

Minutes

February 17, 2026

Commissioners present: Jeffrey Hunker, Timothy Bechtol and William Bateson

Also Present: Alec Helms, Phil Johnson, Recorder Tracy Coldren, Adam Witteman, Holly Frishe and Saige Thornley from the Courier.

Commissioner Hunker opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioner's 1st floor conference room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Minutes from the February 12th, 2026, meeting was read with William Bateson making a motion to approve. Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The Commissioners approved a travel request for the Sheriff's Office and for their office.

The Assistant Clerk presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #94-26 – Authorizing payment of the listed and/or attached Purchase Orders. William Bateson made a motion to approve. Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #95-26 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation – ADAMHS Fund #2013. William Bateson made a motion to approve. Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Phil Johnson presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #96-26 – Authorizing the rejection of all bids submitted for completion of a project for provision of repairs and improvements within the Hancock County Courthouse building, in particular related to the Treasurer's Office within the building and further authorizing the second solicitation of bids for that same project. Phil stated this is a follow up to the bid opening held last week. There was 1 bid received and it was above the acceptable amount. This will authorize rebidding the project after some analysis of what the proper cost estimate should be. William Bateson made a motion to approve. Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Commissioner Bechtol stated that Amber will be talking to the one bidder and the other companies that chose not to bid on the project to complete the analysis and we should be hearing back from her later this week.

Adam Witteman had nothing to report from the Auditor's office.

Recorder Tracy Coldren had nothing to report.

Holly Frishe asked for some clarification on reasoning behind the Recycling Hub being open 24 hours and the different locations. There were discussions on the requirements for the program, the problems with the community overuse of the sites and ideas of solutions for this problem.

At 10:00 a.m., the Commissioners met with Recorder Tracy Coldren. Also present was Alec Helms and Phil Johnson.

At 10:00 a.m., Jeffrey Hunker made motion to enter into executive session in regards to threatened litigation. Timothy Bechtol seconded. Roll call vote: William Bateson: yes; Timothy Bechtol: yes; Jeffrey Hunker: yes; At 10:17 a.m., Jeffrey Hunker made a motion to come out of executive session with no action taken. Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

There was a discussion on the possibility of getting an archivist to scan documents. Then getting a proper accounting of the square footage that will be needed for a record storage facility. Tracy stated that she has been approached by other counties and they have expressed interest in renting storage space if a new records storage facility is built.

Meetings/Reports

Timothy Bechtol had nothing to report.

William Bateson had nothing to report.

Jeffrey Hunker had nothing to report.

At 10:30 a.m., the Commissioners met with Jerry Greiner, Tom Stalter and Garret Chamberlain from Northwest Sewer and Water District. Also present was Alec Helms, Phil Johnson, Holly Frische and Siage Thornton from the Courier. See attached sign in sheet for additional attendees. Jerry explained the current areas they serve and some of the different methods they use to get the water to the different areas. Jerry stated that Allen Township petitioned to join the district and they were approved last week. There is now a 90-day appeal period. Once that is passed they will begin discussing what they will need and then begin the engineering work. There were discussions on their different systems, the procedures for adding to the district, current water providers to the district and the options for areas of the county joining the district.

At 11:30 a.m., the Commissioner met with Randy Galbraith for a JFS update. Also present was Alec Helms, Phil Johnson and Siage Thornley from the Courier. Randy provided the attached information. He stated that due to the reporting being two months behind and the end of year shut down we do not have the finalized January reporting yet. He gave updates on the current financial status, the number of kids in care and the foster care cost projections at the current number of kids in care. Randy stated he should receive the levy amount next month and will be able to include the proper numbers in his report at the next meeting. There was a statewide committee formed to focus on the SNAP error rate. There was a bill passed that states that ODJFS has to come with a way to figure out each county's error rates. Randy explained how this will be done and how he plans to handle it within Hancock County.

Randy Galbraith requested executive session in regards to employment – discipline.

Phil Johnson requested executive session in regards to pending litigation.

At 11:49 a.m., Jeffrey Hunker made motion to enter into executive session in regards to employment – discipline and pending litigation. Timothy Bechtol seconded. Roll call vote: William Bateson: yes; Timothy Bechtol: yes; Jeffrey Hunker: yes; At 12:09 p.m., Jeffrey Hunker made a motion to come out of executive session with no action taken. Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Work Session Topics

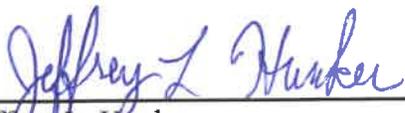
- 1) State of the County
- 2) Proclamation for Board of DD

Respectfully submitted,



Alec Helms, Assistant Clerk

Reviewed and approved by:



Jeffrey L. Hunker



Timothy K. Bechtol



William L. Bateson

Sign In

Evan Stump Liberty Twp

Zach Thies Cass Twp

Hyle Harvitt Eagle twp

~~Dean M Sten~~ Eagle Twp

John Rader Eagle Twp

Rachel Rader Eagle Twp



Hancock County
Job & Family Services

P.O. Box 270
7814 Co. Rd. 140
Findlay, Ohio 45839
TOLL FREE: (800) 228-2732
PHONE: (419) 422-0182

Randall L. Galbraith, Esq., Director

Commissioner's Report – February 17th, 2026

January 2026 Info	
2026 YTD Foster Care Placement	-
YTD Adoption (county share)	18,112.35
IV-E Reimbursement for Placements	-
Title XX Reimbursements for Placements	-
SS & Child Support	-
MSY Reimbursement (May)	-
MSY Reimbursement	-
SCPA SFY26 used for foster care services	-
Levy funds received	-
30-Days to Family Salary, Benefits, & Shared Costs	13,540.36
Balance	31,652.71

- 1) Kids in Care
- 2) Placement Costs
- 3) Foster Care Projections
- 4) Executive Session – Employee Discipline

Providing Help Today and Building Hope for Tomorrow

Child Support Enforcement
(419) 424-1365
Fax (419) 424-7288

Workforce Development
(419) 422-3679
Fax (419) 422-8349

Ohio Works First
(419) 425-6375
Fax (419) 422-1081

Childrens Protective Services
(419) 424-7022
Fax (419) 424-7485

PLACEMENTS SUMMARY STATEMENT *

Hancock County Job & Family Services

Providing Help Today and Building Hope for Tomorrow

7814 County Road 99
Findlay, OH 45840

DATE: 2/14/2026

To:

Honorable Board of Hancock County Commissioners
300 S. Main Street
Findlay, OH 45840

MONTHLY TOTALS **	Foster Placement	Shared Placements	Adoption	IV-E	Other reimb	Total County Owed
January	-	-	9,073.75	-	-	9,073.75
February	-	-	9,038.60	-	-	9,038.60
March	-	-	-	-	-	-
April	-	-	-	-	-	-
May	-	-	-	-	-	-
June	-	-	-	-	-	-
July	-	-	-	-	-	-
August	-	-	-	-	-	-
September	-	-	-	-	-	-
October	-	-	-	-	-	-
November	-	-	-	-	-	-
December	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	18,112.35	-	-	18,112.35

Credits:		
	MSY	-
	MSY	-
	SCPA Applied	-
Levy funds	February	-
Levy funds	February	-
Levy funds	March	-
Levy funds	April	-
Levy funds	August	-
Levy funds	September	-
	January	13,540.36
	February	-
	March	-
	April	-
	May	-
	June	-
	July	-
	August	-
	September	-
	October	-
	November	-
	December	-
TOTAL REC'D		13,540.36
Balance		31,652.71

30 Days to Family
personnel exp

NET BALANCE DUE	31,652.71
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* Detailed placement log report available upon request.
 ** Includes invoices and reimbursements known as of date of report.
 All expenses and receipts will be recorded in month accrued/obligated, even if received at a later date.



Hancock County
Job & Family Services

Children's Protective Services Unit
January 2026

Total Number of reports Received:	
January 2026	136
February 2026	
March 2026	
April 2026	
May 2026	
June 2026	
Screened In/Out	
January 2026	IN= 39, OUT= 88
February 2026	IN= , OUT=
March 2026	IN= , OUT=
April 2026	IN= OUT=
May 2026	IN= OUT=
June 2026	IN= OUT=
Breakdown of case Type Screened In:	
January 2026	TR= 29, AR= 5, FINS= 4, Dependency= 1
February 2026	TR= AR=, FINS= , Dependency=
March 2026	TR= , AR= , FINS=
April 2026	TR= ,AR=, FINS=, Dependency=
May 2026	TR= , AR= , FINS= , Dependency=
June 2026	TR=, AR=, FINS=, Dependency=
Total Number of Kids in Care at months end	
January 2026	106
February 2026	
March 2026	
April 2026	
May 2026	
June 2026	

Breakdown of <u>Current</u> Placements	
Family Foster Home	44
Adoptive	3
Kinship Placement	16
Group Home	8
Treatment Foster Care	30
Residential	3
Independent Living	2
Detention	0
Hospitalization	0
AWOL*	0
Total number of Children Entering Care/Exiting Care	
January 2026	Enter= 9, Exit= 1
February 2026	Enter= , Exit=
March 2026	Enter= , Exit=
April 2026	Enter= Exit=
May 2026	Enter= Exit=
June 2026	Enter= Exit=
	Enter= Exit=
Total number of Children Receiving In-Home Services	
January 2026	36
February 2026	0
March 2026	0
April 2026	0
May 2026	0
June 2026	0

TR- Traditional Response
AR- Alternative Response
FINS- Family in Need of Services
AWOL- Absent without leave

FOSTER PROJECTIONS 2026

Category	Count 01.31.2026	Highest Per Diem	Average Per Diem	Total Annual Proj
OWN FOSTER	6	45.00	45.00	98,550.00
Children in Hospital	0			
Children in Detention	0			
PURCHASED CARE				
Children's Residential Center (Total)	3	344.00	206.33	225,935.00
Family Foster Home	38	187.95	79.94	1,108,756.85
Adoptive Placements	3	92.00	74.96	82,077.55
Group Home	8	608.00	530.00	1,547,600.00
Treatment Foster Home	30	450.00	154.13	1,687,719.85
Independent Living Home	2	150.00	75.00	54,750.00
AWOL/Unknown	0	-	#DIV/0!	-
TOTAL PURCHASED CARE	84	608.00	186.73	4,706,839.25
PURCHASED CARE BREAKDOWN BY SERVICE TYPE				
Children's Residential Centers (CRC)				
Children's Center of Ohio	1	275.00		100,375.00
Cornell Abrasas Group	0	-		-
Brookside Extended Care	1	-		-
St. Vincent Family Center	0	-		-
Safely Home	0	-		-
Safe House	1	344.00		125,560.00
Foundations for Living	0	-		-
Total CRC Placements	3	275.00		225,935.00
Family Foster Home Placements				
Adriel	12	122.00		362,810.00
National Youth Advocate Program (NYAP)	5	87.87		160,362.75
State of Arkansas Dept. of Human Services	3	45.00		49,275.00
Specialized Alternatives for Families & Youth of Ohio (SAFY)	6	91.06		199,421.40
Sandusky County JFS Placement	2	45.00		32,850.00
Wyandot County JFS Placement	1	148.62		18,250.00
A New Leaf	1	50.00		83,081.30
The Marsh Foundation	6	83.00		158,045.00
NECCO Inc.	2	187.95		98,907.70
Total Family Foster Home Placements	38	187.95		1,163,003.15
Adoptive Home Placements				
Open Arms Adoption	0	-		-
Adriel	1	92.00		33,580.00
Hancock County	1	45.00		16,425.00
National Youth Advocate Program (NYAP)	1	87.87		32,072.55
Specialized Alternatives for Families & Youth of Ohio (SAFY)	0	-		-
Wood County JFS Placement	0	-		-
Total Adoptive Home Placements	3	92.00		82,077.55
Group Homes				
A Better Life 2 Embrace	2	575.00		419,750.00
A Place Called Home	1	450.00		164,250.00
Ohio Teaching Family Association	3	608.00		633,640.00
Brighter Future for Youth	1	450.00		164,250.00
The Marsh Foundation	0	-		-
Safe House	1	454.00		165,710.00
Total Group Homes Placements	8	608.00		1,547,600.00
Treatment Foster Homes				
Adriel	3	171.00		187,245.00
Advantage Family Outreach	3	145.95		152,150.25
A New Leaf	1	148.62		54,246.30
National Youth Advocate Program (NYAP)	4	329.00		321,656.25
Cadence Care Network	3	90.08		98,637.60
NECCO Inc.	2	450.00		222,650.00
Specialized Alternatives for Families & Youth of Ohio (SAFY)	14	156.00		651,134.45

Total Treatment Foster Home Placements	30	450.00	1,687,719.85
TOTAL PURCHASED CARE	84	608.00	4,706,839.25
Total of children in FOSTER CARE as of 01.31.2026	90	608.00	#DIV/0!
Kinnect To Family Commitment			85,000.00
Total Foster Care and Kinnect to Family Expense Projections			4,890,389.25

REVENUE SOURCES			
IV-E Estimate (Annualized)			(1,399,329.35)
Other Federal/State Funding Options (annualized)			(566,223.60)
Levy funding			(1,783,446.17)
NET (positive number means deficit, negative number means surplus)			1,141,390.13

Kinship

Kinship providers for children in county custody are currently paid \$12.73 per day by the state for the first six months of placement. For those choosing NOT to become certified foster parent caregivers, payments end after six months. If they become foster parent caregivers, we (not the state) become responsible for payment.

State Kinship Care - Relative Home	15	12.73	69,696.75
State Kinship Care - Non-Relative Home	1	12.73	4,646.45
TOTAL KINSHIP			74,343.20

Total of children in HANCOCK COUNTY CUSTODY as of 01.31.2026 106

Ages of children in HANCOCK COUNTY CUSTODY as of 01.31.2026			
0-1	14	13.21%	
2	6	5.66%	
3	8	7.55%	
4	5	4.72%	
5	12	11.32%	
6	8	7.55%	
7	6	5.66%	
8	5	4.72%	
9	6	5.66%	
10	4	3.77%	
11	5	4.72%	
12	5	4.72%	
13	4	3.77%	
14	1	0.94%	
15	4	3.77%	
16	3	2.83%	
17	8	7.55%	
18	0	0.00%	
19	2	1.89%	

OF CHILDREN RESIDING IN LISTED COUNTY OR STATE AT TIME OF REMOVAL

Hancock County OH	90	84.91%
Wood County OH	3	2.83%
Allen County OH	1	0.94%
Lucas County OH	1	0.94%
Pickaway County OH	0	0.00%
Warren County OH	0	0.00%
Williams County OH	1	0.94%
Wyandot County OH	1	0.94%
State of Michigan	3	2.83%
Homeless	5	4.72%
Unknown Address	1	0.94%