

Minutes

May 14, 2020

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

Also Present: Tammy Erwin, Lucinda Land, Phil Johnson, Bill Bateson, Mike Pepple, Charity Rauschenberg, Adam Witteman, Doug Cade, Deb Cook, Chad Wise, Tom Wise, Steve Wilson, Ginger Sampson, Amy Baird, Chris Hughes, Donnie Moses and Jim Maurer.

Mark Gazarek 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 May 7, 2020 meeting were read with Brian Robertson making a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The Assistant Clerk presented the following resolutions:

Resolution #281-20 - Authorizing payment of the listed and/or attached purchase orders. Brian Robertson made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #282-20 – Additional appropriation within the Auditor's certification – Commissioners to appropriate to Water Pollution Control. Brian Robertson made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

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Resolution #284-20 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation – Sheriff. Brian Robertson made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #285-20 – Transfer of funds from ADAMHS-Levy to ADAMHS Bond Retirement Fund. Brian Robertson made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #286-20 – Transfer of funds from the Hotel/Motel Fund to the General Fund (1st Quarter 2020 Fees) \$18,028.04 Brian Robertson made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #287-20 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation – Probation Improvement. Brian Robertson made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #288-20 – Decreasing the Commissioners-General Office appropriation by \$5,434.00. Brian Robertson made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #289-20 – Decreasing the Microfilm appropriation by \$4,500.00. Brian Robertson made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #290-20 – Decreasing the Buildings & Grounds appropriation by \$48,000.00. Brian Robertson made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #291-20 – Transfer of funds from JFS – General Office to Children Services. Brian Robertson made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

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Resolution #293-20 – Additional appropriation within the Auditor's certification – Commissioner's to appropriate to Family First. Brian Robertson made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #294-20 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation – Sanitary Landfill. Brian Robertson made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #295-20 – Transfer of Hancock County Solid Waste Management District Tier Disposal Fees to the Tiered Disposal Fee Fund. Brian Robertson made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #296-20 – Decreasing the MV & GT-General Office appropriation by \$256,150.00. Brian Robertson made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #297-20 – Decreasing the MV & GT-Roads appropriation by \$300,000.00. Brian Robertson made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #298-20 – Decreasing the MV & GT-Bridges appropriation by \$335,000.00. Brian Robertson made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #299-20 – Decreasing the MV & GT-Other appropriation by \$662,000.00. Brian Robertson made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #300-20 – Additional appropriation within the Auditor's certification – Commissioners to appropriate to MV & GT. Brian Robertson made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Brian Robertson made a motion to approve the Warrant Journal, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Commissioners authorized payment to Maumee Watershed (MWCD) for April expenses in the amount of \$2,605.75. Commissioners also signed the final plat for Hickory Lake Second Edition.

Lucinda Land presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #301-20 – Authorization to enter into a Grant Agreement NO. 20-32-01 for an Ohio 9-1-1 Local Subgrant Program. Lucinda stated that back in December 2019; the 911 Coordinator requested a grant from Ohio from Federal money to upgrade all 9-1-1 equipment in all the county areas. Brian Robertson made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #302-20 - Resolution authorizing a credit card usage for the Engineer's office. Brian Robertson made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #303-20 - Vacation of a portion of Jackson Township Road 240 in Jackson Township, Hancock County, Ohio pursuant to ORC §§5553.01 ET SEQ. Brian Robertson made a motion to reject the vacation, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Mark Gazarek abstained. Motion passed 2-0.

Resolution #304-20 - Amendment to lease of farm land, formerly known as the Hancock County Home Farm, located at 7746 CR 140, Findlay, Ohio with Schulte Put-Han Farm Operations, LLC. Phil Johnson explained that a few years ago when originally entered into the lease, there was a discussion about possibly having an adjustment to the farm land regarding a reduction of acreage/tillage and last fall that did happen. They removed 15.15 acres from the land that was available for use by Schulte Put-Han Farms. This is the amendment to the lease of the farm land which adjusts the total amount owed for 2020. The adjustment made is from \$33,250.00 to \$30,598.75. They have already paid the first half so the second half pay will be significantly different. Phil stated that the lease ends January 8th, 2021 so this will not carry into another year. Brian Robertson made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Phil Johnson requested an executive session to discuss potential real estate acquisition and potential litigation.

Doug Cade discussed the reduction of budget in four of his resolutions. He stated that he is submitting their budget reduction plan in the MV & GT fund, which will reduce total expenditures by 20% in 2020 in the amount of \$1.54 million. He stated that there will be a significant revenue shortfall in tax gas revenue due to fewer vehicles on the road. Unfortunately, that monthly shortfall will never be received. Also, license plate registrations have been deferred due to the state bureaus of motor vehicles offices being closed. However, he does expect registration funds to be made whole by the end of the fiscal year. Doug stated that some projects will be done but, it will affect future plans in 2020 and 2021. Some road maintenance will be deferred. The engineer's office began reductions in March, shortly after the state implemented COVID-19 precautions.

Charity stated that they are still waiting on the sales tax information but should have it by the next Commissioners meeting. However they have been given some preliminary information that would indicate a 3%-4% decrease even though it shows an increase because of the refund coming out each month. There could be some additional payments that could decrease the reduction. The Department of Taxation is trying to roll out some preliminary numbers so that there is not as long a wait for the impact on the budget. Charity did receive the roll back from the state and the Indigent Defense funding was also received. As Commissioners are making reductions in resolutions, Charity has asked if they can start working on appropriations and how to handle that as a county. She would recommend the Commissioners set up a line item for unemployment under contingencies because the auditor will have to pay an amount greater than the net result, and then the line item will be there when the credit comes back. There are two steps she would like to see happen, (1) each department have its own unemployment line item and shares that information and what they are doing with their budget (2) Commissioners have a line item for balancing the charge and the credit. Mark requested the Charity send an email to Sarah in the Commissioner's office with all of the information that has been requested. Charity stated that there are several appeals which is why there is the need to increase appropriations for unemployment. Charity also stated that she has had a lot of questions regarding Senate Bill 310; however it is still in the House and has not yet passed.

Donnie Moses has requested that the current hours at the Landfill remain the same at this time. Donnie has talked with all of the haulers and they have adjusted to those new hours. They are keeping costs down, the overtime down and it is going smoothly. The Commissioners agreed to his request to keep the hours the same as they are currently. Donnie stated that the contractor has moved in and depending on the weather, they are ready to go on Monday.

Meetings/Reports

Brian Robertson reported that he facilitated mask distribution within various offices and he thanked Sarah and James for helping with the communication and getting those masks out. Brian also attended the Public Defenders meeting this morning.

Timothy Bechtol attended the Elected Officials meeting last Friday and they asked Commissioner Bechtol to share some concerns with the Board. (1) Specifically what the other non-mandated entities are doing to cut their budgets and would like a report on that. (2) They would like a firm deadline set on when these budget reductions are going to be reported in and when they would take effect. Correspondence has been requested back to them. Tim listened in on the Tuesday conference call with the city, health department and hospital. The hospital will be closing the testing tent on Monday and will be doing all testing through the emergency room department. He stated that there are 40 cases confirmed and probable in Hancock County. There are 24 counties in the state of Ohio that have had no deaths. Tim had a question for the board regarding the State of Emergency for Hancock County. He is asking what they are going to do going forward as businesses continue to open. He also stated that the plumbing replacement

project for the Justice Center is out for bid. He will be attending the preview walk-thru next Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. with the plumbing contractors. He believes the roofing project will be up for the Board's review next Thursday and the painting project will be out for bid after the bids are received for the plumbing project so that they can coordinate with the contractors.

Mark Gazarek reported that he has sat in on the CCAO calls every week. Mark wanted to thank Sarah, Lynn and Tammy for handling everything with the Shared Work Ohio Program and all of the phone calls being received between elected officials, agencies and others.

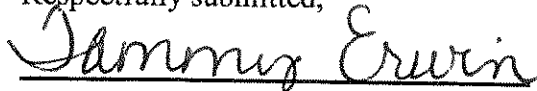
At 10:30 a.m., the Commissioners held the Vanlue Drainage and Township Road 107 Waterline Bid Opening. There were 5 bid proposals received for the Vanlue Drainage Phase 2 Project. The following is a list of those bids: Helms & Sons \$187,423.00, Jim Palmer Excavating \$201,172.66, B.Hill'z Excavating \$179,901.00, Kyle J Sherman Excavating \$191,579.00, and Driven Excavation \$179,984.00. There were 6 bid proposals for the TR 107 Waterline Extension. The following is a list of those bids: Hohenbrink Excavating \$208,677.87, Helms & Sons \$228,427.00, Jim Palmer Excavating \$224,135.62, R.A. Bores Excavating \$161,986.66, Driven Excavating \$229,654.50, and Kyle J. Sherman Excavating \$199,653.00. The Commissioners will review in the next 7-14 days.

At 11:00 a.m., the Commissioners met with Bob Snavely and Meserik Kirkland regarding Solar Panels and review of electric cooperative. Those present were: Mark Gazarek, Brian Robertson, Timothy Bechtol, Phil Johnson, Bill Bateson and Tammy Erwin. Mr. Snavely announced that he was there on behalf of the CCAO and introduced their Vice President Meserik Kirkland, then passed out packets of solar information for the Commissioners. Bob stated that they had a lot of interest from several counties regarding the solar panels and that is why they are here. There has been a lot of uncertainty in the market so it had been put on hold for a while and now they are ready to start moving forward. There can be a savings of 10-15% over 25 years but there needs to be a lot of acreage to make it work. Therefore, the big decision is where to put it. They want to include all those who would like to be involved and use a larger solar ray that can service all the counties that want to participate. They would hire a developer, go through an RFP process with that developer and they would decide where to put the solar ray. Thoughts are southern Ohio because there is more land and more sun, and would make financial sense but that would be up to the developer. The biggest selling point for Bob is that there is no escalator clause. The advantage of doing a larger ray somewhere in Ohio is that it can serve all these county facilities. The market is very competitive and energy is very cheap right now and you would be able to lock that in for 20- 25 years. The price of solar is at a low point right now and will not stay long term. They are aware of advancements in the next 20 years and would like to take advantage of that. What they are looking for from counties right now is a "Letter of Intent" showing a legitimate interest in moving forward. That would take counties to the next round to see the results of the RFP, then to the next step which would be the Power Purchase Agreement, which means that you are in. The supplier would take 20% of the load, which is a conservative approach. There will be one agreement with all participants, not separate agreements. For the

counties that do not want to participate in Solar, they can just continue on. The Commissioners stated that they would take this under advisement. This is a very big project, and Bob stated that the timing is sooner rather than later as they would like to have this up and running by July.

At 11:24 a.m., Mark Gazarek made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss potential real estate acquisition and potential litigation. Brian Robertson seconded. Roll call resulted in: Mark Gazarek, yes; Brian Robertson, yes; Timothy Bechtol, yes. At 11:47 a.m. Mark Gazarek made a motion to come out of executive session, having discussed real estate acquisition and potential litigation with no action taken. Brian Robertson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

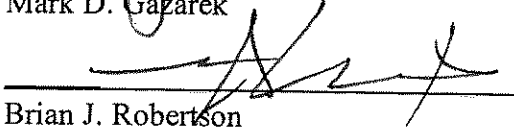


Tammy Erwin, Assistant Clerk

Reviewed and approved by:



Mark D. Gazarek



Brian J. Robertson



Timothy K. Bechtol