

**September 30, 2009**

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

**MOTION**

Mr. Horst moved, seconded by Mr. Heaton, to approve payment of Bill File No. 09-38. The vote resulted as follows:

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

The total amount paid was \$48,107.19. The amount paid from the General Fund only was \$21,443.37. A list of all bills paid is on file in the Commissioners' office.

**PROCLAMATION**

Alternatives to Violence Center presented a proclamation proclaiming October 2009 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Those in addition to the Board of Commissioners and the Clerk were Denise Turner, Peggy Lang, Julie Brassel, and Diana Haines, Alternative to Violence employees. The Commissioners thanked them for their services.

**LETTER**

September 24, 2009

Highland Co. Board of Commissioners  
114 Governor Foraker Place  
Hillsboro, OH 45133

RE: Highland Co. Sheriff's Employee Salaries, 0190-A006-A02-006  
Methamphetamine Initiative Grant; Grant No. 2007CKWX0219

Dear Commissioners:

I wish to modify the budget of the Highland County Sheriff, specifically, Highland Co. Sheriff's Employee Salaries (line item number listed above) by the following additional amount, and request that this be done at the next regular meeting of the Highland County Board of Commissioners.

Pay-in to Highland County General Fund on September 23, 2009: \$5,024.28

The reason for this request is that the pay-in reference above was been made as referenced above, as reimbursement to the Highland County Sheriff's Office, from the grant mentioned above, for salary-related law enforcement activity performed under the conditions of said grant.

I am attaching hereto a copy of the pay-in slip with regard thereto.

*Please note that this request relates to the appropriation, only, and is not a request for additional county funds.*

Sincerely,

Sheriff Ronald D. Ward

**Resolution No. 09-305**

The Highland County Board of Commissioners, Highland County, Ohio, met in Regular Session on September 30, 2009, with the following members present:

Shane Wilkin and Gary Heaton.

Mr. Heaton moved the adoption of the following:

**RESOLUTION**

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, by the Board of County Commissioners, that the said Board authorize additional appropriation within he Sheriff’s Methamphetamine Initiative budget:

From: Un-appropriated funds

To: 0190-A006-A02.006, Sheriff’s Employee Salaries, amount of \$5,024.28.

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

Mr. Heaton, yea, & Mr. Wilkin; yea.

Adopted September 30, 2009

Rosalind Newman  
Clerk of Board

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

**LETTER**

August 31, 2009

Members of the Highland County Airport Authority:

Please accept this as formal notice of my resignation from the position of board member, with effect from September 21, 2009.

I truly am sorry and hope this will not inconvenience anyone, but I feel I am not able to support the Airport/Organization as needed. I will continue to support the Highland County Airport in many other ways when possible.

I have spoken with Sgt. John Garrison of the Highland County Sheriff Dept. and he has expressed a great desire and concern to take my position if the Authority members would accept him. John supports the Airport and is an aircraft owner.

Sincerely,

Dan Music

**Resolution No. 09-306**

The Highland County Board of Commissioners, Highland County, Ohio, met in Regular Session on September 30, 2009, with the following members present:

Shane Wilkin and Gary Heaton.

Mr. Heaton moved the adoption of the following:

**RESOLUTION**

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, by the Board of County Commissioners, that the said Board approves the resignation of Dan Music from the Highland County Airport Authority Board, effective September 21, 2009

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

Mr. Heaton, yea, & Mr. Wilkin, yea.

Adopted September 30, 2009

Rosalind Newman  
Clerk of Board

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

**LETTER**

September 24, 2009

Gentlemen,

Please find attached the resignation of Dan Music from the Highland County Airport Authority, effective September 21, 2009.

At a special meeting of the Airport Authority on August 31, 2009, the resignation from Dan Music was accepted. Secondly, the Authority is recommending that John Garrison be appointed to the Highland County Airport Authority.

Sincerely,

Dan Cowdrey, President  
Highland County Airport Authority

**Resolution No. 09-307**

The Highland County Board of Commissioners, Highland County, Ohio, met in Regular Session on September 30, 2009, with the following members present:

Shane Wilkin and Gary Heaton.

Mr. Heaton moved the adoption of the following:

**RESOLUTION**

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, by the Board of County Commissioners, that the said Board approve for John Garrison be appointed to the Highland County Airport Authority Board:

Effective date will be October 1, 2009.

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

Mr. Heaton, yea, & Mr. Wilkin; yea.

Adopted September 30, 2009

Rosalind Newman  
Clerk of Board

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

**LETTER**

September 24, 2009

Dear Commissioners:

The Board of Elections is requesting the following modification to our budget.

To: 0180-A003-A02.006 Salary-Employees-\$3,734.63  
To: 0180-A003-A03.040 Supplies-\$2,700.00  
To: 0180-A003-A06.075 Contracts & Services \$1,500.00

Total Amount \$7,934.63

Sincerely,

Kate Cameron, Director  
Highland County Board of Elections

**Resolution No. 09-308**

The Highland County Board of Commissioners, Highland County, Ohio, met in Regular Session on September 30, 2009, with the following members present:

Shane Wilkin and Gary Heaton.

Mr. Heaton moved the adoption of the following:

**RESOLUTION**

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, by the Board of County Commissioners, that the said Board authorizes a modification within the Board of Elections following line items:

From: 0077-A014-A10-.025 Workers Compensation,

To: 0180-A003-A02.006, Salary-Employees, \$3,734.63  
0180-A003-A03.040, Supplies, 2,700.00  
0180-A003-A06.075, Contracts Services, 1,500.00

Total amount \$7,934.63

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

Mr. Heaton, yea, & Mr. Wilkin; yea.

Adopted September 30, 2009

Rosalind Newman  
Clerk of Board

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

**LETTER**

September 23, 2009

Dear Commissioners,

As a follow-up to our meeting this morning, Judge Judkins and I request the following reductions in the Highland County Court budget for the remainder of 2009:

Budget Line Item	Reduction
0150-A002-G02.006, Salary Employee	\$2,069.20
0150-A002-G05.075, Contracts	\$ 380.87
0150-A302-G09.055, Telephone	\$ 200.00
 Total Reductions	 \$2,650.07

As we mentioned, effective this week we will no longer be open on Fridays. Please call 937-981-2139 if you have any questions.

Yours truly,

Ron Coffey, Clerk  
Highland County Court

**Resolution No. 09-309**

The Highland County Board of Commissioners, Highland County, Ohio, met in Regular Session on September 30, 2009, with the following members present:

Shane Wilkin and Gary Heaton.

Mr. Heaton moved the adoption of the following:

**RESOLUTION**

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, by the Board of County Commissioners, that the said Board authorize a revised budget to reduce line items within the County Court's budget for 2009:

0150-A002-G02.006, Salary Employees,	\$2,069.20
0150-A002-G05.075, Contracts	380.87
0150-A302-G09.055, Telephone	200.00
 Total reductions	 \$2,650.07

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

Mr. Heaton, yea, & Mr. Wilkin; yea.

Adopted September 30, 2009

Rosalind Newman  
Clerk of Board

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

**LETTER**

September 28, 2009

Re: Highland County Family & Children First Budget

Dear Mr. Heaton:

The Highland County Family & Children First Executive Council requests the following changes to the budget, account \$S-024:

1. Move from unappropriated funds to 0450-S024-S01.000 \$1,000.00

Thank you for your time and consideration of the request. The Council appreciates your continued support of our efforts to improve the lives of Highland County children and families.

Sincerely,

Danielle Ratcliff, Coordinator  
Family & Children First Council

**Resolution No. 09-310**

The Board of County Commissioners of Highland County, Ohio, met in Regular Session on September 30, 2009 with the following members present:

Shane Wilkin and Gary Heaton.

Mr. Heaton moved the adoption of the following:

**RESOLUTION**

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, by the Board of Highland County Commissioners, that the said Board authorize additional appropriation within the Family & Children First budget:

From: Un-appropriated funds

To: 0450-S024-S01.000, amount of \$1,000.00

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

Mr. Heaton; yea and Mr. Wilkin; yea

Adopted September 30, 2009

Rosalind Newman  
Clerk of Board

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

**Resolution No. 09-311**

The Board of County Commissioners of Highland County, Ohio, met in Regular Session on September 30, 2009 with the following members present:

Shane Wilkin and Gary Heaton.

Mr. Heaton moved the adoption of the following:

**RESOLUTION**

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, by the Board of Highland County Commissioners, Highland County, Ohio, accept the bid of Brown County Asphalt Co. for the Engineer's project known as Widening & Paving C.R. 12-D, C.R. 79-A & C.R. 90-A. Project length is 36,871 Lin. Ft. or 6.983 miles of roadway, as per specifications.

For an amount of \$817,974.68

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

Mr. Heaton; yea and Mr. Wilkin; yea

Adopted September 30, 2009

Rosalind Newman  
Clerk of Board

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

**AMENDMENT**

Mr. Wilkin signed an amendment to the Youth Services Grant. See Grant file.

**MEETING**

Dean Otworth, County Engineer, met to discuss cuts within the Map/GIS Department budget. He provided the Commissioners with a 39% reduction on his budget. The Commissioners thanked Mr. Otworth and the following motion was made:

**MOTION**

Mr. Heaton moved, seconded by Mr. Wilkin, to accept the reduction of 39% in the Map/GIS budget. The vote resulted as follows: Mr. Wilkin, yea, and Mr. Heaton, yea.

**AMENDMENT**

The Board of Commissioners signed an amendment (No. 2) to the WIA and ARRA Summer Youth Program Turning Point Applied Learning Center agreement. See Contract Binder 21-A, Page 77.

**LETTER**

September 25, 2009

Mr. Gary Heaton  
Commissioner  
Highland County Commission  
119 Governor Foraker Place, Suite 211 Hillsboro, OH 45133

Dear Commissioner Heaton:

Thank you and the other Commissioners for taking the time to meet with me and Jon Dobney, Rocky Fork State Park Manager, regarding Mr. Brandenburg's request for a private marina on state park waters.

The meeting again demonstrated the County's support for this project. Thank you for presenting your case so clearly and succinctly, especially as it regards the economy and the potential for opportunity the Park represents.

Taking your position in mind and after re-evaluating the request, I again reached the similar conclusion that Dan West, our chief of the Division of Parks and Recreation stated in his letter of July 14, 2009. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) cannot allow such a development to occur on state park land and waters. We would not be in line with our mission that requires the ODNR to ensure a balance between wise use and protection of our natural resources.

A number of factors went into our decision to deny this request.

- Encroachment around the lake onto state land has been a major issue for a number of years. This includes surrounding landowners manipulating state land for their benefit and the building of permanent structures upon state land without proper authorization.
- Our policy of no additional coastline development, which includes not installing more cluster docks. This has resulted in a waiting list for existing docks. Allowing this marina to move forward would be unfair to those people and could open the state up to a legal challenge.
- The proposed area for the marina is shallow and will eventually require dredging to keep the water navigable. We cannot be assured of our future funding stream, but we can be assured of the future need to dredge, the situation is, for at least the time being, unsustainable.
- Mr. Brandenburg's development is on a bluff. This would require significant modification of the parkland hillside to allow access to the water. This access would naturally follow an existing ravine which would have to be paved to avoid wash out.
- The park has more than enough existing dock space at the nearby marina to accommodate Mr. Brandenburg's needs. We are willing to work to isolate an area to concentrate the boats from his development.

These concerns lead me to conclude that the requested marina development would not be in the best interest of the park and would be incompatible with ODNR responsibility to the people of Ohio.

Speaking for the staff, there are times when we all wish we could transform the state into a pristine nature preserve. Also, there are times when we desire to use every natural resource at our disposal for the immediate purpose of creating jobs and economic development. We can do neither, or more accurately, we have to seek the best way to do both simultaneously, balance growth with preservation, and manage Ohio's vast, complex eco-system in such a way that its potential and promise can be sustained into the foreseeable future. The denial of your request was a difficult decision to make, and was made no easier by the professional manner of its advocates.

If you have any questions regarding this issue or how we reached our decision please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Anthony J. Celebrezze, III Deputy Director  
Ohio Department of Natural Resources

### **GRANT**

The Southern Ohio Agricultural & Community Development Foundation (SOACDF) Board of Trustees has approved Highland County Commissioners Economic

Development Grant request in the amount of \$12,000 for the Economic Development Office support project.

### GRANT AGREEMENT

An agreement was entered into by and between the Board of Commissioners and Southern Ohio Agricultural & Community Development Foundation (SOACDF) Economic Development Program. See Contract Binder 21-A, Page 78.

### LETTER

September 28, 2009

Dear Sirs:

As a follow-up to our meeting last week it is my understanding you are requesting I operate the court on 20% less than what is left of my 2009 appropriations for the final 1/3 of the calendar year, outlined as follows:

1.	Juvenile Court 20% of \$12,752.60	=	\$ 2,550.52
2.	Juvenile Probation 20% of \$18,888.91 (Detention Center excluded)	=	\$ 3,777.78
3.	Probate Court 20% of \$31,932.00	=	\$ 6,386.55
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$12,714.85</b>

Please confirm the \$12,714.85 is correct and if not what amount you are requesting of the Court.

As stated last week you have my promise to continue in a spirit of cooperation during these tough economic times. We want to be part of the solution and respect the very difficult decisions you have made to date.

Sincerely,

Judge Kevin L. Greer  
Court of Common Pleas, Probate & Juvenile Divisions

### MOTION

Mr. Heaton moved, seconded by Mr. Wilkin, to accept the reduction of 20% in Juvenile Court, Juvenile Probation and Probate Court budgets. The vote resulted as follows: Mr. Wilkin, yea, and Mr. Heaton, yea.

### MEETING

Wendy Jacobs, Director of Children Services, Chris Lewis, Arlene Cole, and Darrell Tissot, Children Services Board Members, met with the Board of Commissioners regarding budgets. Also attending was Rory Ryan, Highland Sun, James Grandey, Prosecutor, and Bill Fawley, Auditor. Ms. Jacobs said the State sets a rate to pay Children Services employees and 70% funding is suppose to come from the County. Mr. Grandey asked where she got this figure. If Ms. Jacobs has anything from the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC), he would like to see it.

Ms. Jacobs presented the Commissioners with the following reductions. Ms. Jacobs has projected expenses of \$419,500 and projected income of approximately \$232,000 and this will not get them through 2009. Ms Jacobs stated she is looking at pay cuts for salaried staff, unpaid furloughs for caseworkers, two clerical position to 30 hours per week and layoff one manager and one caseworker. Mr. Tissot said we owe these foster

parents, whose debt is this? Mr. Tissot asked are we going to get stiffed? Commissioner Heaton replied I hope not. Commissioner Wilkin replied, the welfare of the children comes first, but the county has projected a deficit of \$600,000 and we just do not have the dollars. Taxpayers passed a \$550,000 levy but will not receive money until spring of 2010. Ms. Cole replied that we need the money now to pay the foster parents. Mr. Tissot was hopeful for the agency once the levy dollars start coming. Ms Jacobs stated she will not have funds for November and December and then she has at least the first three months of 2010 until levy dollars come in.

The County Commissioners Association of Ohio (CCAO) will be meeting with the Commissioners next Monday and they will speak with them on this issue. The Commissioners cannot commit to any dollars the rest of 2009. Mr. Wilkin said the dollars are just not here. Mr. Heaton asked if she could cash-in the CD's. Two of the Children Services Board members did not know anything about the C.D.'s. Members said this will be resolved at next week's Children Services board meeting. The Commissioners thanked all for coming in.

### **BID OPENING**

At 11:00 a.m., the Board of Commissioners received bids for constructing a handicap unisex restroom at the Community Building in Marshall Township. In addition to the Commissioners and the Clerk were Rory Ryan and Tim Sheeley, Marshall Township Trustee. The Commissioners received only one bid: This is a CDBG Project.

DBA T & M Enterprise Hillsboro, Ohio	Amount of Bid \$ 13,500.00
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The bid will be reviewed before an award is made.

### **RECESS/RECONVENE**

The Board of Commissioners recessed at 11:30 a.m. and reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

### **MEETING**

Richard Kisamore and Denver Conley, Board members of Veterans Service, met to discuss possibly having to move their office. They were told the Annex Building had sold and they would need to move. The Commissioners stated this was not true and was nothing but a rumor. If this would happen the Commissioners would make sure that the different offices located there, would have a place to move. The Commissioners thanked them for letting them know this.

### **MEETING**

Dan Cowdrey, Economic Development, met with the Commissioners for an update on projects within the county.

### **Resolution No. 09-312**

The Board of County Commissioners of Highland County, Ohio, met in Regular Session on September 30, 2009 with the following members present:

Shane Wilkin and Gary Heaton.

Mr. Heaton 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 the Commissioners budget:

From: 0077-A014-A10.025, Workers Comp  
To: 0077-A415-A15-006, Salary-Indigent-Stenographer, amount of \$419.00

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

Mr. Heaton; yea and Mr. Wilkin; yea

Adopted September 30, 2009

Rosalind Newman  
Clerk of Board

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

**LETTER**

September 30, 2009

Please move \$312.00 to line item 00335S02S08.000, Unemployment, from line item 0335S02S06.25, Workers Comp. Thank you.

Suzanne Hopkins, Executive Director  
Highland County Senior Citizens Center

**Resolution No. 09-313**

The Board of County Commissioners of Highland County, Ohio, met in Regular Session on September 30, 2009 with the following members present:

Shane Wilkin and Gary Heaton.

Mr. Heaton 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 the Senior Citizens budget:

From: 0335-S002-S06.25, Workers Comp.  
To: 0335-S002-S08.000, Unemployment, amount of \$312.00

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

Mr. Heaton; yea and Mr. Wilkin; yea

Adopted September 30, 2009

Rosalind Newman  
Clerk of Board

Shane Wilkin  
Thomas Horst-Absent  
Gary Heaton  
Board of Commissioners

**MEETING**

Lee Koogler, Attorney, met regarding indigent defense fees. The Commissioners explained that one of the Commissioners' larger budgets was indigent fees. Mr. Koogler said that he feels that our county provides good service to the indigent clients. The Commissioners are asking what Mr. Koogler thought if they reduced the cost of fees. The Commissioners now pay \$35.00 per hour for in-court and out-of-court. Mr. Koogler said he feels that the county would not save a large amount and asked the Commissioners to reconsider changing the amount. There has not been an increase in 26 years. Mr. Wilkin said that they were only looking for a temporary reduction until the end of 2009. Mr. Koogler asked if they could meet again and the Commissioners said yes. The Commissioners thanked him for coming in with his concerns and will meet at any time.

**LETTER**

September 30, 2009

Dear Commissioners:

I am requesting an additional appropriation of funds from un-appropriated funds for the WIA fund (S 35) (0635-S033-S16.090 Other Expense) in the amount of \$12,334.17. This request for additional appropriation will ensure continued payment of expenditures resulting from allocations received from the Department of Labor for the DHL/ABX layoffs and formulary funds for adult workers, dislocated workers and youth programs.

Thank you,

Kathy Smith, Fiscal Office  
Highland County Department of Job & Family Services

**Resolution No. 09-314**

The Board of County Commissioners of Highland County, Ohio, met in Regular Session on September 30, 2009 with the following members present:

Shane Wilkin and Gary Heaton.

Mr. Heaton moved the adoption of the following:

**RESOLUTION**

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, by the Board of Highland County Commissioners, that the said Board authorize additional appropriation within the WIA (S-35) budget:

From: Un-appropriated funds  
To: 0635-S035-S16.090, Other Expense, amount of \$12,334.17

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

Mr. Heaton; yea and Mr. Wilkin; yea

Adopted September 30, 2009

Rosalind Newman  
Clerk of Board

Shane Wilkin  
Thomas Horst-Absent  
Gary Heaton  
Board of Commissioners

**RECESS/RECONVENE**

The Board of Commissioners recessed at 3:30 p.m. and reconvened on Thursday, October 1, 2009 at 8:00 a.m.

**DISCUSSION**

The Board of Commissioners discussed the County budgets.

**MOTION**

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

Mr. Wilkin, yea, and Mr. Heaton, yea.

**WHEREUPON**, the Board of Highland County Commissioners will meet in Regular Session on Wednesday, October 7, 2009.

Rosalind Newman  
Clerk of Board

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