

Commissioner Duncan gave thanks to all for coming in and appreciated all their hard work and efforts. He hopes that in thirty days we as a county will see some relief and improvement.

#### **CONTRACTS**

#7 Commissioners, City of Hillsboro – Indigent Defense – 01/01/2022 to 12/31/2022  
 #8 Commissioners, HCCAO, Greater Ohio Workforce Board – PY2020 and 2021 Subgrant Agreement Amendment  
*Tara Campbell, Donita Everetts, John Ferragonio, Caitlin Forsha, and Jacob Clary present*

**MOTION** Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Britton to approve the contract as submitted. The vote resulted as follows: Mr. Duncan, yea; Mr. Britton, yea; and Mr. Daniels, yea.

#### **DISCUSSION**

Sheriff's Office – patrol vehicles  
 Greenfield Exempted Village School District - Rainsboro Elementary Project  
 Palomino Solar Project – Ad hoc member designation  
 Buford Park Proposal

Commissioner Britton stated Sheriff Barrera requested new patrol vehicles. The office has a few vehicles with high mileage that he would like replaced.

**MOTION:** Mr. Britton moved to purchase two patrol cars for the Sheriff's office, seconded by Mr. Daniels to approve the request. The vote resulted as follows: Mr. Duncan, yea; Mr. Britton, yea; and Mr. Daniels, yea.

Commissioner Daniels spoke on the Greenfield School District sanitary system upgrade. He stated that years ago they chose not to tie into the system and have now reached out to the commissioners to tie into the Rocky Fork Lake sewer system at State Route 785 and North Shore Dr. Engineer Steve Canter will be working with the schools.

Commissioner Duncan stated the Palomino Solar Project was grandfathered in under Senate Bill 52 except for an Ad Hoc appointment. Commissioner Daniels stated one township trustee from the area will be appointed by the beginning of April.

Commissioner Britton addressed the Buford School project stating that the commissioners had been in contact with McCarty Associates and that they will be over within the next few weeks to further discuss the project.

Commissioner Duncan addressed the sales tax receipts from the Highland County Auditors office and stated that sales tax continues to climb in Highland County.

Commissioner Britton highlighted the governor appointments for the One Ohio Recovery Board. Highland County will be in region 9 and Tonya Sturgill (Probation), Eric Daniels (Chief of Police), and Tony Gulley (Township Trustee) will represent Highland County. They will be attending the foundation meetings most likely in Ross County.

Commissioner Britton thanked the three individuals for volunteering for the board.

#### **MEETINGS/APPOINTMENTS**

9:45 am – ABM Industries – John Ferragonio

John Ferragonio from ABM Industries presented what his company can provide referencing infrastructure. His company would come in and evaluate where money can be spent and saved.

Commissioner Britton explained this process was done 4-5 years ago and may not make sense at this time.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Highland County Humane Society

01/18/2022 – Juliana Graham-Price – Palomino Solar

#### **REPORTS**

*Highland County Probate and Juvenile Departments – Inventory 2021*

*Dog Warden Report – 1/09/2022 to 1/16/2022*

*Dog Warden Call Log Report – 1/10/2022 to 1/16/2022*

**Meeting Adjourned at 9:52 a.m.**

  
 Clerk

  
 Board of County Commissioners  
 Highland County, Ohio

January 19, 2022

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

Mr. Duncan 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:** Tara Campbell, Cathy Faulconer, Leslie Rosselot, David Bushelman, Jared Warner, Monique Bellamy, Tim Parry, John Ferragonio, David Manning, Donita Everetts, Jacob Clary, and Caitlin Forsha were present for the meeting.

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

**MOTION** Mr. Britton moved, seconded by Mr. Daniels, to approve payment of Bill File No. 22-02. The total bill file amount paid was \$349,900.46. The amount paid from the General Fund was \$26,027.91. The vote resulted as follows: Mr. Duncan, yea; Mr. Britton, yea; and Mr. Daniels, yea.

#### **MEETINGS/APPOINTMENTS**

9:00 am - Highland County Suicide Prevention – Cathy Faulconer (*Proclamation*)

Tara Campbell from the Suicide Prevention Coalition presented to the commissioners about bringing awareness to Highland County. She talked about suicide prevention and finding local organizations to bring awareness to our county.

Commissioner Duncan thanked Tara, Cathy, Monique, and Leslie for helping organize and facilitate local suicide awareness.

Commissioner Duncan read the proclamation to declare January 19, 2022, Highland County Suicide Prevention Awareness Day and urged all citizens to join in on this special observance.

#### **RESOLUTIONS**

**Res No 22-18** Mr. Britton moved, seconded by Mr. Daniels, Commissioners authorize the Highland County Land Reutilization Corporation to file an application to the State of Ohio, to participate in the Brownfield fund. The vote resulted as follows: Mr. Duncan, yea; Mr. Britton, yea and Mr. Daniels, yea.

**Res No 22-19** Mr. Britton moved, seconded by Mr. Daniels, Probation requests a budget modification within T-30 PSL Account in the amount of \$1.75. The vote resulted as follows: Mr. Duncan, yea; Mr. Britton, yea and Mr. Daniels, yea.

**Res No 22-20** Mr. Britton moved, seconded by Mr. Daniels, Commissioners declare a thirty-day State of Emergency and request that any additional resources made available by state and federal government that can help alleviate the overcrowding and strain on the healthcare systems in Highland County be made available on a priority basis. The Vote resulted as follows: Mr. Duncan, yea; Mr. Britton, yea and Mr. Daniels, yea.

*Tara Campbell, David Bushelman, Jared Warner, Tim Parry, John Ferragonio, David Manning, Donita Everetts, Jacob Clary, and Caitlin Forsha present.*

Commissioner Daniels addressed the main concern for issuing this State of Emergency is system capacity in our local hospitals. He asked those present for this issue to give a brief explanation on the situation.

Jared Warner presented his main concern was the over crowding and healthcare capacities. He also elaborated on testing resources available in our county and taking advantage of the federal government at home testing released on Tuesday, January 18, 2022. Dave Bushelman interjected with how a lot of testing kits have been re-located to local schools and urgent cares. He also informed that he is keeping close contact with Highland District Hospital and Adena Regional Medical Center to keep them supplied with PPEs.

Tim Parry presented concerns with staffing shortages at Highland District Hospital. He explained that HDH has twenty-four beds and currently thirteen of those are covid positive patients. With staffing issues going on currently, he reiterated that it is important to try to avoid overcrowding the hospitals and taking advantage of at-home test and urgent cares when available.

Chief Manning spoke lastly on the issue. He gave an update from the fire/EMS side and said EMS runs are up tremendously from last year. He explained Paint Creek Joint EMS + Fire is also experiencing staffing issues. They are trying to work with the hospitals to transfer patients to outside facilities to not overcrowd.