

Minutes

January 20, 2026

Commissioners Present: Jeffrey Hunker, Timothy Bechtol and William Bateson.

Also Present: Lynn Taylor, Cindy Land, Phil Johnson, Steve Wilson, Auditor Charity Rauschenberg, Adam Witteman and Deb Stacy.

Commissioner Hunker opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the 2nd-floor conference room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Minutes from January 15, 2026, were read with William Bateson making the motion to approve, Tim Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The Commissioners initialed the HRPC request for a \$115,000.00 withdraw from the Hancock County Revolving Loan Fund. Bill Bateson made the motion for Jeff Hunker to sign the Landfill Compliance report. Tim Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The Clerk presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #44-26 – Authorizing the payment of the listed and/or attached Purchase Orders. Tim Bechtol making the motion to approve, Jeff Hunker seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #45-26 – Additional appropriation within the Auditor's certification – Commissioners to appropriate to General Fund #1001 Commissioners. Bill Bateson making the motion to approve, Tim Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #46-26 – Additional appropriation within the Auditor's certification – Commissioners to appropriate to Hancock County Victim Assistance Fund #2084. Bill Bateson making the motion to approve, Tim Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Cindy Land presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #47-26 – Resolution determining the issue of the vacation of a portion of Township Road 190, Amanda Township, Hancock County, Ohio. Bill Bateson making the motion to approve, Tim Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #48-26 – Resolution determining the issue of the vacation of a portion of Township Road 106 in Pleasant Township, Hancock County Ohio pursuant to Ohio Revised Code §§5553.02, 5553.04, 5553.045 and 5553.05. Bill Bateson making the motion to approve, Tim Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Phil Johnson presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #49-26 – Authorizing entry into a contract with Damschroder Roofing, Inc., for provision of services to repair several leaking or damaged areas on the roof at new Hancock County Office building located at 401 Olive Street, Findlay, Ohio 45840. Repair cost to be \$2,746.00. Bill Bateson making the motion to approve, Tim Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #50-26 – Authorizing entry into a contract with Hans Klink for performance of work to molding and plaster in Courtroom #1 in the Hancock County Courthouse. This repair will cost \$2,300.00. The Board discussed the need for an update on Courtroom #1, and they requested a meeting to be set up with Mindi Wells. Lynn will reach out to Mindi and schedule. Bill Bateson making the motion to approve, Tim Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #51-26 – Authorizing the entry into and execution of a contract with Dick's Auto, LLC D/B/A Dick's Towing regarding County owned parcels near the intersection of West Main Cross Street and South Cory Street in Findlay, at 401 Olive Street and two parcels on West Hardin Street in Findlay. Cindy Land inquired who would initiate a vehicle to be towed and Phil Johnson was unsure. Phil will reach out to Dick's Auto. In addition, there will be no need to install a tow sign in the Pirates Cove parking lot. Bill Bateson making the motion to approve, Tim Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Auditor Rauschenberg stated the importance of budgeting for Then and Nows. She also confirmed with the Board that there are no changes to the Homestead Occupancy.

Adam Witteman reported that the Audit will begin on January 21, 2026.

Steve Wilson stated that the Brownfield project is winding down. The sampling of soil that has been tested so far has been clean. A change order will be forthcoming regarding the Findlay Benching Remediation, but the additional funds will be covered with the grant. Steve also reported that he was on a conference call with Norfolk Southern representatives and due to a 3-word change, the agreement needs to be re-reviewed by legal representatives.

Deb Stacy had nothing to report.

Meetings and Reports

Tim Bechol reported that he attended the 10th anniversary of the MCPA and the EPA public hearing for the Landfill expansion.

Bill Bateson reported that he attended the public officials meeting and the Health & Human Services workforce meeting. Tim Bechtol

Jeff Hunker attended the EPA Landfill expansion hearing and attended the CCAO webinar on the proposed property tax changes.

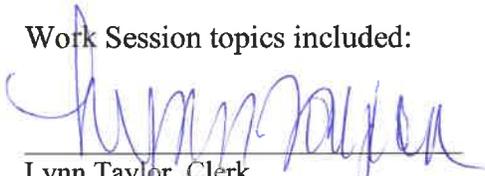
At 10:30 a.m., the Commissioners met with Kathryn Bausman and Tyler Layton. Lynn Taylor and Cindy Land were also in attendance. Kathryn discussed the recent events that led to the near cancelation of one of the Federal Grants that they receive for the operation of the low barrier shelter. Kathryn is not confident that the grant will continue beyond 2026, therefore, she is reaching out to the community to establish an emergency fund. The low barrier shelter is used nightly to house about 15-25 citizens. Sometimes, due to weather, Kathryn needs to call in employees early to open the shelter early. Eighty percent of their funding comes from private donations. Cindy Land stated that she is not certain that the county can use public funds for a private nonprofit entity. Kathryn indicated that the City donated funds to the City Mission in the

past, but it was most likely ARPA funds. The Board appreciated Kathryn and Tyler coming and including the Board in their discussion.

At 11:30 a.m., the Commissioners meet with Randy Galbraith. Lynn Taylor and Cindy Land were also in attendance. Randy presented the Board with an update regarding CPSU and Kids in Care. The numbers are relatively consistent for this time in the calendar year. Randy did request an executive session in regards to employment discipline.

At 11:45 am, Jeff Hunker made the motion to enter into executive session to discuss employment – discipline. Tim Bechol seconded. A roll call vote resulted as follows: Jeff Hunker, yes; Tim Bechtol, yes and Bill Bateson, yes. At 11:49 a.m., Jeff Hunker made the motion to exit executive session after discussing employment discipline. Tim Bechtol seconded. The motion passed 3-0.

Work Session topics included:

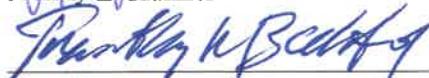


Lynn Taylor, Clerk

Reviewed and approved by:



Jeffrey L. Hunker



Timothy K. Bechtol



William L. Bateson

Impact Statement: Project HOME & Low Barrier Shelter

At 8:02 PM January 13th, we were notified that Project HOME was abruptly terminated at the federal level. With no warning or transition period, the major funding source for the City Mission of Findlay's Low Barrier Shelter and support for crisis services was eliminated.

This decision has immediate and serious consequences for our community.

The Low Barrier Shelter was never just a place to sleep. It was a stabilization point, an engagement doorway, and—for many—the first place in years where they felt safe enough to accept help. It functioned on trust, consistency, and relationship.

Through the Low Barrier Shelter, 5,315 nights of safe lodging were provided. More than 60 individuals entered City Mission's ReSTART Program directly from the shelter. Through the program, 15 individuals a month were transitioned to higher levels of care, including permanent housing, and 53 were referred to mental health and substance use treatment, exceeding engagement goals. On-site mental health services, made possible through our partnership with Family Resource Center, allowed guests in crisis to access care immediately.

One guest entered the shelter after years of cycling between the streets, emergency rooms, and incarceration—distrustful, untreated, and actively using. Because staff knew him by name, showed up consistently, and removed barriers to care, he eventually agreed to treatment for the first time. His progress was not the result of a single service, but of a system built on relationship and trust.

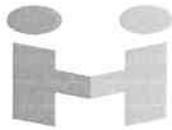
That is what the Low Barrier Shelter made possible.

While the termination of Project HOME does not erase these outcomes, it does remove a proven intervention at a time when housing options remain critically limited and the need for low-barrier engagement is greater than ever.

We want to be clear: we do not intend to close the Low Barrier Shelter. We believe deeply in this work. However, without this funding, we cannot sustain it alone. To keep these doors open, we urgently need community support through funding, partnership, and advocacy—so our most vulnerable neighbors are not left without a place to stabilize and begin moving forward.

— Tyler Layton
Program Director, City Mission of Findlay
Project Director, Project HOME

Immediate NEED to sustain LB Shelter for 3 months while we work at securing funding:



Hancock County
Job & Family Services

P.O. Box 270
7814 Co. Rd. 140
Findlay, Ohio 45839
TOLL FREE: (800) 228-2732
PHONE: (419) 422-0182

Randall L. Galbraith, Esq., Director

Commissioner's Report – January 20th, 2026

Balance Brought Forward (end of December 2024 placements)	-
2025 YTD Foster Care Placement	3,561,343.66
YTD Adoption (county share)	106,236.79
IV-E Reimbursement for Placements	(1,085,689.08)
Title XX Reimbursements for Placements	-
SS & Child Support	(93,216.08)
MSY Reimbursement (May)	(120,502.80)
MSY Reimbursement	-
SCPA SFY25 used for foster care services	(137,467.92)
Levy funds received	(1,783,446.17)
30-Days to Family Salary, Benefits, & Shared Costs	93,408.60
Balance	540,667.00

- 1) Kids in Care
- 2) Placement Costs
- 3) Foster Care Projections
- 4) Child Care Investigation
- 5) Executive Session – Employee Discipline

Providing Help Today and Building Hope for Tomorrow

Child Support Enforcement
(419) 424-1365
Fax (419) 424-7288

Workforce Development
(419) 422-3679
Fax (419) 422-8349

Ohio Works First
(419) 425-6375
Fax (419) 422-1081

Childrens Protective Services
(419) 424-7022
Fax (419) 424-7485

PLACEMENTS SUMMARY STATEMENT *

Hancock County Job & Family Services

Providing Help Today and Building Hope for Tomorrow

7814 County Road 99
Findlay, OH 45840

DATE: 1/15/2026

To:

Honorable Board of Hancock County Commissioners
300 S. Main Street
Findlay, OH 45840

MONTHLY TOTALS **	Foster Placement	Shared Placements	Adoption	IV-E	Other reimb	Total County Owed
January	332,579.11	-	8,978.77	(104,731.11)	(10,065.35)	226,761.42
February	288,031.89	-	9,014.17	(92,012.45)	(8,418.06)	196,615.55
March	320,625.62	-	9,067.27	(102,286.68)	(10,627.56)	216,778.65
April	359,228.12	-	9,084.97	(127,979.11)	(9,020.76)	231,313.22
May	386,121.36	-	9,155.77	(117,223.47)	(8,936.24)	269,117.42
June	368,239.23	-	9,100.07	(102,815.36)	(9,991.80)	264,532.14
July	400,353.57	-	7,108.82	(108,116.99)	(10,054.03)	289,291.37
August	376,510.04	-	9,011.57	(113,747.41)	(8,467.45)	263,306.75
September	358,633.51	-	9,153.17	(111,262.41)	(8,446.93)	248,077.34
October	371,021.21	-	8,854.07	(105,514.09)	(9,187.90)	265,173.29
November	-	-	8,854.07	-	-	8,854.07
December	-	-	8,854.07	-	-	8,854.07
TOTAL	3,561,343.66	-	106,236.79	(1,085,689.08)	(93,216.08)	2,488,675.29

		Credits:
	MSY	(120,502.80)
	MSY	-
	SCPA Applied	(137,467.92)
Levy funds	February	-
Levy funds	February	-
Levy funds	March	(1,025,495.30)
Levy funds	April	(11,026.32)
Levy funds	August	(746,423.27)
Levy funds	September	(501.28)
	January	13,249.37
	February	5,689.98
	March	5,231.66
	April	5,621.66
	May	11,190.74
	June	5,621.66
	July	9,953.78
	August	8,085.83
	September	5,621.66
	October	11,898.94
	November	5,621.66
	December	5,621.66
	TOTAL REC'D	(1,948,008.29)
	Balance	540,667.00

30 Days to Family
personnel exp

NET BALANCE DUE 540,667.00

* Detailed placement log report available upon request.

** Includes invoices and reimbursements known as of date of report.

All expenses and receipts will be recorded in month accrued/obligated, even if received at a later date.

2020
FOSTER PROJECTIONS 2025

<i>Category</i>	<i>Count 12.31.2025</i>	<i>Highest Per Diem</i>	<i>Average Per Diem</i>	<i>Total Annual Proj</i>
OWN FOSTER	5	45.00	45.00	82,125.00
Children in Hospital	0			
Children in Detention	0			
PURCHASED CARE				
Children's Residential Center (Total)	3	344.00	206.33	225,935.00
Family Foster Home	36	187.95	79.59	1,045,776.10
Adoptive Placements	2	92.00	68.50	50,005.00
Group Home	7	575.00	518.86	1,325,680.00
Treatment Foster Home	26	450.00	158.31	1,502,332.70
Independent Living Home	2	150.00	75.00	54,750.00
AWOL/Unknown	0	-	#DIV/0!	-
TOTAL PURCHASED CARE	76	575.00	184.43	4,204,478.80
PURCHASED CARE BREAKDOWN BY SERVICE TYPE				
Children's Residential Centers (CRC)				
<i>Children's Center of Ohio</i>	1	275.00		100,375.00
<i>Cornell Abrasas Group</i>	0	-		-
<i>Brookside Extended Care</i>	1	-		-
<i>St. Vincent Family Center</i>	0	-		-
<i>Safely Home</i>	0	-		-
<i>Safe House</i>	1	344.00		125,560.00
<i>Foundations for Living</i>	0	-		-
Total CRC Placements	3	275.00		225,935.00
Family Foster Home Placements				
<i>Adriel</i>	12	122.00		362,810.00
<i>National Youth Advocate Program (NYAP)</i>	2	87.87		64,145.10
<i>State of Arkansas Dept. of Human Services</i>	3	45.00		49,275.00
<i>Specialized Alternatives for Families & Youth of Ohio (SAFY)</i>	7	91.06		232,658.30
<i>Sandusky County JFS Placement</i>	2	45.00		32,850.00
<i>Wyandot County JFS Placement</i>	1	148.62		18,250.00
<i>A New Leaf</i>	1	50.00		83,081.30
<i>The Marsh Foundation</i>	6	83.00		158,045.00
<i>NECCO Inc.</i>	2	187.95		98,907.70
Total Family Foster Home Placements	36	187.95		1,100,022.40
Adoptive Home Placements				
<i>Open Arms Adoption</i>	0	-		-
<i>Adriel</i>	1	92.00		33,580.00
<i>Hancock County</i>	1	45.00		16,425.00
<i>National Youth Advocate Program (NYAP)</i>	0	-		-
<i>Specialized Alternatives for Families & Youth of Ohio (SAFY)</i>	0	-		-
<i>Wood County JFS Placement</i>	0	-		-
Total Adoptive Home Placements	2	92.00		50,005.00
Group Homes				
<i>A Better Life 2 Embrace</i>	2	575.00		419,750.00
<i>A Place Called Home</i>	1	450.00		164,250.00
<i>Ohio Teaching Family Association</i>	2	570.00		411,720.00
<i>Brighter Future for Youth</i>	1	450.00		164,250.00
<i>The Marsh Foundation</i>	0	-		-
<i>Safe House</i>	1	454.00		165,710.00
Total Group Homes Placements	7	575.00		1,325,680.00
Treatment Foster Homes				
<i>Adriel</i>	3	171.00		187,245.00
<i>A New Leaf</i>	1	148.62		54,246.30
<i>National Youth Advocate Program (NYAP)</i>	4	329.00		321,656.25
<i>Cadence Care Network</i>	3	90.08		98,637.60
<i>NECCO Inc.</i>	2	450.00		222,650.00
<i>Specialized Alternatives for Families & Youth of Ohio (SAFY)</i>	13	156.00		617,897.55
Total Treatment Foster Home Placements	26	450.00		1,502,332.70

TOTAL PURCHASED CARE	76	575.00	4,204,478.80
Total of children in FOSTER CARE as of 12.31.2025	81	575.00	#DIV/0!
Kinnect To Family Commitment			85,000.00
Total Foster Care and Kinnect to Family Expense Projections			4,371,603.80
REVENUE SOURCES			
IV-E Estimate (Annualized)			(1,248,259.03)
Other Federal/State Funding Options (annualized)			(566,223.60)
Levy funding			(1,783,446.17)
NET (positive number means deficit, negative number means surplus)			773,675.00

Kinship

Kinship providers for children in county custody are currently paid \$12.73 per day by the state for the first six months of placement. For those choosing NOT to become certified foster parent caregivers, payments end after six months. If they become foster parent caregivers, we (not the state) become responsible for payment.

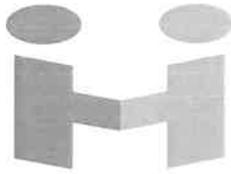
State Kinship Care - Relative Home	15	12.73	69,696.75
State Kinship Care - Non-Relative Home	2	12.73	9,292.90
TOTAL KINSHIP			78,989.65

Total of children in HANCOCK COUNTY CUSTODY as of 12.31.2025 **98**

Ages of children in HANCOCK COUNTY CUSTODY as of 12.31.2025			
0-1	15	15.31%	
2	4	4.08%	
3	8	8.16%	
4	4	4.08%	
5	12	12.24%	
6	6	6.12%	
7	5	5.10%	
8	5	5.10%	
9	6	6.12%	
10	3	3.06%	
11	5	5.10%	
12	6	6.12%	
13	3	3.06%	
14	1	1.02%	
15	4	4.08%	
16	3	3.06%	
17	6	6.12%	
18	0	0.00%	
19	2	2.04%	

OF CHILDREN RESIDING IN LISTED COUNTY OR STATE AT TIME OF REMOVAL

Hancock County OH	83	84.69%
Wood County OH	3	3.06%
Allen County OH	1	1.02%
Lucas County OH	1	1.02%
Pickaway County OH	0	0.00%
Warren County OH	0	0.00%
Williams County OH	1	1.02%
Wyandot County OH	0	0.00%
State of Michigan	3	3.06%
Homeless	5	5.10%
Unknown Address	1	1.02%



Hancock County
Job & Family Services

Children's Protective Services Unit
December 2025

Total Number of reports Received:	
January 2025	154
February 2025	146
March 2025	149
April 2025	171
May 2025	161
June 2025	122
July 2025	128
August 2025	124
September 2025	185
October 2025	185
November 2025	129
December 2025	149
Screened In/Out	
January 2025	IN= 36, OUT= 110
February 2025	IN= 33, OUT= 103
March 2025	IN= 32, OUT= 111
April 2025	IN= 38 OUT= 130
May 2025	IN= 35 OUT= 120
June 2025	IN= 24 OUT= 90
July 2025	IN= 23, OUT= 94
August 2025	IN= 27, OUT = 78
September 2025	IN= 41, OUT= 133
October 2025	IN= 29, OUT= 143
November 2025	IN= 27, OUT = 99
December 2025	IN= 34, OUT= 106
Breakdown of case Type Screened In:	
January 2025	TR= 21, AR= 9, FINS= 5, Dependency= 1
February 2025	TR= 15, AR= 14, FINS= 4, Dependency= 0
March 2025	TR= 14, AR= 15, FINS= 3,

	Dependency= 0
April 2025	TR= 12,AR= 18, FINS= 6, Dependency= 2
May 2025	TR= 14, AR= 15, FINS= 5, Dependency= 1
June 2025	TR= 13, AR= 6, FINS= 5, Dependency= 0
July 2025	TR= 13, AR= 6, FINS= 4, Dependency= 0
August 2025	TR= 15, AR= 8, FINS= 4, Dependency= 0
September 2025	TR= 28, AR= 9, FINS= 3, Dependency= 1
October 2025	TR= 19, AR= 5, FINS= 5, Dependency= 0
November 2025	TR= 15, AR= 4, FINS= 6, Dependency= 2
December 2025	TR= 17, AR= 8, FINS= 9, Dependency= 0
Total Number of Kids in Care at months end	
January 2025	76
February 2025	76
March 2025	88
April 2025	87
May 2025	91
June 2025	93
July 2025	97
August 2025	103
September 2025	103
October 2025	103
November 2025	104
December 2025	98
Breakdown of <u>Current</u> Placements	
Family Foster Home	41
Adoptive	2
Kinship Placement	17
Group Home	7
Treatment Foster Care	26
Residential	3

Independent Living	2
Detention	0
Hospitalization	0
AWOL*/Unknown	0
Total number of Children Entering Care/Exiting Care	
January 2025	Enter= 2, Exit= 3
February 2025	Enter= 2, Exit= 2
March 2025	Enter= 12, Exit= 0
April 2025	Enter= 2, Exit= 3
May 2025	Enter= 7 Exit= 3
June 2025	Enter= 4 Exit= 2
July 2025	Enter= 5 Exit= 1
August 2025	Enter= 6 Exit= 0
September 2025	Enter= 3 Exit= 3
October 2025	Enter= 5 Exit= 5
November 2025	Enter= 2, Exit = 1
December 2025	Enter= 6, Exit = 12
Total number of Children Receiving In-Home Services	
January 2025	32
February 2025	37
March 2025	44
April 2025	32
May 2025	32
June 2025	26
July 2025	27
August 2025	27
September 2025	36
October 2025	36
November 2025	36
December 2025	54

TR- Traditional Response
AR- Alternative Response
FINS- Family in Need of Services
AWOL- Absent without leave