

COMMISSIONERS MEETING JUNE 16, 2009

The Board of Hocking County Commissioners met in regular session on the 16th day of June 2009 with the following members present Sandy Ogle, Greg Green and John Walker.

MEETING: The meeting was called to order by President John Walker.

MINUTES: Motion by Sandy Ogle and seconded by Greg Green to accept the minutes. Vote: Ogle, yea, Green, yea, Walker, yea.

AGENDA: Motion by Greg Green and seconded by Sandy Ogle to approve the agenda. Vote: Ogle, yea, Green, yea, Walker, yea.

COMMISSIONERS STATEMENTS ON NEWSPAPER ARTICLES: The Commissioners each made the following statements concerning the recent newspaper articles:

John Walker: As I opened the Logan Daily News on Friday, June 12th, I was wordless... well almost! The Headline read, "Commissioners hold illegal meeting." I could not believe that small talk with the Dog Warden and several other people waiting for 9:30 to start our regular meeting led to such a fiasco, put mildly! I feel that the three Commissioners have tried our best to keep everything on the table and the public informed as to what is going on. I think that some common sense is needed to do our job as Commissioners and certainly would think that would hold true for a reporter as well. I was more frustrated when I read the editorial in Saturday's paper, as all three Commissioners were present before the meeting Thursday. I am not sure as to why one Commissioner and the Dog Warden seemed to be at fault. The headline on Friday and the editorial on Saturday certainly make it clear to me what the Logan Daily News and Reporters think of we three Commissioners!

Greg Green: I feel the reporters from the Logan Daily News should not be calling me on my cell phone or my personal home phone to ask any questions when it pertains to county business, when they are saying that we are a board and we meet as a board and anything they have should be brought before this board, and not talked to one by one, because that there is in violation of the Sunshine Law as being called 'Round Robin.' We are a board, we are three and if business is going to be conducted, then it needs to be done right here in this office.

Sandy Ogle: I agree what both John and Greg has said. I am disappointed that the newspaper is not here today. I am disappointed that they have misinterpreted things that we have said and done. I would also like the newspaper to know that if they call me on my cell phone when I am in a meeting, I am not going to step out and talk to them. If they want to talk to me, I want them to talk to me in this meeting.

BILL KAEPPNER: Over the years, when I have come into the meetings, I have, in the past, even written about when a public official like a judge or a high ranking official comes in and wants to speak, that that needs to be in the context of a meeting. I would have never thought that the dogcatcher coming in wanting to know how he can handle paper work would rise to that level, to be so important that you would have to restructure government to make that happen. I can honestly say I have never been in the situation where I felt that this Board, the Commissioners has been doing anything untoward. I was completely stunned with that article and headline. I would have never expected that in a million years.

ADD PUBLIC COMMENT TO AGENDA: Greg asked that a public comment section be added to the agenda.

AUDITOR KEN WILSON: Auditor Ken Wilson informed the Commissioners of a seminar on Thursday June 25 concerning handling of stimulus money. He asked if the Commissioners Clerk could attend with himself and members of his office. The meeting is in Columbus starting at 10 am. He also added that Auditing Firm Balestra, Harr and Scherer need to meet with the Commissioners that day as well, so asked if the Commissioners would reschedule their meeting for that day until 2:30 instead of the normal 9:30 start time.

RESCHEDULE REGULAR MEETING ON JUNE 25: Motion by Sandy Ogle and seconded by Greg Green to reschedule the June 25, 2009 meeting for 2:30 pm instead of 9:30 am. Vote: Ogle, yea, Green, yea, Walker, yea.

CONTRACT-BALESTRA, HARR & SCHERER: Motion by Greg Green and seconded by Sandy Ogle to approve and authorize all three Commissioners to sign the Contract with Balestra, Harr & Scherer Auditing Firm, with further approval from the Prosecutor. Vote: Ogle, yea, Green, yea, Walker, yea.

COMMISSIONERS VAN : John spoke about the Commissioners van being used more and more by other county departments. He said that Juvenile Court uses the van after hours often and suggested that a log and the key be stored in the Sheriff's office to allow for such use. A log would also be kept in the Commissioners office and the employees would still reserve the van with the Commissioners clerk. John also suggested that the name Commissioners be removed from the side of the van to just say Hocking County. All Commissioners were in agreeable with these suggestions.

FOR THE RECORD: The fence is almost complete at the brickyard.

FUND TRANSFER: Motion by Sandy Ogle and seconded by Greg Green to approve the following Fund Transfer:

1) J&FS - \$7,644.83 from 001/County Commissioners to 0061/Hocking Co. DJFS

Vote: Ogle, yea, Green, yea, Walker, yea.

APPROPRIATION TRANSFER: Motion by Greg Green and seconded by Sandy Ogle to approve the following Appropriation Transfer:

1) J&FS - \$10,000.00 from H06-14/PRC to H06-02/Supplies

2) J&FS - \$3,000.00 from H06-14/PRC to H06-26/SS Supplies

Vote: Ogle, yea, Green, yea, Walker, yea.

TRAVEL: Motion by Sandy Ogle and seconded by Greg Green to approve the following requests for travel:

1) J&FS - Amy Guda to attend an ABLE meeting in Lancaster, Ohio on June 29, 2009.

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2) J&FS - Bob Smith to attend a Workforce Rapid Response meeting in Columbus, Ohio on June 23 -24, 2009.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Green, yea, Walker, yea.

BILL ACTION: Motion by Sandy Ogle and seconded by Greg Green to approve the Job & Family Services bills dated June 11, 2009 totaling \$38,709.28. Vote: Ogle, yea, Green, yea, Walker, yea.

FOR THE RECORD: There will be an Old Straitsville Water meeting tonight at 7 pm at Chieftain Elementary to discuss the Rockbridge Water extension project.

SEWER CONSULTANT DISCUSSION: The Commissioners discussed retaining the current Sewer consultant, John Perry for an as needed basis for an hourly rate.

RENEGOTIATE CONTRACT WITH JOHN PERRY: Motion by Sandy Ogle and seconded by Greg Green to renegotiate the contract with John Perry for sewer consulting services on an as needed basis for an hourly rate to be set. Vote: Ogle, yea, Green, yea, Walker, yea.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion by Greg Green and seconded by Sandy Ogle to enter into Executive Session at 10:00 am with Sheriff Lanny North to discuss courthouse security. Vote: Ogle, yea, Green, yea, Walker, yea.

EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion by Greg Green and seconded by Sandy Ogle to exit Executive Session at 10:35 am, no action taken. Vote: Ogle, yea, Green, yea, Walker, yea.

RECESS: The meeting recessed at 10:35 am.

RECONVENE: The meeting reconvened at 10:44 am.

FOR THE RECORD: John spoke to Zack Space’s office about not being notified about the \$2.5 million stimulus money received.

FOR THE RECORD: There will be a conference call meeting at the Health Department on Thursday morning concerning stimulus money for individual sewers. The Commissioners discussed it and decided that John would try to attend some of the conference call.

JUDGE WALLACE, MICHELLE BELL AND AUDITOR KEN WILSON: Auditor Ken Wilson addressed the issue of insurance reimbursements for damaged items belonging to Municipal Court from the water leak in the maintenance building in December. Ken said that because it was a General Fund purchase it has to be paid into the General Fund. He continued that the Commissioners will have to use the Contingencies line item to transfer money from into the appropriate appropriation in Municipal Court. Michelle Bell, with Municipal Court said that the total that should be reimbursed to them at this time is \$1,970.00.

AUDITOR KEN WILSON AND SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR SHAUN LEHMAN: Auditor Ken Wilson and Systems Administrator Shaun Lehman spoke to the Commissioners about the need for a back up server. Ken explained that if there is a main server crash, or malfunction, like the county experienced in April, the back up server would ensure the material and records would be accessible even with the main server down. The cost would be \$5,796.31, but Shaun assured Ken that he would be able to install it himself, so no consulting services will be needed. The Commissioners asked if there was enough money in the Data Processing budget, but there is not. Ken suggested that all departments and agencies who utilize the system should share the cost. Ken will try to set up a meeting with department heads that this would apply to.

RICH WARREN-HOCKING INTERNET: Rich Warren with Hocking Internet asked the Commissioners to sign a letter of endorsement his application to the USDA for a Community Connect Broadband Grant for the Village of Laurelville.

LETTER OF ENDORSEMENT FOR HOCKING INTERNET: Motion by Sandy Ogle and seconded by Greg Green to sign a letter of Endorsement for Hocking Internet’s application to USDA for a Community Connect Broadband Grant for the village of Laurelville. Vote: Ogle, yea, Green, yea, Walker, yea.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Sandy Ogle and seconded by Greg Green to adjourn the meeting. Vote: Ogle, yea, Green, yea, Walker, yea.

Kalena Ogg, Clerk

Board of Hocking County Commissioners

This is to certify that the above is the true action taken by this Board of Hocking County Commissioners at a regular meeting of the Board held on June 16, 2009.

Kalena Ogg, Clerk

John Walker, President