

Minutes

November 9, 2023

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

Also Present: Lynn Taylor, Cindy Land, Adam Witteman, Auditor Charity Rauschenberg, Heather Pendleton and Steve Wilson.

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 November 7, 2023 were read with Michael Pepple making the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Michael Pepple made the motion to approve the Warrant Journal, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The Clerk presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #820-23 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation – General Fund #1001 – Probate and Juvenile Court. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #821-23 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation – Community Corrections Fund #2089-Common Pleas Court. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #822-23 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation – General Fund #1001. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #823-23 – Additional appropriation within the Auditor's certification – Commissioner's to appropriate to Hotel & Motel Tax Fund #8047. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #824-23 – Resolution not presented.

Resolution #825-23 – Conversion of an advance to a transfer of funds – Special Improvements Ditch Fund #4005 (Liberty Reed Single County Ditch). Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #826-23 – Transfer of funds from Job & Family Services – General Office #2015 to Children Services #2023. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #827-23 – Transfer of funds within the Appropriation – CASA Fund 2246. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #828-23 – Transfer of funds within the Appropriation – Family and Children's First Council #8214. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Cindy Land presented the following resolution for consideration:

Resolution #829-23 – Authorization for the purchase of a 2023 Ford Explorer for the Hancock County Juvenile Court, Hancock County, Ohio. Cindy Land explained that Juvenile Court will be trading in a

2009 Honda as part of this transaction. The total purchase price is \$40,115.00 which includes the trade in value. Because the purchase price is less than \$75,000, no bid is necessary. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Cindy discussed an email from Mr. Wilson regarding the request for the contract between the Health Department and SWMD for the required inspections. This has been done in the past and if the Board agrees, she will prepare a resolution for Tuesday, November 14th. The cost remains the same at \$30,000.00. The board concurred and Cindy will proceed with the resolution. In addition, Cindy stated that several Townships have already contacted her about the passage of Issue 2. Cindy discussed that in 2017 when medical marijuana legislation was established, she had prepared Township Resolutions addressing that banning/processing of medical marijuana. Of the 17 Townships, all but 3 established a resolution. As Cindy reviewed the new statute, there is a provision that Townships can place a similar ban for municipalities or Townships. In anticipation of the Townships desire to proceed with the ban, she will be preparing similar resolutions to allow the Townships to discuss at their respective Township meetings. She will have this ready by the December Township Association meeting. Tim inquired if the county employment manual needs to be updated with the passage of Issue 2. Cindy explained that the county still maintains a drug free workplace. Further discussions will need to take place to determine what "under the influence" means. In the past, the county maintains the definition of "under the influence" the same as what law enforcement does.

Auditor Rauschenberg reported that her office has also received inquires about the policy manual in regards to Issue 2. Charity suggested that this topic should also be discussed among the Elected Officials. Cindy stated that there are a lot of things that are legal that are not allowed in a workplace. Charity also discussed the credit card policy and the acknowledgement of the changes that were in effect in October 2023. Her office has already received inquires of a county department that operates under a Board, to request the implement of the changes. Cindy stated that the draft policy that the Board received to review was created after a discussion among Phil, Adam, Charity and herself. The Board acknowledged the draft and requested Cindy to prepare a resolution for the next meeting. Cindy stated that the statute requires the Board of Commissioners to adopt a policy, however does not require the elected officials to sign a form acknowledging. Cindy suggested that the Board adopt a resolution for the changes and when the rest of the policy manual is updated, the elected officials will acknowledge the changes with their signature at that time. Furthermore, Cindy stated that we can send the elected officials a copy of the resolution, but not require their signatures to enact the updated changes. It was suggested that upon the passage of the resolution, the Clerks will send to the departments a request to updated the credit card authorized users of each department. Upon receipt of that list, Cindy will then prepare a resolution authorizing the users. This can then be forwarded to the Auditor's Office. It would also be helpful for the county to use one vendor for the credit cards. Adam acknowledged and will look into it. Charity also discussed that the passage of Issue 2 and the effects on CAUV will have to be looked at as well.

Heather Pendleton had nothing to report.

Steve Wilson stated that a second change order will be in front of the Board on the Ra Nik property. This change order is around \$70,000 and there is additional Brownfield Grant money available to cover this amount. Phil Johnson will take care of this on Thursday. Steve also stated that he anticipates the construction to begin on the Eagle Creek Basin project in the Spring of 2024. In preparation of that, bids will be solicited for upcoming tree removal on the perimeter of the Eagle Creek Basin. A contractor will be out in that area over the Winter months. Steve has already alerted the Township Trustees.

Meetings and Reports

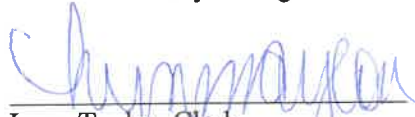
Mike Pepple stated that he attended the HIPPA training.

Timothy Bechtol did not have any meetings to report, however the construction on the West wall of the new Judicial Center has the framing completed. Tim also wished an alumnus of the Commissioner's Office well, Prosecutor Riegle, good luck on the Judge pursuit.

Bill Bateson stated that he attended the Public Defender meeting. The reported an upswing in non-English speaking residents, causing the need for an interpreter in Court. Upcoming dates have been established in 2024 for individuals to request to have records sealed on certain cases.


At 10:15 a.m., the Commissioners reconvened. Cindy Land, Lynn Taylor, Adam Witteman, Steve Wilson, Heather Pendleton and Auditor Rauschenberg were also present. Bill stated that a discussion needed to be held in regards to responding to Mayor Muryn's email regarding the potential contract with CCNO. Tim stated that recently, the Henry County Commissioners Office has extended an invitation to the Board of Commissioners to tour the CCNO facility. Tim requested that the tour happen when the full Board is operational. Mike and Bill concurred. In addition, Tim would like to show respect to the work done by the CAC committee over the past several months. Tim feels that it would be unjust to decide without a recommendation of the CAC committee. The CAC has a meeting scheduled for Wednesday, November 15th. Mike and Bill agreed with Tim to hear the recommendations of the CAC before deciding on a CCNO contract. Mike stated that a tour cannot be arranged by Friday, November 10th. Therefore, the Board is unable to give an answer to the Mayor by Friday, November 10th as she requested in her email. Furthermore, Tim stated that in light of Mayor Muryn's dislike of their prior hand-written response, an email response from the Commissioners email box will be sent. The Board concurred. Mike also suggested that the Council President and the CAC Committee be sent a copy of the email as well. Cindy also suggested that they review the contract for CCNO prior to a decision. She indicated that she requested a copy from Candace a few meetings ago, but has not yet received one.

At 11:15 a.m., a telephone conference call was held with Wyandot County regarding Joint County Ditch Maintenance. Wyandot County prepared a resolution for a joint ditch approval as follows: Maintenance assessment for collection in 2024 for the Hancock and Wyandot Joint County Ditches maintained by Wyandot County ditch maintenance program. The resolution passed and a copy will be forwarded to Hancock County for signature.



Lynn Taylor, Clerk

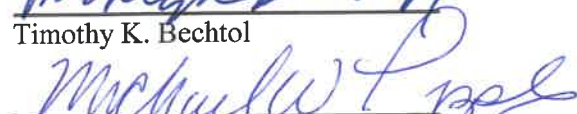
Reviewed and approved by:



William L. Bateson



Timothy K. Bechtol



Michael W. Pepple