

THE DULY ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO, MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON MARCH 9, 2023 IN ACCORDANCE WITH OHIO REVISED CODE 305.05, WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT: KEVIN J. RITTER, PRESIDENT. JAMES W. BOOTH, VICE PRESIDENT. CHARLIE L. SCHILLING, 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
Diane Davis, HR Director
Gary Doan, Muskingum Township Trustee
Karen Doan
Brenda Robinson, OhioMeansJobs
Roger Wright, Engineer
Rick Dostal, Chief Building Official
Katie Warden, Marietta Police Chief
Philip Schaffer, Grant Department
Jesse Roush, Port Authority
Justin Grant, CEBCO
Kathryn Hartline, OSU Extension
Bruce Zimmer, OSU Extension
Emma Poulton, 4-H Club
Nancy Taylor, *Marietta Times*
Ben Cowdery, Fiscal Manager/Clerk

**Washington County Commissioners
AGENDA
9:00 am, March 9, 2023**

9:00 Business Meeting
9:30 CEBCO Update
10:00 OSU Ext. – 4H Update

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Agenda
Approval of previous meeting minutes
Bills from various departments
Additional Appropriation – Sewer (2)
Additional Appropriation – Children Services
Additional Appropriation – Belpre Outpost
Additional Appropriation – BHB Indigent Patient
Additional Appropriation – Engineer
Then & Now
Travel – Children Services, FCF, Building Department, Engineer, Sewer
JFS – Work Experience Contract
Veregy – Phase II Energy Project, Invoice #7
Sheriff – Request to sell 4 vehicles
Sheriff – Monthly Report on Care of Prisoners for February
Letter of Support – Sheriff application for Community Project Funding
Jail Contract – Gallia County, Village of Pomeroy
Sewer – Low Pressure User Manual
Engineer – Contract extension with Sherlock Oil Company
Engineer – Devola Phase 2, Change Order #2
Engineer – Request to establish sewer capacity fee
Congressional Directed Funding – Route 7 South Sewer Discussion

DATES TO REMEMBER

Finance Meeting, March 21 at 10 a.m. in the Commissioners Assembly Room
Investment Meeting, March 21 at 10:15 a.m. in Commissioners Assembly Room

RE: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Add: JFS – Work Experience Contract
Local Corrections Planning Board Appointments (6)
MOU with Port Authority
MOU with City of Belpre

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

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling seconded a motion to dispense with the reading and approve the minutes of the March 2, 2023 regular meeting.

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

RE: BILLS FOR PAYMENT

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

RE: ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. Schilling 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	400-0113-55001	\$ 50,000.00
Sewer	400-0113-53000	\$ 25,000.00
Children Services	200-0740-57200	\$ 130,236.00
Belpre Outpost	210-0556-57200	\$ 621.00
BHB Indigent Patient	200-0615-53000	\$ 16,500.00
Engineer	200-0540-55202	\$ 150,000.00

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

RE: THEN & NOW

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling seconded a motion to approve the following Then & Now Certificates.

<u>Department</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Sheriff	100-0384-54409	Leadsonline LLC	\$ 4,151.00

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

RE: TRAVEL REQUESTS

Mr. Schilling 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 2023 and any and all amendments subsequent thereto:

Children Services

Rebecca Trent: Required monthly visit in Parkersburg, WV on March 14; Vienna, WV on March 17; Muskingum County on March 21, 2023

Katy Biehl: Required monthly visit in Toledo on March 8; Cincinnati on March 13; Zanesville on March 15; Newark on March 20; Millersburg on March 21, 2023

Family & Children First

Elaine Corbitt: New Story in Albany to attend a meeting for a youth on March 22, 2023

Building Department

Mark Hiener: Commercial Building Inspector Exam in Englewood, CO on March 12 – 19, 2023

Rick Dostal: Commercial Electrical Inspector Exam in Englewood, CO on March 12 – 19, 2023

Engineer

Kurt Marshall & Drew Schneider: CEAO Bridge Workers, Supervisors and Engineers Conference & Trade Show in Newark on April 4 & 5, 2023

Sewer

Kacyn Day: ABC EPA Operators Exam in Wheeling, WV on March 15, 2023

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

RE: JFS – WORK EXPERIENCE CONTRACTS

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve a work experience contract with Washington County Job & Family Services to employ Jessica Books. Washington County will employ Jessica Books as a scanning/shredding project assistant for up to 40 hours per week (24 while in school) for the period from March 7, 2023 through September 30, 2023, contingent upon funding. The employee's pay will be \$13 per hour. All employment cost is to be reimbursed to the county by the Comprehensive Case Management and Employment Program (CCMEP) or WIOA funding. The purpose of the contract is a successful work experience.

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

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve a work experience contract with Washington County Job & Family Services to employ Matthew McGoye. Washington County will employ Matthew McGoye for up to 40 hours per week for the period from March 1, 2023 through September 30, 2023, contingent upon funding. The employee's pay will be \$12.50 per hour. All employment cost is to be reimbursed to the county by the Comprehensive Case Management and Employment Program (CCMEP) or WIOA funding. The purpose of the contract is a successful work experience. The employee will learn janitorial and simple maintenance skills.

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

RE: LOCAL CORRECTIONS PLANNING BOARD APPOINTMENTS (6)

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve the following appointments to the Local Corrections Planning Board. All appointments are effective immediately. These appointments fill the Commissioners discretionary appointments to the Local Corrections Planning Board and represent the diversity of Board composition required.

Serena Shilling – Term ending December 31, 2024
Shoshanna Brooker – Term ending December 31, 2025
Lori Greathouse – Term ending December 31, 2026
Michael Stump – Term ending December 31, 2025
Ryan Huffman – Term ending December 31, 2026
Sabrina Milliron – Term ending December 31, 2023

Judge Halliday, Common Pleas, said the appointments will allow the County to receive grant funding to provide correction services. Commissioner Schilling thanked Judge Welch and Judge Halliday for taking the initiative with the Local Corrections Planning Board.

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

RE: VEREGY – PHASE II ENERGY PROJECT, INVOICE #7

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve payment to Veregy for the Phase 2 Energy Project – Invoice #7. The total amount of the invoice is \$470,155.67. The project is 29.52% complete at this time. Mr. Schilling said the Commissioners met with Brian Gifford, Veregy Senior Project Developer, to review the progress of the project and said everything is in line.

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

RE: SHERIFF – REQUEST TO SELL 4 VEHICLES

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling seconded a motion to approve a request from the Sheriff's Office to sell four (4) vehicles to Noble and Meigs County Sheriff Offices. To sell the vehicles at auction would require an additional cost to remove the law enforcement package. The following vehicles will be sold to Noble County:

2015 Ford Explorer VIN 1FM5K8AR7FGA70618	134,934 miles \$4,000
2016 Ford Explorer VIN 1FM5K8AR1GGB73681	143,716 miles \$2,500
2016 Ford Explorer VIN 1FM5K8AR1GGB73685	142,657 miles \$4,000

The following vehicle will be sold to Meigs County:

2016 Ford Explorer VIN 1FM5K8AR1GGB73683	150,321 miles \$3,000
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A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Kevin Ritter aye. James Booth aye. Charlie Schilling aye. Motion passed.

RE: SHERIFF – MONTHLY REPORT ON CARE OF PRISONERS FOR FEBRUARY

The Commissioners acknowledged receipt of the monthly report on the care of prisoners at the Washington County Jail for the month of February 2023. The report shows a total prisoner count of 242. The Jail received \$6,460 for housing prisoners from other jurisdictions for the month.

RE: LETTER OF SUPPORT – SHERIFF APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve the following Letter of Support for the Sheriff's Office:

Dear Congressman Bill Johnson,

The Washington County Sheriff's Office has identified a new technology that will change the way it responds to disasters, initiates criminal investigations and manages limited resources. It is interested in applying for Community Project Funding during the FY 2024 appropriations process to assist the department in establishing a Rapid DNA system. Because the Washington County Board of Commissioners works in cooperation with the Washington County Sheriff's Office and stands to benefit from advances in its responsiveness to disasters and criminal investigations and from the implementation and sharing of new technology in the region, it heartily supports the Sheriff's Office request for Community Project Funding.

Rapid DNA was developed and approved under FBI guidance to process DNA within 90 minutes. Many law enforcement agencies across the country have started using Rapid DNA to make quick, and accurate, identifications that will drastically improve public safety. In Pennsylvania, the Bensalem Township PD has seen a 42% reduction in property crimes, which the department attributes to its Rapid DNA system. In addition, in Hawaii Kauai PD has saved thousands of dollars on one disaster response. Not only is this technology important for thorough investigations, it will reduce the already overloaded demands of the Crime Laboratory.

This technology will improve public safety and community relations by ensuring that investigators have access to the most accurate forensic technology in identifying criminals and to exonerate persons who are wrongly accused. It is clear this is the expectation of the citizens of Washington County which the Washington County Board of Commissioners serves.

Washington County Commissioners

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

RE: JAIL CONTRACT – GALLIA COUNTY

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve a contract with Gallia County to house prisoners at the Washington County Jail at a cost of \$100 per day. The contract will be effective from April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024.

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

RE: JAIL CONTRACT – VILLAGE OF POMEROY

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve a contract with the Village of Pomeroy to house prisoners at the Washington County Jail at a cost of \$100 per day. The contract will be effective from April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024.

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

RE: SEWER – LOW PRESSURE USER MANUAL

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling seconded a motion to approve the Washington County Wastewater Department Low Pressure Sewer User Manual. The Department will post the manual online, and a printed copy will be provided to each residence by the Devola Project Inspector at the time of connection. A service telephone number is provided in the manual.

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

RE: ENGINEER – CONTRACT EXTENSION WITH SHERLOCK OIL COMPANY

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve a contract extension agreement with Sherlock Oil Company. The contract for bulk fuel delivery will be extended for a 3 year period until March 31, 2026. Sherlock Oil Company has agreed to continue to honor the bid pricing provided in 2017 and agrees with a contract extension.

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

RE: ENGINEER – DEVOLA PHASE 2, CHANGE ORDER #2

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve Change Order #2 for Devola Sewer Project Phase 2. The change order was necessary to correct flowline downstream of the plan manhole tie-in location at the intersection of Alden Avenue and Lawton Road. The change order is an increase of \$13,069.12 for a new project total of \$14,599,315.32. Time and materials for the change order were tracked and validated by County Engineer inspection staff.

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

RE: ENGINEER – REQUEST TO ESTABLISH SEWER CAPACITY FEE

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling seconded a motion to approve a request from the County Engineer to establish a sewer capacity fee per equivalent residential unit (ERU). The most recent capacity fee was assessed at \$4,000 per ERU. With Devola Phase 2 being a low pressure system requiring pumps and future maintenance, the Engineer recommends an increase of the capacity fee to \$6,000. Roger Wright, Engineer, said the amount of the fee is much lower that it might have been because of all the grant funding received for the project.

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

RE: CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTED FUNDING – ROUTE 7 SOUTH SEWER DISCUSSION

Mr. Schilling said sewer would help connect the corridor between the cities and improve economic development to revitalize the area. Mr. Booth said the Commissioners met with Congressman Bill Johnson yesterday. Congressman Johnson said this is his top priority to support local businesses. Mr. Ritter said this is an example of the different layers of government working together.

RE: MOU WITH CITY OF BELPRE

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling seconded a motion to approve a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Belpre for the purposes of application for Community Project Funding, due March 15, 2023. The City of Belpre has requested the Commissioners apply for CPF funding. In support of its request, Belpre has gathered and submitted the necessary information to the Commissioners to be submitted in the application.

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

RE: MOU WITH SOUTHEASTERN OHIO PORT AUTHORITY

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling seconded a motion to approve a Memorandum of Understanding with the Southeastern Ohio Port Authority for the purposes of application for Community Project Funding, due March 15, 2023. The Port Authority has agreed, if the grant is awarded, to administer portions of the project for up to one-third of received administrative funds. Mr. Booth said our Grant Department is applying for the grant and the Port Authority will help manage the project.

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

RE: COMMENTS

Commissioner Schilling said it's nice to see government working together for the Route 7 Sewer Project.

Commissioner Booth said he has a meeting today with Rebecca Safko to discuss COG funds.

Commissioner Ritter read the following statement:

You may recall, I had something to say last week about Black History Month. In keeping with the theme I'd like to say something today about Women's History Month today.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently released a new study focused on the dramatic increase of suicides among teenage girls in the last couple years. The numbers are shocking. CDC reported that suicide attempts by teenage girls are up over 50% between 2019 and 2021. To put this in perspective, attempts by teenage boys during the same period are up just 4%.

Of course there are a variety of factors that might help explain this dramatic shift. Social isolation because of covid has been offered as a contributing factor by some psychologists. The undermining of young women by "woke" liberal ideologies is another.

You don't have to be especially attuned to the news to be aware that much of the American Left cannot even agree on what a woman is. The threat of biological boys unfairly competing in girl's athletics has caused many young ladies to give up on what has been an enjoyment and refuge for many. Finally, the pervasive and detrimental effects of constant comparison with their peers that is so much a part of social media has inarguably affected teen girls as well.

Lt. Governor Husted is particularly concerned with the effect of social media on young people...especially girls. He is campaigning for more strict regulations regarding young people and social media.

As we celebrate women this month, I would encourage you to keep in mind some of the unique challenges being faced by young women and adolescent girls right now.

RE: CEBCO UPDATE

Justin Grant, CEBCO Benefits Specialist, provided the Commissioners with an update regarding the County's health insurance data. Washington County had an overall loss ratio of 120.4% for 2022, which was adjusted down to 107.3%. Mr. Grant said there was a 14% increase in pharmacy expenses. Mr. Schilling asked what CEBCO is doing to encourage using generic drugs. Mr. Grant said it could be discussed at open enrollment with employees.

RE: OSU EXTENSION – 4H UPDATE

Bruce Zimmer and Kathryn Hartline, OSU Extension, along with Emma Poulton, 4-H Club member, presented the Commissioners with an update on the Washington County 4-H program. Ms. Poulton shared her project work and discussed her leadership as a 4-H Camp Counselor. Ms. Poulton will be going to Washington D.C. in April for the National 4-H Conference. Mr. Zimmer said Camp Hervida increased camp fees this year. Mr. Zimmer said they received a grant to pave a road at the camp. Mr. Zimmer said they would like to build a new dining hall with sleeping quarters at Camp Hervida. Ms. Hartline said there were 240 participants this year at the open house at the fairgrounds. Ohio 4-H Week is celebrated March 5-11 and will culminate with the Ohio 4-H Conference in Columbus. Volunteers will be recognized and attend a variety of hands-on sessions at the conference.

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 10:24 a.m.

- _____, President
- _____, Vice President
- _____, Member
- _____, Clerk