

**THE DULY ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO, MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON MAY 11, 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. RITTER OFFERED PRAYER.**

Also attending:

Flite Freimann, Director JFS  
Gary Doan, Muskingum Township Trustee  
Karen Doan  
Roger Wright, County Engineer  
Emily Griffin, Engineer's Office  
Rick Dostal, Chief Building Official  
Karl Comstock, Maintenance Superintendent  
Diane Davis, HR Director  
Jesse Roush, Port Authority  
Kimberly Lowers, Child Support Enforcement Agency  
Jon Higgins, Family & Children First  
Nancy Taylor, *Marietta Times*  
Ben Cowdery, Fiscal Manager/Clerk

**Washington County Commissioners  
AGENDA  
9:00 am, May 11, 2023**

9:00 Business Meeting  
9:30 Engineer – Discuss Annual Report

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

Approve Agenda  
Approval of previous meeting minutes  
Bills from various departments  
Additional Appropriation – Residential Public Infrastructure Grant  
Additional Appropriation – Engineer  
Transfer – Sewer  
Then & Now  
Travel – Grant Department  
WCBHB – Board Appointment  
USDA – Payment Authorization Agreement  
OCJS – Violence Interruption Project Grant Agreement  
OEMA – Homeland Security Grant Agreement  
Residential Public Infrastructure Grant – Notice of Award  
Residential Public Infrastructure Grant – Notice to Proceed  
Residential Public Infrastructure Grant – Engineer Contract  
Engineer – Request to Bid for T-55 Bridge Replacement  
Veregy – WASCO Buildout Discussion

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

Commissioner Meeting, Wednesday, May 17 at 8 a.m. in Assembly Room  
Courthouse closed Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup> for Memorial Day

**RE: APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

Add: Travel – Family & Children First

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. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to dispense with the reading and approve the minutes of the May 4, 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. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling 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. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling seconded a motion to approve requests for the following additional appropriations:

<u>Department</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Residential Infrastructure Grant	210-0826-53000	\$ 720,000.00
Residential Infrastructure Grant	210-0826-53001	\$ 30,000.00
Engineer	300-0593-55000	\$ 51,680.00

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

**RE: TRANSFERS**

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve requests for the following transfer of funds:

<u>Department</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Sewer	400-0113-55002	400-0113-55001	\$ 29,000.00

Mr. Booth commended the Sewer Department for their quick response on a recent lift station repair.

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>
911 System	200-0364-53401	Commissioners	\$ 705.50

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:

Grant Department  
Rob Grant: Broadband Ohio BEAD Listening Session in Cambridge on May 3, 2023

Family & Children First  
Elaine Corbitt & Christina Coulter: Trauma Informed Care Summit in Columbus on May 16 & 17, 2023  
Cindy Davis: Ohio Early Intervention Stakeholder Meeting in Columbus on May 23, 2023

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

**RE: WCBHB – BOARD APPOINTMENT**

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve the reappointment of Larry Hall to the Washington County Behavioral Health Board. Mr. Hall is appointed to serve on the Board for a four-year term beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2027.

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

**RE: USDA – PAYMENT AUTHORIZATION AGREEMENT**

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling seconded a motion to approve an Authorization Agreement for preauthorized payments to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural

Development. The authorization allows USDA to collect payments electronically for Loan #97-06.

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

**RE: OCJS – VIOLENCE INTERRUPTION PROJECT GRANT AGREEMENT**

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve a subgrant award agreement with the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services for the Washington County Violence Interruption Project. The amount awarded is \$636,966.63. No matching funds are required. The award period for the grant is September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2024. Mr. Ritter noted this is new money that the Grant Department is bringing into the County.

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

**RE: OEMA – HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT AGREEMENT**

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve a grant agreement for FY2022 State Homeland Security Program with the Ohio Emergency Management Agency. Assistance Listing # 97.067. The total award amount is \$165,121. The grant period is September 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024. Rob Grant, Grant Department, said the grant will be used by the Sheriff's Office to purchase a drone and robot for emergency response.

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

**RE: RESIDENTIAL PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT – NOTICE OF AWARD**

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling seconded a motion to approve a Notice of Award to T.A.M. Construction as the apparent successful bidder for the contract for Tri-County Rural Water & Sewer District Phase 6 Waterline Extension Project. The contract price is \$1,790,000.

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

**RE: RESIDENTIAL PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT – NOTICE TO PROCEED**

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve a Notice to Proceed to T.A.M. Construction for the Tri-County Rural Water & Sewer District Phase 6 Waterline Extension Project. The contract time to commence work shall be on or before May 1, 2023 and completed within 210 consecutive calendar days thereafter. The date of substantial completion of all work is November 27, 2023.

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

**RE: RESIDENTIAL PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT – ENGINEER CONTRACT**

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to approve a standard form of agreement for the contract between Tri-County Rural Water & Sewer District and T.A.M. Construction for the Phase 6 Waterline Extension Project.

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 BID FOR T-55 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT**

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling seconded a motion to approve a request from the Engineer to bid the T-55 (Christy Road) Bridge Replacement Project PID #118942. Federal authorization to bid the project has been obtained by ODOT. The bid opening is scheduled for May 30, 2023 at 10 a.m. The engineer's estimate is \$604,737. The project will be funded with 100% federal funds.

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

**RE: SQUAD DONATION FROM MONROE COUNTY**

Mr. Booth moved and Mr. Schilling seconded a motion to approve the donation of a squad from Monroe County to Washington County. The squad is a 2009 Horton 555C-3 with 68,848 miles. Mr. Booth thanked Monroe County for the donation.

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

Charlie Schilling aye. Motion passed.

**RE: VEREGY – WASCO BUILDOUT DISCUSSION**

Mr. Booth said the plans have changed for the WASCO Building and the drawings will need redone. Mr. Booth said the County has had good results working with Veregy and thinks they would be a good partner on this. Mr. Schilling said he would need to see estimates on cost before making a decision. Mr. Ritter said the Commissioners will first need to find out how much the assessment from Veregy will cost.

**RE: COMMENTS**

Karl Comstock, Buildings & Grounds, said the old boiler is scheduled to be removed on May 22.

Jesse Roush, Port Authority, said he was in Columbus yesterday to discuss investment in Appalachia. Mr. Roush said Marietta was mentioned several times as an area of interest.

Rick Dostal, Building Department, said through Building Bridges to Careers he presented to high school and college students about being Building Inspectors.

Mr. Schilling said he testified yesterday for House Bill 685 to increase natural gas access and infrastructure. Mr. Schilling said Glenn Miller, CCAO, spoke on increasing state indigent defense reimbursement. Mr. Schilling commended the Port Authority for all they are doing and said it is a good equation for success.

Mr. Booth said Ohio University is going to grow psychedelic mushrooms for research. Mr. Booth is opposed to this and thinks legalization will remove workers from the workforce.

Mr. Ritter said the Save Women’s Sports Act will go the House for vote. Mr. Ritter said to contact the House and Governor if you support the bill. Mr. Ritter said 22 states already have legislation in place protecting women’s sports.

**RE: ENGINEER – ANNUAL REPORT**

Roger Wright, County Engineer, discussed the 2022 Annual Report on Roads & Bridges with the Commissioners. Mr. Wright said roads are on a 27.5 year paving cycle because of funding. Mr. Wright said there are bridges in the County that are starting to age out. Mr. Wright said they were able to complete a number of projects with FEMA money that would have otherwise not been possible. In 2022, the Engineer received approximately \$1 million for FEMA projects. Mr. Schilling said he appreciates the efficiency of the Engineer’s Office. According to the report, FEMA/OEMA has provided \$7,235,252 of 2018 disaster assistance to the Engineer and 22 townships to rebuild county infrastructure. The Engineer’s Office currently has 8 remaining projects open from the 2019 disaster.

**RE: ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Schilling moved and Mr. Booth seconded a motion to adjourn. A calling of the roll resulted in a unanimous vote in favor. The meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

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

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

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

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