

Minutes

April 7, 2022

Commissioners Present: Michael Pepple, William Bateson and Timothy Bechtol.

Also Present: Lynn Taylor, Cindy Land and Steve Wilson.

Commissioner Pepple opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' 1st floor. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Minutes from the April 5, 2022, meeting was read with Timothy Bechtol making the motion to approve, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The Clerk presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #229-22 – Additional appropriation within the Auditor's certification – Commissioners to appropriate to Board of Elections – SOS. Timothy Bechtol made the motion to approve, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #230-22 – Additional appropriation within the Auditor's certification- Commissioners to appropriate to Board of Elections – SOS. Timothy Bechtol made the motion to approve, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Timothy Bechtol made the motion and William Bateson seconded to approve the Warrant Journal. Motion passed 3-0. Payroll for the Commissioners Office and JFS was approved. A travel request for the Treasurer's Office was approved. The March expenses to MWCD for \$5,102.35 was approved. Mike Pepple stated his appreciation for Steve's email allowing them to review the information ahead of the meeting.

Cindy Land had nothing to present, however she did state that she has until Wednesday, April 13, 2022 to read and respond to the testimony provided by the Ohio Power Signing Board. The hearing is scheduled for April 19th in Columbus. She expects it to last 2 days. She will give the resolutions to Phil Johnson to present at the Commissioner's meeting. Bill Bateson inquired if the county agrees to an exclusion zone, can it be amended? Cindy stated that it could be. Mike Pepple inquired if the documents regarding the CR 220 annexation were sent to Ed May as he will be seeing him within the next week. Cindy stated that a certified mail package was sent to Ed's personal post office box. The Clerk confirmed that a certified mail receipt was received in the office signed by Ed. Mike acknowledged. A discussion was held regarding the City of Findlay and County processes pertaining to roads. For example, Bill Bateson heard a discussion at Fresh Brewed Business about a possible round about at CR 212 and CR 236 project that the City wants to pursue, however they are County Roads.

Steve Wilson stated that he spoke to Don Moses about increase the fees for mattresses and tires. He is not sure if a hearing needs to happen to increase those fees. Cindy was unsure as well and suggested that Phil Johnson would be the one to speak to. Steve acknowledged. Steve has also requested a construction fee cost from EDL for long term planning. The Commissioners agreed to have the EDL monthly gas collecting fee receipted in by the Landfill. Steve Wilson acknowledged. Steve also said that he is unsure when the dump truck will be built.

Lynn Taylor requested an executive session in regards to personnel and compensation.

Timothy Bechtol stated that he attended the Township Trustee Association meeting and the LEPC meeting. Tim stated that the LEPC is beginning preparation for the solar eclipse in April of 2024. A large amount of people is expected to visit the area during that time.

Bill Bateson stated that he also attended the Township Trustee Association meeting. Bill also attended the Chamber Ag Committee meeting, the No Wrong Door Presentation and the Economic Development meeting.

Mike Pepple stated that all three Commissioners attended the Dummy Hoy road dedication in Houcktown. Engineer Cade did a wonderful job with the event and was attended by the Governor and many others. Mike also attended the Township Trustee Association meeting.

Tim Bechtol stated that the Township Trustee Association will not have a booth at the Hancock County Fairgrounds this year.

Mike Pepple stated that he has spoken to someone who has met with a CASA board member and past president and the board does realize that there are some issues at CASA. One of the issues that needs to be resolved is the addition of more volunteers. United Way is working with them to restructure to get more volunteers. Mike's suggestion was to offer \$400 a case and money up front, as a lifeline to keep going and to give them time to reorganize and get this going again. Mike has spoken to different groups and all of them stressed the importance of CASA and what it does for the community, however under the current form, changes need to be made. United Way has a coach that will be working with CASA directly. The United Way did a study of area CASA operation and the most successful operations are run by volunteers. In some situations, the director is a county employee. The county gives them space for the employee who then solicits fundraising for volunteers, which saves expenses. Mike said details of this option could come later, that it's more important to give them direction to keep them functioning until things are turned around. Bill Bateson inquired as to how other CASA's are funded. Bill stated that United Ways study did show it as a County agency. Cindy stated that CASA was at one time a Hancock County agency, about 10 – 15 years ago. Their model at that time was what United Way is suggesting. However, funding became a challenge. They soon had less fundraising and wanted more county funds to operate. Mike stated that if this becomes a county operation, an MOU would have to be created to specify responsibilities. Cindy stated that a possibly hybrid situation could be discussed when creating a contract. For example, it could be suggested that the county provides space and they would be still responsible for their own billings etc. Tim Bechtol stated the county cannot tell CASA how to operate, but he was wondering if funding more for older cases would still be an option. Mike still would like to propose the original resolution to give them a lifeline. Cindy stated that our payment is to go towards administrative costs for case set up. Since their volunteers don't exist, the paid staff is doing what the volunteers should be doing. Hence the reason they need to attract more volunteers as per the what the model calls for. Cindy stated that if CASA does not agree to these terms, attorneys will have to be sought out. Currently, reimbursement from the state is 100%, next year it is expected to be between 90-95% for court appointed attorneys. Tim inquired that he doesn't want to keep the courts out to dry, and Cindy said that they won't. All Commissioners agreed to amend contract to \$400 per case and \$12,000 up front for 30 cases. The Clerk stated that she will send an email to Leah indicating this decision and an amended contract resolution will be presented on Tuesday, April 12, 2022.

Steve Wilson requested an executive session in regards to potential real estate acquisition.

At 10:09 a.m., Michael Pepple made the motion to enter into executive session in regards to potential real estate acquisition and personnel - compensation. William Bateson seconded. A roll call vote resulted as follows: Michael Pepple, yes; William Bateson, yes; Timothy Bechtol, yes. At 10:57 a.m., Michael Pepple made the motion to come out of executive session after discussing personnel and compensation with no action taken. Motion passed 3-0.

At 11:00 a.m., the Commissioners met with Lizzy Essinger. Lynn Taylor, Lou Wilin, Steve Morris, Brooke Walter and Adam Long were in attendance. Bids were opened regarding the Jenera and Mt. Blanchard Road Reconstruction Project. The following bids were received: Shelley Corporation \$149,989.00, M & B Asphalt \$153,305.60 and Helms & Sons \$146,510.00. Each bidder provided a bid

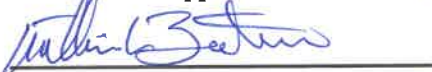
bond. The bids will be taken under advisement and a resolution will be presented at a later date awarding the contract.

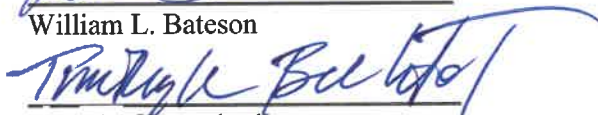
At 11:30 a.m., the Commissioners met with Mike Thompson. Lynn Taylor was also present. Cindy Land was present later in the meeting. Mike Thompson stated that he provided a proposal from Ohio CAT for \$2,500.00 for maintenance on the generator at the Justice Center. He also provided a quote from Buckeye Power who has done this service in the past. Their proposal was \$2,110.15; however, their quote did not include as much as what Ohio CAT was willing to perform. The Commissioners agreed to go with Ohio CAT as the value for the cost was much better. Mike Thompson also discussed the flooring project that the Sheriff requested a few weeks ago. Bill Bateson stated that he viewed the area and the tile. Mike stated that the Sheriff is requesting epoxy covering the locker room floors and tile in the remaining area of the hallway. He did have a quote for tile in the whole area from a company he has never used before. Mike Pepple inquired how long the current tile has been in existence. Mike Thompson stated that it's the original tile and has lasted 30 years. Bill stated that he prefers to have tile re-laid, however he understands why epoxy was requested in the locker rooms. Mike and Tim concurred. Mike Thompson stated that tile floor requires more upkeep and epoxy requires less upkeep more often. The Commissioners agrees to use epoxy on the locker rooms and tile in the hallway. Mike Thompson will have to have the quote redone as it was not separated between epoxy and tile coverings. Cindy stated that as long as the quote is below \$50,000, it does not have to be bid. Mike Thompson acknowledged. He will get new quotes and those can be given to the Prosecutor's Office for a contract resolution to be prepared.


Lynn Taylor, Clerk

Reviewed and approved by:


Michael W. Pepple


William L. Bateson


Timothy K. Bechtol