

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

Mr. Daniels 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 Carl Rayburn, Richard Hawk, Ronald Sexton, Janet Grothe, Steve Williams, Gary Cooper, Vickie Warnock, Alex Butler, Caitlin Forsha, Jacob Clary were present for the meeting.

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

MOTION Mr. Roades moved, seconded by Mr. Britton, to approve payment of Bill File No. 24-35. The total bill file amount paid was \$230,810.40. The total General Fund paid was \$20,861.65. The vote was as follows: Mr. Daniels, yea; Mr. Britton, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

MEETINGS/APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Hawk and Mr. Sexton from Lynchburg Clay Schools attended the meeting as Mr. Sexton has been at the school for one month now and wants to get acclimated to the County.

9:00 a.m. – Tim Hazelwood – Carports

Commissioner Daniels asked Mr. Hazelwood which carport he preferred. Commissioner Britton asked if the VSC had extra funding to cover the overage that we did not receive back from our insurance claims. Mr. Hazelwood did say they can cover the extra cost.

MOTION Mr. Britton moved, seconded by Mr. Roades, to approve 20 x 60 three-sided barn from O & M metal sales. The vote was as follows: Mr. Daniels, yea; Mr. Britton, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

9:00 a.m. – Auditor Butler – Property Taxes

Commissioner Daniels welcomed Mr. Butler to discuss property values and the re-evaluation of property for 2025. He explained that this was a state mandate that happens every six years. Originally, they do a desk arial imagery review and then they also send appraisers out to properties that may be in question. The tentative abstract has been approved and the values are placed on the auditor’s website for review. Residential properties increased by 30 %, agriculture increased by 36%, commercial increased 43%, and industrial increased by 27 %. Auditor Butler wanted to let everyone know that an informal public hearing period for reviewing these values with an appraiser has been scheduled for September 9th – 20th and he encouraged the public to login to the Auditors website and look at their values. For the hearing meetings, it is encouraged to call ahead and schedule a meeting. He did clarify that they would not know the amount of property taxes as those rates do not come out until December. Auditor Butler said these property values are data driven along with real estate values over the past three years.

9:00 a.m. – DJ Aultman – Integrity Energy

Commissioner Daniels made a phone call to Mr. DJ Aultman. Mr. Aultman started the conversation talking about the PJM energy increases and how they have now changed. He did ask the Commissioners which route they were looking to go now when it comes to purchasing and pricing. He did say that December is when he sees fit to start discussing the 2026 numbers. Our current contract ends in June of 2026. He said the capacity is at 60-70% vs energy at 30-25%. Mr. Aultman told the Commissioners that he sees a \$30-40,000.00 increase coming next year from Murfield because of capacity/position. Commissioner Daniels ended the conversation by saying that we would reach out to him if we wanted to discuss this further.

Ms. Janet Grothe was present at the meeting to give an update on Hillcrest and Palomino Solar Farms. She is in the area for the Hillcrest tour and property owner dinner. She updated Palomino as the RUMA has been finalized and they are in the process of executing POs for panels and storage. She said that she sees that 60% of the design will be done later this year. The initial build/construction is scheduled to take place in the third quarter of next year and they have given the go ahead to plant crops in 2025.

RESOLUTIONS

Res No 24-150 Mr. Roades moved, seconded by Mr. Britton, Commissioners requests an additional appropriation from unappropriated funds within the 2280 Records Storage fund in the amount of \$3,700.00. The vote was as follows: Mr. Daniels, yea; Mr. Britton, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

Res No 24-151 Mr. Roades moved, seconded by Mr. Britton, Engineer requests a budget modification within the 2065 Repair MVL Fund in the amount of \$90,000.00. The vote was as follows: Mr. Daniels, yea; Mr. Britton, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

Res No 24-152 Mr. Roades moved, seconded by Mr. Britton, Sheriff request a budget modification within 2230 Conceal Carry in the amount of \$4,228.20. The vote was as follows: Mr. Daniels, yea; Mr. Britton, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

Res No 24-153 Mr. Roades moved, seconded by Mr. Britton, Highland County Job and Family Services request a budget modification within 2050 Public Assistance Fund in the amount of \$116,361.36. The vote was as follows: Mr. Daniels, yea; Mr. Britton, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

Res No 24-154 Mr. Roades moved, seconded by Mr. Britton, Commissioners request a budget modification within the 4220 Airport Capital Improvement Fund in the amount of \$410.00. The vote was as follows: Mr. Daniels, yea; Mr. Britton, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

Res No 24-155 Mr. Roades moved, seconded by Mr. Britton, Soil and Water requests a budget modification within the 2070 Soil & Water Fund in the amount of \$5,000.00. The vote was as follows: Mr. Daniels, yea; Mr. Britton, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

AUTHORIZE TO EXECUTE

Notice of Tax-Exempt Bond Funding – Capital Improvement Local Jail Project Change Order No. 2 – Doll Layman, LTD.
McCarty Associates – Agreement for Architectural Services – Limited Scope – Administration Building

MOTION Mr. Britton moved, seconded by Mr. Roades, to approve the notice of tax-exempt bond funding form along with the change order for Doll Layman and the Agreement for Architectural Services from McCarty Associates. The vote was as follows: Mr. Daniels, yea; Mr. Britton, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

DISCUSSION

Mr. Hawk asked about the meeting in Columbus in review of the Hecate project that was in limbo. Commissioner Britton said that they are still waiting to hear from the Ohio Power Siting Board.

MEETINGS/APPOINTMENTS

9:30 a.m. – Gary Cooper – SOCS Update
Mr. Cooper and Mr. Williams came to the meeting to give a SOCS update on broadband. Commissioner Daniels asked how the build was going. Mr. Cooper said that they have started in Highland County and have approximately 10 miles complete and they have 32 scheduled. In total, they plan to serve 461 homes and hope to have all 32 miles completed by the end of October. The current funding in which they have will not allow them to complete the whole project that they had hoped for. Commissioner Daniels asked what their current funding need would be. Mr. Cooper said \$2.6 million would complete the total project of the 336 addresses that they are not able to serve right now. Commissioner Daniels said that he and Nicole Oberrecht would look over ARPA funding and see if they have anything they can allocate for SOCS. Commissioner Daniels said they would be in touch.

Recess 10:00 a.m. // Reconvene 11:12 a.m.

MEETINGS/APPOINTMENTS

11:15 a.m. – Executive Session – To consider employment compensation ORC121.22(G)(1)
EXECUTIVE SESSION – MOTION: Mr. Britton moved, seconded by Mr. Roades, to enter executive session for security matters. **ROLL CALL: Mr. Daniels, yea; Mr. Roades, yea; and Mr. Britton, yea.** *Entered: 11:12 a.m. / Exited: 11:32 p.m. no action taken*

12:00 p.m. - Executive Session - Confer with an attorney/prosecutor concerning pending or imminent litigation involving the public body - ORC Section 121.22

EXECUTIVE SESSION – MOTION: Mr. Britton moved, seconded by Mr. Roades, to enter executive session for security matters. **ROLL CALL: Mr. Daniels, yea; Mr. Roades, yea; and Mr. Britton, yea.** *Entered: 11:31 a.m. / Exited: 12:01 p.m. no action taken*

CORRESPONDENCE

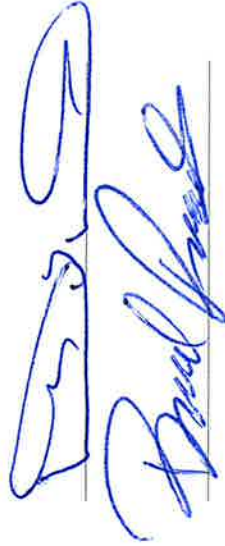
Highland County Community Fund – Celebrating Local Impact
Barr Pharmacy – Flu Shots
Comm-Core Virtual Technologies Group
Adult & Teen Challenge Ohio Valley – hope counseling & addiction services
Gina Collinsworth – 2024 Ohio River Way Summit: Investing in Vibrant River Communities
Rumpke Recycling Round-up – Newsletter
Secretary LaRose – November 5th General Election Ballot
COAAA – CarFit Letter
NRAC Clean Ohio Greenspace Conservation Program Newsletter
City of Hillsboro – Notice of Public Hearing
Dennis Young – Exclusive Pre-Early Buy Ice Sale: Lock in Low Prices Now
Innergex – Sample Palomino Project Update Letter

REPORTS

Dog and Kennel – Weekly Call Log – 08/19/2024-08/24/2024
Dog and Kennel – Weekly Dog Count – 08/18/2024 – 08/24/2024
August Delinquency Report – RFL Sewer
July 2024 Work Order Summary – RFL Sewer

Meeting Adjourned at 12:01 p.m.


Clerk




Board of County Commissioners
Highland County, Ohio