review Council, and does approve of the activity that took place in the final year of the Agreement with Washington Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Jesse Roush, Port Authority, said the Agreement was for a 10 year 50% tax abatement.

Mr. Roush said tax abatements are a tool to increase local economic development.

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

**RE: ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS**

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

<u>Department</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Engineer	200-0540-52002	\$ 3,000.00
Engineer	210-0553-57100	\$ 75,082.61
Engineer	300-0546-55200	\$ 531,934.00
Commissioners	100-0100-52000	\$ 2,000.00

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

**RE: TRANSFERS**

Mr. Ritter 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	210-0553-57100	200-0540-49100	\$ 75,082.61
Commissioners	100-0101-51001	100-0100-51001	\$ 40,000.00
Belpre Outpost	210-0556-57200	100-0104-49200	\$ 17,735.64

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

**RE: THEN & NOW**

Mr. Booth 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>
911 System	200-0364-53000	Motorola	\$ 7,404.96
CHIP	200-0800-53000	Buckeye Hills	\$ 2,500.00
Maintenance	100-0109-53000	EW Drake	\$ 406.00
Sewer	400-0113-57400	OH Treasurer	\$ 200.00
Sewer	400-0113-57400	OH Treasurer	\$ 200.00
Sewer	400-0113-57400	OH Treasurer	\$ 200.00
Sewer	400-0113-57400	OH Treasurer	\$ 100.00
Sewer	400-0113-57400	OH Treasurer	\$ 100.00
Sewer	400-0113-53000	Fouss Septic	\$ 190.00
Sewer	400-0113-53000	Fouss Septic	\$ 570.00

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

**RE: TRAVEL REQUESTS**

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve the following requests for reimbursement of expenses for training and travel, pursuant to the policies and in compliance with the annual appropriations for fiscal year 2022 and any and all amendments subsequent thereto:

Family & Children First

*Kelly Byrne:* Attend counseling session with a client in Williamstown, WV on March 31, 2022

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

**RE: COUNTY HOME – RFP FOR MEDICAL DIRECTOR**

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve a request from the County Home to issue a Request for Proposal for Medical Director. Proposals must be received by the Washington County Home no later 4 p.m. on April 15, 2022. All proposals will be evaluated on the following criteria: a medical degree and board certification, experience in geriatric or long-term care, minimum of bi-weekly visits, accessibility to staff, opportunity for tele-health, ability to communicate electronically including access to patient records, guidance and oversight to best practices. Flite Freimann, Director JFS, said the County Home is increasing the availability requirements for that role. Mr. Freimann praised the County Home for its initiative and positive leadership.

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

**RE: WMCAP – SATISFACTION OF MORTGAGE**

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve a Satisfaction of Mortgage, certifying the mortgage deed and promissory note dated June 6, 2006 recorded in the Recorder's Office, Official Records Volume 435, Page 517 and executed by Earl Bryner and Helen Hall, 1890 Zion Ridge Road, Marietta, 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: Charlie Schilling aye. James Booth aye. Kevin Ritter aye. Motion passed.

**RE: HISTORICAL SOCIETY – HVAC UPGRADE**

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve an allocation of up to \$5,000 for air conditioners for the Washington County Historical Society. The County provides space to the Historical Society on the second floor of the old Children's Home building. The source of funds for the allocation will be the Buildings & Grounds Department in the County General Fund. Sarah Bird, Historical Society Archives Director and Board Member, recently met with the Commissioners to discuss the issue. Mr. Ritter said the Children's Home is an older building and the concern is maintaining historical documents, which require controlled temperature and humidity.

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

**RE: JAIL CONTRACT – VILLAGE OF MCARTHUR**

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve a contract with Village of McArthur to house prisoners at the Washington County Jail at a cost of \$83 per day. The contract will be effective from April 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023.

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

**RE: JAIL CONTRACT – VINTON COUNTY**

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve a contract with Vinton County to house prisoners at the Washington County Jail at a cost of \$83 per day. The contract will be effective from April 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023.

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

**RE: JAIL CONTRACT – ATHENS COUNTY**

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve a contract with Athens County to house prisoners at the Washington County Jail at a cost of \$83 per day. The contract will be effective from April 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023.

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

**RE: TRANSIT – ODOT WORKSHEET FOR LTV REPLACEMENT BUS**

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve the public transit Light Transit Vehicle Cost Worksheet through the Ohio Department of Transportation PID #111664. The total cost is \$87,288. The maximum State award is \$15,187. The local share is \$2,271 and the federal share is \$69,830.

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

**RE: LETTER OF INTENT FOR VEREGY**

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve a Letter of Intent to implement a comprehensive facility improvement and energy savings project with Veregy. The project will include the Courthouse, County Home, and Children Services buildings. Veregy will provide the County with an investment grade project development report and final proposal. If the County should choose not to enter into agreement with Veregy, the County will reimburse Veregy \$73,400 for design and engineering costs. Commissioner Booth said the buildings need upgraded and they are looking to the future with energy savings.

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

Kevin Ritter aye. Motion passed.

**RE: COMMENTS**

Brenda Robinson, OhioMeansJobs, said there was a good turnout at the job fair and it was encouraging to see the opportunities that are available.

Sarah Bird, Historical Society, said tickets are available for the annual dinner that will be held on April 7<sup>th</sup>.

Rick Dostal, Chief Building Official, said he volunteers with the Royal Rangers Outpost #8 and introduced two youth members that were in attendance.

Roger Wright, Engineer, said the EPA Permit to Install for Devola Sewer was approved and the bid specifications and final plans should be ready for approval next week.

Flite Freimann, Director JFS, said that in the year since Deanna Green was appointed as County Home Administrator there has been a 20% increase in residents. Mr. Freimann said the level of care for residents has improved as well. Mr. Freimann also commended Beth Miller, Director of Nursing, for doing an amazing job.

Commissioner Ritter spoke to the work being done by the Washington County Historical Society. Mr. Ritter said they have documents from as far back as the 18<sup>th</sup> century and Society members donate their time to preserve local history. Mr. Ritter encouraged public participation with the Historical Society.

Commissioner Booth said the State will be doing milestone contracts for broadband projects to make sure the work is done properly. Mr. Booth said a new initiative of the Commissioners is to improve water quality for the health of residents. Mr. Booth said they are seeking funding for water improvement projects.

Commissioner Schilling referenced the Governor's State of the State Address where he said this is an historic opportunity to invest in Appalachia. Mr. Schilling said Columbus is taking notice of our area and Washington County will be going after any available funding. Mr. Schilling said the County has a new Grant Department and that now is our time for development.

**RE: ODOT – UPCOMING PROJECTS**

Darla Miller, ODOT District 10 Deputy Director, and Rick Venham, ODOT Transportation Manager, met with the Commissioners and County Engineer to discuss upcoming Ohio Department of Transportation projects. Ms. Miller presented the ODOT District 10 2022 Construction Guide. Two of the largest projects are the removal and reconstruction of roadway on State Route 821 and the resurfacing of 5.5 miles on Interstate 77. ODOT said they have a great working relationship with the County, and the County Engineer echoed the sentiment. Mr. Wright discussed upcoming County projects with the ODOT representatives.

**RE: ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Booth 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 10:56 a.m.

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

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

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

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