

Minutes

December 12, 2023

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

Also Present: Christine Carrigan, Cindy Land, Phil Johnson, Auditor Charity Rauschenberg, Adam Witteman, Jeff Wobser and Kenzie Tucker.

Commissioner Bateson opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' 1st floor conference room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Minutes from the December 7, 2023, meetings were read with Michael Pepple making a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The Commissioners approved a travel request for Job & Family Services and the Sheriff's office.

The Assistant Clerk presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #921-23 – Authorizing the payment of the listed and/or attached Purchase Orders. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #922-23 – Transfer of funds from Job & Family - General Office #2015 to Children Services #2023. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #923-23 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation - Workforce Development Fund #2105. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #924-23 – Additional appropriation within the Auditor's certification- Commissioners to appropriate to the General Fund #1001. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #925-23 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation - General Fund - Prosecutor 1001. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #926-23 – Additional appropriation - within the Auditor's certification - Commissioners to appropriate to Domestic Violence. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #927-23 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation - Sanitary Landfill Fund #5042. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #928-23 – Repayment of advance from the Special Improvement Fund #4005 to the General Fund #1001. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #929-23 – Advance of funds from the General Fund #1001 to Special Improvement Fund #4005. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Cindy Land presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #930-23 – Revised wage chart for Hancock County Job & Family Services effective January 1, 2024. Cindy explained that on an annual basis Job & Family Services reviews and updates their wage chart. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #931-23 – Appointment of members to the Job and Family Services Planning Committee. Cindy stated appointing members to the JFS Planning Committee is the Board of Commissioners responsibility. The terms are every two years. The members being appointed are the same members that were appointed the last term. The term runs from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2025. Randy Galbraith and Tyler McKinney's term does not have an end date due to them being representatives from Job & Family Services. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #932-23 – Resolution authorizing the Hancock County Commissioners to enter into an amendment to the contract with the City Mission of Findlay, to provide net transportation services through December 31, 2024. Cindy stated the next several resolutions are for JFS non-emergency transportation. These come out of a different pool of money than the Medicaid transportation resolutions. The previous contract expired December 31, 2023. This resolution will extend the contract through December 31, 2024, and increase the cost by \$60,000.00. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #933-23 – Resolution authorizing the Hancock County Commissioners to enter into an amendment to the contract with the Hancock Hardin Wyandot Putnam Community Action Commission (HHWPCAC), to provide net transportation services through December 31, 2024. Cindy explained this will extend the contract through December 31, 2024, and add an additional cost of \$80,000.00 to the contract for a total contract price of \$160,000.00. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #934-23 – Resolution authorizing the Hancock County Commissioners to enter into a contract with the K & P Medical Transport, LLC, to provide necessary non-emergency transportation services. Cindy stated this extends the contract through December 31, 2024, and adds an additional \$30,000.00 to the contract for a total contract price of \$50,000.00. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #935-23 – Resolution authorizing the Hancock County Commissioners to enter into a contract with the T & H Lift, LLC to provide necessary non-emergency transportation services. Cindy stated this extends the contract through December 31, 2024, and adds an additional \$225,000.00 to the contract. The contract is now not to exceed \$450,635.95. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #936-23 – Resolution authorizing a contract with the U.S.A CAB, LLC, to provide non-emergency transportation services. Cindy explained this extends the contract through December 31, 2024, and adds an additional \$200,000.00 to the contract. The contract is now not to exceed \$497,629.58. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #937-23 – Resolution authorizing the Hancock County Commissioners to enter into a contract with Bowers Heating & Cooling at the Hancock County Justice Center. Cindy stated this is for repairs

that was caused by a leak that was found at the Justice Center. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Cindy explained that she received an email from Adam regarding the amount of the Dog & Kennel Fund excesses. Cindy explained that according to the ORC, the Commissioners have the ability to take the excess in the Dog and Kennel Fund and donate it to a humane society that is eligible under the ORC. The Hancock County Humane Society is the only eligible humane society in Hancock County. The Commissioners agreed to donate the \$9,995.00 to the Hancock County Humane Society. Cindy will prepare the resolution.

Cindy Land requested an executive session in regards to potential litigation.

Phil Johnson presented the following resolution for consideration:

Resolution #938-23 – Selection of and ranking of qualified engineering firms for consulting services for the implementation and planning of the upcoming Ohio Department of Development's (ODOD) Brownfield Remediation Grant Program 2024. Phil stated this resolution is for the purpose of selecting one of the three firms that have submitted statements of qualifications to HRPC. Regional Planning has identified Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc., as the top firm and the firm they wish to enter into negotiations with. The other two qualified firms in ranking order are CTL Engineering, Inc., and TRC Environmental Corporation. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Auditor Charity Rauschenberg had nothing to report.

Jeff Wobser had no comment.

Kenzie Tucker had no comment.

Meetings/Reports

Michael Pepple had nothing to report.

Timothy Bechtol attended the kick off HVAC project meeting. They established a timeline on when the various HVAC projects will be completed in the JFS building, courthouse and 514 S. Main St. building. He stated they will be starting with JFS since it is unoccupied right now. It will be a four to five-month process before all the projects are complete. Commissioner Bechtol also attended the new Judicial Center construction update meeting. He stated all of the upper level floors are complete. The team feels like they are ahead of schedule. Commissioner Bechtol stated we are at resolution 938, which is 62 resolutions away from 1000.

William Bateson attended the Ag Council meeting. Mark Price warned people of all the scams that are going on right now.

At 9:55 a.m., William Bateson made a motion to enter into executive session in regards to potential litigation. Timothy Bechtol seconded. A roll call vote resulted as follows: William Bateson, yes; Timothy Bechtol, yes; Michael Pepple, yes. At 10:27 a.m., William Bateson made a motion to come out of

executive session, in regards to potential litigation with no action taken. Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

At 10:30 am, the Commissioners met with Randy Galbraith and Janet Beal from Job & Family Services. Christine Carrigan was also present. Randy explained the number of reports peaked in October and are now coming down a little bit. Screenings remain at about 20 to 30 per month. The total number of kids in care is down to 84. Forty-Five kids are in foster homes, which is the cheapest level of care. Twenty-one kids are in kinship placement. Seventeen kids are in group home or residential placement, which is the most expensive level of care. The one child that is AWOL aged out in November. The number of kids entering care has increased and the number of kids receiving in-home services has decreased. Randy stated the work load has decreased but our expenses have exploded. Randy shared a report showing the cost per day for each kid that is in placement. The kids placed in residential and group homes are costing JFS 2.5 million dollars per year. Randy stated the levy brings in 1.7 million dollars per year. The federal funding and other funding sources are not making up the difference between the money received from the levy and the total expenses. Randy stated they have had to use reserve money from the State Child Protective allocation. The state of Ohio is currently paying for kinship placement. Randy stated they are going to review the highest per diem placements to see if these kids can be placed in a placement where they can receive the same or similar treatment at a lower cost. Discussion took place on how it is determined where kids are placed. Randy provided documents that outlines the different foster care levels. Randy stated they have hired a full-time foster care recruiter. Removing kids from private agencies and placing them in our licensed foster homes will save money. Randy stated that we do have high needs kids in care that are from Michigan and other states due to parents being stopped on I-75. When parents are arrested in Hancock County the children stay in Hancock County most of the time. Randy requested data from ODJFS showing what we look like compared to other counties having a similar population as Hancock County. In addition, he requested data showing how our placement compares to other county placement. Randy stated last year the board gave him permission to purchase two vehicles. He was not able to find any. He is requesting \$16,000.00 to be able to purchase the two vehicles now. Commissioner Bateson asked Randy if there is space in the JFS building for another agency. Randy stated that when the building was occupied it was full. In addition, since they handle federal tax information the other agency would have to have a separate entrance. Randy stated having the Ohio Means Jobs on the second floor at the county home is not ideal. By law, the Ohio Means Jobs has to be separate from JFS. Randy would like to relocate the Ohio Means Jobs office to a location that makes more sense.

At 11:00 a.m., the Commissioners held a variance hearing petitioned for by Alan Miller. Commissioner Bateson called the hearing to order and introduced the Commissioners, Kyle Parker, Captain Price and Cindy Land. Christine Carrigan, Alec Helms and Alan Miller were also present. Kyle explained the procedures and reasoning of the variance hearing. The petitioner, Alan Miller was sworn in and provided his reason for petitioning the variance. Kyle from the Engineer's office was sworn in and provided traffic characteristics of the segment of Amanda County Road 193 that is affected by this variance. In addition, he provided the Engineer's recommendation. Captain Price was sworn in and provided his thoughts regarding the variance. The Commissioners had discussion regarding how the six decision making factors below apply to the requested variance:


- Whether not granting the variance would deny all reasonable access
- Whether granting the variance would endanger the public safety
- Whether the hardship was self-created
- Whether granting the variance would hinder traffic safety of the proper operation of the public road
- Whether granting the variance would be consistent with the purpose of these regulations
- Whether all access options, except granting a variance, have been considered

Cindy Land presented the following resolution for consideration:


Resolution #939-23 – Resolution - Commissioners' finding upon the variance request, sitting as the Board of Appeals for the Hancock County Access Management Regulations. Michael Pepple made a motion to not approve the variance based on the Engineer's recommendation that it is a self-created hardship, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 3-0. William Bateson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Timothy Bechtol seconded.


At 11:30 am, the Commissioners met with Ryan Kidwell, Mark Price and Jesse Sterrett. Christine Carrigan was also present. Ryan Kidwell stated the HB 687 grant funding is money that the state is going to provide to replace the electronic door controls and the intercom system at the Justice Center. Originally the state was going to pay 80% and the county was going to pay 20 % of the project. When the state came in with the engineer to prepare an itemized list and to do an analysis of the project they found some items that will make the counties portion of the cost increase. First, there are price increases on electrical components and labor that total \$11,400.00. Second, there are concerns with the current technology of the intercoms that could cause security implications. They would like to replace all of the intercoms at a cost of \$20,170.00. Third, the current door readers system is not going to mesh with the new technology. The cost to update the door readers is \$13,145.00. The total additional expenses are \$44,715.00, bringing the counties total to \$106,835.00. The total project cost is \$355,315.00. Discussion took place on where the additional funding can come from. Commissioner Pepple stated we will have to do some research and get back with you. Cindy inquired if they have it available in the Sheriff's budget.

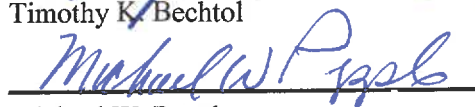
Respectfully submitted,

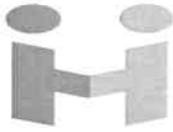

Christine Carrigan, Assistant Clerk

Reviewed and approved by:


William L. Bateson


Timothy K. Bechtol


Michael W. Pepple



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 – December 12th, 2023

1) CPSU Financials

Balance Brought Forward (end of December 2022 placements)	(1,031,842.47)
2023 YTD Foster Care Placement	2,782,068.89
YTD Shared Placement Costs	-
ADAMHS and Juvenile Court Share	-
SCPA and Title XX used for shared	-
YTD Adoption (county share)	92,597.31
IV-E Reimbursement for Placements	(757,699.64)
Title XX Reimbursements for Placements	(76,476.01)
SS & Child Support	(111,088.93)
MSY Reimbursement (May)	-
MSY Reimbursement	-
SCPA SFY23 used for foster care services	-
Levy funds received	(1,713,605.78)
30-Days to Family Salary, Benefits, & Shared Costs	77,729.44
Balance	(738,317.19)

2) Kids in Care

3) Cars

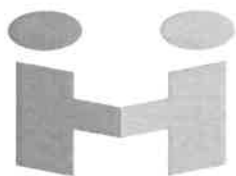
Providing Help Today and Building Hope for Tomorrow

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



Hancock County Job & Family Services

Children's Protective Services Unit November 2023

Total Number of reports Received:	
June 2023	113
July 2023	105
August 2023	146
September 2023	137
October 2023	163
November 2023	145
Screened In/Out	IN=28, OUT=104
June 2023	IN= 26, OUT= 75
July 2023	IN= 37, OUT= 66
August 2023	IN= 41, OUT= 105
September 2023	IN= 28. OUT= 109
October 2023	IN= 46. OUT= 117
November 2023	IN=23 OUT=105
Breakdown of case Type Screened In:	
June 2023	TR= 8, AR=16, FINS= 1, Dependency= 1
July 2023	TR= 12. AR=19, FINS= 6, Dependency=0
August 2023	TR= 15, AR= 21, FINS= 5
September 2023	TR= 9 ,AR=13, FINS=4, Dependency=2
October 2023	TR= 17, AR= 23, FINS= 6, Dependency= 0
November 2023	TR=13, AR=4, FINS=6, Dependency=0
Total Number of Kids in Care at months end	
June 2023	96
July 2023	92
August 2023	91
September 2023	83
October 2023	86
November 2023	84

Breakdown of <u>Current</u> Placements (83 plus 1 AWOL)	
Family Foster Home	45
Adoptive	0
Kinship Placement	21
Group Home	8
Residential	9
Independent Living	0
Detention	0
Hospitalization	0
AWOL *	1 (1 AWOL child aged out during Nov)
Total number of Children Entering Care/Exiting Care	
June 2023	Enter= 5, Exit= 6
July 2023	Enter= 6, Exit= 10
August 2023	Enter= 5, Exit= 6
September 2023	Enter= 2 Exit= 4
October 2023	Enter= 6 Exit= 3
November 2023	Enter= 12 Exit= 9
Total number of Children Receiving In-Home Services	
June 2023	79
July 2023	72
August 2023	71
September 2023	66
October 2023	79
November 2023	64

TR- Traditional Response

AR- Alternative Response

FINS- Family in Need of Services

AWOL- Absent without leave

FOSTER PROJECTIONS 2024

Category	Count 10.31.2023	Highest Per Diem	Average Per Diem	Total Annual Proj
OWN FOSTER	3	19.00	19.00	20,805.00
AWOL Youth	1	-	-	-
PURCHASED CARE				
Children's Residential Center (Total)	9	875.00	338.80	1,112,961.65
Family Foster Home	17	87.87	69.11	428,827.55
Group Home	8	1,182.00	492.35	1,437,662.00
Specialized Foster Care	4	112.49	97.12	141,798.85
Treatment Foster Home	21	196.16	138.59	1,062,303.30
TOTAL PURCHASED CARE	59	1,182.00	227.20	4,183,553.35
PURCHASED CARE BREAKDOWN BY SERVICE TYPE				
Children's Residential Centers (CRC)				
The Children's Center	4	225.00		300,030.00
Young Star Academy (Mohican)	2	367.00		260,610.00
Eastway Corporation	1	875.00		319,375.00
Cornell Abraxas	1	213.21		77,821.65
Allwell Behavioral Health Services	1	425.00		155,125.00
Total CRC Placements	9	875.00		1,112,961.65
Family Foster Home Placements				
Adriel	4	72.00		105,120.00
National Youth Advocate Program (NYAP)	1	87.87		32,072.55
Specialized Alternatives for Families & Youth of Ohio (SAFY)	4	81.25		118,625.00
Wood County JFS Placement	1	50.00		18,250.00
Wyandot County JFS Placement	1	30.00		10,950.00
The Marsh Foundation	6	70.00		143,810.00
Total Family Foster Home Placements	17	87.87		428,827.55
Group Homes				
A Better Life 2 Embrace	2	500.00		365,000.00
A Place Called Home	2	450.00		310,250.00
Alliance Summit Group	1	1,182.00		431,430.00
The Marsh Foundation	1	300.00		109,500.00
The Village Network	1	331.80		121,107.00
Victory House	1	275.00		100,375.00
Total Group Homes Placements	8	1,182.00		1,437,662.00
Specialized Foster Care				
Adriel	3	92.00		100,740.00
Specialized Alternatives for Families & Youth of Ohio (SAFY)	1	112.49		41,058.85
Total Specialized Foster Care Placements	4	112.49		141,798.85
Treatment Foster Homes				
Adriel	12	171.00		605,900.00
National Youth Advocate Program (NYAP)	4	196.16		234,264.30
OhioGuidestone	1	128.19		46,789.35
Specialized Alternatives for Families & Youth of Ohio (SAFY)	4	142.94		175,349.65
Total Treatment Foster Home Placements	21	196.16		1,062,303.30
TOTAL PURCHASED CARE	60	1,182.00		4,183,553.35
Total of children in FOSTER CARE as of 10.31.2023	64	1,182.00		4,204,358.35
IV-E Estimate (Annualized)				(940,063.49)
Other Federal/State Funding Options (annualized)				(533,000.00)
NET Foster Care Costs for local/levy funding				2,731,294.86
Kinship				
Kinship providers for children in county custody are currently paid \$11.74 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	20	11.74		85,702.00
State Kinship Care - Non-Relative Home	1	11.74		4,285.10
TOTAL KINSHIP				89,987.10
Total of children in HANCOCK COUNTY CUSTODY as of 10.31.2023	85			

FOSTER CARE LEVELS

LEVEL 1: TRADITIONAL ("FAMILY FOSTER CARE"):

Behaviors or needs are temporary in response to life stressors

May have family visits 4+ times per month

Appointments generally limited to routine medical care 1-2 times per month

Minimal age appropriate assistance and support with activities of daily living

Typically not on psychotropic medications

Typically no history of drug or alcohol experimentation

No apparent risk of danger to self or others

When working with *Traditional foster youth*, foster parents are expected to:

- Provide a safe, stable nurturing environment;
- Link children to community activities for socialization;
- Provide routine transportation;
- Assist the child in participating in school.

LEVEL 2 (SPECIALIZED FOSTER CARE):

Behaviors in 1-2 areas require professional intervention and/or special education

May have family visits 4+ times per month

May have a mild diagnosed mental health issue, physical condition, handicap or disability

Appointments 2-4 times per month

Need for redirection and follow-up by caregiver/adult 2-4 times per day

Possibly on psychotropic medication(s)

Possible history of drug or alcohol experimentation

Low risk of danger to self or others

When working with *Specialized foster youth*, foster parents are expected to:

- Provide a safe, stable, nurturing environment;
- Link children to community activities for socialization;
- Provide routine transportation;
- Participate in the child's school needs including his/her IEP if applicable;
- Provide transportation to 2-4 appointments per month;
- Manage medications for child if applicable;
- Assist child in working on drug or alcohol issues if applicable.

LEVEL 3 (EXCEPTIONAL 1 FOSTER CARE):

Behaviors 2+ areas require professional intervention and/or special education

May have family visits 4+ times per month

May have a moderate diagnosed mental health issue, physical condition, handicap, or disability

Appointments 2 times per week or more

Need for redirection or follow-up by caregiver/adult 5-8 times per day

Likely on psychotropic medications

Possible current use of drugs or alcohol

May present moderate risk of danger to self or others requiring extra supervision

May have had more than one placement, may have been in a residential facility

LEVEL 4 (EXCEPTIONAL 2 FOSTER CARE):

Behaviors in 3+ life areas require professional intervention and/or special education

Behaviors are typically severe and may include violence or sexual acting out

May have family visits 4+ times per month

May have severe mental health issues, physical or medical issues or disabilities

Appointments 2+ times per week with multiple providers

Need for redirection or follow-up by caregiver/adult 8+ times per day

Consistent supervision typically required for the safety of youth or others

Youth may have criminal charges or convictions and legal system involvement

Possible current drug or alcohol use

When working with *Exceptional foster youth*, foster parents are expected to:

- Provide a safe, stable, nurturing environment;
- Link children to community activities for socialization;
- Provide routine transportation;
- Participate in the child's school needs including his/her IEP if applicable;
- Provide transportation to 4+ appointments per month;
- Manage medications for child if applicable; take all training applicable to child's medical needs/equipment
- Assist child in working on drug or alcohol issues if applicable;
- Provide 24/7 supervision of youth to protect youth or others;
- Work collaboratively with the legal system including probation officer as applicable;
- Obtain special training as needed to meet youth specific needs.

It is Adriel's expectation that foster caregivers will provide the best possible home environment to youth. As a therapeutic foster parent, you are expected to have specialized training and an ability to deal with high-risk behaviors. As the Level of Care of a child increases, so do your expected level of involvement, to include things such as increased supervision, transportation and participation in services as required to meet the additional needs of a youth.

NOTES:

The Level of Care for children in foster care is determined by their needs and is evaluated and negotiated between the Children's Services staff and the proposed provider. Children's Services caseworker completes a tool that assists in determining the needs of the child, and they work with the provider to determine the level of care, or type of service a child needs.

Children's Residential Center (CRC)

Provide treatment for children requiring professional intervention on a residential level. Behaviors and needs are typically severe and may include mental or physical health issues, violent or criminal tendencies and/or substances abuse. Child may need intensive treatment for physical, mental, emotional, or sexual abuse.

Foster Homes

For standard foster care, children are placed in foster homes that are certified to provide basic needs for children with few issues. Generally, these are healthy newborns, healthy infants, or healthy toddlers. While providers can differ in their descriptions of services they provide, they all basically fall into four categories, which we'll call Levels 1 – 4. Levels 1 and 2 are also called Family Foster Homes or Specialized Foster Care, are typically certified foster care with no additional training or certification. Levels 3 and 4 may also be called Exceptional Foster Care or Treatment Foster Care and considered treatment foster care and require specialized training and an ability to deal with high-risk behaviors. As the level of care for a child increases, so does the participation required of the foster parents.

Group Home

Group Homes provide general therapeutic services and can house no more than ten children.



Hancock County Commissioners
514 S. Main St., 2nd Floor Findlay, OH 45840
Phone: 419-424-7044 Fax: 419-424-7828
Email: Commissioners@co.hancock.oh.us

HANCOCK COUNTY, OHIO
ACCESS MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS
APPEAL OR VARIANCE REQUEST APPLICATION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Name: Alan L. Miller
Address : 12144 Twp. Rd. 256
City: Glenmont State: Ohio Zip: 44628
Phone: 330-763-0973 Fax: N/A Email: alanloismiller@gmail.com
Address or Parcel ID# of property: 050000011520

NOTE: Applications for variances and appeals will be reviewed per ARTICLE 9 of the County Access Management Regulations which, in part, state the Hancock County Commissioners shall serve as the Board of Appeals. Article 9 is on the next page for reference.

Check the box below on if your are applying for an appeal or variance. When adding the justification, please refer to Article 9 of the Hancock County Access Management Regulations on the next page for the conditions on which a variance/appeal may be granted.



VARIANCE



APPEAL (*Appeals must be filed within thirty (30) days of the date of denial*)
Access Permit # _____

*Attach a detailed description of the specification or reason the applicant beleives they should be granted a Variance / Appeal. Submit any maps, pictures, surveys or other documents that will help in locating proposed drive or that may be beneficial to the Board of Appeals.

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: 11-20-23

Please submit all completed applications to the Commissioner's Office by email or hand delivery.

Variance Request for "0 Twp. Rd. 193 Vanlue Ohio" AKA: Parcel Number
050000011520 Owned by Alan L. Miller

The specific request for variance is Article 11, Section B-4.

Problem:

I am attempting to sell the 20acre woods on the northeast section of the tract for a residential build- parsing it from the tillable acreage. Without splitting my field in half or selling more expensive farm ground at a cheaper price for extra driveway to get to the woods, I need to stay as close to or ideally directly AT my property line abutted by the Lee Cemetery.

County Regulations require 250 between Driveways. The south end of the cemetery does have a driveway. The prospective frontage starts approximately 10' south of the driveway, on the other side of the fence and will be 60' long.

Neighbors have been approached about easement or sale of property for other entrances with no success.

Solution:

To minimize the amount of tillable acreage to account for the driveway, I request that the variance be granted to allow a drive to be within that 60' of frontage. The prospective driveway would be no wider than 15', and could be on the south side of green space separating the cemetery drive and residential drive if allowed. That would allow 45-50' of separation.

Reasons to Consider Granting Variance:

The existing drive is non residential, very low traffic, and absolutely no obstructions to visibility in accessing or leaving either property. There would be no danger to public safety, restriction of reasonable access, any hardships to either party, or a hinderance to traffic operation.

I am currently working with the township on another matter, and they do not have a problem with this proposed solution. I'm currently working with Mark Thomas of the Amanda Township.

Hancock County Access Management Regulations - Article 9

Variances and Appeals

- A. The Board of Commissioners shall serve as the Board of Appeals for Access Management. They may hear appeals, made within 30 days of any written decision, where it is alleged that the Hancock County Engineer made an error in any order, requirement, decision or determination in the enforcement of these Access Management Regulations.
- B. Variances may be granted by the Board of Appeals for all classes of accesses prior to the decision of the Hancock County Engineer issuing or denying an access permit. The applicant shall meet with Hancock County Engineer to attempt to resolve any issues prior to making an application for a Variance to depart from a particular standard or requirement of the Hancock County Access Management Regulations. Variances are appropriate if not contrary to the public interest where, owing to special conditions, a literal enforcement of the regulations will result in unnecessary hardship, and such that the spirit of the regulations will be observed and substantial justice done.
- C. In the granting of variances in accordance with the standards in paragraph B, the Board of Appeals shall consider the following:
 - 1. Whether not granting the variance would deny all reasonable access;
 - 2. Whether granting the variance would endanger the public safety;
 - 3. Whether the hardship was self-created;
 - 4. Whether granting the variance would hinder traffic safety or the proper operation of the public road;
 - 5. Whether granting the variance would be consistent with the purpose of these regulations, and;
 - 6. Whether all access options, except granting a variance, have been considered.
- D. The applicants for variances shall provide evidence of unique or special conditions that make the strict application of these regulations impractical or impossible. Such evidence may include:
 - 1. Indirect or restricted access cannot be obtained.
 - 2. No engineering or construction solutions can be applied to mitigate the condition.
 - 3. No alternative access is available.
- E. All applications for appeals or variances shall be made on the form provided by the Hancock County Engineer and filed with the Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners.
- F. A verbatim record of the hearing shall be held, all testimony shall be taken under oath. The applicant shall have the right to present witnesses and evidence and to cross-examine witnesses who testify adverse to his/her position. The Board shall render its decision in writing within thirty (30) days of the conclusion of the hearing.
- G. Appeals to decisions of the Board of Appeals for Access Management shall be in accordance with Chapter 2506 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- H. The County Board of Commissioners may choose to charge an application fee for Variances or Appeals to cover the cost of the Hearing, Transcription and other costs.



Douglas E. Cade, PE, PS
County Engineer
1900 Lima Avenue
Findlay, Ohio 45840
419-422-7433

To: Board of Appeals for Access Management

From: Doug Cade, County Engineer

Date: December 12, 2023

Re: Miller Driveway Variance on CR 193

The County Engineer is tasked with reviewing and issuing Access Permits on behalf of the Hancock County Board of Commissioners for all County and Township Roads within Hancock County in accordance with the Access Management Regulations dated March 23, 2006 (Amended August 31, 2023) and under the authority of ORC 5552.

A variance was submitted November 20, 2023 for a second drive access located just south of Lee Cemetery on County Road 193 on Parcel 050000011520. The variance is for Article 11.B.4 of the Hancock County Access Management Regulations and reads as follows:

- 4. Along Local Roads: All roads not identified as Major or Minor Collectors or Local Streets. No more than one access or access upgrade shall be permitted along a Local Road from parcels or contiguously-owned parcels.**

Where new access or access upgrades along a Local Road are permitted, they shall be spaced no closer than 250 feet from an existing or proposed access or from an existing or proposed road or street.

We have the following comments regarding this Variance request:

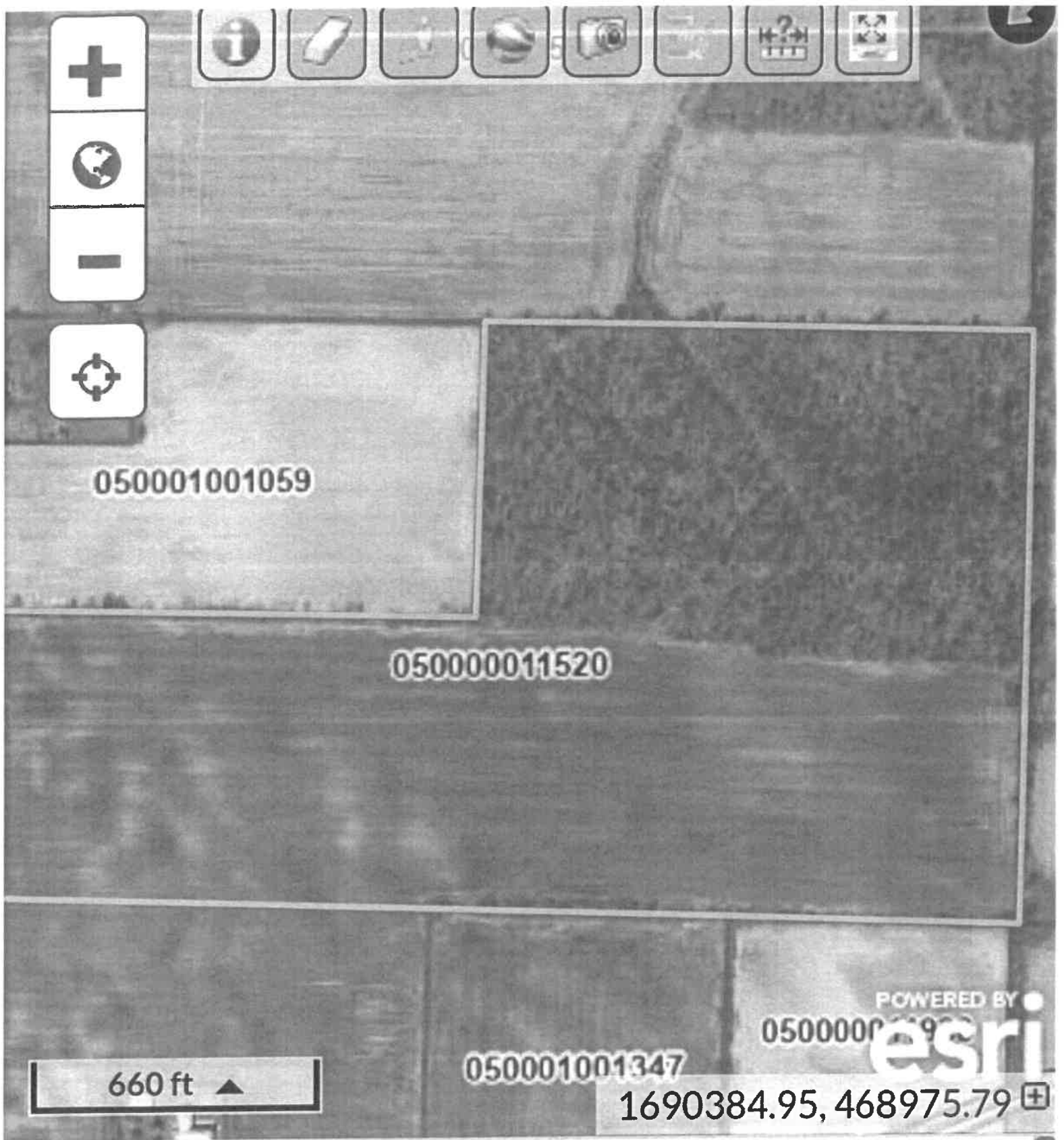
1. The Access Drive is located along Hancock County Road 193 in the unincorporated area of Hancock County.

2. This segment of Amanda County Road 193 has the following traffic characteristics:

Average Daily Traffic:	90 Vehicles
Speed Limit:	55 MPH (prima facia for Township Roadways)
Road Classification:	Local Road (local)
Accidents:	None (2019-2023)
Nearest drive access:	45 feet
Next nearest access to the North:	45 feet
Next nearest access to the South:	740 feet

Recommendation:

1. It is our recommendation that the variance **Not** be approved due to the Variance Request not meeting Article 11, Section B which states drive accesses shall be spaced no closer than 250' apart.
2. It is our recommendation that this variance **Not** be approved due to the Variance Request not meeting Article 9 Section B, C and D which states:
 - B. Variances may be granted by the Board of Appeals for all classes of accesses prior to the decision of the Hancock County Engineer issuing or denying an access permit. The applicant shall meet with Hancock County Engineer to attempt to resolve any issues prior to making and application for a Variance to depart from a particular standard or requirement of the Hancock County Access Management Regulations. Variances are appropriate if not contrary to the public interest where, owing to special conditions, a literal enforcement of the regulations will result in unnecessary hardship, and such that the spirit of the regulations will be observed and substantial justice done.
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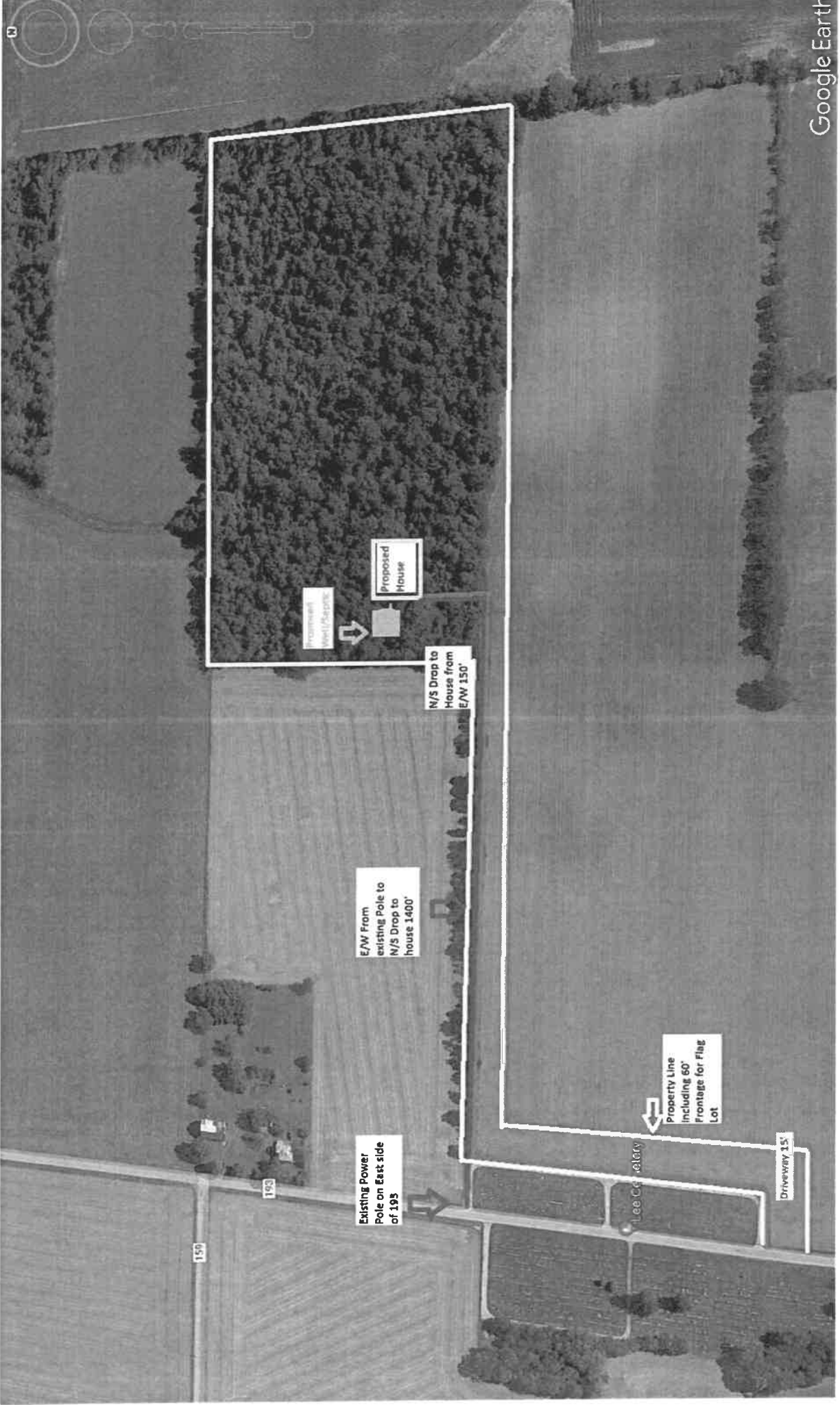


MILLER ALAN L & LOIS M

0 COUNTY RD 193

54.949 Acres Value \$81,220

View: [Report](#) | [Tax Distribution](#) | [Pictometry Imagery](#) | [Levy](#)



NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

DEPARTMENT/ADDRESS

[illegible]