

The Board of County Commissioners, Highland County, Ohio, met this day in Regular Session with Terry Britton, David Daniels and Brad Roades present.

Mr. Britton called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. All documents referenced in the minutes are filed in the Commissioners' office and are available for review upon request.

**NOTE** Jeremy Ratcliff, Valarie Williams, Julia Wise, Beth Allering, Jeanette Mottie, David Bushelman, Randy Sanders, Christian Dunlap, Jeri Gifford, Darlene Ford, Jessica Christy, Amy Bradley, Caitlin Forsha, and Jacob Clary were present for the meeting.

**MOTION** Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Roades, to approve the regular meeting minutes from the previous meeting. The vote resulted as follows: Mr. Britton, yea; Mr. Daniels, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

**MOTION** Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Roades, to approve payment of Bill File No. 26-20. The total bill file amount paid was \$470,079.43. The total General Fund paid was \$117,126.73. The vote was as follows: Mr. Britton, yea; Mr. Daniels, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

### **MEETINGS AND APPOINTMENTS**

9:00 a.m. – Fraud Awareness Proclamation – JFS

Mr. Jeremy Ratcliff was present with some of his employees. He explained that fraud happens everyday and his employees work hard to prevent, catch, and recognize it before or as it is happening. Ms. Ford spoke about some statistics, highlighting that they have served 14,000 Medicaid and 6,000 SNAP individuals in the last year. Commissioner Britton read a proclamation and a picture was taken.

9:00 a.m. – Community Action Month Proclamation – HCCAO

Ms. Julia Wise spoke about Community Action month – stating that there are 800 CAO throughout the United States with varying names, but all fulfilling the same purpose. She said that they have been around since 1965 and currently serve 6,500 unduplicated clients in various ways. Commissioner Britton read a proclamation and a picture was taken.

Commissioner Daniels announced that the Commissioners are placing an Army Flag and United States flag on the desk as one of their own, Alex Butler is away serving in the United States Army. He asked everyone to keep him in their thoughts and prayers until he returns.

9:00 a.m. – Mary Remsing – Dog Pound Updates

Ms. Remsing came in on behalf of the Dog Pound and recent employee changes. Erin Dunham has resigned from the Dog Pound, Elizabeth Hustod will take her place as Deputy Dog Warden and thanks to Amy Bradley and Taylor Brown's help, Jackie Marietta has been hired as Kennel Attendant.

**MOTION** Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Roades, to accept the resignation of Erin Dunham. The vote was as follows: Mr. Britton, yea; Mr. Daniels, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

**MOTION** Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Roades, to hire Jackie Marietta as Kennel Attendant. The vote was as follows: Mr. Britton, yea; Mr. Daniels, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

**MOTION** Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Roades, to promote Elizabeth Husted to Deputy Dog Warden. The vote was as follows: Mr. Britton, yea; Mr. Daniels, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

### **RESOLUTIONS**

**Res No 26-104** Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Roades, Commissioners grant authorization for the listed "Then and Now" purchase orders and the County Auditor is authorized to issue warrants for their payment (see attached resolution). The vote was as follows: Mr. Britton, yea; Mr. Daniels, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

**Res No 26-105** Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Roades, Sheriff declares the following items, no longer needed by the County and obsolete, ORC 307-12(A)(1); Therefore, the said board declares the listed items to be surplus property and no longer needed by the County, see attached list. The vote was as follows: Mr. Britton, yea; Mr. Daniels, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

**Res No 26-106** Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Roades, Highland County Community Action requests to rename the following three funds: 2575 Fair Housing FY26-27, 2580 CHIP CDBG Repair FY 26-27, and 2585 CHIP Home Rehab FY26-27. The vote was as follows: Mr. Britton, yea; Mr. Daniels, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

**Res No 26-107** Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Roades, Highland County Community Action request to create a new line item within the 2575 Fair Housing FY26-27 fund: Other Expense. Also

requested is an additional appropriation in the amount of \$500.00. The vote was as follows: Mr. Britton, yea; Mr. Daniels, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

**Res No 26-108** Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Roades, Highland County Community Action request to create the following new line items within the 2580 CHIP CDBG Repair FY26-27 fund: Repair Expense and Admin Expense. Also requested is an additional appropriation in the amount of \$125,000.00. The vote was as follows: Mr. Britton, yea; Mr. Daniels, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

**Res No 26-109** Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Roades, Highland County Community Action request to create the following new line items within the 2585 CHIP Home Rehab FY26-27 fund: Rehab Expenses and Admin Expenses. Also requested is an additional appropriation in the amount of \$125,000.00. The vote was as follows: Mr. Britton, yea; Mr. Daniels, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

**Res No 26-110** Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Roades, Commissioners authorize a budget modification within the 2280 Records Preservation Fund in the amount of \$500.00. The vote was as follows: Mr. Britton, yea; Mr. Daniels, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

**Res No 26-111** Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Roades, Commissioners authorize to create the following line item within the 2280 Records Preservation fund: Contracts and Services. The vote was as follows: Mr. Britton, yea; Mr. Daniels, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

**Res No 26-112** Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Roades, Commissioners authorize a budget modification within the 2280 Records Preservation Fund, in the amount of \$12,000.00. Also requested is an additional appropriation from unappropriated funds in the amount of \$3,000.00. The vote was as follows: Mr. Britton, yea; Mr. Daniels, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

## CONTRACTS

**#36** Highland County Commissioners, Sheriff, The Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Labor Council, Inc. FOP Contract – Highland County Sheriff's Office, Deputy Sheriff's – January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2028

**#37** Highland County Commissioners, Sheriff, The Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Labor Council, Inc. FOP Contract – Highland County Sheriff's Office, Corrections Officers – January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2028

**#38** Highland County Commissioners, Sheriff, The Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Labor Council, Inc. FOP Contract – Highland County Sheriff's Office, Sergeants – January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2028

**#39** Highland County Commissioners, Sheriff, The Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Labor Council, Inc. FOP Contract – Highland County Sheriff's Office, Dispatchers – January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2028

**MOTION** Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Roades, to approve the four FOP contracts for Deputy Sheriff's, Correction Officers, Sergeants, and Dispatchers. The vote was as follows: Mr. Britton, yea; Mr. Daniels, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

## AUTHORIZE TO EXECUTE

*Ohio Water Development Authority – Fund Payment Request – RFLWWTP – Mechanical Construction Co. Inc. Pay App No. 15*

**MOTION** Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Roades, to approve Pay App No. 15 for Mechanical Construction in the amount of 90,506.40. The vote was as follows: Mr. Britton, yea; Mr. Daniels, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

## DISCUSSION

Commissioner Daniels spoke about the Hillsboro Event Center's liquor permit. He suggested that we send this back to the state requesting no public hearing and no comment. Commissioner Britton talked about the Letter of Notification from AEP, stating they are installing a 138kV extension near Rammel Rd and 138. Commissioner Roades thanked Jen Howland and Alice Wilson for their hard work on the beautiful flowers. Commissioner Daniels expounded on that by saying all of the villages and city looks great with their flowers, veteran flags, and bunting. Commissioner Britton announced that Jason Johansen has resigned as the Land Bank coordinator.

**MOTION** Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Roades, to accept the resignation of Jason Johansen. The vote was as follows: Mr. Britton, yea; Mr. Daniels, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

Commissioner Britton reviewed the Coyote Trailer Sales quote for powder coating the Cannons and Balls. This was the lowest quote received. **MOTION** Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Roades, to approve the Coyote Trailer quote in the amount of \$3,300.00. The vote was as follows: Mr. Britton, yea; Mr. Daniels, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

9:15 a.m. – OPWC Project – HIG CR 58-B Dawson Road Reconstruction and Resurfacing Bid Opening

**Filmore Construction \$979,870.85**

**Miller – Mason Paving \$880,477.79**

**Brown County Asphalt \$1,041,313.14**

**Shelly Company \$1,093,074.09**

**Cox Paving Company \$1,116,922.71**

Mr. Christian Dunlap said they will review and award within the next few months.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Commissioner Britton said we would be meeting to discuss employee benefits today at noon.

Mr. Bushelman was present and the Commissioners asked if he had any updates on the AEDs. He had nothing new to report. Commissioner Daniels said that he is leaning more towards buying the equipment outright, but still needs more time to review.

Mr. Jared Warner was present and the Commissioners spoke to him, Anneka, Randy, Jeremy, and Dave Bushelman about County Wide IT. Jared said he thinks it comes down to who will pay for it and how much it cost. The structure can be set up to accommodate current vendors if that is how the Commissioners wish to proceed. Anneka added that if it was for IT Policies and things that they should allow the individual departments to review these things themselves, submit a plan to the Commissioners, and then the Commissioners adopt an overall plan that encompasses each department individually.

Mr. Randy Sanders brought up that Dr. Wetherington is officially leaving at the end of July. He reported that the doctor taking over his position will not be able to take care of the jail due to malpractice insurance. He will be looking into a company that he can contract with, and that will come at a pay increase.

## **MEETINGS AND APPOINTMENTS**

10:00 a.m. – Right Stuff Software Demo

*Nicole Oberrecht, Mary Remsing, Amy Bradley, Renee Schull (virtual)*

Commissioners did a demo on a time keeping software.

11:45 a.m. – Julie Wallingford – Work Session

*Julie Wallingford*

Commissioners discussed hiring Halle Jones back for summer work. The Commissioners told Julie that would be fine, to keep her under 29 hours per week and to continue her pay at whatever it was before. They also discussed a ribbon cutting/open house during the America 250 Celebration and the need for some labels for the Clerk of Courts Records.

12:00 p.m. – Dave Brown – Insurance Updates

*Dave Brown, Jeff Flemming, Amy Bradley*

Executive Session – ORC 121.22 (G) (5) matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or regulations – HIPPA Information

**MOTION: To enter into executive session per ORC 121.22 (G)(5), Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Roades. The vote was as follows: Mr. Roades, yea; Mr. Britton, yea; and Mr. Daniels, yea. Commissioners invited Jeff Flemming, Dave Brown, and Amy Bradley in. Entered: 11:55 a.m. Exited: 12:30 p.m.**

Commissioners came out executive session and discussed that our claims have jumped over a million dollars. Due to this, Dave Brown said our no shop renewal rate with MIM would be 32.5%, second year being 27.5%. The Commissioners said that they need to do their due diligence and shop around to best utilize taxpayers dollars and get the best rates for their employees.

**MOTION** Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Roades, to authorize our insurance broker, David Brown, to shop around due to Medical Mutuals renewal rate being high with CEBCO and United Healthcare. The vote was as follows: Mr. Britton, yea; Mr. Daniels, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

*Recess 12:45 p.m. // Reconvene 1:30 p.m.*

1:30 p.m. – OFF-SITE – Schwann Building – Tom Shumaker, CCC  
Commissioners discussed renovations at the Schwann Building.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

5/7/2026 – AEP Ohio – Dynegy Energy Services

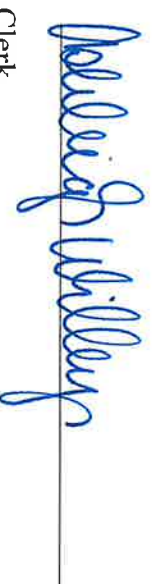
- 5/12/2026 – Mike Shelton – Meeting
- 5/12/2026 – Gov. DeWine Comms – Governor DeWine, DYS Break Ground on New, Downsized Juvenile Corrections Facility
- 5/12/2026 Lt. Governor Tressel – Lt. Governor Tressel Celebrates Advanced Manufacturing Expansion at Polaris Career Center
- 5/13/2026 – Fishel Downey Albrecht & Riepenhoff LLC. – James Brown v Highland County, et. Al.
- 5/13/2026 – Gov. DeWine Comms – Governor DeWine Announces New Medicaid Fraud Prevention Initiatives
- 5/13/2026 – Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission – ARC Area Development Program – Training & New Deadline
- 5/13/2026 – Secretary LaRose Press – RELEASE: Secretary LaRose Sends Over 150 Thousand Voter Identification Packets to Graduating Seniors as Part of Grads Vote Initiative
- 5/14/2026 – Jeremy Phillips – Follow Up from the Joint Board of County Commissioners Meeting
- 5/14/2026 – Lt. Gov Tressel Comms – Lt. Governor Tressel Kicks Off WorkOhio Job Connector Tour with Manufacturing Training in Marietta
- 5/14/2026 – Gov. DeWine Comms – Governor DeWine Announces \$61 Million in Brownfield Remediation Grants to Communities in 75 Counties
- 5/15/2026 – Beth & Bruce Bell – NextEra BESS Mad River
- 5/15/2026 – Jennifer Lewis – AAAA7 Update
- 5/15/2026 – Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission – You're Invited! Ohio River Summit June 10-11, 2026
- 5/15/2026 – Nciolli – Statehouse Report: May 15, 2026
- 5/16/2026 – Gov. DeWine Comms – Governor DeWine Celebrates Inland Fish Ohio Day at Lake Hope State Park
- 5/18/2026 – Karla Dunbar – CCAO Summer Symposium 2026 – Save the Date!
- 5/18/2026 – Beth & Bruce Bell – Public Records Request – Answered on 5/18/2026
- 5/18/2026 – Lt. Gov Tressel Comms – Lt. Governor Tressel Continues WorkOhio Job Connector Tour at Mahoning Valley Manufacturer
- 5/18/2026 – Nciolli – Counties Current: May 18, 2026
- 5/18/2026 – Gov. DeWine Comms – Ohio Governor Mike DeWine Week in Review

**REPORTS**

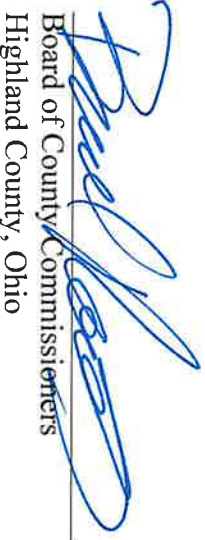
*Dog Warden Weekly Call Log, ending 05/15/2026.*

*Dog Warden Weekly Dog Count, ending 05/17/2026*

**Meeting Adjourned at 2:39 p.m.**



Clerk

  
Board of County Commissioners  
Highland County, Ohio