

THE DULY ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO, MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON APRIL 15, 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, Grants Administrator  
Karl Comstock, Maintenance Superintendent  
Roger Wright, County Engineer  
Kim Lowers, Child Support Enforcement Agency  
Tammy Bates, County Treasurer  
Joseph White, Wastewater Superintendent  
Michele Newbanks, *Marietta Times*  
Ben Cowdery, Fiscal Manager/Clerk

**Washington County Commissioners**  
**AGENDA**  
**9:00 am, April 15, 2022**

9:00 Business Meeting

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Recorder – Contract for Archive Project

**NEW BUSINESS**

Approve Agenda  
Approval of previous meeting minutes  
Bills from various departments  
Additional Appropriation – Family & Children First (2)  
Additional Appropriation – Sheriff  
Additional Appropriation – Board of Elections  
Transfer – Board of Elections  
Then & Now  
Travel – Children Services  
Sunday Creek Horizons – Scope of Work Agreement  
ADR – Design Contract for Sanitary Pipe Lining and GIS Project  
ADR – Design Contract for Wastewater Pump Station Upgrade Project  
JFS – Update to PRC Plan  
Jail Contract – City of Athens  
Engineer – Annual Report for Roads & Bridges  
Engineer – Change Order #1, CR17 at TR335 Landslip Repair

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

Finance Meeting, April 19 at 10 a.m. in the Commissioner Assembly Room  
County Home Meeting, April 19 at 11 a.m. at the County Home

**RE: APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

Add: Devola Sewer Right-of-Way Settlement Letters (4)

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. Booth moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to dispense with the reading and approve the minutes of the April 7, 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. Ritter 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: Charlie Schilling aye. James Booth aye. Kevin Ritter aye. Motion passed.

**RE: ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS**

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

<u>Department</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Family & Children First	602-2031-53007	\$ 1,490.87
Family & Children First	602-2031-53403	\$ 1,000.00
Family & Children First	602-2031-54000	\$ 1,500.00
Family & Children First	602-2033-56001	\$ 6,000.00
Family & Children First	602-2033-53202	\$ 480.00
Sheriff	210-0395-53403	\$ 17,831.29
Board of Elections	215-0162-54400	\$ 1,247.00

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

**RE: TRANSFERS**

Mr. Booth 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>
Board of Elections	100-0160-51006	100-0160-51001	\$ 5,700.00

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. Ritter 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>
Job & Family Services	200-0721-57402	Career Center	\$ 1,381.00
Job & Family Services	200-0720-57400	Ace Lock	\$ 507.00
Job & Family Services	200-0720-57400	Marietta Office Sup	\$ 344.58
Developmental Disabilities	200-0620-53400	R.H.D.D.	\$ 500.00

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:

Children Services

*Tonya Kidder:* Required child visit in New Concord on April 12; Grove City, PA & Youngstown on April 13; Jackson & Powell on April 14; Zanesville on April 18; University Heights on April 19; Trotwood on April 20; Ironton & Kitts Hill on April 26; New Straitsville & Pleasantville on April 28, 2022

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

**RE: SUNDAY CREEK HORIZONS – SCOPE OF WORK AGREEMENT**

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve a scope of work agreement with Sunday Creek Horizons LLC. The agreement is effective April 18, 2022. The cost is \$7,000 monthly for a period of ninety days. The engagement may be canceled at any time with written notice. Sunday Creek Horizons previously helped the County secure \$13.75 million in funding for the Devola Sewer Project. Sunday Creek Horizons will assist with upcoming projects of importance, as identified by the Commissioners. Primary priorities, identified in Appendix A of the agreement, include water and sewer infrastructure, expanding broadband, and outdoor recreation and trail development.

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

**RE: ADR – DESIGN CONTRACT FOR SANITARY PIPE LINING AND GIS PROJECT**

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve a contract for the 2022

Sanitary Pipe and Manhole Lining Inspection and GIS Project with ADR & Associates. As part of the proposal, the County will purchase GIS software for the project. ADR will provide inspection services for the pipe and manhole lining project. The project will also include data collection in the pipe and manhole system for input into the County's GIS system. The total estimated cost of the contract is \$197,888. Roger Wright, County Engineer, said ADR & Associates has provided technical expertise to the County Sewer Department for the past few years and is the County's selected consultant for sanitary sewer planning and development.

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

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve a request from the County Engineer that the County purchase iamGIS software for the project. According to the Engineer, the GIS system will be built and developed during the inspection phase of the lining project.

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

**RE: ADR – DESIGN CONTRACT FOR WASTEWATER PUMP STATION UPGRADE**

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve a contract with ADR & Associates for the 2022 Wastewater System Pump Station Upgrade Project. ADR will provide investigation and design services to upgrade 25 pump stations for the County Sewer System. The project will rehab all the electrical and mechanical equipment at the pump stations. The project will also install a new SCADA system to assist in operational control. The total estimated engineering fee for the contract is \$357,500.

Roger Wright, Engineer, said the project is a good investment for the County. Commissioner Schilling said that after the design process they can make decisions about how to proceed.

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

**RE: JFS – UPDATE TO PRC PLAN**

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve a request from Job & Family Services to revise the Prevention, Retention, and Contingency (PRC) Plan and amend the Employee Incentive Program. Washington County received \$14,476 to incentivize individuals to maintain employment. Employment incentives, not to exceed \$500, will be provided to newly employed persons. \$25 incentives will be given upon verified new employment of 32 hours per week average, then \$50 will be issued each week after for a total of nine weeks.

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

**RE: JAIL CONTRACT – CITY OF ATHENS**

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve a contract with the City of Athens to house prisoners at the Washington County Jail at a cost of \$83 per day. The contract is effective 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: ENGINEER – ANNUAL REPORT FOR ROADS AND BRIDGES**

The Commissioners acknowledged receipt of the Engineer's Annual Report for Roads and Bridges for calendar year 2021. The Engineer is responsible for maintaining 341 miles of county roads and 377 bridges. According to the report, the majority of 2021 expenditures were FEMA disaster repairs and Federal projects, while the rest were normal annual road and bridge repairs.

**RE: ENGINEER – CHANGE ORDER #1, CR17 AT TR335 LANDSLIP REPAIR**

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve Change Order #1 for the County Road 17 at Township Road 335 Landslip Repair. The change order is an increase of \$52,560 for a new total cost of \$353,901. Ohio West Virginia Excavating Co. is the contractor. The reason for the change is the landslip has grown 20 feet from the time of the initial site inspection.

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

**RE: DEVOLA SEWER RIGHT-OF-WAY SETTLEMENT LETTERS**

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve sending four (4) right-of-way settlement letters for Devola Sewer and allow the President to sign the letters. In order to legally abide by the court's mandate to install sewer in Devola, there are certain rights-of-way that must be obtained. The County is offering the fair market value estimate to property owners to obtain the right-of-ways. These letters represent most of the remaining easements needed for the project and Mr. Schilling noted the cooperation and communication that occurred to reach this point.

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

**RE: RECORDER – CONTRACT FOR ARCHIVAL DIGITIZATION PROJECT**

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to return to the table a contract with Kofile Technologies, Inc. A calling of the roll resulted in a unanimous vote in favor. Motion passed.

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve a contract with Kofile Technologies, Inc. for the Washington County Recorder's Office Archival Digitization Project. The estimated cost of the project is \$617,202.85.

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

**RE: COMMENTS**

Tammy Bates, Treasurer, said she is running out of space to store records and that a project to archive records would be helpful for the Treasurer's Office.

Roger Wright, Engineer, said he will be scheduling planning sessions with the Commissioners and Auditor concerning the upcoming GIS project.

Commissioner Booth traveled to a national conference on aging this week with Commissioner Schilling and several JFS and County Home employees. Mr. Booth said there were only four counties from Ohio at the conference. Mr. Booth said Washington County is doing a great job in using available resources. Mr. Booth said the Grant Department is working with every water district in the County to seek funding from the State.

Commissioner Ritter prepared and read aloud the following statement:

I do have something I'd like to address and I am hopeful my consternation will make the press. The Commissioners were informed by the Secretary of State's Office yesterday the cost of a second Washington County primary election to be held later this summer will be \$61,943.06.

You might remember a second primary (for state level offices) was made necessary this year when Ohio Supreme Court Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor cast the deciding vote, not once, not twice, but FOUR times in ruling the state's redistricting plan unconstitutional.

Had Justice O'Connor simply accepted the remedy already outline in state law, we would not need a second primary. To make myself clear, Ohio State law says that when the Redistricting Commission cannot come to unanimous agreement on redrawing the state's voting districts, the maps drawn by the majority (Republicans in this case) will be good for four years rather than the standard ten years.

But Justice O'Connor, for reasons unknown, went a step further. She did not simply apply the law as written. Instead she ruled the product of the state's Redistricting Commission unconstitutional.

In doing so – FOUR TIMES – she has thrown the state's election process into chaos. She has caused some Ohioans to question the integrity of the process, and her actions are going to cost Washington County \$61,943.06.

While this number is based upon population – so more populous counties will pay even more – the fact is that smaller entities, like Washington County, can ill-afford this sort of unfunded mandate.

Maybe the state will step in at the last minute and provide grant monies to pay for this unnecessary expenditure, but that does not forestall the waste. Whether those monies come out of the local General Fund or in Columbus, they are still your tax dollars.

In a day when Americans of all political persuasions are calling for an end to wasteful spending, this is an example of preventable, pointless, and utterly-avoidable spending at its worst.

Commissioner Schilling noted that the township disbursements were issued this week. Mr. Schilling thinks the townships are doing a great job and is glad to be able to help.

**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 9:37 a.m.

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

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

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

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