

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 Jamie Wheeler, Jason Gall, Brad Tira, Jennifer Schinkal, Randy Sanders, Joey Middleton, Tyler Kelch, Ron Ward, Alex Butler, Chad McConaughy, Jacob Clary, and Caitlin Forsha were present for the meeting.

MOTION Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Roades, to approve the 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. 26-05. The total bill file amount paid was \$374,385.15. The total General Fund paid was \$76,709.07. The vote was as follows: Mr. Britton, yea; Mr. Daniels, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

RESOLUTIONS

Res No 26-38 Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Roades, Commissioners appoint David Daniels as the designee to the Solid Waste Management District Policy Committee for the year 2026 representing the Highland County Commissioners. The vote was as follows: Mr. Britton, yea; Mr. Daniels, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

Res No 26-39 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 26-40 Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Roades, Recorder requests a budget modification within the 1000 County General fund in the amount of \$2,000.00. The vote was as follows: Mr. Britton, yea; Mr. Daniels, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

Res No 26-41 Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Roades, Commissioners authorize a transfer from County, Transfers Out, to Airport Capital Improvement 4220 in the amount of \$15,000.00. 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.

MEETINGS/APPOINTMENTS

9:00 a.m. – Jamie Wheeler – Ag is Everyone’s Business

Jamie highlighted the upcoming Ag is Everyone’s Business event that will take place Friday, March 6th at 9:45 a.m. at SSCC. She said they have sold over 600 tickets and encouraged everyone to take part in the event.

DISCUSSION

Commissioners welcomed the Liberty Township Trustees to discuss a recent resolution that was submitted to the office on behalf of the Trustees following a township trustee meeting. Mr. Ron Ward stated that on January 17th they had approximately 70 people present for the meeting. Mr. Ward said that out of the 70 people there, only one person was for the proposed project. The project they were approaching was a 47-acre, five-megawatt proposal. The trustees did their research and read over resolution 21-218, encouraging them to have the public forum. After reading through the resolution, the Trustees are positive that anyone who built in Liberty Township would fall into the ‘small’ category which is under 50 megawatts.

The Trustees passed a resolution following their January 17th meeting affirming that they “are opposed to the development of any small or large solar facilities in Liberty Township.” As part of the resolution, the trustees also requested the Commissioners to oppose the development of any such large and small solar facilities in the unincorporated areas of Liberty Township, pursuant to the prior passed resolution. The Trustees stated that it was obvious that those in attendance opposed and they came before the Commissioners to ask if they would take a stance as well.

Commissioner Britton and Commissioner Roades both spoke up and agreed that they do oppose solar projects in that “small” category. Commissioner Britton said they stand behind what they passed in 2021. He expressed that they fought hard for SB 52 and that without zoning, there is a fine line to what the Commissioners can and can’t do. Commissioner Roades noted that he does not like that we have seen an increase in 49 acre solar farms being talked about as it seems like this is a way around the setbacks and regulations that are in place.

Mr. Ward asked if Commissioners would pass another resolution. The Commissioners agreed that they were all in opposition of solar farms under the 50 megawatt threshold and agreed to send letters to our State Reps and Senators at the request of the Trustees.

After this discussion, Commissioners met with a technician from Frye Mechanical about the boiler situation at the Justice Center. The technician stated that they have someone who can get it fixed in the meantime while parts come in for a complete new boiler. He discussed the pros and cons of 1 boiler vs 2 and having a backup unit. Frye is able to have a boiler in stock in 3-4 weeks, and once it is here, would take 3-4 days to repair. They assured the Commissioners that in the meantime they would keep everything up and running operational. Commissioners dismissed the technician and said they would be in touch as a decision has to be made.

AUTHORIZE TO EXECUTE

- Notice to Proceed – Because He Lives Food Pantry Roof Replacement
- Notice of Award - Because He Lives Food Pantry Roof Replacement
- Standard Form of Agreement between Owner and Contractor - Because He Lives Food Pantry Roof Replacement

MOTION Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Roades, to approve all three documents for Because He Lives Food Pantry Roof Replacement CDBG project. The vote was as follows: Mr. Britton, yea; Mr. Daniels, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

Recess 9:43 a.m. // Reconvene 9:58 a.m.

MOTION Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Roades, to approve the Weller’s quote for a boiler replacement at the Justice Center in the amount of \$70,300.00. The vote was as follows: Mr. Britton, yea; Mr. Daniels, yea; and Mr. Roades, yea.

MEETINGS/APPOINTMENTS

10:00 a.m. – Work Session – WDC Group

Nicole Oberrecht, Chris Wiedener

Commissioners met with Chris to discuss the Courthouse Renovation project. They did a turn page look at the plans and what WDC had looked at on their walk through. WDC provided a “menu” for the Commissioners to look at. The Commissioners sent them back to get a price on new windows and a 4 pipe Dyken system for HVAC.

CORRESPONDENCE

1/28/2026 – Gov. DeWine Comms – Governor DeWine Announces 6 Projects Set to Create 348 Jobs, More Than \$56 Million in Investments

1/28/2026 – Mike Glennon – Workforce Advantages

1/28/2026 – allForms – L. Richmond – Homestead Exemption

1/28/2026 – Lt. Gov. Tressel Comms – Lt. Governor Tressel’s WorkOhio Kickoff Tour Comes to Xenia

1/28/2026 – Lt. Gov Tressel Comms – Lt. Governor Tressel’s WorkOhio Kickoff Tour Continues in Toledo

1/29/2026 – Lt. Governor Tressel Comms – Lt. Governor Tressel Brings WorkOhio Kickoff Tour to Columbus

1/30/2026 – Gov. DeWine Comms – Governor DeWine Issues Reprises

1/30/2026 – Secretary LaRose Press – Ohio Secretary of State Week in Review

1/30/2026 – Gov. DeWine Comms – Ohio Governor Mike DeWine Week in Review

1/30/2026 – Gov. DeWine Comms – Governor’s Appointments for January 30, 2026

1/30/2026 – Secretary LaRose Press – RELEASE: Secretary LaRose Issues Statement on Introduction of MEGA Act

2/2/2026 – Lt. Gov. Tressel – Team Tressel Fitness Challenge Kicks Off in Over 1,300 Ohio Schools

2/2/2026 – Lt. Gov. Tressel Comms – Lt. Governor Tressel’s WorkOhio Kickoff Tour Makes Stop in Warren

2/2/2026 – David Lewis – Connecting Ohio in 2025 and Beyond

2/2/2026 – CCAO – Counties Current – February 2, 2026

Museum Muses – Highland County Historical Society Newsletter

Hillsboro After Prom Committee – Sponsorship Letter

REPORTS

Dog Warden Weekly Dog Count, ending 02/01/2026

Dog Warden Weekly Call Log, ending 01/30/2026

Juvenile Disbursement Activity Report – February 2026

Sheriff’s Office – Statement of Costs of Prisoners’ Meals for January 2026

Sheriff’s Office – Credit/Procurement Card Expenditures – January 2026

Sheriff’s Office – Statement of Expenditures from Sheriff’s Office – January 2026

Meeting Adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Clerk

Board of County Commissioners
Highland County, Ohio