

Minutes  
March 22, 2016

At 9:30 a.m. Commissioner Riegler opened the commissioner's meeting in the 1<sup>st</sup> floor conference room. They started the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes from the March 17, 2016 meeting were read with Brian Robertson making the motion to approve, Phillip Riegler seconded. Mark Gazarek abstained. Motion passed.

Also Present: Cindy Land, Heather Pendleton, Chris Long, Steve Wilson, Philip Johnson, Mayor Lydia Mihalik, Doug Jenkins and Denise Grant.

Commissioner Riegler invited the Mayor and Steve Wilson to speak before starting regular business. Steve Wilson said there are new developments with the flood study and other projects. The Corps of Engineers review agencies have requested additional study time which will delay the Chief's report and the I-75 widening project that will be done by ODOT is scheduled to be bid late 2017. They need 700,000 cu. yd. of structural fill (dirt) for the reconstruction of the interchange at SR 15 & 68. The diversion channel project is going to need to dispose of over a million cubic yards of fill dirt, so it makes sense to coordinate these two projects if that's feasible. Under the Corps timeline, waiting for them to complete the Chief's report and then design plans, it's not going to mesh with the ODOT timeline. Mayor Mihalik and Steve Wilson are requesting the Commissioners consider putting out engineering qualification statements to have design plans developed for the diversion channel so we would be in a position to have fill dirt available to contractors who bid on the I-75 project. This is not a consideration that has been taken lightly and there is still a lot of work and coordination to be done. The next step would be for the commissioners get an engineering firm on board to pick up where the Corps is now.

Phillip Riegler stated that we sent a letter to the Conservancy District about taking the project, so would this be before they make that decision? Steve said he had a discussion with the Conservancy Board and when and if they take the project on, they would transfer the administration of the contract. Mayor Mihalik said the City also sent a letter asking them to take the project. She hopes a decision will be made at their May meeting.

Mayor Mihalik stated that by going this route, we will not receive a Chief's report from the Corps or any federal funding. When the City started having conversations with ODOT, we knew we would need to prepare to go on our own in order to take advantage of this opportunity to save a significant amount of money. She said it's important for the Commissioners to issue requests for qualifications so plans can be ready by 2017. That will allow the projects to be bid together. Mayor Mihalik left a draft schedule of the work to be done.

Mark Gazarek said he was told it costs \$10-\$20 cu. yd. to move dirt and if that is correct, that would be around \$7 to \$14 million dollars of savings. Steve Wilson said to get 700,000 cu. yd. would be 10' deep of 50 acres. Mark said that could possibly disrupt even more farm ground. Mayor agreed that is another good reason to try to coordinate these two projects.

Brian Robertson said he appreciates both Mayor Mihalik and Steve Wilson coming forward. He stated that in 2013 he went to Washington, D.C. with Mayor Mihalik and he mentioned at that

time about going on our own and she was not in favor of it at that time. He asked her what specifically changed her mind, why now. Mayor Mihalik said they have been supportive of the Corps and saw the opportunity for federal funding. I believe at this point, given the opportunity we have to marry this project with ODOT, the significant cost savings to the tax payers and a lack of confidence in the Corps to meet timelines has me in this position, I feel it's time for us to move and go a different direction. Most importantly is the cost savings associated with the project and the persistent push back in schedule from the Corps. She thanked the Corps for all the work they've done, but because we're not going to be able to seek federal funding, it's time for us to move forward on our own. Brian Robertson said that the Corps is the one vendor that can never meet a timeline. He thinks it's a good recommendation and he appreciates the Mayor and Steve coming here today and sharing it with us. Phillip Riegler asked Steve Wilson how far did the Corps push back the timeline? He said 6 months to a year. Mayor said the Corps will still need to be a partner. We haven't wasted our time with the Corps, they've done a significant amount of work.

The Commissioners asked Cindy Land if she could prepare a resolution authorizing notice for requests for qualifications for the diversion channel. Steve Wilson said we will publish the public notice three times instead of the normal two, with the deadline for proposals being April 15, 2016. Mayor Mihalik said they will help in any way they can.

The clerk presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #147-16 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation-Jail Diversion. Brian Robertson made the motion to approve, Mark Gazarek seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #148-16 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation-Community Corrections Compensation Plan. Brian Robertson made the motion to approve, Mark Gazarek seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #149-16 – Additional appropriation within the Auditor's certification-Commissioners to appropriate to Community Corrections Compensation Plan. Brian Robertson made the motion to approve, Mark Gazarek seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #150-16 – Release of Permissive Tax-Village of Arlington to pay for study for improvements to North Main Street-\$13,300. Brian Robertson made the motion to approve, Mark Gazarek seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #151-16 – Authorizing payment of the listed and/or attached purchase orders. Brian Robertson made the motion to approve, Mark Gazarek seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The Commissioners approved travel requests for the Sheriff and a request for signature from OCTF for the second installment of grant award for #11,760.50. Mark Gazarek made the motion to authorize the chairman's signature, Brian Robertson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Hancock County Adult Probation was awarded an additional \$6,066 for their Community-Based Corrections Program Subsidy Grant. The Commissioners signed said addendum to the grant.

Cindy Land presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #152-16 –Authorizing the Hancock County Commissioners to enter into an agreement with the Board of County Commissioners of Wood County, Ohio for the housing of juveniles in the Wood County Detention Center. Brian Robertson made the motion to approve, Mark Gazarek seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Cindy Land announced that she is not going to present the next resolution listed because she needs more information.

Philip Johnson requested an executive session to discuss real estate acquisition.

Chris Long gave a report of where his guys are working. He also said there was a fatality on Township Rd. 38 at the bridge that they have closed. He said they have barricades and signs up because the bridge is gone, and a car went right through it.

Heather Pendleton had nothing for the Board.

Steve Wilson will join Phil Johnson in the executive session.

Doug Jenkins from WKXA stated that the Allen County Commissioners open every meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Denise Grant from the Courier had no comments or questions on the record.

### **Reports/Meetings**

Brian Robertson said he attended the Family First Council committee meeting Thursday afternoon and the NCSC security wrap up on Friday with Phillip Riegle. He also attended the FHS reverse raffle this weekend.

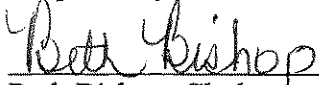
Phillip Riegle said he and Brian met with the NCSC Thursday afternoon and they also attended the wrap up meeting Friday morning. He also attended the elected officials meeting Friday morning. Thursday afternoon he met with Judge Johnson and attended the Mayors meeting with the Sheriff Thursday night. Yesterday he gave the invocation at the Women's Republican luncheon with Secretary Husted.

At 10:10 a.m. Phillip Riegle made the motion to go into executive session to discuss real estate acquisition, Mark Gazarek seconded. A roll call vote resulted as follows: Phillip Riegle, yes; Mark Gazarek, yes, Brian Robertson, yes. At 10:37 a.m. Phillip Riegle made the motion to come out of executive session with no action taken, Mark Gazarek seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

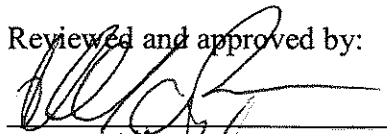
At 11:04 a.m. the Commissioners reconvened. They met with Lee Swisher, Director of EMA, regarding a program called "I am Responding". Also present was Cindy Land and Heather Pendleton. Lee Swisher explained the program. It's an app that has the ability to do many things

such as display who has responded, how many have responded, where everyone is at, where fire/call is at, etc. Everyone that participates will have this information available. He said he has 12 agencies interested and there are several that are already using it but if we decide to do this, they can get out of their individual contracts and go with this to save money. If we do three year agreements, the Commissioners agreed to pay for the first year but each agency will be responsible for payment of the second and third year. The deadline is July 1, 2016. Cindy Land will prepare agreements to be signed by all agencies interested.

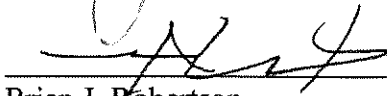
Respectfully submitted,

  
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Beth Bishop, Clerk

Reviewed and approved by:

  
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Phillip A. Riegler

  
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Mark D. Gazarek

  
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Brian J. Robertson

## Western Diversion Channel Locally Preferred Plan Implementation Schedule

