

COMMISSIONERS MEETING

The Board of Hocking County Commissioners met in regular session this 28th day of September 2023 with the following members present: Sandra Ogle, Jessica Dicken, and Jason D'Onofrio.

MEETING

The meeting was called to order by President Sandra Ogle.

MINUTES

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve the September 21, 2023 minutes.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

FACEBOOK

Commissioner Ogle statement: Before we approve the agenda, (asked if we were live on facebook, Clerk replied yes) I did not know, last week that facebook got shut off, I didn't know anything about it til after lunch, I called our IT guy and told him there is something wrong with facebook it went off, He said he would check it. At 3:30 I found out that the Sheriff's Department told our clerk to pull the feed on facebook and shut it off, really it upset me for this reason, no one had ever said a word to me that was going to happen. I don't know about Commissioner D'Onofrio and Commissioner Dicken but I was never told that was going to happen. The Sheriff's responsibility is for the Courthouse to be safe and secure. If there is an emergency, yes, It is his responsibility to then to tell them to pull the feed. But I feel the sheriff should have consulted with the Commissioners and said I'm going to do this. We put off facebook until we got a policy, once we got a policy, I think it was in March, Jessica made a motion and I seconded it, that we go back live on facebook. So really what happened, he operated outside of our policy that we have. We dont tell his people what to do and I don't appreciate the Sheriff's department telling our people what to do unless he was to tell us. As of right now, the Sheriff has never said anything to me about why it happened. The only thing I know is what I read in the paper. I just want everyone to know that I had no part in the facebook going down last week, so with that being said unless there is a comment (directed at Commissioner D'Onofrio and Commissioner Dicken) do you have a comment? Commissioners D'Onofrio and Dicken stated that they did not.

AGENDA

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

BILLS

The following bills were presented before examination and approval:

Name	No.	Purpose	Amount
OFFICE CITY EXPRESS		SUPPLIES	301.09
GORDON FLESCH COMPANY		COPIER MAINT	80
COMDOC INC		MO MAINTENANCE XEROX 5550	89.53
KONICA MINOLTA BUSINESS SOLTI		PRINTER MAINTENANCE THRU 2023	271.16
MILLHUFF-STANG, CPA, INC		ANNUAL AUDIT-2022	20864
OFFICE MART		SUPPLIES	190.41
MODERN OFFICE METHODS, INC		COPIER	136.79
DESPETORICH, JASON M.		TRAVEL, MILEAGE & EXPENSES	250.41
MULTI-CO JUVENILE DETENTION C		DETENTION EXPENSES	32238
OFFICE MART		COPIER PAPER & ENVELOPES	402.08
GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES		CASE BINDERS, RETURN ENV., ETC	290
ITECH		COPIER FEES	107.29
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES		SUPPLIES	370.7
US BANK EQUIPMENT FINANCE		COPIER LEASE-MOM RICOH IMC 3000	242.04
TREASURER STATE OF OHIO		BROILER INSPECTION	136.5

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AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER	SERVICE	8675.77
FRONTIER	JUVI CT FAX,CO INTERNET,BILLING	1759.65
COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC.	SERVICE: 25 E SECOND ST	47.07
ROCKY SHOES & BOOTS OUTLET	DUTY BOOTS	548.21
COMPETITION MOTORS	!! CRUISER REPAIR	1766.81
TANSKY MOTORS, INC	!! CRUISER MAINT & REPAIR	1566.86
HOCKING CO SHERIFF	REMAINING BAL FOJ FUND YR 2023	9474.5
TREASURER STATE OF OHIO-CSK51	WEB CHECK	843.75
GORDON FLESCH COMPANY	MONTHLY SERVICE FEE	18.22
NACVSO	APPEALS VIRTUAL COURSE-RAFFERTY	250
LOGAN SCREEN PRINTING	!! OUTREACH ITEMS	118
RAFFERTY, VICKI	RESOURCE FAIR ITEMS	84.46
RAFFERTY, VICKI	RESOURCE FAIR ITEMS	80.16
STARBRICK BBQ	!! RESOURCE FAIR FOOD	3862.5
BAUM LAW OFFICE	!! PUBLIC DEFENDER	1506.48
JACKSON, STEVEN F.	!! PUBLIC DEFENDER	225
KLINE, DONALD L	!! PUBLIC DEFENDER	3547.5
KLINE, DONALD L	!! PUBLIC DEFENDER	690
MEADOWS, JORDEN M	!! PUBLIC DEFENDER	600
MOORE, WILLIAM	!! PUBLIC DEFENDER	4155
MOORE, WILLIAM	!! PUBLIC DEFENDER	1327.5
SMITH, SETH R.	!! PUBLIC DEFENDER	3228
WEAVER, CAMERON M.	!! PUBLIC DEFENDER	210
FAIRFIELD COUNTY SHERIFF'S	VARIOUS VENDORS-HOUSING INMATES	3496
COMDOC INC	MO MAINTENANCE XEROX 5325	38.68
GIVENS, JOSH	TRAVEL	51.74
JUDGE RANDY DEERING	VISITING JUDGE MILEAGE	89.74
DESPETORICH, JASON M.	REIMB REGISTRATION FEE SUPREME	400
WYKLE, RHONDA	TRAVEL EXPENSES MONTHLY MEETING	85.15
AVERHEALTH	DRUG SCREENS	285
JONES, CASEY	REIMBURSEMENT FOR MILEAGE	28.95
US BANK	MOM-COPY MACHINE RENTAL CHARGE	94.72
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLIES	180.9
CINTAS CORPORATION	FLOOR MAT SERVICE	178.2

Motion by Jessica Dicken and seconded by Jason D'Onofrio to approve.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

APPOINTMENTS

9:30 - Nathan Simons with HAPCAP to recommend and begin contract negotiations and procedures for the West Street CI Project, The sewer facility improvement project on West Street and Falls township just outside the city of Logan. Engineers Estimate was \$431,545.50 with a max of \$469,700.00, Jackson Brothers Construction was the

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only bidder at \$467,929. Everything checked out on the bid review. It is HAPCAP's recommendation that we move forward with a contract with Jackson Brothers Construction for the West Street Project. Commissioner Ogle asked when they would get started on it. Mr Simons said they would have to see what the Contractor's schedule and timeline looks like. After the Auditor and prosecutor reviews it, It comes back through a meeting for approval. Jim Kilbarger stated that when he met with Commissioner Ogle and the Engineer Mr Silcott on Chieftain Drive, Mr Silcott was supposed to contact Mr Kilbarger about bidding on this job and he had not gotten a call from him. And Mr Kilbarger would have liked to bid on it. Commissioner Ogle stated that it was advertised. Mr Simons stated that two bid notices were in the Logan Daily. It was also on HAPCAP'S website. If you have an email or contact info HAPCAP has a google group that they add people to that will notify of jobs.

9:40 - Tracy Shoults with DLZ presented an update on Enterprise/ SR 664 Sanitary Sewer Improvements. Loan is ready to be closed out. Commissioner Ogle doesn't feel that it should be closed out yet in case it is needed. The Hocking County Scenic Trail - disbursement request for DLZ invoices,

Potential ACGP Grant program with the City of Logan, Grant Application Approval needed for reconnecting Communities which will address the major disconnects of what the Trail will need to connect the Schools, Parks, City, and Hospital, with 100 percent grant potential. ORCA partner invitation.

West Street Sanitary Sewer Improvements - HAPCAP bidding

Rockbridge Phase I Sanitary Sewer Replacement - Have an open design loan to pay for the design of that project that is ongoing, And EPA - WPCLF Application requesting Grant.

Haydenville Regional Connection - Engineering selection complete by HAPCAP; Board has approved: Agreement Pending; OWDA Planning will be used for the study.

Demolition Grant - County Jail building demolition, funded by the State Of Ohio. Engineer selection complete by HAPCAP; Board has approved; Agreement pending.

Logan Brownfields - Hocking County entered into a Grant Agreement with ODOD. Hocking County entered into a services Agreement with DLZ. DLZ sub'd Phase 2 investigation to SME; Project ongoing.

For Hocking Valley Scenic Trail - 4 or 5 current unpaid invoices for State reimbursement of \$8,039.37.

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve going into General Business.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Fund Disbursement request No.11 for \$8,039.73.

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

Signing of Grant Application for Federal Grant for Hocking Valley Scenic Trail 100 percent grant funding to connect parts of trail to Parks, City, hospital and schools.

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

DLZ invoices from July, August and September for \$4326.32.

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve holding off on closing out loan for Enterprise/664.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

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South Central Power

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve South Central Power to install a new pole at the West parcel line of 19960 Buena Vista Road. Existing pole near parcel line to be removed once joint use transfers to new pole. New Pole being installed due to not being able to gain easement from the neighboring parcel owner..

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

Decrease Appropriation

Hocking County Municipal Court - ARPF 269 - Equipment - BA26-02 - \$ 2,700.00

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

Appropriation Transfer

Commissioners - A15A17A Contingencies-transfers - Postage A01A03A - \$25,000.00

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

Hocking County Recycle Day

Hocking County Recycle Day is Saturday October 14, 2023 at the Hocking County Fairgrounds from 9-1 PM.

Prosecutors Office Carpets

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve getting quotes to clean the Prosecutor's Office carpets

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

Allen Johnson Letter

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve sending letter to Mr. Allen Johnson with the nine reasons/concerns from the prosecutor as to why not to support the project as is stated.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

West Street Bid

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve Jackson Brothers Construction bid for the West Street Project.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

Office Closed for Training

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve closing the Commissioners Office today from 11:45 for the rest of the Day for Sunshine Law Training.

Vote: Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

Commissioner Ogle asked to be excused after the meeting and tomorrow for a trip.

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve excusing Commissioner Ogle for trip.

Vote: Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

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PUBLIC COMMENT

Sherry Young again asked for Commissioner Dicken's resignation. Mrs. Young said she does not want to put the County through a recall/removal election, but she is prepared to do that and it would cost the County \$40,000.00 to put on the ballot, Commissioner Ogle asked why would the County have to pay. Mrs. Young stated that if it is an off election year it would have to be brought forth. If it is an election year, some of that cost would be wrapped in whatever is on the ballot.

Mike Nihiser stated that he agrees with Commissioner Dicken, in that these are only charges, there is no conviction. we have to look in the past, we have a gentleman running for president of the United States with all kinds of charges against him, and Hocking County voted to support that person, I think the people of Hocking County has already stated how they feel.

Chief Deputy Leif Bickel, Chief Deputy of Corrections at Hocking County Sheriff's Office stated that he would like to address comments made by Commissioner Ogle at the beginning of the meeting, Commissioner Ogle stated that she would be glad to hear them. Chief Bickel continuing stated that the Facebook live was his decision to make, the reason he made that decision was that he received information that Grand Jury information or evidence was possibly going to be released in that meeting, so I made that decision, and it was told to another Commissioner what I was planning to do based on the information that I had received. The whole purpose of that was to protect the integrity of the Grand Jury, which seems to be a little loose down here sometimes, ok, So that's why that decision was made. I received your public records request, I'm answering that now and you will get that as soon as I get back from the Prosecutor's Office. Sharon Knapner asked if he had a court order. Chief Bickel stated he did not. Sharon Kaepner stated so you took it upon yourself to take it down. Chief Bickel said Ma'am I answered your public records request. The thing is, that is not inhibiting any Sunshine rights, because anyone can come to this meeting, the official recording is made as well. I was trying to protect what I thought was the interest of the Grand Jury and the Grand Jury process. That was all, I'm not here to support or protect or do anything for anyone that has done any wrong or alleged to do any wrong. But I believe in our criminal justice process and I believe in the integrity of the criminal justice process.

Commissioner Ogle stated that she agrees with Chief Bickel and said that she appreciated him telling her that, but asked if he could understand how no one consulted with all three of the Commissioners.

Chief Bickel Informed Commissioner Ogle that it was an evolving situation on the moment, it wasn't something he had time to sit down and call time-out and gather everybody together and say this is what is taking place, what do you think would be the best course of action. I took the course of action which I thought was best at that time, And I still believe it was, based on the information I had received and I thought it was important enough to protect that process and not make a spectacle of that process.

Commissioner Ogle stated that she understood what he was saying and thanked him and appreciated Chief Bickel for coming and explaining it to us. So that now people would understand whereas before people did not understand, including me, I've always worked with the Sheriff's Office and we've always got along, and supported the Sheriff's Office. Chief Bickel stated that they appreciate that. Commissioner Ogle stated that it kinda hurt my feelings that you would do something like that and not even say anything to me. Chief Bickel said he understood but if he would have had time, he would have consulted with all the Commissioners, as well as others, but felt due to the rapidly evolving nature of what was taking place and the information that he was receiving it was in the best interest to take action at that point. Commissioner Ogle stated that is right, Like she said if it is in the case of an emergency you have the authority and the right to protect all of us. Commissioner Ogle thanked Chief Bickel for coming and telling us. Sherry Young Said she had one quick question, you stated that you spoke with one of the Commissioners? Chief Bickel stated that he did, Sherry Young asked which Commissioner was that? Chief Bickel said it was commissioner D'Onofrio, Sherry Young interrupted with, so when you were asked you. Chief Bickel said when Commissioner D'Onofrio went to the bathroom, he went outside and approached him and said this is what I'm doing.

Commissioner D'Onofrio said on his way back from the restroom Chief Bickel mentioned something about for security they were going to cut the live feed, I half understood it, half didn't. I came back in, we went into things, my phone started beeping saying the live feeds gone. Chief Bickel said it wasn't me asking him

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for permission to do what I was going to do, I was simply informing him that's what I was going to do because he was coming back into this room. Ok.Thank you.

Bid Opening.

10:00 - Bid opening for the 5' brush hog finish mower, Only one Bid from Bill Wolfe for the amount of \$1,855.00.

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Deb Tobin (directing her question at Commissioner D'Onofrio) I asked you Friday if you knew that the live feed was down and you told me no, why would you just not say yes I knew. Commissioner D'Onofrio responded that he believed he told her he got a text message saying it was down, Ms. Tobin Interrupted with no, you didn't,you told me no. Commissioner D'Onofrio said he did not recall that.Is that when we were standing in the middle of the street with traffic going by and everything? My apologies. Ms. Tobin said I asked you and you said no.I asked if any of the Commissioners knew and you said you knew for a fact that Sandy didn't know. That's what you said. Commissioner D'Onofrio said Sandy didn't.

? To me ,instead of saying no you should have said yes I was contacted by the Sheriff, because that makes all of you look bad now. Commissioner D'Onofrio stated he wasn't contacted by the Sheriff, as I was walking back into the room, Chief Bickel said something, Deb Tobin interrupted with I wish you would have just been honest.

Sharon Kaepfner stated that so the citizens of Hocking County know the Sheriff's department took it upon themselves, with information they had but they shut off Public Comment to the rest to all of us that were watching on that live feed,to me this strikes a thought police. So please be aware that this is what your Sheriff's department is doing when they feel that public comment is not something that they want to hear.

Commissioner Ogle stated that maybe the next time it just might be good if the sheriff's department just come in and say that, just interrupt the meeting, and say due to information we have, we are going to shut facebook down. Facebook is not mandatory, it's just a privilege that we give people to watch it. We don't have to do it.So maybe next time if they would just come and tell us, interrupt the meeting,and say due to information that I have we are going to shut facebook down, that's just a thought. Any other public comment? If not, then, Commissioner D'Onofrio and Dicken said we still have 7 minutes until we go into executive session for the interviews.

RECESS

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve going into recess.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

RECONVENE at 10:44 AM

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve going into Executive Session for Sewer Assistant Interviews.

Roll Call Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

Executive Session

Executive Session with Sewer Superintendent Tim Meehling for Sewer Assistant Interviews with

10:15 - James Kimble,

10:30 - Owen Partalo

10:45 - Zachary McManaway

10:00 - John Checklick

Exit Executive Session

11:11 AM - Exit Executive Session with no action taken and no decisions made.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to adjourn.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

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Christy Lindinger, Clerk

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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 September 28, 2023.

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Christy Lindinger, Clerk

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Sandra Ogle, President