

THE DULY ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO, MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON MAY 14, 2015 IN ACCORDANCE WITH OHIO REVISED CODE 305.05, WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT: DAVID A. WHITE, PRESIDENT, RICK G. WALTERS, VICE PRESIDENT, AND RONALD L. FEATHERS, MEMBER. THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 9:00 A.M. BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD. MR. WHITE LED THOSE ATTENDING IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO OUR FLAG.

Also attending were Justin Bradley from WMOA Radio, Muskingum Township Trustee Gary Doan, Devola resident Laura Bradley, County Engineer Roger Wright, Building Official Chris Wilson, and Clerk Rick Peoples.

**Washington County Commissioners
AGENDA
9:00 a.m., May 14, 2015**

9:00 Business Meeting
9:30 Michelle Hyer, Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Dev. District - 2015 CDBG Projects
10:00 Laura Bradley, Devola Resident – Phase II Sewer Project
2:00 Misty Casto, Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Dev. District – Annual Report
2:30 Eric Erb, Peoples Bank – Investment Options for County Funds

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Agenda
Approval of previous meeting's minutes
Bills from various departments
Resolution – Washington State Community College Distinguished Alumni (2)
Resolution – Washington Electric Cooperative 75th Anniversary
Transfer - Commissioners
Then & Now's
Travel – EMA
Travel – Family & Children First
Subgrant Agreement between Ohio Dept. of Job and Family Services and Children Services
Engineer – Guardrail Replacement Project Bid Recommendation
Engineer – Contracts with Bob Lane's Welding for Landslip Repair (2)

INFORMATION

Washington Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting, 5:00 p.m., **Today**
Township Trustees Annual Meeting, 6:00 p.m., **Today**, at Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church, Lowell
Muskingum Valley Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting, 6:00 p.m., **Today**, St. Bernard's Catholic Church, Beverly
Courthouse Closed, **Monday**, May 25, for Memorial Day
Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m., **Monday**, May 18
Finance Committee, 10:00 a.m., **Tuesday**, May 19
CORSA Human Resources Training for Elected Officials, 10:30 a.m., **Wednesday**, May 20, at Job and Family Services

RE: AGENDA

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

Add: Resolution – Recognition of Waterford High School Lady Wildcats
Request to Purchase Tires, Building Department
Sheriff's Office Renovation Project Recommendation

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

RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Walters moved and Mr. Feathers seconded a motion to approve the minutes for May 7, 2015, and to dispense with the reading of them.

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

RE: PAYMENT OF BILLS

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

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

RE: RESOLUTION – WASHINGTON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

Mr. Walters moved and Mr. Feathers seconded a motion to adopt the following resolution:

***WHEREAS**, the Washington State Community College Foundation annually recognizes individuals who graduated from Washington State Community College for their achievements in their professions or in their communities; and*

***WHEREAS**, these individuals, having been nominated and selected, demonstrate through their actions and beliefs they are worthy of such recognition; and*

***WHEREAS**, Heather Nicole Allender graduated from Washington State Community College in 2005, the same year she graduated from Eastern High School; and*

***WHEREAS**, since her graduation, Heather has been an integral part of the Marietta community, beginning with her serving as an AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer, devoting her time to assisting local non-profit organizations; and*

***WHEREAS**, in 2007 she accepted a part-time clerical position with the Marietta Community Foundation; and*

***WHEREAS**, since that time Heather Allender has assumed increasing responsibilities at the Marietta Community Foundation, including service as Office Manager, Director of Finance and Operations, and currently as President and Chief Executive Officer; and*

***WHEREAS**, Heather continues to serve her community in a variety of ways, such as through the Rotary Club of Marietta, assuming the role of president in June of 2015; and*

***WHEREAS**, Heather Allender has been named the 2015 Distinguished Alumna of Washington State Community College for volunteerism and service to her community.*

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of Washington County, Ohio that Heather Nicole Allender is congratulated for her selection as Distinguished Alumna of Washington State Community College, thereby recognizing her outstanding service to her community and her true passion of helping those in need.*

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

Mr. Walters moved and Mr. Feathers seconded a motion to adopt the following resolution:

***WHEREAS**, the Washington State Community College Foundation annually recognizes individuals who graduated from Washington State Community College for their achievements in their professions or in their communities; and*

***WHEREAS**, these individuals, having been nominated and selected, demonstrate through their actions and beliefs they are worthy of such recognition; and*

***WHEREAS**, Telah L. Taylor graduated from Washington State Community College in 2000 with an Associate of Applied Business Degree, Office Administration and Medical Transcription Major; and*

***WHEREAS**, Telah continued her education at Franklin University, earning her Bachelor of Science Degree in Healthcare Management, and at Ohio University, earning her Master of Health Administration Degree; and*

***WHEREAS**, since 1998 Telah has been working in a variety of capacities in the healthcare administration field, beginning as a Health Information Analyst at Camden Clark Memorial Hospital, and currently as Vice President of Clinical Quality & Medical Staff Services at Memorial Health Systems; and*

***WHEREAS**, throughout her career Telah Taylor has demonstrated a desire for excellence, setting a standard for herself that is admired by others; and*

***WHEREAS**, Telah routinely exhibits in her job performance the characteristics of respect, responsibility and professionalism; and*

***WHEREAS**, Telah Taylor inspires students and co-workers, encouraging them to reach their potential through their actions and their beliefs; and*

WHEREAS, Telah Taylor has been named the 2015 Distinguished Alumna of Washington State Community College for Outstanding Professional Achievement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Washington County, Ohio that Telah L. Taylor is congratulated for her selection as Distinguished Alumna of Washington State Community College, thereby recognizing her outstanding professional achievement, her determination to succeed in all she does, and her encouragement for others to accept their own challenges for success in their careers.

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

The Clerk explained that the Washington State Community College Foundation annually selects graduates of the College to be recognized as Outstanding Alumni at the spring graduation ceremony. He said Heather Allender is being recognized for her volunteer and community service, and Telah Taylor for her professional achievement. The Clerk said President White and Commissioner Feathers will attend a breakfast Saturday morning at the College, at which these former graduates of Washington State Community College will be recognized and honored.

RE: RESOLUTION – RECOGNITION OF WASHINGTON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE’S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. Feathers moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed an executive order creating the Rural Electrification Administration (REA), and later passed the Rural Electrification Act to establish a system for providing electricity throughout rural America; and

WHEREAS, a group of farmers organized Washington Electric Cooperative, Inc. in 1940 through loans from REA, and in October of that year the Cooperative’s lines were energized; and

WHEREAS, Washington Electric Cooperative now has more than 10,500 meters, 1,700 miles of line, and eight substations; and

WHEREAS, Washington Electric Cooperative serves customers in Athens, Guernsey, Morgan, Monroe, Noble and Washington Counties, with its main facility in Washington County; and

WHEREAS, Washington Electric Cooperative is a valued asset to Washington County, providing not only excellent service to its customers, but also invaluable support to our community; and

WHEREAS, Washington Electric Cooperative routinely provides college scholarships, safety and efficiency demonstrations, and support of community events throughout its service area; and

WHEREAS, Washington Electric Cooperative employees, administration and Board of Trustees are integral to Washington County, participating in a wide variety of organizations, schools, churches and events.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Washington County, Ohio and on behalf of the citizens of Washington County, that Washington Electric Cooperative, Inc. is congratulated on its seventy-five (75) years of outstanding service and commitment to Washington County.

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

President White said he will attend the Washington Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting, and will present this Resolution at that event.

RE: RESOLUTION – RECOGNITION OF WATERFORD HIGH SCHOOL LADY WILDCATS BASKETBALL TEAM AND COACH

Mr. Walters moved and Mr. Feathers seconded a motion to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Waterford High School Lady Wildcats ended its 2014-2015 basketball season with an outstanding record of 27 wins and only 2 losses; and

WHEREAS, the Lady Wildcats earned the right to play in the Division IV State of Ohio Championship Basketball Game; and

WHEREAS, on March 21, 2015 the Lady Wildcats played in that Championship Game; and

WHEREAS, the Waterford Lady Wildcats Basketball Team was the first girls basketball team from Washington County to play in a championship game since 1997.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Washington County, Ohio congratulates the Waterford High School Lady Wildcats basketball team for its outstanding 2014-2015 season.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Washington County Commissioners applauds the Waterford High School Lady Wildcats, and Coach Jerry Close, for their good sportsmanship, representing their school, their community, and Washington County in an exemplary manner.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Washington County Commissioners acknowledges the overwhelming and enthusiastic support from the school and community for the Lady Wildcats and Coach Close, helping lead them to their position of Division IV Runner Up in the State of Ohio 2015 Girls Basketball Championship Game.

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

Commissioner Walters said he will attend the Muskingum Valley Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting, and will present this Resolution to the team and its coach at that event.

RE: TRANSFER

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

<u>Department</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Commissioners	100-0870-57100	215-0840-49100	\$ 54,500.00

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

RE: THEN & NOW'S

Mr. Feathers moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to approve the following Then & Now's:

<u>Dept</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Maintenance	100-0109-54000	Greenleaf Landscapes	\$ 167.92
Commissioners	100-0101-53000	Everbridge	\$ 16,697.22
RSVP	210-0710-57400	CIMA	\$ 100.00
Debt Service	700-0114-58200	U.S. Bank	\$ 20,420.00
Debt Service	700-0720-56200	U.S. Bank	\$ 15,567.50
Maintenance	100-0109-53000	Pioneer Masonry	\$ 420.00
Commissioners	100-0100-53000	American Flags & Poles	\$ 211.00
CDBG	210-0826-54000	OSU Extension (Fair Housing)	\$ 6,000.00

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

RE: TRAVEL REQUESTS

Mr. Walters moved and Mr. Feathers 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 2015 and any and all amendments subsequent thereto:

EMA

Jeff Lauer: One-day trip to Athens to attend Southeast Sector EMA Meeting; May 19, 2015.

FCF

Elaine Corbitt: One-day trip to Columbus for a site visit with a youth in Service Coordination at Pomegranate; May 27, 2015.

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

RE: SUBGRANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN OHIO DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES AND CHILDREN SERVICES

Mr. Feathers moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to approve a Subgrant Agreement between the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, the Ohio Department of Medicaid, the Washington County Commissioners, and Washington County Children Services, to establish the terms, conditions, and requirements governing the administration and use of the financial assistance received by or used by Washington County Children Services from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services and/or the Ohio Department of Medicaid, during the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2017, as requested by Jamie Vuksic, Washington County Children Services Agency.

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

RE: GUARDRAIL REPLACEMENT PROJECT BID RECOMMENDATION

Mr. Walters moved and Mr. Feathers seconded a motion to enter into contract with M.P. Dory Company for the County Road 4 Guardrail Replacement and/or Repair Project, for the amount of \$75,320.50, as recommended by County Engineer Roger Wright.

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

RE: CONTRACTS WITH BOB LANE'S WELDING, INC. FOR LANDSLIP REPAIR

Mr. Feathers moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to approve two contracts with Bob Lane's Welding, Inc., for emergency repair of landslips on County Road 12 in Lawrence Township, for the amounts of \$22,833.00 and \$24,679.50, as prepared and recommended by County Engineer Roger Wright.

Commissioner Feathers noted the bids from Larry Lang Excavating were \$5,026.00 less than the bids from Bob Lane's Welding.

County Engineer Roger Wright said he is recommending Bob Lane's Welding for these landslip repairs because the contractor is currently working in the vicinity of the job site and could readily mobilize. He said Bob Lane's Welding has done many landslip repairs in Washington County and, as a result, would not need much oversight and guidance by the County Engineer. Mr. Wright said both are excellent contractors, but the nature of this job suggests Bob Lane's Welding is preferred.

Responding to the question from Commissioner Walters whether he has talked with Larry Lang about this, Mr. Wright said he did share with him his reasoning for recommending Bob Lane.

President White said it is critically important to immediately begin work on these particular landslips as the roadways could easily slip even further, resulting in additional expense to repair.

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

RE: REQUEST TO PURCHASE TIRES FOR BUILDING DEPARTMENT VEHICLES

Mr. Feathers moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to approve purchase of eight tires for two Ford Escapes operated by the Building Inspectors, from Sterling Service Center for a total of \$1,200.00, with payment to be charged to the Building Department mileage line item.

President White said Mr. Wilson obtained quotes from two local vendors for the tires, which are needed to replace worn tires on these two vehicles. He said the question is from where the funds will be taken for the purchase. He noted there are now funds available in the Building Department mileage line item but, if used for this purchase, that line item will likely need additional funds later in the year.

Commissioner Feathers said the Commissioners are trying very hard to stay within the adopted county budget for as long as possible into this fiscal year, and so payment for this purchase should come from existing department budgeted funds.

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

RE: SHERIFF'S OFFICE RENOVATION PROJECT RECOMMENDATION

The Clerk said he received shortly before the meeting a recommendation from Project Consultant Chris Pearson on the Sheriff's Office Renovation Project, which included three bids from contractors.

Mr. Feathers moved and Mr. Walters seconded a motion to table the recommendation for the Sheriff's Office Renovation Project from the Project Consultant, pending the receipt of additional information and sufficient time for review.

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

RE: BLASTING ON STATE ROUTE 821

President White informed those attending the meeting that the Ohio Department of Transportation is entering construction phase on a major project on State Route 821. He has been informed that blasting will occur during the project, beginning around June 1 and likely extending through the summer. He said the project should be completed in about six months, and blasting is scheduled to occur only at the end of days.

RE: 2015 CDBG PROJECTS

Michelle Hyer, Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District, informed the Commissioners she has reviewed the project proposals for use of 2015 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. She said:

- Only three projects can be funded.
- There is \$118,000 available, but \$22,500 of that will be used for Fair Housing and Administration expenses, leaving \$95,500 to fund up to three projects.
- The requests totaled \$108,184.85:

○ Village of Beverly Sidewalks	\$ 32,775.00
○ Liberty Township Culverts/Catch Basins	\$ 37,909.85
○ Village of New Matamoras Water System Upgrade	\$ 37,500.00

- Funding for New Matamoras can't be reduced without reducing the number of taps.

Commissioner Walters noted the recent news that the Village of Beverly is struggling financially. He said reduction of funds to Beverly may result in other organization(s) providing financial support.

The Commissioners agreed that reducing the scope of the Beverly project, or asking Beverly officials to generate higher matching funds, is most feasible.

The Commissioners asked Ms. Hyer to consider Option 1, which includes reduction of Village of Beverly request from \$32,775.00 to \$20,100.00, thereby adding \$12,675.00 to its match, and reduction of Liberty Township's request from \$37,909.85 to \$37,900.00, adding \$9.85 to its match.

Ms. Hyer said she will:

- Consult with all representatives from all three entities.
- Talk with the Project Engineer for the Village of Beverly.
- Return to the Commissioners with an appropriate recommendation for application of 2015 CDBG funds.

RE: 2014 CDBG PROJECTS

Michelle Hyer, Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District, informed the Commissioners she has reviewed the proposal to provide playground equipment to the Village of Lowell, with payment for the project to be made from 2014 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. She said Village officials agree with her recommendation to contract with Snider & Associates, Inc. for the amount of \$24,280.00. She said this is within the allocated budget for the project.

Mr. Walters moved and Mr. Feathers seconded a motion to approve the Notice of Award, the Contract, and the Notice to Proceed for Snider & Associates, Inc., for the Village of Lowell Playground Project to be funded by 2014 CDBG allocation, in the amount of \$24,280.00, as recommended by Michelle Hyer, Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District.

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

RE: DEVOLA PHASE II SEWER PROJECT

Laura Bradley, resident of Devola, read the following letter from her to the Commissioners. Also attending were Devola residents Kevin Francis and Glen Pawloski, Muskingum Township Trustee Gary Doan, and Justin Bradley from WMOA Radio.

Laura A. Bradley
109 Riverview Road – Devola
Marietta, OH 45750

RECEIVED BY
WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSIONER

2015 MAY 14 A 9 49

May 14, 2015

Washington County Commissioners
223 Putnam Street
Marietta, OH 45750
Attn: Ron Feathers, Commissioner

RE: Devola Phase II Sewer Project

Dear Mr. Feathers:

My name is Laura Bradley and I have lived in my home for 28 years. Over the past few months, I feel more and more concerned about the burdens that the proposed Devola Phase II Sewer Project may cause me. I wrote you in December concerning these same concerns but now I am able to visit you in person.

The thought that I may be forced to pay thousands of dollars to directly benefit the City of Marietta for their Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade upsets me greatly. All of this so that I can be billed \$70 per month for sewer service that I currently have for free! Thousands of dollars that I could use more wisely on repairs and for purchases that I actually do need could be lost in the perfect scheme concocted by the Ohio EPA and past County Commissioners. Past Commissioners who are mostly not affected by this project. Besides, the City of Marietta only has a mere over \$26 million annual budget, if I'm not mistaken. Yes, those repairs that I do need could bring me peace of mind, comfort and value.

Recently, Christopher Weiss from the Ohio EPA telephoned me about an upcoming meeting with you concerning the Devola Phase II project. I was advised that this meeting would not be open to the public and I told him about the firehouse full of people who were angry about this project at the last public meeting in October 2014. I told him I feel that this whole project is an absurd, stupid and criminal waste of money. The EPA is a brutal and ruthless government agency that must retain their power and control over the American people in any way they feel necessary. The EPA has bullied the coal miners and farmers and now they are going after everyone with a septic system. Mr. Weiss said that the OEPA hopes to come to an agreement that is acceptable to both parties. I told him I seriously doubt that this is possible since the OEPA's idea of an acceptable plan differs greatly from that of a working homeowner who has to pay the bill. I made sure that he knew from my conversation how much this project would hurt me financially. Why should I pay thousands of dollars for something that isn't broken? Sometime in the last few months someone has mentioned "cost verses benefit" when talking about the Devola Phase II Project in the local media. I want you to know that my cost will be great while I will receive no satisfaction, benefit or value in return.

Washington County Commissioners
Mr. Ron Feathers
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I realize that you represent everyone in Washington County and must oversee all business decisions concerning the County. This project may only affect a few hundred county residents, but please understand that it may affect some people a great deal. While twelve or fifteen thousand dollars, or even more, may not be much money to some, it is a lot of money to others. I am also concerned about the affect that this project will have on Putnam School and Putnam Church.

I would like to thank you for your time spent traveling and going to several meetings about the Devola Phase II Project. I can understand why you probably did not plan on becoming the Devola Sewer Czar when you decided to run for election to your position. I would also ask you try to understand that I cannot fathom or afford to spend so much money on something I do not want or need.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today. Whether my opinions expressed in this letter are ever acknowledged, at least I have the satisfaction that I came here in person, face to face, and that you heard my views in my own voice. I will look forward to learning the outcome of your meeting with the representatives from the Ohio EPA in the near future.

Respectfully,


Laura Bradley
Homeowner

Attachment: December 6, 2014 letter

CC: Rick Walters, Washington County Commissioner
Dave White, Washington County Commissioner
Rick Peoples, Clerk

Ms. Bradley also provided a copy of her letter to the Commissioners dated December 9, 2014, which is on file in the Commissioners' Office.

Ms. Bradley said she is aware that Commissioner Feathers is meeting on May 18 with representatives from the Ohio EPA, and she asked to be informed of the results of that particular meeting. Mr. Feathers said he intends to make public the results of the meeting.

Ms. Bradley said she realizes this is not a huge project to the County or to the EPA, but it is certainly huge to Devola homeowners. She said she has always used a septic tank, and that has been fine. Now it appears, she said, the EPA wants everyone to be on a sewer system.

President White said the EPA is under the impression that all septic systems will eventually fail.

Commissioner Feathers said he believes that to be true. Mr. Feathers said the funding for such a project in Devola will be the biggest problem. The former EPA Director, he said, suggested the County merely finance the project over 40 years. Mr. Feathers said that is not realistic, or feasible.

Commissioner Feathers said the goal of the Commissioners is to stop the project, but that likely won't happen. He said he has talked with representatives of the Lieutenant Governor, the EPA Director, Senator Gentile, Representative Thompson and others, but he feels he is getting "shot down" by the Governor's office.

Mr. Doan said he has talked with Senator Gentile about this project, but he believes the Senator is not really interested in helping to oppose it.

The Commissioners discussed whether EPA has the authority to demand transition from septic to sewer.

Mr. Pawloski commented that this project will bankrupt Devola homeowners if it proceeds as proposed.

Commissioner Feathers said the County has demonstrated that nitrate levels are within acceptable parameters, but the EPA continues to pursue this project. Mr. Feathers and Mr. White said it is of great value for impacted residents to contact the EPA, the Governor, and others who may have some influence on this mandated Devola project. Mr. Feathers said he believes a compromise on the scope of the project may be forthcoming but the extent of which is not yet known. He said project and discussion developments will be shared with Devola residents prior to any commitments being made.

Responding to a question from Mr. Pawloski, President White said he is not aware of any reported violations by the Putnam Water Association. Mr. Pawloski said the Devola community now has an effective reverse osmosis system in place, so the orders from the EPA should be retracted. He urged the Commissioners to write a letter of termination and dismissal of these orders from the EPA. Mr. Pawloski said the Commissioners say that "they get it"; he asked them to now demonstrate that by writing a letter to terminate and dismiss, or consult with legal counsel for assistance. He said there is now no need for Phase II in Devola, and the Commissioners should communicate that to the Ohio EPA.

Ms. Bradley thanked the Commissioners for their help, and for allowing time to hear her comments.

RE: BUCKEYE HILLS-HOCKING VALLEY REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT ANNUAL REPORT

Misty Casto, Executive Director of Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District, provided the District's Annual Report to the Commissioners. Highlighting certain content of that report, she said:

- Washington County annual dues are \$4,125.20.
- The Cities of Belpre and Marietta also are dues-paying members of the District.
- The Return on Investment in 2014 for Washington County in grants and services was \$535 for each \$1 in dues.

Ms. Casto reviewed with the Commissioners the variety of projects throughout Washington County that were funded through Buckeye Hills during 2014, and the programs offered through its Area Agency on Aging. She said Buckeye Hills is now accepting ARC profiles for next fiscal year, with funds to be available October 1, 2015.

RE: INVESTMENT OPTIONS FOR COUNTY FUNDS

Peoples Bank representatives Eric Erb, Sandy Delong, Kirk Frazee and Matt Edgell talked with the Commissioners about options for investing Washington County funds, with the intent of earning more from those funds than is currently earned. Also attending were County Treasurer Dorothy Peppel and County Auditor Bill McFarland.

President White said he had earlier talked with Mr. Erb and Mr. Frazee about the Commissioners' recent discussions with Meeder Investments. He said Meeder offered their

assistance, through a contractual agreement, in advising the County how they could earn much more through strategic, legal, safe investing. The Commissioners, he noted, have a long-standing banking relationship with Peoples Bank, and he invited bank representatives to discuss the Meeder proposal and to see if they could offer something comparable.

Mr. Erb said Peoples Bank can offer a proposal very similar to Meeder's, but without the fees that would be paid to Meeder. He cautioned the Commissioners and Treasurer to be concerned about interest rate risk, and the ramifications of rate changes. Mr. Erb said he could provide an investment portfolio in affiliation with Raymond James that is 100% FDIC insured.

Commissioner Feathers said Meeder approached the County to see if they could provide investment services, as they do for many other Ohio counties. He said Meeder has vast expertise and experience in the field of public funds investments. He expressed his concern that Peoples Bank has not recommended such an investment strategy to the County in the past.

Ms. Delong informed the Commissioners that the recent Depository Contract proposal by Peoples Bank assumed a level of funds on deposit from the County. Based upon that assumption, she said, the Bank entered into agreement with the County for a four-year period, and that agreement waives many fees and provides many services that might not have been included if the Bank had known the level of County deposits would be much lower than it has been over recent years. Mr. Frazee provided an Account Analysis Statement, revealing the significant value of services provided to Washington County through its Depository Agreement with Peoples Bank.

Ms. Peppel said she has been advised to have a legal opinion as to what the Depository Agreement allows in relation to investment of funds in Certificates of Deposit and/or government securities.

Commissioner Walters said the Commissioners and Investment Committee are obligated to do what is in the best interest of Washington County taxpayers. Preferably, he said, that would be an arrangement with or through Peoples Bank that would provide significantly more revenues to the County. Commissioner Feathers said the County could have earned \$100,000 more so far this fiscal year if it had been appropriately advised of its investment options, and if those options were successfully exercised.

Mr. Erb said he will arrange a subsequent meeting for the County's Investment Committee, the Commissioners, and the County Auditor to meet with representatives of Peoples Bank and Raymond James.

RE: ADJOURNMENT

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

A calling of the roll resulted in a unanimous vote in favor. The meeting adjourned at 3:04 p.m.

_____, President

_____, Vice President

_____, Member

_____, Clerk