

**THE DULY ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO, MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON NOVEMBER 10, 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. RITTER OFFERED PRAYER.**

Also attending:

Flite Freimann, Director JFS  
Gary Doan, Muskingum Township Trustee  
Karen Doan  
Rick Dostal, Chief Building Official  
Karl Comstock, Maintenance Superintendent  
Diane Davis, HR Director  
John Jackson, County Health Department  
Rob Grant, Grants Administrator  
Philip Schaffer, Special Projects Administrator  
Roger Wright, Engineer  
Nancy Taylor, *Marietta Times*  
Ben Cowdery, Fiscal Manager/Clerk

**Washington County Commissioners  
AGENDA  
9:00 am, November 10, 2022**

9:00 Business Meeting

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Resolution to support House Bill 523

**NEW BUSINESS**

Approve Agenda  
Approval of previous meeting minutes  
Bills from various departments  
Additional Appropriation – Auditor (2)  
Additional Appropriation – Engineer  
Additional Appropriation – Children Services  
Additional Appropriation – Sheriff (3)  
Additional Appropriation – Dog & Kennel  
Additional Appropriation – Wireless 911  
Additional Appropriation – Adult Probation  
Minus Appropriation – Sheriff (4)  
Transfer – Common Pleas  
Transfer – Job & Family Services  
Then & Now  
Travel – Children Services

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

Courthouse closed November 11<sup>th</sup> for Veterans Day  
Monthly Finance Meeting, November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10 a.m. in Assembly Room  
Courthouse closed November 24<sup>th</sup> for Thanksgiving Day

**RE: APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

Add: Additional Appropriation – Adult Probation  
Transfer – I.T.  
Transfer – Veterans Service  
Discussion of Architect Services for WASCO Building

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 November 3, 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. 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>
Auditor	100-0120-51104	\$ 6,252.52
Auditor REA	200-0122-57507	\$ 11,636.81
Engineer	200-0540-55201	\$ 10,000.00
Children Services	200-0740-57000	\$ 90,000.00
Children Services	200-0740-53000	\$ 200,000.00
Sheriff Civil	100-0380-51001	\$ 4,200.00
Sheriff Civil	100-0380-51102	\$ 200.00
Sheriff Civil	100-0380-51101	\$ 15.00
Jail	100-0381-51001	\$ 103,000.00
Jail	100-0381-51102	\$ 3,700.00
Jail	100-0381-51104	\$ 75,525.00
Jail	100-0381-54200	\$ 12,000.00
Sheriff S&T	100-0385-51104	\$ 4,260.00
Dog & Kennel	200-0363-51104	\$ 4,300.00
Wireless 911	200-0369-51104	\$ 8,850.00
Adult Probation	215-0237-51104	\$ 842.96
Adult Probation	215-0237-51102	\$ 2,700.00

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

**RE: MINUS APPROPRIATIONS**

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

<u>Department</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Sheriff Civil	100-0380-53000	\$ (1,000.00)
Jail	100-0381-53010	\$ (3,000.00)
Jail	100-0381-53140	\$ (20,000.00)
Jail	100-0381-53110	\$ (3,500.00)
Jail	100-0381-53130	\$ (800.00)
Jail	100-0381-54400	\$ (25,000.00)
Jail	100-0381-57400	\$ (900.00)
Sheriff S&T	100-0385-51001	\$ (9,000.00)
Sheriff S&T	100-0385-51101	\$ (200.00)
Web Check	100-0392-57400	\$ (5,500.00)

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>
Common Pleas	100-0201-51006	100-0201-51001	\$ 5,483.72
Common Pleas	100-0201-51006	100-0201-51104	\$ 5,414.28
Job & Family Services	200-0720-51110	200-0720-51101	\$ 4,000.00
Job & Family Services	200-0720-51102	200-0720-51104	\$ 40,000.00
Job & Family Services	200-0720-51110	200-0720-51105	\$ 125.00
Job & Family Services	200-0720-59000	200-0720-53400	\$ 30,000.00
Job & Family Services	200-0720-59001	200-0720-53400	\$ 30,000.00
Job & Family Services	200-0720-51102	200-0720-51001	\$ 60,000.00
I.T.	100-0190-53000	100-0190-51102	\$ 3,900.00
Veteran Services	100-0700-51110	100-0700-51102	\$ 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. 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>
Commissioners	100-0100-53400	Bricker & Eckler	\$ 30,000.00

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

Sarah Lillich, Taylor Westfall & Rebecca Trent: Required training in Cambridge on November 14, 15 & 16

Taylor Westfall: Required visit in Columbus on November 25, 2022

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

#### **RE: ARCHITECT SERVICES FOR WASCO BUILDING**

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve spending up to \$25,000 on architect services for the WASCO Building. Mr. Schilling said they are looking at how to best utilize the space of the building.

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

#### **RE: RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT HOUSE BILL 523**

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to return to the table a Resolution to support House Bill 523. Mr. Ritter said he thought it was prudent to read the bill before signing the resolution. A calling of the roll resulted in a unanimous vote in favor. Motion passed.

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

##### RESOLUTION TO CALL ON THE OHIO GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO PASS HOUSE BILL 523

*WHEREAS*, the Washington County Board of Commissioners support access to high-quality, cost-effective and comprehensive mental health, and addiction prevention, treatment, and recovery support services for Ohio residents; and

*WHEREAS*, Ohio Revised Code Chapter 340 is the authorizing statute for Ohio's Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Boards that empowers ADAMH Boards to assess, plan, fund, administer, and evaluate the local system of mental health and addiction services, ensuring the provision of high-quality, cost-effective services and supports; and

*WHEREAS*, local ADAMH Boards, who do not provide services, have a statutory requirement to ensure a local continuum of care through contracts and agencies; and

*WHEREAS*, Ohio is experiencing an increasing incidence of overdose and suicide deaths and the demand for treatment and support services continues to grow, the Washington County Commissioners have determined that there is a critical need for modernization of Chapter 340; and

*WHEREAS*, ADAMH Boards are uniquely positioned to rapidly identify changing community needs, respond to crisis situations, and serve as a catalyst for change; and

*WHEREAS*, HB 523 will modernize governing board appointments, revise board contracting authority, allow for the exchange of Medicaid recipient data, and provide for consideration of additional information related to the certification of providers.

*NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED* the Board of Washington County Commissioners respectfully request that the Ohio General Assembly support Ohioans impacted by mental illness and substance use disorders by passing HB 523 to modernize Chapter 340.

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

#### **RE: COMMENTS**

Diane Davis, HR Director, said the County had HR training yesterday with CORSA and they said Washington County has done a great job over the last three years.

Roger Wright, Engineer, said work has started on the Devola Sewer Project and they have completed over 400 installations for the Devola Electric Project.

Flite Freimann, Director JFS, said there will be a Veterans Day celebration today at the County Home. Mr. Freimann said earlier in the year there were 102 children in Children Services custody and now that number is dramatically better at 82.

Rick Dostal, Building Department, said his staff recently attended a three-day conference on building standards.

Commissioner Ritter thanked the voters of Washington County on his reelection and read the following statement:

*I want to take a minute and commend our local Board of Elections for a job well done and I want to thank the Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose for providing another free and fair statewide election.*

*While there is once again widespread evidence of election incompetence (at best) and malfeasance (at worst) across the nation, Ohio has set the standard for how to run an election.*

*With regard to the recent election, I have to make the following observation...many of you know I am a student of history...it has never been more apparent to me that, at least at the national level, we are living in a decadent society. Decadence means the "loss of the object." A decadent society is one that forgets those principles upon which it was founded...its reason for existence.*

*The present day and age in America is much like that corrupt era in Roman history when Emperors like Caligula and Nero flouted the law and abused the people they were meant to lead. America today is much like that era in Roman history in another way as well...most of our country enjoys solid local government. Things run fairly smoothly in the towns, counties, townships, and rural areas of the country. But just like Rome, our nation is rotten at the head...our national, and many of our state governments are no better than the most corrupt Banana Republics.*

*Let me give you just one example...Arizona on election day. Monday of this week, Arizona election officials held a news conference to claim credit for the "rigorous testing" that had been done on voting machines. Everything had been tested, tested again, and tested a third time, and it was reliable. Then, the following day, over 20% of election sites were down for hours because of unforeseen glitches with the machines. I know it is impolitic these days to point out the obvious, but I don't think that was a simple mistake and I don't think it was chance.*

*Why? Because the woman in charge of Arizona elections, Democrat Secretary of State Katie Hobbs, was herself a candidate for Governor. The day before the election, she was down in some polls by double digits. She was asked to recuse herself from overseeing an election in which she, herself was a candidate but she refused.*

*If this sort of thing happened in any arena of life outside politics, Americans would draw the obvious conclusion.*

*If this happened in any era except the present when Americans are scared to death to speak out for fear of offending someone, people would draw the obvious conclusion.*

*If this happened somewhere outside the United States, Americans would scoff and suggest corruption.*

*This did happen here and it happened in more places than Arizona. Pennsylvania, with one of the most corrupt election systems in the country, supposedly ran out of ballots...on ELECTION DAY.*

*What I want to know is who at the state and national level is going to speak out against this corruption? Who has the fortitude to stand up against the name-calling and the bullying? Frankly, who has the "balls" to lead when so many others are content to follow?*

*We are in for dark days, Washington County. With the leadership we currently have nationally...corrupt on one side and spineless on the other, we are a nation without a rudder.*

*It's time to prepare for the coming storm. Commissioner Booth for months has been warning anyone who would listen to make sure their financial house is in order. Hard times are coming. I agree, if we cannot count on those at the national level, it's time to strengthen relationships locally. Make sure you know your neighbor, your local law enforcement officers, your healthcare provider, and your food provider.*

*In 1831, Alexis de Tocqueville identified the strength of America in those informal relationships that exist between neighbors. He said, "America is great because America is good." America is STILL good at the grassroots level...and now's the time to reinforce that bond.*

Commissioner Booth recognized the Grant Department, working with the Sheriff's Office, in obtaining \$165,120.24 for the purchase of a drone and robotic platform which will be used to secure critical maritime and terrestrial transportation infrastructure. Mr. Booth said tomorrow is Veterans Day and asked that we remember why it is an important day.

Commissioner Schilling attended the Building Bridges to Careers meeting yesterday. Mr. Schilling said BB2C received a \$15,000 donation to provide STEM kits for schools.

#### **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 9:27 a.m.

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

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

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

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