

Minutes

March 3, 2026

Commissioners Present: Jeffrey Hunker, Timothy Bechtol and William Bateson.

Also Present: Lynn Taylor, Cindy Land, Phil Johnson, Auditor Charity Rauschenberg, Adam Witteman, Steve Wilson, Kaysie Prezinski and Saige Thornley.

Commissioner Hunker opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the 1st floor conference room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Minutes from February 26, 2026, were read with William Bateson making the motion to approve, Tim Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The amended travel request for the Engineer was approved and two travel requests for the Sheriff's Office were approved. The February 2026 fund report was signed.

The Clerk presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #120-26 – Authorizing the payment of the listed and/or attached Purchase Orders. Bill Bateson making the motion to approve, Tim Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #121-26 – Decreasing the recycling program fund #5254 appropriation by \$3,521.64. Bill Bateson making the motion to approve, Tim Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #122-26 – Additional appropriation – within the Auditor's certification – Commissioner to appropriate to General Fund #1001 \$235,200.00. Bill Bateson making the motion to approve, Tim Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #123-26 – Transfer of funds between fund General Fund #1001 and Courthouse Restoration Fund #4145 \$186,720.76. Bill Bateson making the motion to approve, Tim Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Cindy Land presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #124-26 – Authorization to enter an annual Preventative Maintenance Inspection Agreement with Federal Field Services, 12592 CR L, Wauseon, Ohio, for warning sirens for Hancock County. Cindy explained that the cost for the inspection is \$4,950.00. Bill Bateson making the motion to approve, Tim Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #125-26 – Authorizing the award of the 2026 Hancock Cooperative Local Resurfacing Program to the Shelly Company - Northwest for the Hancock Cooperative 2026 Road Resurfacing Program. Cindy explained the cost to the County will be \$1,734,360.40. Bill Bateson making the motion to approve, Tim Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #126-26 – Authorizing the Hancock County Commissioners to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with the City of Findlay for coordination of recycling efforts and Hancock County for recycling bins. Jeff stated his appreciation regarding the cooperation with the city. Bill Bateson making the motion to approve, Tim Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Phil Johnson presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #127-26 – Authorizing entry into and execution of an agreement with Quality Overhead Door Acquisition, LLC d/b/a Quality Overhead Door of Findlay for installation of a replacement vehicle bay trolley system for an overhead door County property located at 8210 County Road 140 housing automobile service offices, commonly known as the BMV building. The cost of door replacement is \$1,597.00. Bill Bateson making the motion to approve, Tim Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #128-26 – Authorizing entry into a contract with Sausser Steel Co., Inc. for a provision of materials and services to straighten and weld a pedestrian railing serving the walkway to the public entrance to the Hancock County Courthouse. The railing repair is \$600.00. Auditor Rauschenberg would like caution tape around the railing for safety reasons. The Board acknowledged and they will contact Adam Miller. Bill Bateson making the motion to approve, Tim Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #129-26 – Authorizing entry into a contract with Accel Fire Systems, Inc. for provision of equipment, materials and services to modify and replace the fire protection system in the BAC, Captain's and Lieutenants' rooms at the Hancock County Justice Center. The current fire system is no longer compatible. The cost will be \$5,280.00. Bill Bateson making the motion to approve, Tim Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #130-26 – Authorizing reimbursement to Ten Star Enterprises, Inc., of the amount of two hundred forty dollars for payment of the first quarterly grease trap cleaning pursuant to the parties' lease for real property located at 516 South Main Street in Findlay, Ohio for 2023-2026. The cost of the reimbursement is \$240.00. Bill Bateson making the motion to approve, Tim Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #131-26 – Authorizing entry into and execution and delivery of a State of Ohio Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program grant agreement with regard to an allocation and neighborhood revitalization PY 25 Grant program. The Village of Jenera will have about 1 mile of their sidewalks replaced. Bill Bateson making the motion to approve, Tim Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #132-26 – Authorizing the preparation and submission of an application to participate in the Community Housing Impact and Preservation (CHIP) PY2026 grant program funding and further, pursuant to the request of Hancock Regional Planning Commission (HRPC), accept a proposal from Great Lakes Community Action Partnership for administrative services related to CHIP grant administration of the PY2026 Grant Program. Bill Bateson making the motion to approve, Tim Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Steve Wison stated that Norfolk Southern has not yet reviewed the work agreement. In addition, the resurfacing contract will include resurfacing the entrance of the landfill.

Adam Witteman is working on the Audit.

Auditor Rauschenberg reported that her Real Estate Office will be getting a new e-file system, similar to that of the Records Office. The HVAC system is still difficult to manage in her offices. For example, the copier area is extremely warm. Auditor Rauschenberg will be

traveling one day next week to a cyber security training seminar. In addition, Auditor Rauschenberg discussed cash carryover from prior years. Auditor Rauschenberg also attended the DAC meeting, and it was nice to see the DAC recognize Cindy Land for her years of service.

Jeff Hunker stated his appreciation to Auditor Rauschenberg for her report. The Commissioners will be presenting their State of the County on Friday, March 6, 2026, at First Friday.

Kaysie Penzinski discussed the Brownfield Grant and a property that Commissioner Bateson spoke to her about. The next Brownfield opportunity will be in 2028. Regional Planning can contact the owner and discuss their options. The Board would like Regional Planning to speak to the owner.

Saige Thornley inquired from Jeff Hunker if he has an update on the audit with the Fair Board. Jeff heard that the audit would be starting on March 3rd. The State was behind on their audits, and they will be adding more Auditors to the project to get back on track.

Tim Bechtol wanted clarification on the carryover from January 1st. After encumbrances, the carry over was \$11.6 million per the Auditor.

Meetings and Reports

Tim Bechtol reported that he attended Fresh Brewed Business. He will also be attending the Chic – Fil- A grand opening on Wednesday. Tim is hoping to have a final meeting scheduled with Peterman for the Olive Street office remodel.

Bill Bateson also attended the Fresh Brewed Business. In addition, he met with the Mayor and Community Foundation.

Jeff Hunker reported that he went to Fresh Brewed Business and the Alliance meeting. Auditor Rauschenberg stated that she is looking at March 18th to schedule a Tax Incentive Review Council meeting. Further information will be forthcoming.

At 10:30 a.m., the Commissioners met with Courtney O’Flaherty. Lynn Taylor, Christine Carrigan, Phil Johnson, Auditor Rauschenberg, Adam Witteman, Rhonda Dingelstedt and Saige Thornley were also present.

Before Courtney began, Jeff Hunker reported that he attended the DAC meeting on Wednesday. A lot of credit needs to be given to Lindsay Summit. She is doing a good job at the Health Department.

Courtney O’Flaherty provided an update on the recycling efforts at the Recycling Hub. Effort still needs to be given to the public on what is allowed to be recycled. Illegal dumping remains a problem. Courtney will be looking into getting quotes for more cameras. Tim will be at the Hub on Friday, March 6th from 1:00-3:00 to be available to the public for recycling questions. Courtney will also investigate placing textile bins on County owned property. She will reach out to Marion and Liberty Township for zoning regulations.

At 11:15 a.m., the Commissioners met with Jim Spurgat. Lynn Taylor, Phil Johnson, Amanda Wishmeyer and Carson Lugibihl were also present. Jim discussed with the Board the importance

of the West Ohio Central Land Conservancy and their ability to preserve Ohio farmland. Preserving farmland for the future is a win-win situation. The landowner benefits and so does the County. A resolution of support would be needed by the Commissioners. This resolution would be sent to the ODA, Office of Farmland Preservation's Local Ag Easement Purchase Program, within the landowner application. Delaware Township has already passed a resolution, and they are meeting with Madison Township in the next week. The Board instructed Phil to prepare a resolution of support.

Work Session topics included:



Lynn Taylor, Clerk

Reviewed and approved by:



Jeffrey L. Hunker



Timothy K. Bechtol



William L. Bateson