

THE DULY ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO, MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON DECEMBER 1, 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
Rick Dostal, Chief Building Official
Karl Comstock, Maintenance Superintendent
Philip Schaffer, Special Projects Administrator
Rob Grant, Grants Administrator
Roger Wright, Engineer
Emily Griffin, Engineer's Office
Gary Doan, Muskingum Township Trustee
Karen Doan
Kimberly Lowers, Child Support Enforcement Agency
Kathy Thieman, Probate Court Administrator
John Jackson, County Health Department
Mike Montgomery, Humane Society
Esther Salem, Humane Society
Nancy Taylor, *Marietta Times*
Ben Cowdery, Fiscal Manager/Clerk

**Washington County Commissioners
AGENDA
9:00 am, December 1, 2022**

9:00 Business Meeting

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Resolution to partner with Buckeye Hills for Appalachian Community Grant

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Agenda
Approval of previous meeting minutes
Bills from various departments
Additional Appropriation – Sewer
Additional Appropriation – Behavioral Health Board (2)
Additional Appropriation – ARPA LATCF
Additional Appropriation – Engineer
Additional Appropriation – Children Services
Transfer – Developmental Disabilities
Travel – CSEA
Public Library – Board Appointment
Letter of Support for Appalachian Children Coalition
Delinquent Sewer Accounts
Certification of Delinquent Sewer Accounts
Engineer – USDA Loan Resolution for tractor with boom mower
Engineer – USDA Grant Agreement for tractor with boom mower
Engineer – Devola Sewer Project, Invoice #1
Engineer – Devola Electric Project, Invoice #18 & #19
Engineer – Bid Award for Hills Covered Bridge Rehab, Rebid #3

DATES TO REMEMBER

Commissioner Meeting, Wednesday December 7th at 9 a.m. in Assembly Room
Records Commission Meeting, December 16th at 9:30 a.m. in Assembly Room
Finance Meeting, December 20th, 10 a.m. in Commissioner Assembly Room
Investment Meeting, December 20th, 10:15 a.m. in Commissioner Assembly Room
Courthouse closed Monday December 26th for Christmas
2023 Appropriations Resolution, December 29th at 10 a.m. in Assembly Room
Courthouse closed Monday January 2nd for New Year's 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 – Board of Elections
Additional Appropriation – Coroner
Letter of Support for Vision to Learn

HR – Change of Flex Plan
Health Department – Agreement with RSVP

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 23, 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>
Sewer	400-0113-53202	\$ 200.00
Behavioral Health Board	210-0616-53000	\$ 2,200.00
Behavioral Health Board	200-0615-53000	\$ 3,200.00
ARPA LATCF	200-0875-53000	\$ 22,500.00
Engineer	300-0591-55000	\$ 291,596.41
Children Services	200-0740-53000	\$ 121,620.97
Board of Elections	100-0160-53000	\$ 81,825.97
Coroner	100-0361-53000	\$ 7,000.00

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

RE: TRANSFERS

Mr. 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>
Developmental Disabilities	210-0620-55300	210-0620-54400	\$ 10,000.00

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. 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:

Child Support Enforcement Agency

Kimberly Lowers: OCDA Canton/Cleveland District Meeting in Hartville on December 12, 2022

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

RE: PUBLIC LIBRARY – BOARD APPOINTMENT

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to reappoint Brandee Norris to the Washington County Public Library Board of Trustees, upon recommendation from the Library Board. The appointment is for the term beginning January 1, 2023 and ending December 31, 2029.

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

RE: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR APPALACHIAN CHILDREN COALITION

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve a Letter of Support for the

Appalachian Children Coalition's Appalachian Community Resource Schools Program proposal for the Appalachian Community Grants Program. The proposed request will support the expansion of health and wellbeing resources for the region's children, families and community members. The resources could include school based health clinics, expanded child care, after school programming, and Family Resource Centers.

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

RE: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR VISION TO LEARN

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve a Letter of Support for the Vision to Learn application for funding from the Appalachian Community Grant Program. Vision to Learn provides access to essential vision care services, including glasses, to students in underserved communities. Commissioner Booth said he made a phone call to learn more about Vision to Learn. Mr. Booth supports expansion of the program. Mr. Schilling noted that one in five children under the age of twelve has vision problems.

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

RE: HUMAN RESOURCES – CHANGE TO FLEX PLAN

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve the Health Equity Flex Plan for county employees to begin January 1, 2023. Maestro Health will be ending their contract with the county on December 31, 2022. The maximum contribution per the IRS is \$3,050 per year with a rollover of \$610 per year. Diane Davis, HR Director, had a meeting with Health Equity and thinks they offer a better, more efficient plan for the County.

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

RE: HEALTH DEPARTMENT – AGREEMENT WITH RSVP

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve an agreement between the Washington County Health Department and Americorps Seniors (RSVP) to provide Tai Chi for Arthritis and A Matter of Balance classes for the older adult population in the community. The Health Department will pay RSVP a maximum amount of \$400 upon completion. The agreement is effective through September 30, 2023.

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. Ritter 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>
07-0024157-000	\$ 329.60	23-0085470-002	\$ 352.60
23-0085470-015	\$ 341.10	26-0037604-000	\$ 341.10
26-0037872-000	\$ 341.10	05-0010804-000	\$ 341.10
05-0010704-000	\$ 341.10	05-0012448-000	\$ 293.80
05-0011696-000	\$ 341.10	05-0012544-000	\$ 429.25
05-0013116-000	\$ 341.10	05-0013244-000	\$ 349.25
05-0011648-000	\$ 341.10	07-0021348-000	\$ 341.10
07-0024049-000	\$ 341.10	07-0020900-000	\$ 355.55
07-0024064-000	\$ 341.10	07-0020656-001	\$ 341.10
07-0021412-000	\$ 329.60	06-0017332-000	\$ 322.90
05-0011716-000	\$ 682.20		

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

RE: ENGINEER – USDA LOAN RESOLUTION FOR TRACTOR WITH BOOM MOWER

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve a USDA Loan Resolution authorizing Washington County to incur debt for the purchase of a tractor with boom mower. Washington County will raise the cost by issuance of bonds in the principal

amount of \$175,000.

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

RE: ENGINEER – USDA GRANT AGREEMENT FOR TRACTOR WITH BOOM MOWER

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to approve a USDA Community Facilities Grant Agreement for the purchase of a tractor with boom mower. Washington County will receive grant funds in the amount of \$50,000. The total project cost is \$225,000.

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

RE: ENGINEER – DEVOLA SEWER PROJECT, INVOICE #1

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve payment to RDR Utility Services Group for Devola Sewer Project Phase 2 – Invoice #1. The total amount of the invoice is \$2,072,339.63 with \$165,787.17 of that amount being retainage held. Invoice quantities and prompt payment to subcontractors have been verified and approved by the County Engineer, along with project inspection to verify all materials and work performed meet contract specification and plan documents. Prevailing wage verification is coordinated by the Commissioners Grant Department.

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 PROJECT, INVOICE #18 & #19

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve payment to Davis Pickering & Company for Devola Electric Project – Invoice #18 & #19. The total amount of Invoice #18 is \$56,168.20. The total amount of Invoice #19 is \$60,571.90. Prevailing wage and invoice quantities were verified and approved by the County Engineer. The total project cost to date is \$980,378.79. Roger Wright, Engineer, said the project is 90% to 95% complete. Mr. Wright said there are still four or five households not participating in the project. Commissioner Booth said the Commissioners have done everything they can to pay for the project for everyone, but those not cooperating will be bypassed and have to pay the entire cost themselves.

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

RE: ENGINEER – BID AWARD FOR HILLS COVERED BRIDGE REHAB, REBID #3

Mr. Ritter moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve the recommendation of the County Engineer to award County Road 333 Hills Covered Bridge Rehab Project PID #109047 to the Righter Co. Two bids were received. The awarded bid price for the project is \$804,827. The engineer's estimate is \$819,438. The project will be funded with 80% Federal funds, 15% credit bridge funds and 5% local funds. Roger Wright said the first two bids were not successful, but the third bid can move forward. Mr. Wright hopes to complete the project by next fall. The bid tab is below.

The Righter Co.	\$ 804,827
R.C. Construction Co.	\$ 825,362

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

RE: RESOLUTION TO PARTNER WITH BUCKEYE HILLS FOR APPALACHIAN COMMUNITY GRANT

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Ritter seconded a motion to return to the table the Resolution to partner with Buckeye Hills for the Appalachian Community Grant. A calling of the roll resulted in a unanimous vote in favor. Motion passed.

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

RESOLUTION FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE BUCKEYE HILLS REGIONAL COUNCIL AS ITS LEAD TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT APPLICANT FOR THE APPALACHIAN COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Appalachian Community Grant Program, created by House Bill 377, provides support to political subdivisions, educational institutions, port authorities, community improvement corporations, and nonprofits within the 32-county Ohio Appalachian region to undertake projects related to infrastructure, Workforce, and Healthcare; and

WHEREAS, Buckeye Hills Regional Council is the designated Local Development District for Athens, Hocking, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Noble, Perry, and Washington counties, as recognized by the Ohio Governor’s Office of Appalachia and the Appalachian Regional Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Appalachian Grant Program guidelines encourage applicants to work with their local development district to compile and complete their applications for eligible projects under the Appalachian Community Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, Buckeye Hills Regional Council intends to make applications for technical assistance on behalf of the communities and partners in the Muskingum River Corridor, the Ohio River Corridor and additional areas throughout the region for downtown revitalization, trails, tourism, healthcare and education.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Washington County Commissioners that the Board of Commissioners wishes to partner with Buckeye Hills Regional Council on the technical assistance application described above and authorizes Buckeye Hills Regional Council to apply on its behalf to the Appalachian Community Grant Program for the aforementioned planning project.

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 CORSA will reimburse the County \$5,000 for cyber security expenses.

Karl Comstock, Buildings & Grounds, said he doesn’t have access to a boom truck to put lights up on the tree at the Courthouse this year.

Rick Dostal, Chief Building Official, said a contractor will be installing an ADA sidewalk in front of the Commissioners Building today.

Mr. Ritter said the County received \$81,000 to pay for a split election because of the hubris of Chief Justice Maureen O’Connor ruling against redrawn district maps four times. Mr. Ritter said to pay attention to who is elected to office.

Mr. Booth said there was good discussion at the strategic planning meeting in Belpre last night.

Mr. Schilling said there was a planning meeting held in Marietta previously, and one in Belpre last night. Mr. Schilling wants to include all of the county in the planning process to develop a Comprehensive County Plan.

RE: HUMANE SOCIETY DISCUSSION

Mike Montgomery and Ester Salem of the Humane Society Board were present to discuss the contract with the County. Mr. Schilling said the Commissioners want more financial information from the Humane Society before the December 15th contract discussion. Mr. Booth said the Commissioners received an email raising concerns regarding the Humane Society’s financial viability. Mr. Booth said he received a report of dogs in temporary crates at the shelter. The Commissioners are specifically requesting the Humane Society to provide the annual number of dogs at the shelter, broken down by evidence dogs, stray dogs turned in by the Dog Warden, owner surrenders, and others; the total annual number of cats; complete financials listing income from all sources as well as expenses; and HSOV bylaws and current Board membership to ensure the shelter can operate legally. Mr. Ritter said the Commissioners need to better understand because they expend public funds on the Humane Society. Mr. Ritter said total disclosure is the first step to build confidence. Mr. Montgomery and Ms. Salem agreed to provide the Commissioners with the requested information. Ms. Salem said the Board will officially appoint members at the January meeting. Mr. Montgomery said the Humane Society activated a Humane Officer whose duty is to go out and check on wellness of animals. The Humane Officer is a full time position and will start in 2023.

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 10:01 a.m.

_____, President

_____, Vice President

_____, Member

_____, Clerk