

**THE DULY ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO, MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON DECEMBER 11, 2014 IN ACCORDANCE WITH OHIO REVISED CODE 305.05, WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT: RONALD L. FEATHERS, PRESIDENT, DAVID A. WHITE, VICE PRESIDENT, AND RICK WALTERS, MEMBER. THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 9:00 A.M. BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD. MR. FEATHERS LED THOSE ATTENDING IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO OUR FLAG.**

Also attending were Warren Township Trustees Jeff Knowlton and Gary Gaughan, Melcie Wells and Kyle Newton from Warren Local School District, Marcia and Glen Pawloski, Donald Johnson, Sharon Dearth, Ines Allen, Kevin Frances, Muskingum Township Trustee Gary Doan, Amanda Nicholson from *The Marietta Times*, Justin Bradley from WMOA Radio, and Clerk Rick Peoples.

**Washington County Commissioners  
AGENDA  
9:00 a.m., December 11, 2014**

9:00 Business Meeting  
9:15 Glen Pawloski – Devola Sewer Project  
9:30 Sandy Lahmers, Soil & Water Conservation – Project Updates  
10:00 Chris Wilson, Building Official – Department Update  
10:30 Gordie Stryker, MGT of America – Cost Analysis Proposal  
1:30 Dawn Rauch, Community Action – Transit Contracts, CHIP Program  
2:00 Katherine Wittekind – Devola Sewer Project  
2:30 Chief Deputy Mark Warden, Sheriff’s Office – Courthouse Security

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Resolution – DTE Energy Services Project

**NEW BUSINESS**

Approve Agenda  
Approval of previous meeting’s minutes  
Bills from various departments  
Additional Appropriation – Board of Developmental Disabilities  
Additional Appropriation – Sheriff (2)  
Transfer – Sheriff (3)  
Transfer – Soil & Water Conservation  
Transfer – Auditor  
Transfer – Family & Children First  
Transfer – Children Services  
Transfer – Child Support  
Then & Now’s  
Travel – Family & Children First (2)  
Re-appointment to Children Services Board  
Job & Family Services County-Wide Cost Allocation Plan  
2015 Rural Transit Grant Program Contract  
CHIP Grant Agreements (2)  
Ohio EPA Letter, Devola General Plan of Action 2014  
Courthouse Windows Project Proposal – DLH Design, LLC

**INFORMATION**

Joint Solid Waste, 12:00 p.m., **Monday**, December 15, Lori’s Family Restaurant  
Finance Committee, 10:00 a.m., **Tuesday**, December 16  
Christmas Day, **Thursday**, December 25, Courthouse Closed  
New Year’s Day, **Thursday**, January 1, Courthouse Closed

**RE: AGENDA**

Mr. White moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to accept the agenda, with the following adjustment:

Add: 3:00 Children Services Board

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Ronald Feathers aye, David White aye, Rick Walters aye. Motion passed.

**RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. White moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the December 4, 2014 meeting, and to dispense with the reading of them.

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Ronald Feathers aye, David White aye, Rick Walters aye. Motion passed.

**RE: PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Mr. Walters moved and Mr. White seconded a motion to approve the payment of bills from various departments.

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Ronald Feathers aye, David White aye, Rick Walters aye. Motion passed.

**RE: ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS**

Mr. White moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to approve the following requests for additional appropriations:

Developmental Disabilities	200-0620-51105	\$ 6,800.00
Sheriff	200-0401-55200	\$ 3,395.00
	200-0383-54201	\$ 10,000.00

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Ronald Feathers aye, David White aye, Rick Walters aye. Motion passed.

**RE: TRANSFERS**

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

	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Sheriff 250.00	100-0384-54003	100-0384-54403	\$
26.49	100-0380-51104	100-0380-51100	\$
7,000.00	200-0383-54400	200-0383-54201	\$
Soil & Water 4,471.01	200-2040-53000	200-2040-51001	\$
1,514.50	200-2040-54400	200-2040-51001	\$
Auditor 1,140.00	100-0120-54000	100-0120-53000	\$
Family & Children First 150.00	602-2030-51001	602-2030-52000	\$
Children Services 241.00	200-0740-51101	200-0740-57000	\$
10.00	200-0740-51102	200-0740-57000	\$
3,069.00	200-0740-51120	200-0740-57000	\$
500.00	200-0740-53203	200-0740-57000	\$
Child Support 2,926.00	200-0730-53500	200-0730-51110	\$

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Ronald Feathers aye, David White aye, Rick Walters aye. Motion passed.

**RE: THEN & NOW'S**

Mr. Walters moved and Mr. White seconded a motion to approve the following Then & Now's and Late Payment Charges:

Dept	Account	Vendor	Amount
MR/DD	210-0620-53000	Cerner	\$ 1,659.00
Sheriff Department	200-0363-57400	John Buegel	\$ 500.00
Sheriff Department	100-0384-54404	Dell Corporation	\$ 1,083.59
Sheriff Department	100-0384-54404	Dell Corporation	\$ 1,037.00
Late Payment Charge/Fee			
Engineer	200-0540-54201	Wex Bank – Marathon Oil	\$ 79.66

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Ronald Feathers aye, David White aye, Rick Walters aye. Motion passed.

**RE: TRAVEL REQUESTS**

Mr. White moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to approve the following requests for reimbursement of expenses for training and travel pursuant to the policies and procedures and

in compliance with the Annual Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2014 and any and all amendments subsequent thereto:

Family & Children First

Cindy Davis: One-day trip to Columbus to attend Early Childhood Standards and Assessment Project Team; December 9, 2014.

Cindy Davis: One-day trip to Columbus to attend Ohio Family & Children First Coordinators Association Meeting; December 12, 2014.

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Ronald Feathers aye, David White aye, Rick Walters aye. Motion passed.

**RE: RE-APPOINTMENT TO CHILDREN SERVICES BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Mr. White moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to table a request to re-appoint Mary Barnas to the Children Services Board of Directors for the term January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2018, as requested by Kenneth Leopold, President, Washington County Children Services Board of Directors.

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Ronald Feathers aye, David White aye, Rick Walters aye. Motion passed.

**RE: JOB & FAMILY SERVICES COST ALLOCATION PLAN**

Mr. White moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to approve the County-Wide Cost Allocation Plan for 2015 from the Department of Job and Family Services, in compliance with the Maximus report for Washington County, including payment to the County from the Department of Job and Family Services in the annual amount of \$59,832.00, payable in the amount of \$4,986.00 monthly, as requested by Tom Ballengee, Director, Washington County Department of Job and Family Services.

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Ronald Feathers aye, David White aye, Rick Walters aye. Motion passed.

**RE: OHIO EPA LETTER**

The Commissioners acknowledged receipt of a letter dated December 4, 2014 from the Director of the Ohio EPA pertaining to the Devola General Plan of Action 2014. In that letter from Ohio EPA Director Craig W. Butler, he concludes the County's revised general plan for sewerage the Devola community is inadequate to address the Director's Final Findings and Orders. Further, he recommends the County "refocus its efforts on developing a general plan (or working with us to revise [the County's] Permit to Install) to sewer the entire Devola area as set forth in the 2013 Findings and Orders, not on a patchwork approach to delay it." Mr. Butler requested the updated general plan and timeline for sewerage Devola to be forwarded to him by January 30, 2015.

**RE: COURTHOUSE WINDOWS PROJECT**

Mr. White moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to approve a proposal from DLH Design, LLC, to provide design development, construction documents and contract administration services for the Washington County Courthouse windows repair/replacement project, for the amount of \$6,500.00.

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Ronald Feathers aye, David White aye, Rick Walters aye. Motion passed.

**RE: COMMENTS FROM VISITORS**

Warren Township Trustee Jeff Knowlton commented on DTE Marietta LLC's application to participate in the State of Ohio Qualified Energy Program. He noted Warren Township recently lost a major plant and its payment of taxes, and the State of Ohio has reduced its distribution of funds to townships. He said the Warren Township Trustees are not in favor of the application from DTE Marietta to participate in this tax relief program. He said he believes acceptance into this program will allow DTE to continually avoid paying taxes, not just for a few years. Mr. Knowlton asked the Commissioners to not approve the application. As a for-profit company DTE should be expected to pay its fair share of taxes to support schools, the township and the county, just as all other for-profit companies do.

Warren Local Schools Treasurer Melcie Wells agreed the Commissioners should not approve the application. She said the loss of revenues to the school district would be about \$40,000 each year. That amount, she indicated, would be enough to fund a teaching position.

President Feathers indicated the Commissioners will continue to gather information on DTE's application into the Qualified Energy Program, and will take these comments into consideration.

**RE: GLEN PAWLOSKI**

Devola resident Glen Pawloski talked with the Commissioners about the proposed sewer line installation in the Devola community and the Ohio EPA Director's Final Findings and Orders (DFFO). He said he was following up on a letter he had recently provided to the Commissioners.

He noted:

- The Ohio Revised Code referenced by the EPA Director pertains to corrective action to remedy unsafe water conditions, but the drinking water situation has already been corrected by a recently installed reverse osmosis system.
- The Washington County Board of Health is not suggesting there are unsafe water conditions that should be addressed by installation of a sewer line in Devola.
- The EPA is allowing Washington County to revise its general plan, and he believes that revision by Washington County should be a request to dismiss the requirement to sewer Devola.
- The proposed Phase II will produce excessive pollution and debris during construction.
- Upcoming new regulations in the State of Ohio are so stringent they cannot be met by residents of Devola.
- Another community in Ohio has been successful in its opposition to a similar requirement by the EPA.

Marcia Pawloski said the cost for a new sewer line and hook-up is absurd, and Devola residents simply cannot afford it.

Devola resident Kevin Frances said it is a tough battle when challenging mandates from the EPA. He said he has discussed the situation with Senator Lou Gentile and Representative Andy Thompson, asking for assistance in securing funds to lower the costs to homeowners if the project proceeds. He said he doesn't know all the project and DFFO details, but he encourages the Commissioners to work toward a reasonable resolution for the homeowners.

President Feathers said he has been communicating with the Ohio EPA Director, and requested his consideration of a revision to the County's general plan. The Director, though, has not accepted the revision. Mr. Feathers said the Commissioners have been communicating with others as well, including state and health department representatives. He assured those attending that the Commissioners are working toward a feasible, responsible resolution for the residents of Devola, but he reminded those attending that the Commissioners are an "arm of the state" and, as such, are in a very difficult position. He said the Commissioners are trying to manage and steward the project to the satisfaction of both the EPA and the Devola residents.

Commissioner White said the EPA apparently doesn't care about the financial burden to impacted residents. He suggested Devola residents continue to communicate with the Ohio EPA Director, state representatives, state senator, and the Governor.

#### **RE: SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION**

Sandy Lahmers updated the Commissioners on Soil & Water Conservation District projects, including:

- Farmer Youth Initiative, a program introducing responsible hunting to underprivileged youth in our community.
- Farm City Day, an annual program which this year introduced over 600 Marietta City School students to the Schramm Dairy Farm operations.

Ms. Lahmers invited and encouraged the Commissioners to attend and participate in all activities and programs provided by the Washington County Soil & Water Conservation District.

#### **RE: BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

Building Official Chris Wilson talked with the Commissioners about the direction for the Building Department and presented a revised budget request for next year, which included funding for two vehicles for departmental use and a software program specifically designed for Building Department functions.

President Feathers said the Building Department has been a revenue-generator, and needs to continue as such. He expressed his concern that these additions to the budget will negate the anticipated positive departmental bottom line.

Mr. Wilson said that he has yet to negotiate a final price for the software included in his budget, and that it possibly could be paid for over time, rather than all at once. He assured the Commissioners he is mindful of keeping the department profitable, and these investments will help to maintain that.

Mr. Feathers asked Mr. Wilson to provide additional information, including revenue projections.

#### **RE: COST ANALYSIS PROPOSAL**

Gordon Stryker presented to the Commissioners information on MGT of America, Inc. He said the company is interested in providing annual cost analysis services to Washington County. He said cost of those services would be \$9,000.00 per year for a three-year period. Mr. Stryker said MGT currently does not serve any Ohio counties, but has proposals being considered by a few. He noted they are very active in preparing cost analyses in the State of Michigan, and are expanding their territory into the State of Ohio.

President Feathers thanked Mr. Stryker for the information.

**RE: CHIP AND TRANSIT PROGRAMS**

Mr. White moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to approve the following documents, and to allow Mr. Feathers to sign them, as presented by Dawn Rauch, Washington-Morgan Community Action Program:

- Satisfaction of Mortgage by Separate Instrument, executed by Virginia and Michael Helm, 108 Howard Street, Marietta, Ohio, as the mortgage has been fully paid.
- CHIP Agreement for grant B-C-14-1CY-1 in the amount of \$188,200.00 for the period September 1, 2014 through December 31, 2016.
- CHIP Agreement for grant B-C-14-1CY-2 in the amount of \$436,800.00 for the period September 1, 2014 through December 31, 2016.
- Programmatic Agreement for Coordination between Washington County, Ohio and the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office for the Administration of Programs Using HUD Allocated Funds with Delegated Review Responsibilities Authorized Under 24 CFT Part 58, including description of Archaeology, Exempt Activities, Project Review, Monitoring, and other required activities and responsibilities.
- Agreement with Washington-Morgan Community Action Program to provide services to the Washington County 2015 Rural Transit Program for a maximum of 8,137 hours of transportation service at \$47.20 per hour minus the farebox revenue estimated at \$1.26 per hour.
- Agreement with the Ohio Department of Transportation for the 2015 Rural Transit Program, contract #088-RPTF-15-0100, in the amount of \$293,100.00 for the period January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Ronald Feathers aye, David White aye, Rick Walters aye. Motion passed.

**RE: KATHERINE WITTEKIND**

Devola resident Katherine Wittekind was unable to attend her requested meeting with the Commissioners. In her absence, Devola resident Glen Pawloski continued his discussion with the Commissioners about the proposed Devola sewer project.

Mr. Pawloski asked the Commissioners if they intend to respond to the most recent letter from the Director of the Ohio EPA.

President Feathers said he is now working on a response, and is awaiting conversations with the Washington County Health Department and the Consulting Engineer for the project.

Commissioner White summarized his recent conversation with Senator Lou Gentile:

- The Senator may be able to mitigate the Final Findings and Orders from the Ohio EPA.
- The Senator may be able to help secure funding for the project and/or financial assistance for the residents if the project moves forward.

Mr. White reminded everyone that there is no guarantee that sewerage Devola will eliminate nitrates.

**RE: COURTHOUSE SECURITY**

Mr. White moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss confidential security matters, disclosure of which could jeopardize the safety and security of courthouse offices and public employees in and around those offices.

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Ronald Feathers aye, David White aye, Rick Walters aye. Motion passed, and at 2:30 p.m. the Commissioners entered Executive Session, inviting Chief Deputy Mark Warden and Sargent Kim Deem from the Sheriff's Office to attend.

The meeting returned to Regular Session at 2:53 p.m.

**RE: CHILDREN SERVICES**

Children Services Board Member Doug Mallett and Executive Director Jamie Vuksic talked with the Commissioners about 2015 budget matters.

They said:

- The Reno Volunteer Fire Department has indicated they will no longer inspect foster and adoption homes in their district due to liability concerns, which may result in additional cost to the agency for those required inspections.
- The Medical Expense Reimbursement Plan currently offered to employees of Children Services actually costs approximately \$10,000 each year.
- The proposed increase in premium from Medical Mutual for health insurance coverage for employees of Children Services beginning February 1, 2015 is 6.8%, resulting in a reduction of approximately \$60,000 from what was originally requested in the budget.
- They are now asking for \$200,000 in transfer from County General to Children Services for 2015.
- Under their direction the agency is becoming more efficient in its operations and more strategic in its planning and implementation, but effective change will take time.

Mr. Mallett talked at length with the Commissioners about staff salaries for 2015, including that of the Executive Director. He expressed his concern that the Director's salary is far below what it should be, and he asked the Commissioners to seriously consider bringing it up to market standard for the position.

Commissioner White reminded Mr. Mallett that the Executive Director was awarded a pay increase last year at this time, but he decided to distribute that increase instead to his employees. He said a special adjustment for the Executive Director at this time would invite other elected officials and department heads to request more of an increase for their staff. All agreed this is an unfortunate, difficult situation, and that not everyone will be pleased by the outcome. Mr. Mallett said the Executive Director has quickly become an effective leader for the agency, and deserves appropriate compensation for his service. He thanked the Commissioners for anything they might be able to do.

**RE: RE-APPOINTMENT TO CHILDREN SERVICES BOARD**

Mr. White moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to return to the table for discussion a request to re-appoint Mary Barnas to the Children Services Board of Directors for the term January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2018.

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Ronald Feathers aye, David White aye, Rick Walters aye. Motion passed.

Mr. White moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to re-appoint Mary Barnas to the Washington County Children Services Board of Directors for the term January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2018, as requested by Kenneth Leopold, President of the Washington County Children Services Board of Directors.

A calling of the roll resulted in the following vote: Ronald Feathers aye, David White aye, Rick Walters aye. Motion passed.

**RE: ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. White moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to adjourn.

A calling of the roll resulted in a unanimous vote in favor. The meeting adjourned at 4:12 p.m.

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

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

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

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