

## Minutes

February 15, 2018

Commissioners Present: Brian Robertson, Timothy Bechtol, and Mark Gazarek

Also Present: Sarah Mutchler, Chris Long, Adam Witteman, Jim Maurer, and MaryAnn LaRoche

Commissioner Robertson opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' 1<sup>st</sup> floor conference room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Minutes from the February 13, 2018 meeting were read with Mark Gazarek making the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The Assistant Clerk presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution# 122-18 – Transfer of funds from Indigent Defense to the General Fund. Mark Gazarek made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #123-18 – Additional appropriation within the Auditor's certification and the Commissioners to appropriate to the Ditch Maintenance Fund- \$58,267.78. Mark Gazarek made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The Commissioners signed JFS payroll. Mark Gazarek made a motion to approve the Warrant Journal, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Chris Long reported where his crews were working which included clearing brush at bridges on Twp. Rd 68.

Adam Witteman had nothing to report from the Auditor's office.

Sarah Mutchler reported that the Courthouse Painting project is moving along nicely and that they would be starting on the next floor within the week. Sarah also stated that the painters are working on paint specifications and will provide samples for the colors still needed.

### Reports

Mark Gazarek reported that he met with a representative from the Secretary of State, Jon Husted's Office on Wednesday. Their number one priority is within the Capital funding budget for voting machines for the Board of Elections which includes the other 87 counties in Ohio. They would like to cover 85% of the cost. Mark also attended the Convention and Visitor Bureau meeting. The Hotel/Motel tax budget was 7% but is currently at 10%. This number does not include the Hancock County Hotel which is scheduled to open in March. Also Commissioner Gazarek stated the CCAO (County Commissioners Association of Ohio) issued the top priority lists for the Ohio Senate and House. The number one priority is the Opiate Epidemic and how it is specifically impacting children services and the jail population. The second priority is the reimbursement of Indigent Defense cases which is increasing with more arrests and charges. A large majority of these cases are found to be indigent and according to the Ohio Revised Code the county is responsible for their defense.

Timothy Bechtol reported that he attended the Legislative Committee Opiate Task Force at ADAMHS yesterday. They are trying to rearrange the date of these meetings so Senator McColley and Representative Sprague will be able to attend as they are usually in session on Wednesday's when the meetings are scheduled. Commissioner Bechtol stated that they went over lawsuits against drug makers during the Task Force meeting. Tuesday evening Commissioner Bechtol attended the Hancock County Firefighters Association meeting in

Washington Township. They talked about grants for each department seeking funding for equipment that is needed for their operations. Commissioner Bechtol also wanted to share his thoughts and concerns with the Florida shooting that took place yesterday, stating that security is of utmost importance. Commissioner Bechtol stated that he has 2 boys in school and that if anyone has concerns or tips about potential problems that they must speak up as we need to make a difference.

Brian Robertson said that he wanted to echo on Commissioner Gazarek's report about the increase of Indigent Defense costs. Commissioner Robertson reported that prior to this morning's meeting he had signed a stack of purchase orders to pay for Indigent Defense costs. Commissioner Robertson stated that they are working with other county offices preparing for the State of the County. Commissioner Robertson stated that Lent season began with the journey to the cross yesterday but our thoughts and prayers are here in Hancock County as well as in Florida with the tragedy that they faced yesterday. He stated that we are living in difficult times despite our many blessings; our community faces many challenges as do other communities.


The meeting was adjourned at 9:38 a.m. and will reconvene at 11:30 a.m. upstairs to discuss Litter Landing.

11:30 a.m. the Commissioners reconvened with Courtney Comstock from Litter Landing. Don Moses and Jim Maurer also present. Courtney gave an update on the new baler and found out this Monday that there was a delay with the manufacturer not the actual distributor. However she did confirm an install date of 3/6/18. Garlock Bros. and Overhead Door Company are still in the process of repairing the damage done to the door at Litter Landing. There was also damage done to the fence at Litter Landing and Courtney has only received one estimate at this time. The new rotator is being installed on one of the forklifts and will speed up processing materials because it will reduce time that the employees spend moving the materials. The landfill employees are modifying the forks on the equipment to work with the rotator. A new employee started at Litter Landing this week and is working out well. Sarah is going to work with Courtney to set up training for the new employee to get his forklift certification. No other updates were given for Litter Landing.

Sarah requested an executive session for personnel in regards to discipline.

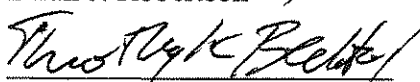
At 11:46 a.m. Commissioner Robertson made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss personnel in regards to discipline, Commissioner Bechtol seconded. A roll call was taken and resulted as follows: Commissioner Robertson, yes; Commissioner Bechtol, yes; Commissioner Gazarek, yes. At 12:07 p.m. Commissioner Robertson made a motion to come out of executive session, Commissioner Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0 with no further business for the day.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Karissa Fox, Assistant Clerk

Reviewed and approved by:

  
Brian J. Robertson

  
Timothy K. Bechtol

  
Mark D. Gazarek