

## Minutes

December 28, 2021

Commissioners Present: Timothy Bechtol, Michael Pepple and William Bateson.

Also Present: Lynn Taylor, Cindy Land, Phil Johnson, Steve Wilson, Charity Rauschenberg and Mary Ann LaRoche. Attendance sheet is also attached.

Commissioner Bechtol opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' 1st floor December 21, 2021 were read and approved. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The Clerk presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #930-21 – Authorizing the payment of the listed and/or attached Purchase Orders. William Bateson made the motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #931-21 – Rescinding Hancock County Commissioner's Resolution #915-21 dated December 21, 2021 (Transfer of funds within the appropriation- CSEA). William Bateson made the motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

William Bateson made the motion to approve Resolution's #932-21 through and including Resolution #939-21 as a consent agenda. William Bateson made the motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #932-21 – Transfer of funds from the General Fund to Juvenile Probate Bond Retirement.

Resolution #933-21 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation – Board of Elections.

Resolution #934-21 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation – Sheriff.

Resolution #935-21 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation – Prosecutor.

Resolution #936-21 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation – Common Pleas Court- General Special Fund.

Resolution #937-21 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation – Common Pleas Court- Jail Diversion.

Resolution #938-21 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation – Common Pleas Court – General Office.

Resolution #939-21 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation - Dog & Kennel Fund.

Resolution #940-21 – Additional appropriation within the Auditor's Certification- Commissioners to appropriate to Severance (Sheriff). William Bateson made the motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

William Bateson made the motion to approve Resolution's #941-21 through and including Resolution #955-21 as a consent agenda. William Bateson made the motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #941-21 – Repayment of advance from Water Pollution Control to the General Fund.

Resolution #942-21 – Repayment of advance from Water Pollution Control to the General Fund.

Resolution #943-21 – Repayment of advance from Water Pollution Control to the General Fund.

Resolution #944-21 – Repayment of advance from Water Pollution Control to the General Fund.

Resolution #945-21 – Repayment of advance from Water Pollution Control to the General Fund.

Resolution #946-21 – Repayment of advance from Water Pollution Control to the General Fund.

Resolution #947-21 – Repayment of advance from Water Pollution Control to the General Fund.

Resolution #948-21 – Repayment of advance from Water Pollution Control to the General Fund.

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Payroll for the JFS Office was approved. The Commissioners approved the 52<sup>nd</sup> payment request for Stantec's payment to MWCD from August – November. Timothy Bechtol asked why this is a monthly invoice and Steve Wilson stated that they were waiting on information from Norfolk/Southern to submit a complete invoice.

Cindy Land presented the following Resolution for consideration:

Resolution #956-21 – Establishing an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Procurement Policies and Procedures Plan for Hancock County, Ohio. Cindy stated that something needed to be in place by the end of 2021. This written plan is currently what the ARPA Committee is using to determine eligibility for ARPA funding requests. This less intrusive policy is similar to Henry County. The policy that is similar to Licking County is what the Auditors' Office has reviewed. By approving this policy today, the more detailed policy can be reviewed later. In addition, additions or deletions can be added at a later date as well. Mike Pepple stated that the ARPA Committee has already approved 2-3 funding requests in 2021. Cindy acknowledged that

happened. William Bateson made the motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Phil Johnson presented the following Resolution for consideration:

Resolution #957-21 – Authorizing payment of November and December invoices from Montgomery Jonson LLP as outside counsel. Phil stated that this board had approved prior invoices for this federal case. The total invoices are \$100.00 for October and \$680.00 for November. William Bateson made the motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Charity Rauschenberg confirmed with Phil Johnson that the Prosecutor authorized outside counsel. Phil acknowledged that it was approved.

Steve Wilson had nothing to report.

Rachelle Harman, Jeff Overmeyer, Linda Bishop, Jerry Wolford, Tammy Weinandy, Kathy Reinhart, Ted Bibler and Bryan Tong were public citizens that provided statements and reasons why they wanted the Commissioners to act immediately on an Exclusion Zone Resolution pertaining to Solar Farms. Bill Bateson stated the Commissioners want to talk to all Townships before acting. Several citizens expressed their concern that this is done quickly to ensure a positive outcome for the residents and land owners. A lot of residents are unsettled and are doing what the Commissioners have asked in regards to obtaining information. Mike Pepple stated that it is possible to place a deadline on the Townships to provide a resolution of exclusion. A discussion was held regarding why a public meeting is held at The Elks in the City of Findlay, when this is an issue that relates directly to the County residents. The County residents are unable to vote on the City of Findlay issues, they find it unfair that a meeting couldn't be scheduled closer to Arcadia. Several residents expressed their willingness to vote for people who support their cause at the next election. Tim Bechtol stated that there are 2 different scales of projects to consider. The Commissioners are elected to represent the entire County, not just a few. They are taking this situation seriously and he understands this can be frustrating. The Board is trying to gather information from all sides. Mike Pepple stated that they will be meeting with the Assistant Prosecutor and the attorney from Columbus to discuss their options. Mike clarified that they don't want to make a quick decision, rather they want to make a correct decision.

### **Meetings/Reports**

William Bateson stated that he went to the Southwest Fire District Meeting and the subject of the radios that are being purchased by the County for the Sheriffs Office was discussed. This will affect about 154 radios county wide. The Sheriff will be looking into whether or not they can get ones that are more fire rated or not. This will then have to go back to the ARPA Committee. They will have to discuss if this will have to go back to the Fire Departments for discussion. Fire rated radios currently are not being used and as of date, there has not been an issue, per the Sheriff. Cindy stated that this discussion will have to continue into next year. In addition, Cindy stated that Liberty Township may not go with Motorola. Bill stated that he would like to go with a uniform radio. Mike Pepple and Tim Bechtol concurred.

Michael Pepple had nothing to report.

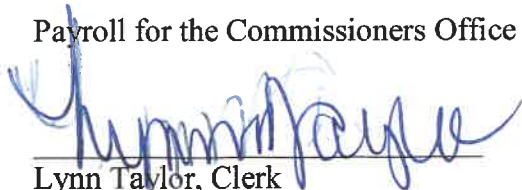
Timothy Bechtol stated that he was a guest with Chris Oaks on his morning radio show last week. Tim provided a review of 2021 for Hancock County. Tim also express his pleasure with working on the Board with Commissioner Pepple and Commissioner Bateson. He is glad they are on the Board and working together.

Tim Bechtol wanted to revisit the public conversation held regarding Solar Farms. Cindy Land explained the process to the Commissioners for exclusion zones. Cindy stated that the establishment of the exclusion zone can be done by resolution at a regular meeting. A 30-day notice is required to the public that the Commissioners will be acting on the exclusionary zone. If resolution is then passed, it must include a specific map of the area being excluded. Once adopted, a 30-day waiting period is in effect of which a referendum can be placed on the ballot by anyone not wanting an exclusion zone. If a petition is passed by enough signatures, the exclusionary zone is stayed until the next election when the voters decide. Bill stated that he prefers a county wide exclusionary zone and Mike stated that he prefers to wait until all Townships have made their input. Mike inquired if we can put a deadline on the Townships to respond if they are interested or not in exclusion zones. Cindy said most Townships meet once a month, the soonest deadline she could give them is the end of January 2022. She stated that she will be sending via email a notice to the Townships to inform them of the end of month deadline. Action could begin on February 1, even if not all Townships have responded. The Commissioners can act on those Townships that have currently responded. The Commissioners concurred. Cindy stated that she is unclear and will have to speak to Tony Core about the possibility of if an exclusionary zone is approved now and years later can it be amended if another acceptable use is requested.

At 11:15 a.m., the Commissioners met with Melanie Lee, Steve Wilson and Don Moses. Lynn Taylor, Christine Carrigan, Phil Johnson and Cindy Land were also present. Don stated that on Christmas Eve, they had several businesses use the Landfill, in addition to Rumpke. They did not lose money during that time. Don also stated that the same schedule will happen on New Year's Eve. They will be open until 3:00 p.m. A discussion was held regarding the process of holiday pay when holidays fall on a Saturday. Currently, Landfill employees are getting holiday pay on Friday and Holiday hours on a Saturday when a Saturday holiday happens. Hancock County Holiday Policy is unclear on 6-day work weeks. Therefore, it is an unclear issue. The Commissioners agreed to process 2021 pay with giving 12 hours holiday for Landfill employees. However, a policy will be created to state that when scheduled on a holiday, holiday pay will be only given on the Holiday. No holiday pay will be given for working the day prior to the holiday when the County Holiday is observed. The 2022 Landfill hours were discussed. Currently, Don has 10 employees and it's very difficult to find any staff right now. Don stated that extending the hours past 4:00 p.m., does not work with his staff. His staff reports in two shifts and if the hours are extended until 4:00, his staff will have overtime each week. Mike Pepple inquired if the Landfill employees are okay with the overtime and Don stated that they were. It was agreed upon that the Landfill will be open until 4:00 p.m., beginning in March 2022 when the time changes. A discussion was also held about increasing Landfill dumping fees. Steve Wilson stated that in his opinion, dumping fees do not need to be increased. The Landfill has over a million-dollar carryover and cash is not a problem at this time. Bill Bateson stated that our tipping fees are \$3.00 lower than neighboring counties. Steve stated that a large amount of non-Hancock County residents dump at the landfill. Furthermore, increasing the rates will be a lengthy process. Phil Johnson went over the process with the Commissioners and they


acknowledged. Don Moses also said that a future fly over will determine if construction for an additional section will be needed in the upcoming years or in 2022.

Payroll for the Commissioners Office was approved.

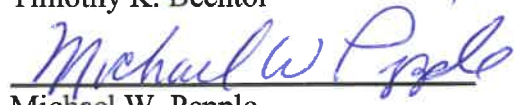


Lynn Taylor, Clerk

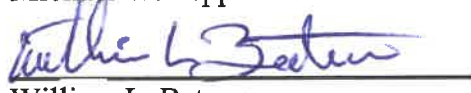
Reviewed and approved by:



Timothy K. Bechtol



Michael W. Pepple



William L. Bateson

12/28/21

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

DEPARTMENT/ADDRESS

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Ron Stacy	Twp Rd 212 Findlay
Rachelle Hamman	Washington Township Arcadia
Jammy Weinandy	
Ellen (Susie) Brown	600 Monroe St Arcadia
Pete Breen	19116 TR 218 Fostoria, OH
Ted Breen	"
Travis Bohn	3260 TR 254 Arcadia, OH
Ruth Schilt	1020 TR 243 Fostoria, OH
Dan Schilt	" " " "
Pat True	17677 TWP 218 Arcadia, OH
Steven Bishop	613 Twp Rd Findlay, OH
Thora Gilligan	16721 CR 109 Arcadia
Mike Gilligan	" " " "
Kathy Reinhart	206 Monroe St. Arcadia, OH
Allen Reinhart	206 Monroe St. Arcadia, OH
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