

## Minutes

July 28, 2022

Commissioners present: Michael Pepple and William Bateson. Timothy Bechtol was absent.

Also Present: Alec Helms, Cindy Land, Phil Johnson and Steve Wilson

Commissioner Pepple opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioner's 1st floor conference room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Minutes from the July 26, 2022 meetings were read with William Bateson making the motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

The Assistant Clerk presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #463-22 – Additional appropriation - within the Auditor's certification - Commissioners to appropriate to Severance Fund. William Bateson made a motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Resolution #464-22 – Additional appropriation within the Auditor's certification - Commissioners to appropriate to the General Fund. William Bateson made a motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Resolution #465-22 – Additional appropriation - within the Auditor's certification - Commissioner's to appropriate to Capital Projects. William Bateson made a motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Resolution #466-22 – Transfer of funds within the General Fund. William Bateson made a motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Resolution #467-22 – Additional appropriation - within the Auditor's certification - Commissioner's to appropriate to Severance (Sheriff). William Bateson made a motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

William Bateson made a motion and Michael Pepple seconded to approve the warrant journal. Motion passed 2-0. The Commissioners approved payroll for JFS and the July Explosive Gas Monitoring Report.

Cindy Land presented the following resolutions:

Resolution #468-22 – Resolution authorizing contract with Duane George DBA George Masonry Restoration for performance of maintenance, and repairs upon the exterior of the Hancock County Justice Center. William Bateson made a motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 2-0. Cindy Land stated this is for work on the walls along the dock area, the north wall and the wall above the roof on the north wall. The total is \$24,906.00.

Resolution #469-22 – Resolution authorizing solicitation of bids for the salvage and removal of a 160 foot radio tower and utility building located next to the Hancock County Justice Center, Findlay, Hancock County. William Bateson made a motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 2-0. Cindy Land stated this is located on parcel 57-0000210510 and she will get with the clerks to set up when the bids will be due. The specs are being written for demolition and/or salvage.

Phil Johnson requested executive session in regards to potential real estate purchase and potential real estate sale.

### **Meetings/Reports**

Timothy Bechtol was absent

William Bateson attended the Chamber Ag Committee meeting yesterday. The committee was able to give out \$6,000.00 worth of scholarships this year to 5 people. Findlay Brewing Company is putting together a special brew for them this year and a portion of the sale goes back to the committee for next year's scholarships.

Michael Pepple attended the Insurance Committee meeting yesterday where they met with First Insurance Group. They began planning the transition to them and everyone agreed to get this off on a good start and have a smooth transition. First Insurance is looking to have our pool figured out by September 15<sup>th</sup>. There was a discussion on having a meeting with the elected officials or someone from their office to answer any questions and discuss the new company options. Commissioner Pepple also attended a Habitat for Humanity meeting this morning to discuss a special project. They have already built 2 houses this year and they will build another 2 in the fall.

At 9:46 a.m., Michael Pepple made a motion to enter into executive session in regards to potential real estate purchase and potential real estate sale. William Bateson seconded. A roll call vote resulted as follows: Michael Pepple, yes; William Bateson, yes;

At 10:27 a.m., Michael Pepple made a motion to come out of executive session, in regards to potential real estate purchase and potential real estate sale with no action taken. William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

At 10:30 a.m., the Commissioners met with the Paul Maekask and Natalie Click from the Public Defenders. Also present was Alec Helms, Paula Deter, Bill Alge, and Roger Miller. Commissioner Pepple stated they asked them to come in to discuss the attached survey sent out by the CCAO on the county role in Indigent Defense. Paul stated he reached out to the Ohio Public Defenders office and they stated there are no set plans or system to be put in place if the state were to take over control. He does not feel like at this point giving control to the state would be a good idea. Commissioner Pepple asked if there would-be county involvement with a state-run program. Paul stated there would not be. The county would be losing it voice within the program. The program has grown, always been supported and at a good level at this point so he does not feel a change is needed. There could be some advantages to a state-run program but without any details at this point he does not know of any. Wood County has a similar program to

ours and they are happy with how things are as well. Commissioner Bateson stated that was all very great information to have and he agrees with keeping the county-run program to help keep some local control. Commissioner Pepple agree with Commissioner Bateson and stated that he would complete the survey with the answer that we would like to retain indigent defense as a county-run program. He will explain why in question 5 with the fact that the current program is running well, keeping some local control over the program and not having enough information on the state-run option. There was a discuss about the insurance short fall. Paul stated they have enough to make it through September. Him and Natalie plan to sit down in August to go over what they will need and they will reach out to the Commissioners with a request.

Respectfully submitted,


  
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Alec Helms, Assistant Clerk

Reviewed and approved by:

  
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Michael W. Pepple

  
\_\_\_\_\_

William L. Bateson

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Timothy K. Bechtol



# County Role in Indigent Defense

CCAO has been participating in a working group with the Ohio Public Defender, the Ohio State Bar Association, and other associations focusing on the future of the indigent defense system. This survey is very brief and is asking only one thing: As the next budget cycle approaches and executive agencies (such as the Ohio Public Defender) need to submit budget requests, it is imperative that CCAO is able to provide the working group with relevant data on county interest.

\* Required

1. Name \*

2. County \*

3. Role \*

Enter your answer

4. Presented with the choice between opting into a system where the state takes over the entirety of the indigent defense program (handling cases, paying for attorneys and staff, paying for office space, etc.) or retaining indigent defense as a county-run program while receiving some level of reimbursement from the state, which would you recommend your county choose? \*

- Opt-in to the state takeover
- Retain indigent defense as a county-run program

5. If you would like to elaborate on your answer, please do so here.

Enter your answer

Submit

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