

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

Mr. Roades called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. All documents referenced in the minutes are filed in the Commissioners' office and are available for review upon request.

**NOTE** Karen Faust, Avery Elliott, Michelle Swallen, and Jacob Clary were present at the meeting.

#### **MEETINGS/APPOINTMENTS**

8:00 a.m. Executive Session 121.22(G)(1) – to consider employee compensation

**Executive Session – MOTION: Mr. Daniels, moved, seconded by Mr. Britton to enter executive session for the above listed reason. Commissioners invited Karen Faust, Avery Elliott, and Michelle Swallen in. ROLL CALL: Mr. Roades, yea; Mr. Britton, yea; and Mr. Daniels, yea.**

***Entered: 8:00 a.m. / Exited: 8:48 a.m.***

*Recess 8:48 a.m. / Reconvene 9:00 a.m.*

**NOTE** Mark Trumbauer, Jim Samuel, Jeremy Ratcliff, Kim Case, Lori Moore, Mary Remsing, Chris Fauber, Ted McReynolds, Caitlin Forsha, and Jacob Clary were present at the meeting.

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

**MOTION** Mr. Britton moved, seconded by Mr. Daniels, to approve payment of Bill File No. 25-38. The total file amount paid was \$384,451.09. The total General Fund paid was \$38,185.15. The vote was as follows: Mr. Roades, yea; Mr. Britton, yea; and Mr. Daniels, yea

#### **MEETINGS/APPOINTMENTS**

9:00 a.m. – Mark Trumbauer – NextEra Energy – Battery Storage

Mr. Trumbauer and Mr. Samuel were present at the meeting to discuss plans for a battery storage facility in New Market township near Mad River Rd. He spoke on grid capacity and how this will help fill gaps. Commissioner Britton asked if this was tied to Solar in any way. Mr. Trumbauer said that it is solely attached to the grid, which charges and discharges the energy grid. Commissioner Roades asked about the appearance of the facility. Mark explained that it is 2,000 ft off the road and has terrain, so the facility is less noticeable and not right along the road. Commissioner Daniels asked about RUMA. He explained that a RUMA will be in place with the county Engineer and Townships. Commissioner Daniels also asked about the capacity of this facility. It was explained as a 200mw facility. With the continued talk of strains on the grid, Commissioner Daniels asked if he was correct in saying that this would appear to help with the grid reliability and that it could be a safety net for our residents. Commissioner Britton asked if this would go through the OPSB. Mr. Trumbauer said that this is regulated by the Ohio Power Siting Board and that their would be public meetings that would need to take place for this project. Commissioner Daniels asked what kind of investment this would be. It was explained as a \$40 million dollar capital expenditure and that he hopes to work through a PILOT program. Mr. Jim Samuel spoke up and said that through HB15, property tax and PILOTs were discussed and although it may be on the ballot next year and would take it out of regular workflow. They explained this would be a 32-acre site and the project is only going to cover 20 acres.

**MOTION** Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Britton, to amend the Agenda to accept a recommendation from WDC group and a resolution for Board of Elections. The vote was as follows: Mr. Roades, yea; Mr. Britton, yea; and Mr. Daniels, yea.

#### **RESOLUTIONS**

**Res No 25-205** Mr. Britton moved, seconded by Mr. Daniels, Commissioners received a Petition, filed by the Clay Township Trustees to vacate one (1) lane in Clay Township, approximately 0.429 miles long located north of State Route 138 and the property of Claudette Cribbett (05-23-000-457.00), located on the property of Daisey Thomas Farms (PN 05-18-000-118.00) in Clay Township, Highland County, Ohio. Therefore, the Commissioners agree to set the time and date for a public viewing to be held on Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at the site of the Alley and a public hearing on Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. at the Highland County Commissioners Office, located at 119 Governor Foraker Place Suite 211 Hillsboro, Ohio. The vote was as follows: Mr. Roades, yea; Mr. Britton, yea, and Mr. Daniels, yea.

**Res No 25-206** Mr. Britton moved, seconded by Mr. Daniels, Board of DD requests a budget modification within the 2100 Board of DD Fund in the amount of \$480,000.00. The vote was as follows: Mr. Roades, yea; Mr. Britton, yea, and Mr. Daniels, yea.

**Res No 25-207** Mr. Britton moved, seconded by Mr. Daniels, County Court requests a budget modification within the 1000 County General Fund in the amount of \$750.00. The vote was as follows: Mr. Roades, yea; Mr. Britton, yea, and Mr. Daniels, yea.

**Res No 25-208** Mr. Britton moved, seconded by Mr. Daniels, Commissioners petition a filing to the Court of Common Pleas for the 3130 SCORJDC Debt Fund in order for said funds to represent money transferred from the General Fund of Highland County to act as a payment for the debt, due to no sinking fund for the transfer to take place. The vote was as follows: Mr. Roades, yea; Mr. Britton, yea, and Mr. Daniels, yea.

**Res No 25-209** Mr. Britton moved, seconded by Mr. Daniels, Commissioners petition a filing to the Court of Common Pleas for the 3200 Various Purpose Debt Fund in order for said funds to represent money transferred from the General Fund of Highland County to act as a payment for the debt, due to no sinking fund for the transfer to take place. The vote was as follows: Mr. Roades, yea; Mr. Britton, yea, and Mr. Daniels, yea.

**Res No 25-210** Mr. Britton moved, seconded by Mr. Daniels, Commissioners authorize a budget modification within the 1000 County General Fund in the amount of \$10,000.00. The vote was as follows: Mr. Roades, yea; Mr. Britton, yea, and Mr. Daniels, yea.

**Res No 25-211** Mr. Britton moved, seconded by Mr. Daniels, Commissioners authorize a budget modification within the 5030 Rocky Fork Sewer Fund in the amount of \$10,000.00. The vote was as follows: Mr. Roades, yea; Mr. Britton, yea, and Mr. Daniels, yea.

## CONTRACTS

### **#64 Commissioners, Highland County Department of Job & Family Services, FRS Transportation – Purchased Service Contract – FRS Transportation**

Director Jeremy Ratcliff explained that this was for the continuation of the current FRS contract for non-emergency Medicaid billing services.

**MOTION** Mr. Britton moved, seconded by Mr. Daniels, to approve Contract 64 as submitted. The vote was as follows: Mr. Roades, yea; Mr. Britton, yea; and Mr. Daniels, yea.

### **#65 Commissioners, Aramark Correctional Services, LLC, Sheriff – Amendment No. 26 to operating Agreement – Food Service**

**MOTION** Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Britton, to approve Contract 65 as submitted. The vote was as follows: Mr. Roades, yea; Mr. Britton, yea; and Mr. Daniels, yea.

### **#66 Commissioners, Highland County Department of Job & Family Services – PRC Plan**

Director Jeremy Ratcliff explained this is the PRC plan that is done bi-annually. It is for temporary assistance of needed services through the TANF program.

**MOTION** Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Britton, to approve Contract 66 as submitted. The vote was as follows: Mr. Roades, yea; Mr. Britton, yea; and Mr. Daniels, yea.

## AUTHORIZE TO EXECUTE

- Certification of Assessment to Auditor – Lakeside and RFL Upgrades

**MOTION** Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Britton, to authorize Commissioner Roades to sign off on the Certifications as submitted for Lakeside and RFL. The vote was as follows: Mr. Roades, yea; Mr. Britton, yea; and Mr. Daniels, yea.

- Change Order - 2024 Highland County Chip Seal Program

**MOTION** Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Britton, to approve the negative change order for the 2024 Chip Seal Program project. The vote was as follows: Mr. Roades, yea; Mr. Britton, yea; and Mr. Daniels, yea.

- New National Opioids Settlement: Secondary Manufactures – Opioid Implementation Administrator

**MOTION** Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Britton, to approve the Opioid Settlement and allow Commissioner Roades to sign. The vote was as follows: Mr. Roades, yea; Mr. Britton, yea; and Mr. Daniels, yea.

## DISCUSSION

Commissioner Roades read off of the BNM Painting quote for the new Schwann Building exterior painting.

**MOTION** Mr. Daniels moved, seconded by Mr. Britton, to approve the BNM quote for painting in the amount of \$3,450.00. The vote was as follows: Mr. Roades, yea; Mr. Britton, yea; and Mr. Daniels, yea.

Commissioner Roades read off the permissive sales tax for August. He said we were down 6.4% for the month, but for the year we were still holding steady at 0.35% higher than this time last year.

Commissioners discussed the RFL Sewer Truck options. They decided that they needed to figure out exactly what was needed and get better numbers before deciding, so more discussion was needed.

Jeremy Ratcliff spoke on the effects of Trumps “One Big Beautiful Bill” and the changes that will bring for the snap program. He explained that there will be change for the SNAP program where currently 50% is state reimbursement. In October of 2026 this will change to 75% state and 25% federal. This will cause a funding cut of around \$120-140,000.00.

Ms. Mary Remsing and Engineer Chris Fauber announced that WDC has provided a formal recommendation for the Engineer’s Truck Barn Project. The “low bid” firm did not include any combos and it was also revealed that they are under legal trouble, so the new low bid was \$5,029,738.00 and 25% below the cost estimate. This company is Jay-Car Construction.

**Res No 25-213** Mr. Britton moved, seconded by Mr. Daniels, Commissioners award the Highland County Engineer Truck Barn bid to Jay Car in the amount of \$5,029,738.00. The vote was as follows: Mr. Roades, yea; Mr. Britton, yea, and Mr. Daniels, yea.

Mr. Ted McReynolds was present to present recent expenditures that the Friends group has had for health certificates and shots before dogs go to rescue. He has spent \$901.41 since March and is asking that the County reimburse him \$390.64. Commissioner Britton said that he was fine with this.

*Recess 9:53 a.m. // Reconvene 10:03 a.m.*

#### **MEETINGS/APPOINTMENTS**

9:30 a.m. – Work Session – PAPI Grant – Airport

*Bob Prosek, Brian Crosier*

Commissioners discussed hosting bid openings for the Airport during the Commissioner meetings instead of off-site.

#### **MEETINGS/APPOINTMENTS**

10:00 a.m. – Work Session - Amy Bradley, Human Resource Director

*Amy Bradley*

Commissioners discussed various topics including Cyber Security, CEBCO, Wage Study, Sewer Job Posting, and 1095s.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

- Secretary LaRose Press – Ohio Approves the Nation’s Strongest Voting System Integrity Standards
- Gov DeWine Comms – Governor DeWine Announces Director Corcoran Departure from ODM
- Appalachian Children Coalition – Galia County Community Connector
- Gov DeWine Comms – Ohio’s State Parks Receive National Gold Medal Award for Excellence
- Secretary LaRose Press – ICYMI: Ohio is Setting Standard with Clean, Transparent Voter Rolls
- Jennifer Lewis – AAA7 Update – September 2025
- Secretary LaRose Press – Ohio Secretary of State Week in Review
- Gov DeWine Comms – Ohio Governor Mike DeWine Week in Review
- Gov. DeWine Comms – First Lady DeWine Announces Early Literacy Initiative During Event to Support Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library of Ohio with Country Music Star Zac Brown

- United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island – C.A. No. 1:25-cv-00345-MSM-PAS
- Trailhead Land Co. – Letter
- OFCF – Family and Children First Council Opt-Out Language (Procedure Letter 37)
- James Pilcher – Interview Request – Local 12 News CBS Cincinnati
- allForms – Tom Hatfield – Waterline
- allForms – Kevin Boggess – Zoning
- allForms – Norman Neuburger III – Highland Co.
- Gov. DeWine Comms – Ohio Designated as 13<sup>th</sup> AARP Age-Friendly State
- allForms – Kandie Carmean – Housing
- Shannon Nichols – OVRDC Full Commission Meeting – Sept. 26 2025
- Alyssa Yaple – Ohio: Wild at Heart Movie Premiere
- Secretary LaRose Press – RELEASE: Secretary LaRose Issues Statement Regarding Federal Court Decision Upholding Ohio’s Ban on Foreign Dark Money Influencing Elections
- Secretary LaRose Press – RELEASE: Secretary LaRose Announces Additional Evidence of Noncitizen Election Crimes
- Keith Faber – AOS Bulletin 2025-010: Eliminating Charter Entity Exemption from Restrictions on public Funds Expenditure to Influence the Outcome of an Election
- Cory Cover – Rocky Fork East End Overlook Capital Earmark
- allForms – Kevin Boggess – Public Sewers
- Amanda Hicks – Attn Mary and Terry – Electric Supply Quotes from Amanda at Progressive Energy Consultants

#### REPORTS

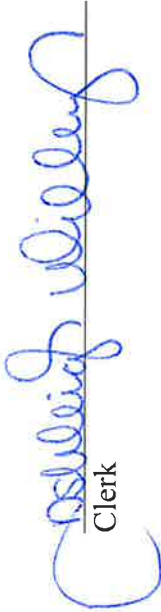
*Dog and Kennel – Call Log Report 9/08/2025 to 9/13/2025*


*Dog and Kennel – Dog Count Report 9/08/2025 to 9/14/2025*

*Dog and Kennel – Call Log Report 9/15/2025 to 9/21/2025*

*Dog and Kennel – Dog Count Report 9/15/2025 to 9/20/2025*

**Meeting Adjourned at 11:32 a.m.**

  
Clerk

  
Board of County Commissioners  
Highland County, Ohio