

## Minutes

October 24, 2023

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

Also Present: Lynn Taylor, Cindy Land, Phil Johnson, Adam Witteman, Auditor Charity Rauschenberg, Engineer Doug Cade, Steve Wilson, Aleta Saltzman and Dave Spahr.

Commissioner Bechtol opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' 1<sup>st</sup> floor conference room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Minutes from the October 19, 2023 were read with Michael Pepple making the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

A late charge approval for the Board of DD was approved. Lynn Taylor explained that per the Board of DD, the late charge was due to an oversight on their part by not picking up the check and hand delivering to the local Credit Union for the payment to be processed.

The Clerk presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #747-23 – Authorizing the payment of the listed and/or attached purchase orders. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Resolution #748-23 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation – Dog and Kennel Fund #2009. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Resolution #749-23 – Transfer of funds from Job & Family – General Office #2015 to Children Services Fund #2023. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Resolution #750-23 – Additional appropriation within the Auditor's certification – Commissioner's to appropriate to Real Estate Fund #2037. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Resolution #751-23 – Advance of funds from the General Fund #1001 to Ditch Maintenance #2004. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Resolution #752-23 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation – Sanitary Landfill Fund #5042. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Resolution #753-23 – Additional appropriation within the Auditor's certification- Commissioner's to appropriate to Tier Fee #5109. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Resolution #754-23 – Transfer of funds from Tier Fee #5109 to Litter Landing #5069. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Cindy Land presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #755-23 – Modifying and updating the Local Community Corrections Planning Board for Hancock County. Cindy explained that a revision was necessary in the names on the Board. The corrected list is attached to the resolution. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Resolution #756-23 – Resolution authorizing Transportation Services contract with HHWP CAC for Hancock County Job & Family Services. Cindy stated that the next four resolutions are similar as they relate to contracted transportation services for JFS. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Resolution #757-23 – Resolution authorizing Transportation Services contract with K & P Medical Transport, LLC for Hancock County Job & Family Services. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Resolution #758-23 – Resolution authorizing Transportation Services contract with T & H Lift, LLC for Hancock County Job & Family Services. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Resolution #759-23 – Resolution authorizing Transportation Services contract with U.S.A. Cab, LLC for Hancock County Job & Family Services. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Resolution #760-23 – Resolution authorizing an amended Agreement Between Hancock County Job & Family Services and Council on Domestic Violence Inc. Cindy stated that this resolution and resolution # 761-23 extends the agreements for another year. Both of these pertain to supervised visits for JFS services. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Resolution #761-23 – Resolution authorizing an amended Agreement Between Hancock County Job & Family Services and Women’s Resource Center of Hancock County. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Phil Johnson presented the following Resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #762-23 – Authorizing the Entry Into and Signatures to a Grant Agreement Between the Ohio Department of Aging and Hancock County Board of Commissioners Healthy Aging Grants, and Associated Documents. Phil explained that this grant agreement has an area for Carolyn Copus to sign in addition an area for the Commissioners to sign. Aleta explained that the \$250,000 grant was approved for the Agency on Aging and she too reached out to legal counsel on which individual was to sign the agreement. Auditor Rauschenberg stated that the Board of Commissioners should sign the documents. Phil suggested that Commissioner Bechtol cross off Carlyn’s name and insert his name and title. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Resolution #763-23 – Authorizing the creation of the RTPO Hancock County Subdivision to the Western Ohio Rural Transportation Planning Organization and to appoint the initial slate of members to that Subcommittee. Engineer Cade stated that he and Commissioner Pepple will be the representatives on this committee. This will allow for the opportunities for more funding in the future. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Resolution #764-23 – Authorizing the solicitation of bids for continuation of County telephone service. Phil explained that the current contract with TSC is expiring soon and this bid is needed to determine if any other company is interested in providing the services. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Resolution #765-23 – Authorizing the application for appropriation of funds from the Hancock County revolving loan fund to seek and obtain a waterline study of water systems in the Village of Rawson, Ohio. Phil indicated that this will allow Regional Planning to apply with the Ohio Department of Development for a potential study for an updated water system project in the City of Rawson. The request is for \$30,000.00. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Resolution #766-23 – Authorizing entry into and execution and delivery of an amendment to a State of Ohio Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program grant agreement with regard to a Target of Opportunity Childcare and Daycare facility grant program. Phil stated that the amendment is because of an extension of completion date and paperwork filing date. Michael Pepple made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

The last resolution on the agenda wasn't presented by Phil Johnson.

Commissioner Bechtol requested a short recess to prepare for the 10:00 meeting with the Board of Elections.

At 10:06 a.m., the Commissioners met with Dave Spahr, Lori Miller, Jodie O'Brien, Betsy Chandler and Adam Witteman, Lynn Taylor, Christine Carrigan, Cindy Land, Phil Johnson, Auditor Charity Rauschenberg and Jeff Hunker was also present. Lori stated that they would like to proceed with the new poll books and the \$5,906.25 can be paid for from their budget. Cindy inquired if this will be for the elections in 2024 and Lori indicated that it would. They will proceed with the quotes from Knowlink, however, Lori will need to verify that the quotes they have are still acceptable. Cindy stated that she will proceed with a resolution for Thursday. In addition, a discussion was held regarding the late fee and finance charges that the county incurs because of the delay in payment for some of their credit cards. Mike Pepple stated that the Board of Elections is the most frequent County office that needs their late charges approved. Adam and Auditor Rauschenberg explained the Then and Now process and stated that they can call their office for additional direction if necessary, especially during election time. The option of putting on blanket PO's was also discussed. Jodie stated that some of their expenses must be put on credit cards and blanket PO's can be used for those expenses. Dave Spahr stated that they will be better at this in the future. The 2024 budget hearing was discussed.

At 11:05 a.m. the Commissioners met with Mike Thompson. Lynn Taylor, Cindy Land Phil Johnson, Adam Witteman, Mike Thompson, Auditor Rauschenberg and Jeff Hunker were also present.

### **Meetings and Reports**

Auditor Rauschenberg had nothing to report.

Mike Pepple had nothing to report.

Timothy Bechtol stated that he attended the GOP Central Committee meeting. The construction on the new Judicial Center is proceeding nicely.

Mike Thompson provided the following update:

- The slate on the County Home has been completed
- The carpet has been cleaned at the AG building
- Shucks will be doing the roof work at the jail. Mike will follow up on a date. The gutters will be done by someone else at another time. Mike explained that he is having a

difficult time finding someone to even look at the gutters. He contacted 3 contractors and they aren't able to do it. Cindy indicated that painting will be done in the Spring of 2024.

- Mike presented the quote for \$1,210 for the oil in the chiller at the jail. The Board agreed to get this done now. Phil will do a contract.
- Mike mentioned a few of the projects that Gem could perform
- The JFS coil has been replaced
- The VULCAN contract was discussed. Phil said the job needs to be complete by the end of February 2024.
- Mike has not officially cancelled the camera line repair in the Courthouse elevator for Thursday. The Board stated that it should be cancelled and inquire if the repair can be done at another time before December. Is after hours an option? Mike was not sure.
- The HVAC contracts are out
- Mike is working on the permits for the new fuel tank at CR 140. There may be a mount that is necessary to purchase.
- Mike is requesting a snow box for snow removal for the CR 140 properties. He has a quote for \$10,550. This would eliminate the needs for a snow removal contract. The snow box at the landfill is no longer available. The Board authorized to proceed with a new snow box.
- Cindy Land requested a list of the property that Mike is selling to prepare a resolution.

At 11:30 a.m., the Commissioners held a zoom meeting with joint members of the Blanchard River Stream Enhancement Program. Lynn Taylor, Christine Carrigan, Adam Witteman, Cindy Land, Auditor Charity Rauschenberg, Jeff Hunker and Jason Althouse were also in attendance. The following members were present:

Allen County:	Brian Winegardner	yes	Putnam County:	John Schlumbohm	yes
	Cory Noonan	yes		Michael Lammers	yes
	Beth Seibert	yes		Vincent Schroeder	absent
Hancock County:	William L. Bateson	no	Seneca County:	Anthony Paradiso	yes
	Timothy Bechtol	yes		Tyler Shuff	yes
	Michael W. Pepple	yes		Bill Frankart	yes
Hardin County:	Timothy Striker	yes	Wyandot County:	Brad Batton	absent
	Roger Crowe	yes		William Clinger	yes
	Fred Rush	absent		Dave Courtad	yes

Jason recommended the \$170,605.00 bid from NOW Services. Cindy stated that Jason has done his due diligence and the bid is below the estimated cost of the project. In addition, Cindy stated that Hancock County will be preparing and signing the contract as they are the lead county on this project. Auditor Rauschenberg stated that she has not been able to reach bond council after several attempts to discuss financing. It's important to remember that funds must be certified and in the accounts before going out to contract. A discussion was also held regarding the different/similar ways each respective county fund their ditch projects and how that would apply with this situation in a Joint County Ditch Project. Jason reported that the estimated completion date is November 2024 with the start date of November 13, 2023. Jason did state that there are some funds left in the project and that could be used towards this cost and the future assessments collected in the upcoming year would go towards that as well. Auditor Rauschenberg also discussed the current house bill being discussed in the Senate that could delay the tax revenue stream for affected counties. Roger Crowe made the motion and Bill Frankart seconded for each

county to pay their share and for each county to be invoiced no longer than 30 days after the collections in the Spring 2024. The roll call vote was recorded as follows:

Allen County:	Brian Winegardner	yes	Putnam County:	John Schlumbohm	yes
	Cory Noonan	yes		Michael Lammers	yes
	Beth Seibert	yes		Vincent Schroeder	absent
Hancock County:	William L. Bateson	absent	Seneca County:	Anthony Paradiso	yes
	Timothy Bechtol	yes		Tyler Shuff	yes
	Michael W. Pepple	yes		Bill Frankart	yes
Hardin County:	Timothy Striker	yes	Wyandot County:	Brad Batton	absent
	Roger Crowe	yes		William Clinger	yes
	Fred Rush	absent		Dave Courtad	yes

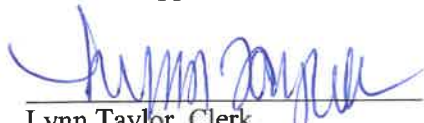
The motion passed.

At 2:15 pm., the Commissioners met with Tim Stuart. Lynn Taylor, Phil Johnson and Cindy Land were also present. Tim stated that he was discussing this topic at the request of Brain Stozich. The alarm system estimate is about \$83,999 and an additional amount of \$5,924 for a cable to support the update. This is for the Sheriff's Office alarm system. Tim Bechtol would like this to go out to bid to see if we can get better pricing. Therefore, an emergency resolution will not need to be acted upon. Tim Stuart will talk to Brian about getting specifications. Phil Johnson was also in agreement. Tim Bechtol inquired about the JFS wiring situation due to the water damage in a certain area of the building. Is it possible to just add WIFI in lieu of new cable? Tim Stuart didn't think it would be beneficial. Tim Bechtol would like the area tested to determine if all of the cable is damaged. Most of the phones and security cameras would not be able to use the WIFI, hence making the cable a necessity. Mike Pepple stated that if all of the area in the building was compromised, all of the cable should be repaired. Tim Bechtol stated about 1/3 of the building had water. Lynn Taylor inquired if Tim Stuart has any idea of what it would cost to repair all of the cable and Tim thought around \$150,000.00, but will need a blue print to get a better idea. Tim will look at that and get back with the board. Tim Stuart stated that he is also still working on the microphone for the conference room as he received a quote for \$20,000.

At 3:00 p.m., the Commissioners met with Mayor Muryn at her request. Lynn Taylor, Cindy Land, Phil Johnson, Steve Wilson and Jeff Hunker were also present. The Mayor acknowledged receipt of the Commissioners letter regarding the SR 68/15 interchange that she received in her office. The letter detailed the county's lack of funds for any additional financial support of that project. She discussed her frustrations regarding the methods of communication that this current Board of Commissioners is using. She is always available by phone, email or in her office. The Board acknowledged. The Mayor expressed her view that the City of Findlay residents provided a large portion of the sales tax revenue in the Flood Mitigation Fund. Therefore, she would like the city to be a beneficiary of these funds. Commissioner Bechtol explained that to date, the County has spent the vast majority of the sales tax dollars within the city limits of Findlay. Steve Wilson explained that MWCD will need about \$500,000 for the 68/15 project. The Mayor indicated that she council has a process that she will have to adhere to. She inquired when the funds would be needed and Steve indicated that it would be in early 2024 or the end of December 2023. Furthermore, the Mayor stated that she would prefer the sales tax dollars be spent before the City uses their funds. She has already set aside \$5 million dollars for flood mitigation within her budget. Liberty Township trustee, Jeff Hunker also questioned the Mayor on the topics that were being discussed. Jeff passed along the opinions of township residents who do not support the extent of

the flood control projects, that mainly benefit the City. The Mayor defended the current flood control projects completed to date.

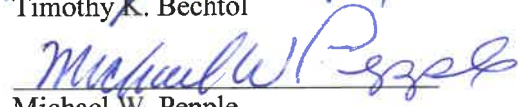
At 3:22 p.m., Tim Bechtol made the motion to enter into executive session to discuss pending litigation. Michael Pepple seconded. A roll call vote resulted as follows: Tim Bechtol, yes; and Michael Pepple, yes. At 3:33 p.m., Tim Bechtol made the motion to come out of executive session with no action taken. Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

  
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Lynn Taylor, Clerk

Reviewed and approved by:

Absent \_\_\_\_\_  
William L. Bateson

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Timothy K. Bechtol

  
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Michael W. Pepple