

April 27, 2009

The Board of County Commissioners, Highland County, Ohio, met this day in Regular Session with Mr. Wilkin, Mr. Horst, and Mr. Heaton present. At 8:30 a.m. the minutes of the previous session were approved as written.

MEETING

Mr. Heaton attended a "Jobs for Ohio Graduates" (JOGS) meeting outside the office at 8:30 a.m. and returned at 11:15 a.m.

Resolution No. 09-149

The Highland County Board of Commissioners, Highland County, Ohio, met in Regular Session on April 27, 2009, with the following members present:

Gary Heaton, Thomas Horst, and Shane Wilkin.

Mr. Horst moved the adoption of the following:

RESOLUTION

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Board of Highland County Commissioners, that the said Board authorize a modification within County Miscellaneous, Unemployment Compensation:

From: 0005-A401-A11.090, Commissioners, Other Expense,

To: 0077-A014-A07.000, Unemployment Comp. amount of \$6,373.52

Mr. Heaton seconded the Resolution, and the roll called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Heaton, yea; Mr. Horst, yea; and Mr. Wilkin, yea.

Adopted April 27, 2009

Rosalind Newman
Clerk of Board

Shane Wilkin
Thomas Horst
Gary Heaton
Board of Commissioners
Highland County, Ohio

PUBLIC HEARING

The second public hearing was held for the FY 2009 Community Housing Improvement Program (CHIP). Those present in addition to the Commissioners and the Clerk were Julie Wise, Executive Director, Highland County Community Action; Jim Vaughn, Rehab Specialist; and Amanda Fraley, Housing Director. Mrs. Wise went over the application. The Commissioners signed the CHIP contract that will be submitted to the State. There being no questions, the hearing was closed.

LETTER

The following support letter was signed by Commissioner Wilkin:

April 27, 2009

Mr. Mike Hiler, Office Chief

Ohio Department of Development
Housing and Community Partnerships
77 South High Street
P.O. Box 1001
Columbus, Ohio 43216-1001

Dear Mr. Hiler:

Please find enclosed the original and two copies of an application for FY 2009 Community Housing Improvement Program funding. The Commissioners will contract with Highland County Community Action Organization, Inc., if this application is funded for program administration and implementation. Our organizations have collaborated successfully to offer CHIP programs to county residents for over 20 years.

Now, more than ever, this program is needed within our county. As you are probably aware, the lay-offs created by DHL and its final lay-offs in the coming months of an additional 2,000 people have had a dramatic impact on our county. As the neighboring county to Clinton, where DHL was based, we have experienced the highest unemployment rate of all counties at 14.5%. Further, additional businesses are closing or preparing to conduct lay-offs within our county in the coming months including Weastec, Johnson Controls, Computer Stocks Forms and others.

Investing in the improvement in the housing stock not only improves the quality of housing and life within our county, but also provides jobs for contractors at a time when employment is desperately needed. We ask your consideration in funding this application not only because of the quality of the application as well as past experiences in funding Highland County CHIP programs, but also because of the dramatic need for such a program at this time within our county. If you have questions, please contact me at 393-1911 or Julia Wise at HCCAO at 393-3458. We appreciate your support.

Sincerely,

Shane Wilkin, President
Highland County Board of Commissioners

MEETING

A meeting regarding the Bureau of Worker's Compensation (BWC) was held. Commissioner Wilkin opened the meeting and introduced Greg Nartkar, Ergonomist. Also attending with BWC were Angela Castle, Employer Service Specialist, and Don Mullins, Safety Consultant. Mr. Nartkar's presentation was on the Transitional Return to Work Program (TRTW). This helps the employee vested in work both physically and mentally. Also, Mr. Nartker will be sending forms for Policies and Procedures, Job Bank, Transitional Work Agreement, Evaluation, etc. Mr. Nartkar explained that the Department heads are the ones in control. There being nothing further, Mr. Nartkar thanked everyone for meeting. Others attending the meeting were: Debbie Robbins, Director, Job & Family Services; Dori Bishop, Director of Recycling; Jeremy Ratcliff, Probation Officer; Dan Music, Common Pleas Bailiff; Bill Fawley, County Auditor; Jim Vanzant, Health Department; Jim Lyle, EMA; Dan Cowdrey, Economic Development; Jim Grandey, Prosecutor; Steven Witham and Kate Cameron, Board of Elections; and Dean Otworth, Engineer.

LETTER

Commissioner Wilkin signed a letter to Dr. Sherry Stout, President, Southern State Community College, offering letters of support for addressing issues that negatively effect the college and the county.

LETTER

The Board of Commissioners signed letters to all Ohio legislators to emphasize the unemployment problem and urging them to direct stimulus money to Highland County.

MOTION

At 12:00 p.m., Mr. Horst moved to adjourn. Mr. Heaton seconded the motion. The vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Wilkin, yea; Mr. Horst, yea; and Mr. Heaton, yea.

WHEREUPON, the Board of Highland County Commissioners will meet in Regular Session on Wednesday, April 29, 2009.

Rosalind Newman
Clerk of Board

Shane Wilkin
Thomas Horst
Gary Heaton
Board of Commissioners
Highland County, Ohio