

August 18, 2010

The Board of County Commissioners, Highland County, Ohio, met this day in Regular Session with Shane Wilkin, Thomas Horst, and Gary Heaton present. Mr. Wilkin called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. The minutes of the previous session were approved as written. All documents referenced in the minutes are filed in the Commissioners' office and are available for review upon request.

NOTE Rory Ryan, Highland Press, was present for the meeting. Ruth Kowalewsky, county resident, was present for a portion of the meeting.

MOTION Mr. Horst moved, seconded by Mr. Heaton, to approve payment of Bill File No. 10-32. The vote resulted as follows: Mr. Wilkin, yea; Mr. Horst, yea; and Mr. Heaton, yea. The total amount paid was \$107,309.91. The amount paid from the General Fund only was \$60.00. A list of all bills paid is on file in the Commissioners' office.

LETTER Mr. Wilkin signed a letter to Congressman Michael Turner thanking him for meeting with the Highland County Mine owners on August 12, 2010, and offering his assistance to solve the on-going inspection problems.

LETTER The Highland County Board of Commissioners received a letter from Probation requesting a modification to the Prosecutorial Diversion budget (T-24).

LETTER The Highland County Board of Commissioners received a letter from the Engineer requesting a budget modification.

LETTER The Highland County Board of Commissioners received a letter from Probate/Juvenile Court requesting a modification to the Juvenile Probation and Probate Court budgets.

LETTER The Highland County Board of Commissioners received a letter from Community Action requesting an additional appropriation to the CHIP CDBG T-05 budget.

LETTER The Highland County Board of Commissioners received a letter from Soil & Water Conservation District requesting a budget modification.

LETTER The Highland County Board of Commissioners received a letter from the Coroner requesting a budget modification.

LETTER The Highland County Board of Commissioners received a letter from the Sheriff requesting an additional appropriation to the budget.

LETTER The Highland County Board of Commissioners received a letter from Help Me Grow requesting a modification to the budget.

RESOLUTION NO. 10-244 Mr. Horst moved, seconded by Mr. Heaton, to authorize a modification to the Prosecutorial Diversion budget (T-24), Equipment to Other Expense in the amount of \$1,414.95. The vote resulted as follows: Mr. Wilkin, yea; Mr. Horst, yea; and Mr. Heaton, yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 10-245 Mr. Horst moved seconded by Mr. Heaton, to authorize a modification to the General Fund budget, Miscellaneous Transfers to Workers' Compensation in the amount of \$3,393.56. The vote resulted as follows: Mr. Wilkin, yea; Mr. Horst, yea; and Mr. Heaton, yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 10-246 Mr. Horst moved seconded by Mr. Heaton, to authorize a modification to the Engineer's budget (K-000), various line items. The vote resulted as follows: Mr. Wilkin, yea; Mr. Horst, yea; and Mr. Heaton, yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 10-247 Mr. Horst moved, seconded by Mr. Heaton, to authorize a modification to the General Fund, Juvenile Probation and Probate Court budgets, various

line items. The vote resulted as follows: Mr. Wilkin, yea; Mr. Horst, yea; and Mr. Heaton, yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 10-248 Mr. Horst moved, seconded by Mr. Heaton, to authorize an additional appropriation to the CAO Housing Rehabilitation budget (T-05) in the amount of \$20,111.00. The vote resulted as follows: Mr. Wilkin, yea; Mr. Horst, yea; and Mr. Heaton, yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 10-249 Mr. Horst moved seconded by Mr. Heaton, to authorize a modification to the Soil & Water budget (L-00), Other Expense to Workers' Comp in the amount of \$100.00. The vote resulted as follows: Mr. Wilkin, yea; Mr. Horst, yea; and Mr. Heaton, yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 10-250 Mr. Horst moved seconded by Mr. Heaton, to authorize a modification to the General Fund, County Coroner, Telephone Service to Other Expense and Supplies in the amount \$240.00. The vote resulted as follows: Mr. Wilkin, yea; Mr. Horst, yea; and Mr. Heaton, yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 10-251 Mr. Horst moved seconded by Mr. Heaton, to authorize an additional appropriation to the General Fund, Sheriff Employee Salaries in the amount of \$2,672.36. The additional funds are from the Methamphetamine Initiative Grant. The vote resulted as follows: Mr. Wilkin, yea; Mr. Horst, yea; and Mr. Heaton, yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 10-252 Mr. Horst moved seconded by Mr. Heaton, to authorize a modification to the Help Me Grow budget (S-60), Salary Employees to Workers' Compensation in the amount of \$1,000.00. The vote resulted as follows: Mr. Wilkin, yea; Mr. Horst, yea; and Mr. Heaton, yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 10-253 Mr. Horst moved, seconded by Mr. Heaton, to authorize Preliminary Legislation for the Engineer's Ohio Department of Transportation project HIG-T.R. 280/0.28. The vote resulted as follows: Mr. Wilkin, yea; Mr. Horst, yea; and Mr. Heaton, yea.

REPORTS The Highland County Board of Commissioners received the following reports:

- Auditor – No. 8 Amended Official Certificate of Est. Resources (\$8,507,055.45)
- Public Defender – Indigent Defense Reimbursement March 2010 (\$8,801.57)
- Clerk – Certification of Assessments to Auditor – Lakeside Sewer Project
- Clerk – Certification of Assessments to Auditor – Mad River Rd. Sewage Project
- Sheriff – Weekly Inmate Count: Daily Average 44 Males, 16 Females

CHANGE ORDER The Board of Commissioners signed Change Order No. 2 for the Hillsboro FY09 Block Grant John Street Sidewalk project. The new Contract Price including Change Order No. 2 is \$31,873.00. See Block Grant file.

CONTRACT Mr. Wilkin signed Final Legislation for the Engineer's project Hig-C.R. 2 Various Guardrail (\$5,800.00) with Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT). See Engineer's file.

CONTRACT Mr. Wilkin signed Preliminary Legislation for the Engineer's project HIG-T.R. 280-0.28, assigned to Resolution No. 10-253, with ODOT. See Engineer's file.

MEETING Heather Gibson, Help Me Grow Project Director, met with the Board of Commissioners to discuss the FY10-FY11 state funding. Highland County received more money than Clinton County, even though the two counties service a similar-sized area, because Highland County excelled in compliance issues. Help Me Grow services more children than the targeted amount in all categories. Ms. Gibson did not anticipate any decrease in the number of children served. She informed the Board that when the Department of Education assumes responsibility for Help Me Grow, she and her staff will need additional certification. She was not certain when this will happen.

MEETING Bill Fawley, Auditor, and Vickie Warnock, Treasurer, met with Mr. Wilkin for the quarterly Investment Advisory Board meeting. Mr. Horst and Mr. Heaton were present but are not members of the Advisory Board. Ms. Warnock obtained two certificates of deposits for \$250,000.00 each from Merchants National Bank at a rate of .35%. Ms. Warnock told the Board she did not believe it was wise to obligate any additional funds to CDs when the gain was only 0.1% more than the checking account. She informed the Board that banks do not want public money because they are required to have securities and the cost is too high for the low return on the money. The State's investment program, Star Ohio, has a current rate of 0.18%.

The Board clarified the investment funds by explaining that of the \$5.6 million the county has to invest, only \$297,808 of that amount belongs to the General Fund. The rest belongs to non-general fund departments which the Treasurer invests and the interest is paid to the General Fund. Mr. Fawley said the county has lost over one-half million dollars in interest over the past three years.

MEETING Don Branson, Executive Director of Southern Ohio Agricultural and Community Development Foundation (SOACDF), met with the Board of Commissioners to outline the requirements for the Economic Development Grant. Highland County received an appropriation of \$120,000.00. Eligibility is based on job creation and retention, with a minimum of one full-time job being created or retained. The award is \$10,000.00 per new job/retained job and the grant can be awarded for as little as one job. The total allocation can be used for one company or divided between more than one company. However, a company can only be funded through SOACDF twice and then is ineligible for the grant. Mr. Branson recommended that anyone interested should look at the application on the SOACDF web site at <http://www.soacdf.net/> and then call him with questions. The program targets small businesses rather than large companies and the funding will most likely last another three to five years.

MEETING Kay Bardoorian, Air Evac Life Team, met with the Board of Commissioners to introduce the company. Air Evac provides emergency flight service to rural areas and offers a membership program to families and individuals.

MOTION Mr. Horst moved seconded by Mr. Heaton to recess until Friday, August 20, 2010, at 8:00 a.m.

RECONVENE The Board reconvened at 8:00 a.m., Friday, August 20, 2010.

MEETING The following people met with the Board of Commissioners regarding the restructuring of the Highland County OSU Extension office:

Maggie Horst, Representative from Congressman Turner's office; Steve Dillon, Highland County Farm Bureau; Don Branson, Executive Director, Southern Ohio Agricultural and Community Development Foundation (SOACDF); Beverly Kelbaugh, Ph.D., South East Regional Director for OSU Extension; Dr. Keith L. Smith, Director, OSU Extension; Bill Fawley, Auditor; and Ken Davis, Tim Sheely, and Kay Ayres, Highland County Extension Office supporters.

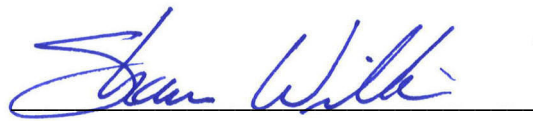
Dr. Smith began the meeting by telling the Board he wanted to be proactive to find a solution to the economic difficulties Highland County is having in regards to funding the Highland County Extension Office. He said that Gwen Wolford talked to him about the August 4, 2010 meeting with the Board and Larry Long from the County Commissioners Association of Ohio (CCAO). Dr. Smith explained to the Board that funding for the Extension office was not from the university but from the State of Ohio and their budget has been repeatedly reduced since 2008. He met last week with local supporters to discuss alternative funding ideas. He asked Ms. Kelbaugh to explain the proposed model program that resulted from those discussions.

Ms. Kelbaugh described a program involving three counties: Highland, Brown, and Adams. Dr. Smith said that Clinton County told his office they had funds to support their extension office and they were not interested in a cooperative county program in 2011. Each county will contribute \$100,000 and resources will be shared between the counties.

Knowing that Highland County could only hope to contribute \$50,000, Mr. Davis and Mr. Dillon expressed their willingness to “invest their personal capital” to raise funds to match the difference, which will act as a bridge until the county can contribute more money. The Board reiterated that their intention is to allocate \$50,000.00 to Highland County Extension in 2011 but there are too many variables to make an absolute commitment. The meeting ended with Dr. Smith outlining a plan to proceed with the model presented at the meeting with the assurance that Highland County will contribute \$50,000 if their funds remain solid. The Board of Commissioners will contact Adams, Brown, and Clinton counties and then report to Dr. Smith with an update. Everyone agreed that they were working to achieve the same goal – to retain an OSU Extension presence in each county.

MOTION At 10:00 a.m., on Friday, August 20, 2010, Mr. Horst moved, seconded by Mr. Heaton, to adjourn. 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, August 25, 2010.



Clerk of Board

Board of County Commissioners
Highland County, Ohio