

Minutes

February 2, 2023

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

Also Present: Christine Carrigan, Cindy Land, Phil Johnson, Auditor Charity Rauschenberg, Adam Witteman, Steve Wilson and Lizzy Essinger.

Commissioner Bateson opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' 1st floor conference room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Minutes from the January 31st 2023, meeting was read with Michael Pepple making a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Michael Pepple made the motion and Timothy Bechtol seconded to approve the Warrant Journal. Motion passed 3-0. The Commissioners approved two travel requests for the Sheriff's department.

The Assistant Clerk presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #68-23 – Transfer of funds from the General Fund 1001 to Capital Projects Fund 4150. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #69-23 – Additional appropriation – within the Auditor's certification – Commissioners to appropriate to Capital Projects Fund 4150. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #70-23 – Additional appropriation – within the Auditor's certification – Commissioners to appropriate to HUD Fund 2062. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #71-23 – Additional appropriation – within the Auditor's certification – Commissioners to appropriate to Brownfield Coalition Grant Fund 2195. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #72-23 – Repayment of advance from Water Pollution Control to the General Fund. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Cindy Land presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #73-23 – Authorizing agreement with Glause, Pyle, Schomer, Burns and Dehaven, Inc., d.b.a. GPD Group to provide engineering and construction management services to construct the new communications tower for Hancock County. Cindy stated this resolution is for the engineering service for the design of the new communications tower. The contract cost is \$35,025.00. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #74-23 – Request to establish a new fund entitled "CR 140 Government Center Fund." Cindy stated that certain funds require requesting permission and direction from the state Auditor, before setting them up. This resolution and the next resolution are request to establish new funds. This fund will be for receiving and distributing general funds, and debt proceeds for infrastructure on County Road 140. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #75-23 – Request to establish a new fund entitled “Litter Landing Capital Project Fund.” Cindy stated this fund will be for receiving and distributing monies for the construction of a Litter Landing facility. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Phil Johnson presented the following resolution for consideration:

Resolution #76-23 – Selection of and ranking of qualified engineering firms for consulting services for the implementation and planning of the Church Street storm sewer interceptor project, within the 2022 Critical Infrastructure program with the Ohio Department of Development. Phil stated Hancock County Regional Planning (HRPC) received two separate submissions of qualifications for consulting and planning services to be provided on the project. HRPC reviewed the qualifications, and has determined Kleinfelder Architecture, Inc., to be sufficient to fulfill the expectations and requirements of the project. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Steve Wilson stated Kleinfelder Architecture, Inc., bought out Poggemeyer Design Group.

Cindy Land stated that Karim Baroudi, from the health department, submitted an email request to establish the Hancock County Overdose and Suicide Fatality Review Board. There is statutory authority on how to establish the board. The Commissioners would have to pass a resolution. The board would review the suicides and overdoses to see if there is a way to create a system that might help to alleviate them. The Commissioners would like for Karim to come to a meeting to provide more information.

Auditor Charity Rauschenberg presented to the Commissioners the engagement letter received from Clark, Schaefer, Hackett & Co., for this year’s audit. She stated the state decided to contract Hancock County’s audit out this year. The state held a bid process and chose Clark, Schaefer, Hackett & Co., to perform Hancock County’s audit. The Auditor’s office had some input on the selection. The fee of this year’s audit will be \$61,620.00. She went over a few of the objectives and procedures of the engagement letter, and stated that it is a pretty standard engagement letter. Cindy will prepare the resolution for engagement on Tuesday.

Adam Witteman had nothing to report.

Steve Wilson had an update call with Stantec Inc., regarding the Norfolk Southern Railroad project. Stantec Inc., is anticipating a draft agreement at the end of February or beginning of March. Steve is expecting that final detail discussions will take place in the next few weeks, that will include cost sharing discussions. In addition, he had an update meeting this morning with the Mayor. She stated that Council is requesting a letter from the Commissioners stating they are committed to transferring the properties related to the benching project.

Meetings/Reports

Michael Pepple attended the OneOhio Region 17 meeting. They received an update from the OneOhio Foundation meeting in Columbus. They provided a budget, but have not received any OneOhio funds. They have not selected a director or a panel of experts. They did present a proposed timeline. They should be receiving information soon on how to apply for funding. They are projecting disbursement of funds to be in October. This is all dependent on receiving money and the litigation ending in our favor. We have received three opioid settlement payments to date. The next step for Hancock County is to meet again,

with county officials and decide what we want to use the funds for. Commissioner Pepple also attended the County-wide Township Trustees meeting.


Timothy Bechtol stated during the Trustees meeting the Sheriff was discussing the additional cost involved with guarding the inmates during hospital stay for drug addiction cases. Commissioner Bechtol commented that maybe OneOhio money could be used for this extra expense. Commissioner Bechtol stated the Engineers 2023 directory of officials is available on the website. In addition, the Engineer shared his 2022 annual report at the Township Trustees meeting. Commissioner Bechtol was in contact with the JFS building structural engineer. He received his final report on the state of the roof, as it has been repaired and what additional steps he feels are necessary to ensure its longevity. Commissioner Bechtol prepared a package of information, regarding the JFS damage to share at this afternoon's meeting with the insurance company.

William Bateson attended the 4-H Advisory training and the Township Trustees meeting. During the Trustees meeting discussions were held regarding the proposed City of Findlay annexation goals. In addition, Commissioner Bateson attended the Economic Development meeting.

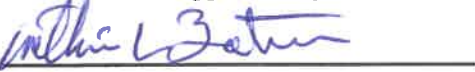
At 10:43 A.M., the Commissioners met with the Schultes to discuss the areas being removed from the County Rd. 140 land, that is currently rented by them for farming. Christine Carrigan and Phil Johnson were in attendance. The Commissioners agreed that if there is a loss of crops, they would be reimbursed.

At 1:40 P.M., the Commissioners met with Geoff Saylor from Gallagher Basset to discuss the damage at the JFS building. Christine Carrigan, Phil Johnson, Mike Thompson, Jay Meyers, Auditor Charity Rauschenberg and Adam Witteman were in attendance. Commissioner Bechtol shared several blue print drawings that highlighted the repairs needed to be done on the trusses, wall insulation, gypsum board, flooring and rubber base at the JFS building. He explained the repairs for each blue print, along with the estimated cost of the repairs. In addition, he shared the Hancock County JFS building change order comparison chart for the roof truss repair/reinforcing project and the water damage repair work cost estimate, he prepared. He also shared the roof framing repair – field observations report from Jezerinac Geers & Associates, Inc. Auditor Rauschenberg inquired if claims would be separate for each case. Geoff stated they would be separate claims, and due to the amount, it is going to be sent to the excess carrier. The Commissioners continued the meeting touring the JFS building with Geoff.

Respectfully submitted,


Christine Carrigan, Assistant Clerk

Reviewed and approved by:


William L. Bateson


Timothy K. Bechtol

Michael W. Pepple

Michael W. Pepple