

Minutes

June 29, 2021

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

Also Present: Lynn Taylor, Cindy Land, Charity Rauschenberg, Adam Witteman, Pat True, Pam Bibler, Ted Bibler, and Mary Ann LaRoche.

Commissioner Bechtol opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' 1st floor conference room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The minutes from the June 24, 2021 meeting were read and approved. William Bateson made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

The Assistant Clerk presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #431-21 – Authorizing the payment of the listed and/or attached Purchase Orders. William Bateson made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Resolution #432-21 – Additional appropriation within the Auditor's Certification – Commissioner's to appropriate to Tier Fee. William Bateson made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Resolution #433-21 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation – ADAMHS. William Bateson made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Resolution #434-21 – Transfer of funds from the General Fund to Capital Projects. William Bateson made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Resolution #435-21 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation – Developmental Disability. William Bateson made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Resolution #436-21 – Additional appropriation within the Auditor's Certification – Commissioner's to appropriate to Sanitary Landfill. William Bateson made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

William Bateson made the motion to approve the Warrant Journal, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0. William Bateson made the motion for Commissioner Bechtol to sign the Disbursement request for the Howard Street Bridge replacement, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0. A letter was signed by all Commissioners indicating that the Norfolk Southern Railroad bridge replacement/expansion should be included in the funding request through the RAISE grant program. Tim wanted the Assistant Clerk to follow up with Steve Wilson regarding Mike Pepple's signature. Mike is on vacation this week. The update of Job Duties Authorization Form for a Social Service Worker 2 at JFS was signed. The payroll for the Commissioner's Office was approved.

Timothy Bechtol inquired if there were any additional documents that needed to be signed in regards to the 30 days to Family Program. The Assistant Clerk will call the Director and inquire.

Charity Rauschenberg inquired if any funds need to be encumbered by June 30th. The Assistant Clerk will call Janet and inquire.

Lucinda Land presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #437-21 – Authorizing Change Order No.3 to the contract with Tom Hiatt's Plumbing & Excavating Services Co. LLC for the installation of a new home sewage treatment system as part of the Hancock County WPCLF Grant Project #HS390032-003-2020-07. Cindy stated that there is no change to the contract, but a change to the time allowed to complete the project. William Bateson made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Lucinda Land stated that time is of the essence to fill the position of William Recker on the Solid Waste Management District Board. Bill passed away last year. Bill was the public representative. Tim asked Cindy if the public can be solicited and she said no. Tim stated that he will contact the other 3 board members and start this process.

Charity Rauschenberg stated that the audit should be wrapped up very soon. Charity presented a letter for Commissioner Bechtol to sign regarding the audit. This letter states that all information requested by the audit staff has been provided and the information is up to date. Charity stated that the exit conference should be in July and the Commissioners will be notified. William Bateson made the motion for Commissioner Bechtol to sign the management letter, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Pat Bibler, Ted Bibler and Pat True discussed the solar farm project in Washington Township. They would like the Commissioners to publicly state opposition to the Site Board for the proposed solar farm project. They stated that there is no benefit to the Arcadia Community and this method of quick money is not acceptable to land owners. Tim Bechtol stated that he is still looking for answers. Mary Ann LaRoche stated that the same thing is happening with the dry basin project; putting the problem to someone else. Mary Ann stated that the Maumee Conservancy District is made up of people that aren't elected, so they are difficult to talk to. Bill Bateson stated that 60% of soybeans in Ohio are exported. In addition, he is talking with the Farm Bureau about their stance on these types of projects. Basically, its agriculture ground versus property rights in these situations. Pat Bibler stated that zoning is to protect property rights, however, in this situation, zoning is ineffective as it doesn't apply to solar farms considering they are utilities. Ted stated that if 60% of grain is exported, why isn't the remaining 40% important? Bill stated that the Commissioners can't do anything as the process can't be changed. Pat True stated that her husband is a Cass Township Trustee and is against the project. Tim stated that he would like this to be a Township decision. Pat stated that HB 52 has passed and is awaiting Governor DeWine's signature which means future projects will follow more local guidelines, however this project is grandfathered. Therefore, making a statement to support the opposition is more valuable. Pat Bilber stated that the County Commissioners website indicated their mission is to preserve farmland. Solar farms do not preserve farmland. Bill stated that they will follow what the Township wants.

Meetings/Reports

William Bateson stated that he attended the basin meeting at the fairgrounds. He said good information was received. Mary Ann stated that it was good to hear the Townships speak up. Bill stated that he also has property on Eagle Creek South. Bill attended the Inter Systems meeting this morning.

Timothy Bechtol stated that he also attended the basin meeting and provided a brief history. Mary Ann stated that the representatives of the Maumee District are not elected and she was at the meeting as well. Cindy Land inquired how the project will be paid for if the additional money is not received. Bill stated that was not discussed. Mary Ann stated that assessments would be collected for the maintenance. In addition, Tim stated that the Mayor mentioned that the city could put money towards the maintenance fee and some businesses have expressed some payment towards the maintenance fee. Tim also attended the 50 North celebration with the other commissioners. Tim met with Myron Lewis, the President and CEO of Blanchard Valley Hospital. The meeting to tour the JCPenney location with Judge Johnson will be held today at noon at the East Campus. Anyone attending should meet at the mall office.

Bill Bateson requested an executive session in regards to personal and tangible property acquisition and lease of real estate.

At 10:46 a.m., Timothy Bechtol made the motion to enter into executive session at 11:00 a.m., to discuss personal and tangible property acquisition and lease of real estate. William Bateson seconded. A roll call vote resulted as follows: Timothy Bechtol, yes; William Bateson, yes. At 11:37 a.m., Timothy Bechtol made the motion to come out of executive session with no action taken, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 2-0.


At 12:00 p.m., the Commissioners met at the JCPenney location. Steve Welton, Charity Rauschenberg, Tracy Coldren, Tim Stuart, Bill Domme, Judge Johnson, Shawn Carpenter, Becky Van Scoder, Dave DeVore, Lou Willin, Lynn Taylor and Tammy Erwin were also in attendance. Irvin Reinhart stopped by to pick up the set of plans for the rest of the building. Tim Bechtol provided a map of the JCPenney area to Judge Johnson. The parties walked around and reviewed the space, office area, restroom area, doorways, electrical areas etc.

At 2:39 p.m., the Commissioners reconvened. Lynn Taylor and Cindy Land were also present.

Cindy Land stated that she discussed with Randy Galbraith, the Director of JFS, the 30 Days to Family program. There is a document that needs to be signed by June 30, 2021 in order to be eligible for a \$21,000 grant. The MOU is an amendment to extend the program for one year. In addition, it stated that the program is eligible for the \$21,000 grant. Cindy has sent Randy an email indicating why levy funds can be used to fund this project and has advised him to contact herself or the Auditor for further questions.

Lucinda Land presented the following resolution for consideration:

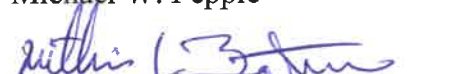
Resolution #438-21 – Authorizing the Hancock County Commissioners in conjunction with the HCJFS to enter into an amended memorandum of understanding between HCJFS and Kinnect for the design for the design and implementation of the 30 days to family @Ohio Program. William Bateson made the motion to approve, Timothy Bechtol seconded. Motion passed 2-0.


Lynn Taylor, Assistant Clerk

Reviewed and approved by:


Timothy K. Bechtol


Michael W. Pepple


William L. Bateson