

Minutes
March 19, 2020

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

Also Present: Sarah Mutchler, Miranda Lobdell, J. Steve Welton, Charity Rauschenberg, Tracey Coldren, Bill Bateson, Adam Witteman, and Philip Johnson.

Commissioner Gazarek opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' 1st floor conference room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Minutes from the March 17, 2020 meeting were read with Timothy Bechtol making the motion to approve, Brian Robertson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The Clerk presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #162-20 – Additional appropriation within the Auditor's certification-Commissioners to appropriate to Sanitary Landfill. Timothy Bechtol made the motion to approve, Brian Robertson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #163-20 – Additional appropriation within the Auditor's certification-Commissioners to appropriate to Water Pollution Control. Timothy Bechtol made the motion to approve, Brian Robertson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The Commissioners approved travel requests from the Prosecutor's office and Sheriff's office. Timothy Bechtol made the motion to approve the Warrant Journal, Brian Robertson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

J. Steve Welton and Charity Rauschenberg reported that their offices will be closed to the public. They are working on putting physical drop boxes up for the public to drop off important information. There are also available resources online. The public is encouraged to call and/or mail in information to the correct offices.

Tracey Coldren said her office would be open by appointment only. They will also only allow 2 title companies in for title searches at a time.

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

Meetings/Reports

Brian Robertson met for the Regional Planning commission via telephone conference. They approved 3 lot deviations.

Timothy Bechtol said he will be receiving updates via telephone conference with the Health Department, Hospital and City of Findlay representatives. The hospital set up a triage center for testing in the parking lot. Timothy also said the call center remains open. He also stated the AG has released an opinion regarding open meetings. Mark Gazarek pointed out the AG has not given an official opinion but instead stated that each entity should check with their legal counsel. He also stated that his temperature as of this morning was 98.1°.

Mark Gazarek congratulated the group that has filed a lawsuit against Secretary of State Frank LaRose for postponing the election and setting a new date of June 2. Per statute, the only entity that has the authority to move the election is the State Legislature. He stated Governor DeWine showed poor leadership and lack of planning by not allowing the State Legislature to vote on this matter.

At 9:52 a.m. Mark Gazarek made the motion to enter into executive session to discuss potential real estate acquisition, Timothy Bechtol seconded. A roll call vote resulted as follows: Mark Gazarek, yes; Timothy Bechtol, yes; Brian Robertson, yes. At 10:13 a.m. Mark Gazarek made the motion to come out of executive session with no action taken, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

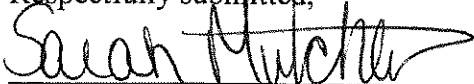
At 11:00 a.m. the Commissioners met with Greg Burks and Matt Heitkamp from Soil & Water. Sarah Mutchler and Bill Bateson were also present.

Greg said Soil & Water is working towards completing more preventative maintenance on the ditches. In the spring, he will get an inventory of log jams in Ottawa Creek, Eagle Creek, and the Blanchard River. He also gave an overview of other projects Soil & Water is working on, including tree sales and H2Ohio. He requested the Commissioners consider reevaluating the maintenance base on several older ditches in order to be able to complete maintenance. Brian requested Greg keep in mind the current economic climate. Greg also gave an update on the W.A.B. Dalzell Single County Ditch. They have received multiple complaints about the banks eroding. A church on Rector Ave. has reported 2-3 foot of the parking lot eroding and falling into the ditch. Mark Gazarek asked the Clerk to organize an executive session with Soil & Water and the Prosecutor's office to discuss the issue further. Bill Bateson asked if there was a required setback. Greg said the parking lot was existing infrastructure so the setback was probably not enforced. Bill also asked about the landowner responsibility. Greg said once the ditch is on maintenance, Soil & Water is to maintain the ditch. Mark reported this is not an isolated incident of erosion on the W.A.B. Dalzell Single County Ditch.

At 1:15 p.m. the Commissioners met with Randall Galbraith from JFS. Sarah Mutchler was also present.


Randall began by stating they have received \$124,000 from the Governor's budget that will be used to help pay for children in care. The Commissioners should start seeing that balance come off beginning in May. He also said they could get additional funds from other counties to help offset the children in care costs as well. He presented a Pandemic Operations Plan and a Workforce Policy for the Commissioners to consider. The workforce policy includes paid time off for childcare. He also said they might shut down agencies to the public and switch to shift work. The State is also working on remote access. Mark and Brian both agreed that they trust Randall's judgment for his own employees and would prefer he use his own discretion instead of adopting a policy.

Respectfully submitted,




Sarah Mutchler, Clerk

Reviewed and approved by:



Mark D. Gazarek



Brian J. Robertson



Timothy K. Bechtol