

THE DULY ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO, MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON AUGUST 4, 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. BOOTH OFFERED PRAYER.

Also attending:

Rob Grant, Grants Administrator
Roger Wright, County Engineer
Karl Comstock, Maintenance Superintendent
Gary Doan, Muskingum Township Trustee
Karen Doan
Rick Dostal, Chief Building Official
Kimberly Lowers, Child Support Enforcement Agency
Joseph White, Wastewater Superintendent
Philip Schaffer, Special Projects Administrator
Brenda Robinson, OhioMeansJobs
Amanda Sutphin, OhioMeansJobs
Jarrod Jenks, Job & Family Services
John Jackson, Health Department
Leight Murray, Humane Society
Michele Newbanks, *Marietta Times*
Ben Cowdery, Fiscal Manager/Clerk

Washington County Commissioners
AGENDA
9:00 am, August 4, 2022

9:00 Business Meeting
10:00 Humane Society – Update

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Agenda
Approval of previous meeting minutes
Bills from various departments
Resolution to approve OneOhio Region 12 Governance Structure
Resolution for Child Support Awareness Month
Additional Appropriation – Engineer (3)
Additional Appropriation – Job & Family Services
Transfer – Auditor
Travel – Family & Children First
Amendment to SFY 2023 National Senior Service Corps
JFS – Business Credit Application
JFS – Work Experience Contract
Delinquent Sewer Accounts
Certification of Delinquent Sewer Accounts
Engineer – OPWC Round 37 Washington County
Engineer – Devola Electric Upgrade Project, Invoice #5
Engineer – Devola Electric Upgrade Project, Invoice #6

DATES TO REMEMBER

Finance Meeting, August 23rd 10 a.m. at 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: Travel – Job & Family Services
 Children Services – Collective Bargaining Agreement
 Building Demolition & Site Revitalization Grant Agreement
 Resolution for Electricity Aggregation
 Resolution for Natural Gas Aggregation
 Energy Purchasing Program Participation Agreement

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 July 28, 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: RESOLUTION TO APPROVE ONEOHIO REGION 12 GOVERNANCE

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

Resolution Approving the OneOhio Region 12 Governance Structure Under the OneOhio Memorandum of Understanding

WHEREAS, Washington County is a Local Government in Washington County, Ohio that has adopted and approved The OneOhio Memorandum of Understanding which establishes a mechanism to disburse settlement proceeds from opioid litigation into Ohio's communities to help abate the opioid crisis, including allocation of Opioid Funds to Regions through a statewide Foundation Board; and

WHEREAS, this Jurisdiction is in Region 12 under the Memorandum, which is comprised of Coshocton, Guernsey, Monroe, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Perry and Washington counties; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Memorandum, Section D.2: "Each Region shall create their own governance structure so it ensures all Local Governments have input and equitable representation regarding regional decisions including representation on the board and selection of projects to be funded from the region's Regional Share...Regions shall have the responsibility to make submissions regarding the allocation of funds to projects that will equitably serve the needs of the entire Region"; and

WHEREAS, it is found that the Region 12 governance structure outlined below ensures that all Local Governments in the Region have input and equitable representation regarding regional decisions under the Memorandum; and

WHEREAS, the formation of the Region 12 governance structure is of immediate importance to the communities in Region 12, so that imminent Settlement Proceeds committed to the State of Ohio to be distributed per the Memorandum can be disbursed to help abate the Opioid crisis.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by this Jurisdiction that:

Section 1: This Jurisdiction hereby approves the Region 12 governance structure under the OneOhio Memorandum of Understanding as follows: The OneOhio Region 12 governance structure will be initially comprised of a 26-member Board of Directors, consisting of the following:

Class 1: Eight (8) county appointments, consisting of one (1) appointee by each Board of County Commissioners in the Region; and

Class 2: Eight (8) municipal appointments, consisting of one (1) appointee by the legislative authority of each municipality serving as a county seat in the Region; and

Class 3: Three (3) township trustees from throughout the Region, selected by a majority vote of Class 1 appointees; and

Class 4: Four (4) persons from private sector, non-profit, governmental or nongovernmental organizations in the Region, selected by a majority vote of Class 1 appointees; and

Class 5: Three (3) persons from the public or private health sector, Departments of Health, Health Districts, or ADAMH Boards or Districts in the Region, selected by a majority vote of Class 1 appointees.

To further the purposes of the OneOhio MOU, the Board shall endeavor to include participation on the Regional Board by subject matter experts from backgrounds such as health, mental health, treatment, education, judicial, law enforcement, community/faith and lived experience backgrounds, and/or such other persons as the Board determines to be consistent with the objectives of the OneOhio MOU and the needs of Region 12.

The OneOhio Region 12 Board will determine matters consistent with the Memorandum, Section D, such as:

- A. Adopting or amending Region 12 bylaws, regulations, rules and policies;
- B. Selecting Region 12's member on the OneOhio Recovery Foundation Inc. Board under Section D.4 of the Memorandum;
- C. Evaluating and making submissions regarding the allocation of Regional funds throughout the Region;
- D. Engaging experts, counsel, consultants and vendors as appropriate for these purposes; and
- E. Taking other actions consistent with Section D.2 of the Memorandum.

Section 2: It is found and determined that all formal actions of this legislative body relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting, and that all deliberations that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the

public in compliance with all legal requirements.

Section 3: This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure, necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, welfare and safety. The reason for the emergency is to ensure prompt pursuit of funds to assist in abating the opioid epidemic throughout Ohio.

Commissioner Schilling said each township in the county will need to fill out the required paperwork to receive opioid settlement funds.

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

RE: RESOLUTION FOR CHILD SUPPORT AWARENESS MONTH

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

WHEREAS, our nation recognizes each August as Child Support Awareness Month, and Washington County Child Support Enforcement Agency works together with the Ohio Department of Job & Family Services, Office of Child Support, to heighten awareness and draw attention to the importance of child support to families; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Child Support awarded \$500 to Washington County Child Support Enforcement Agency for employee appreciation, recognizing their teamwork, collaboration and dedication; and

WHEREAS, Washington County Child Support Enforcement Agency intends to use the awarded funds to purchase printed t-shirts for staff members; and

WHEREAS, providing these gifts of appreciation will not only enhance the morale of staff members, but also improve employer-employee relations and employee performance.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Washington County, Ohio that the month of August 2022 is designated Child Support Awareness Month, and that the staff members in the Washington County Child Support Enforcement Agency are commended for their hard work and dedication to ensuring children are adequately supported.

Commissioner Booth said CSEA employees have a difficult job and thanked them for their dedication.

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

RE: RESOLUTION FOR ELECTRICITY AGGREGATION

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to adopt a resolution authorizing all actions necessary to effect a governmental electricity aggregation program with opt-out provisions pursuant to Section 4928.20 of the Ohio Revised Code, directing the Washington County Board of Elections to submit a ballot question to the electors of unincorporated areas of the county.

The Board of Elections of Washington County is hereby directed to submit the following question to the electors of unincorporated Washington County at the general election on November 8th, 2022:

Shall the Board of Commissioners of Washington County have the authority to aggregate the retail electric customers located in the County, and for that purpose, enter into services agreements to facilitate for those customers the sale and purchase of electricity, conversion to the aggregation program will occur automatically unless the customers choose to opt out of the program.

Commissioner Ritter said the resolution will allow the issue to be on the ballot for voters to decide. Gary Doan, Muskingum Township Trustee, asked if the aggregation would affect the Washington Cooperative.

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

RE: RESOLUTION FOR NATURAL GAS AGGREGATION

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to adopt a resolution authorizing all actions necessary to effect a governmental natural gas aggregation program with opt-out provisions pursuant to Section 4929.26 of the Ohio Revised Code, directing the Washington County Board of Elections to submit a ballot question to the electors of unincorporated areas of the county.

The Board of Elections of Washington County is hereby directed to submit the following question to the electors of unincorporated Washington County at the general election on November 8th, 2022:

Shall the Board of Commissioners of Washington County have the authority to aggregate the retail natural gas customers located in the County, and for that purpose, enter into services agreements to facilitate for those customers the sale and purchase of

natural gas, conversion to the aggregation program will occur automatically unless the customers choose to opt out of the program.

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

RE: ENERGY PURCHASING PROGRAM PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve the participation agreement regarding energy purchasing programs of the CCAO Service Corporation. The County Commissioners Association of Ohio (CCAO), through its affiliate CCAOSC, has established a joint purchasing program under the authority of Revised Code Section 9.48 in order to assist eligible Ohio counties or boards, agencies, districts or other instrumentalities which are affiliated with them in securing competitively priced energy supplies through various energy purchasing programs under contractual terms favorable to Participants.

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>
Engineer	200-0540-53202	\$ 2,000.00
Engineer	200-0540-54301	\$ 500,000.00
Engineer	300-0558-55200	\$ 122,033.72
Engineer	300-0591-55000	\$ 181,275.58
Children Services	200-0740-53000	\$ 425,000.00

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>
Auditor	100-0120-51006	100-0120-51001	\$ 5,617.00

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. Booth moved and Mr. Ritter 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

Elaine Corbitt: New Story School in Albany on August 8, 2022 for a youth she is serving

Job & Family Services

Deanna Green: Ohio Coalition of Adult Protective Services conference in Columbus on August 11, 2022

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

RE: AMENDMENT TO SFY 2023 NATIONAL SENIOR SERVICE CORPS

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve an amendment to the funding amount of the SFY 2023 National Senior Service Corps agreement between Buckeye Hills Regional Council and the Retired Senior Volunteer Program. The amended grant amount is \$3,277.

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

RE: BUILDING DEMOLITION & SITE REVITALIZATION GRANT AGREEMENT

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve a Building Demolition and Site Revitalization Program Grant Agreement with the Ohio Department of Development. The agreement is effective for the period January 1, 2022 to May 1, 2023. Washington

County Board of Commissioners was awarded \$500,000 for the program. The previous grant agreement was revised by the Ohio Department of Development to include more precise language throughout.

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

RE: JFS – BUSINESS CREDIT APPLICATION

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve a business credit application to Toyota Financial Services for Job & Family Services to lease two vehicles. JFS will pay the leases on the two Toyota vehicles.

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

RE: JFS – WORK EXPERIENCE CONTRACT

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve a work experience contract with Washington County Department of Job & Family Services to employ Shawna Clark. The terms of the contract are for up to 40 hours per week from July 25, 2022 through January 25, 2023, contingent upon funding. The position of employment is an Office Aide. The skills to be learned through the position include phone etiquette, customer service, agency procedures, multitasking, and software applications. Comprehensive Case Management Employment Program is paid for by federal funds.

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

RE: CHILDREN SERVICES – COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve the collective bargaining agreement between the Washington County Commissioners and Washington County Children Services and Local 187 American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees Ohio Council 8, AFL-CIO. Flite Freimann, Director JFS, said the union has negotiated the new contract but the Prosecutor is still reviewing it.

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to table the Children Services Collective Bargaining Agreement.

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

RE: DELINQUENT SEWER ACCOUNTS

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

RE: CERTIFICATION OF DELINQUENT SEWER ACCOUNTS

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Ritter 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>
07-0023140-000	\$ 341.10	07-0024157-000	\$ 341.10
07-0021412-000	\$ 341.10	07-0024054-000	\$ 341.10
07-0023248-008	\$ 385.91	07-0021348-000	\$ 341.10
07-0024049-000	\$ 341.10	07-0024064-000	\$ 341.10
07-0023896-000	\$ 371.43	07-0020656-001	\$ 341.10
26-0042534-000	\$ 354.60	05-0011696-000	\$ 341.10
05-0013116-000	\$ 252.95	05-0011648-000	\$ 341.10
26-0037604-000	\$ 341.10	26-0038484-000	\$ 341.10
26-0040852-000	\$ 341.10	26-0038044-000	\$ 352.60
05-0011292-000	\$ 352.40	05-0010804-000	\$ 341.10
05-0010704-000	\$ 341.10	23-0085470-029	\$ 341.10
23-0085470-015	\$ 341.10		

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

RE: ENGINEER – OPWC ROUND 37 WASHINGTON COUNTY

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve a request from the County Engineer to apply for OPWC Round 37 funds to pave portions of County Roads 4, 20 &

25 and all of County Road 244. Based on current bid pricing the 7.12 miles has a preliminary estimate of \$1.2 million. The application is due August 31, 2022.

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 adopt the following resolution:

A Resolution Authorizing Washington County Commissioners to Prepare and Submit an Application to Participate in the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement and/or Local Transportation Improvement Programs and to Execute Contracts as Required

WHEREAS, the State Capital Improvement Program and the Local Transportation Improvement Program both provide financial assistance to political subdivisions for capital improvements to public infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the Washington County Commissioners are planning to make capital improvements, including 2023 OPWC Round 37 Washington County Resurfacing Project (C-4,20,25,244); and

WHEREAS, the infrastructure improvement herein above described is considered to be a priority need for the community and is a qualified project under the OPWC programs.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Washington County, Ohio:

Section 1: The Commissioners hereby authorizes Charlie Schilling to apply to the OPWC for funds as described above.

Section 2: Commissioner President Charlie Schilling is authorized to enter into any agreements, as well as future commissioner presidents, as may be necessary and appropriate for obtaining this financial assistance.

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

RE: ENGINEER – DEVOLA ELECTRIC UPGRADE PROJECT, INVOICE #5

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve payment to Davis Pickering & Company for the Devola Electric Project – Invoice #5. The total amount of the invoice is \$16,242.50. Prevailing wage and invoice quantities were verified and approved by the County Engineer. Rick Dostal, Chief Building Official, said DPC has started installations.

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

RE: ENGINEER – DEVOLA ELECTRIC UPGRADE PROJECT, INVOICE #6

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve payment to Davis Pickering & Company for the Devola Electric Project – Invoice #6. The total amount of the invoice is \$23,082.50. The total of all invoices to date is \$388,512.50 of the \$1,440,000 project total. Prevailing wage and invoice quantities were verified and approved by the County Engineer.

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

RE: COMMENTS

Gary Doan, Muskingum Township Trustee, said the Oak Grove VFD Social is Saturday at 4 p.m.

Commissioner Ritter read the following statement:

I realize I am stepping outside of my lane a bit here, but in response to numerous phone calls and social media inquiries, I want to say a couple things about local fuel costs.

Anyone who has traveled outside the immediate area the past three weeks knows that Marietta gas prices are significantly higher than just about any other community in our area. Over the course of the past three weeks I have filled my tank no fewer than four times in Caldwell. Why Caldwell? Because each time I have filled-up, there has been an \$0.80 to \$0.90 discount per gallon on what I would have paid in Marietta.

As you all know, Caldwell is just 20 miles up the road and no harder for the fuel resupply trucks to reach than our own community. I am certainly not an expert on the petroleum market, but I am a consumer, and I am tired of paying gas prices that are 25% - 30% higher than in the neighboring community.

I mean this in all seriousness, if there is a gas station owner out there who can offer a reasonable explanation for this discrepancy, I am ready to listen.

Understand, I am NOT someone who favors government regulation of price. I am a die-hard believer in the free market. I believe sellers are well within their rights to charge the highest price the market will bear.

I've heard others characterize our local gas prices as "price gouging." I disagree with that characterization for two reasons. First, its only price gouging if the consumer has

no choice. We have a choice. We can shop outside the community. Second, throwing up our hands and declaring it “gouging” removes responsibility from the consumer to seek the best deal they can find.

I’ve had several people contact me asking that local government do something about high prices. Not only is that beyond our authority as local officials, it would also represent an abdication on the part of the individual to choose for themselves where they buy fuel.

If enough consumers begin to change their behavior and buy their gas outside the immediate area, prices will fall. Prices respond to supply and demand. If we increase supply – something not likely under the Biden administration – prices will fall. If we reduce local demand – something within our power as consumers – prices will fall.

Finally, people may ask, if I lack the authority as a government official to do anything about price, why am I speaking out?

Well, this is a case of the free market meeting free speech. As a consumer, I have the ability, as all Americans do, to voice my displeasure with something happening in our local economy...and unless someone offers a reasonable explanation I intend to keep speaking out about the remarkably high local gas prices.

Commissioner Booth said last week the Commissioners agreed to provide funding to Southeast Ohio Broadband Cooperative and already three towers are completed. Mr. Booth said the Commissioners met with Governor DeWine and Lt. Governor Husted to discuss Washington County. The Commissioners asked the Governor to double the House Bill 168 investment for water and sewer quality improvements, from \$250 million to \$500 million.

Commissioner Schilling said eleven counties signed on to the HB168 Water and Sewer request with Washington County. Mr. Schilling said the State is focused on Appalachia and it is a powerful request with all the counties together. Mr. Schilling said good things are going on locally and Washington County is open for business.

RE: HUMANE SOCIETY – UPDATE

Leight Murray provided the Commissioners with an update on the Humane Society. Mr. Murray said the shelter is facing higher operating costs because of inflation. Mr. Murray said veterinary costs have already exceeded the budgeted amount for the year. Mr. Murray said the Humane Society is requesting additional funding from the City of Marietta. Mr. Schilling suggested the Humane Society could ask the townships for funding. The Commissioners approved the Humane Society’s request for a street sign with the name of the project manager who constructed the shelter in the 1980s.

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 10:33 a.m.

_____, President

_____, Vice President

_____, Member

_____, Clerk