

COMMISSIONERS MEETING FEBRUARY 11, 2020

The Board of Hocking County Commissioners met in regular session this 11th day of February with the followings board members present: Sandra Ogle and Jeff Dickerson. Gary Waugh excused.

MEETING: The meeting was called to order by Vice President Jeff Dickerson.

MINUTES: Motion by Sandra Ogle and seconded by Jeff Dickerson to table the approval of minutes.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dickerson, yea.

AGENDA: Motion by Sandra Ogle and seconded by Jeff Dickerson to approve.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dickerson, yea.

EMS DIRECTOR:

Scott Brooker, EMS Director, presented the Commissioners with purchasing 2 new emergency vehicles, these will replace the 2012 and 2013 current vehicles. Spreading the cost overall several years.

Motion by Jeff Dickerson and seconded by Sandra Ogle.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dickerson, yea.

FOR THE RECORD:

Motion by Sandra Ogle and seconded by Jeff Dickerson to go into General Business.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dickerson, yea.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION:

Prosecutor Opioid HOPE - Opioid - HOPE Equipment U86-06 \$300.00; Opioid - HOPE Supplies E86-09A \$300.00;

Prosecutor VOCA - SVAA Supplies R11-02 \$885.00; SVAA Contract Services R11-04 \$1,600.00; SVAA Other Expense R11-05 \$100.00

Municipal - Wellness and Recovery Muni Other Expense T85-04 \$3,049.24

Motion by Sandra Ogle and seconded by Jeff Dickerson to approve.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dickerson, yea.

APPROPRIATION TRANSFER:

Municipal - \$7,000.00 from T89-02 Fringes to T89-03 Other Expense

Motion by Sandra Ogle and seconded by Jeff Dickerson to approve.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dickerson, yea.

CERTIFICATION OF ADDITIONAL REVENUE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS:

Sheriff - Commissioners advanced \$10,000.00 into the LE-Victim Specialist Fund on 01/16/2020. These are additional funds that need to be certified, per the auditor's office.

Motion by Sandra Ogle and seconded by Jeff Dickerson to approve.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dickerson, yea.

UNITED WAY:

Motion by Jeff Dickerson and seconded by Sandra Ogle to approve the Phase 35 Local Board Plan to be signed by Sandra Ogle.

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Vote: Ogle, yea, Dickerson, yea.

FOR THE RECORD:

Motion by Sandra Ogle and seconded by Jeff Dickerson to amend agenda and return to appointments.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dickerson, yea.

DAVID HARRIS:

David Harris came to the Commissioners with the matter regarding terminating the Victims Advocate on the Natalie Nutter Case, and for other victims that have been misguided and misdirected by this Victims Advocate. The Prosecutor doesn't seem to be taking this very seriously. Mr. Harris read an email from an employee within the Prosecutor's office, that this advocate made a threat that she was going to come after the employee. This employee sent an email to the Prosecutor telling him about the situation, and no reply was met back from the Prosecutor. This needs to be brought to the Prosecutor's attention again.

Sandra Ogle commented that when she received the email she first called the Sheriff, and then she called our liability attorney. Our attorney said to talk to the Prosecutor about the matter. We called the Prosecutor and asked for him to come to the meeting, but his schedule would not allow it. We need to speak with the Prosecutor about it first.

Commissioners discuss speaking with CCAO and our Liability Attorney about grant ownership, and having authority over wages on the grant.

Commissioner Ogle asked Mr. Harris to give them a week and come back.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Cindy Kasler asked the Commissioners to speak with current and past employees of the Prosecutors office and ask them how they feel, and how they were treated by Brenda Riddlebarger. She would recommend talking with them individually.

Bethany Kasler commented on the lack of support from the Victims Advocate, and failing laws around the state.

FOR THE RECORD:

Motion by Sandra Ogle and seconded by Jeff Dickerson to amend the agenda for Mike Smith at 10:06 AM.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dickerson, yea.

MIKE SMITH:

Mike Smith discussed with the Commissioners a situation that came to his attention last June. This was a case against a fellow township trustee misusing township funds by purchasing items for his personal use with the township account. Smith sent a letter to the Ethics committee, and received a return letter stating for the next step to be contacting the Hocking County Prosecutors office. Smith reached out, didn't hear anything for weeks, and was finally able to get an appointment with the Prosecutor. The Prosecutor told Smith that he would have to discuss this further with the Auditor Ken Wilson. Smith was confused why Ken Wilson had to be involved. With an upcoming State audit to be signed off on, Smith refuses to sign it knowing there is something wrong.

Chief Valkenburg and Major Caleb Moritz mentioned that this sounds more like a criminal charge than an Ethics violation.

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Commissioner Dickerson said the Commissioners can not advise Smith what to do. Smith said he wanted it to be on County record. Commissioner Dickerson said he would recommend speaking further with the Sheriff's department.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Cindy Kasler, asked what is going to happen since these gentlemen have already went to the Prosecutors office, and if the Sheriff's office believes there was a crime committed after an investigation, and proceeds with submitting it to the Prosecutor for further action, what will happen.

Chief Valkinburg said that with just the papers that Smith has already provided, the Prosecutor has to provide proof from an investigation before charges are presented.

Commissioner Dickerson asked how Smith came about finding this information. Smith replied with Warehouse Tire called and said your tires are ready for pickup. Smith went to the tire warehouse

MAJOR CALEB MORITZ:

Major Caleb Moritz presented the Commissioners with an additional appropriation due to the incorrect appropriation used for the purchase of dog tags. The auditor's office needs an additional appropriation to fix it.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION:

Dog & Kennel - Other Expense B05-11 \$481.10

Motion by Sandra Ogle and seconded by Jeff Dickerson to approve.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dickerson, yea.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jim Kalklosch asked if the previous motion had a second and a vote.

Commissioners Dickerson made sure to second the motion and ask for a vote. Motion was passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Jeff Dickerson and seconded by Sandra Ogle to adjourn.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dickerson, yea.

Mark Stout, 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 February 11, 2020.

Mark Stout, Clerk

Gary Waugh, President