

Minutes

March 12, 2024

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

Also Present: Christine Carrigan, Phil Johnson, Engineer Doug Cade, Adam Witteman, Tim Stuart, Holly Frische, Jeff Wobser, Kenzie Tucker and Elizabeth Zimmerman.

Commissioner Bechtol opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' 1st floor conference room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Minutes from the March 7, 2024 meetings were read with Michael Pepple making the motion to approve, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Michael Pepple made the motion for the Chair's signature on the Clark Schaefer Hackett audit engagement letter. William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0. The Commissioners approved the temporary increase in wages allotted to JFS Social Services Supervisors for being on call and the Maumee Watershed Conservancy District's March 11, 2024 invoice totaling \$63,787.25.

The Assistant Clerk presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #140-24 – Authorizing the payment of the listed and/or attached Purchase Orders. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #141-24 – Rescinding Hancock County Commissioners Resolution #127-24 dated March 5, 2024 (Transfer of funds within the appropriation - General Fund #1001). Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #142-24 – Rescinding Hancock County Commissioners Resolution #129-24 dated March 5, 2024 (Transfer of funds from the General Fund #1001 to Job & Family Services Capital Projects Fund #4072). Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #143-24 – Transfer between funds from General Fund #1001 to Severance Fund #2136. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #144-24 – Transfer between funds from General Fund #1001 to Job & Family Services Capital Projects Fund #4072. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The Assistant Clerk presented the following resolution for consideration on behalf of Cindy Land:

Resolution #145-24 – Resolution authorizing the Hancock County Commissioners to authorize an agreement with Soil & Environmental Consulting Services, Inc., for soil investigation for onsite sewage treatment suitability and system design for eligible WPCLF properties. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Phil Johnson presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #146-24 – Authorizing the entry into an agreement with Charter Communications Operating, LLC DBA Charter Communications Holdings, LLC AKA Spectrum Business for the provision of hardware and equipment facilitating the access to internet services for county employees, offices and office-holders. Phil explained that this contract will replace our current internet service contract with CentraCom. Tim Stuart has figured out a way to get this service a little cheaper. This refers to a bid that is on the OhioBuys state procurement system. This contract is the first step of the state procurement process. The total is \$40,896.00 for thirty-six months. Commissioner Pepple inquired what the estimated cost savings will be. Tim stated somewhere in the neighborhood of 50%. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #147-24 – Authorizing the entry into an agreement with Ohio State University, as fiscal agent for OARnet, a division of the Ohio Department of Higher Education, for the provisions of access to internet services for county employees, offices and office-holders. Phil stated this is the second step in the state procurement process. This contract addresses the actual access to the internet. The contract amount is \$11,660.00 for the same three-year period. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #148-24 – Authorizing the contract with Griffin Pavement Striping, LLC, of Fremont, Ohio, for the 2024 County/Township Pavement Marking program. Phil stated this relates to the yearly pavement striping or marking. Griffin Pavement Striping, LLC., provided the lowest bid of \$70,158.50. Sixty-nine thousand, four hundred and fourteen dollars and fifty cents relate to county roads. There are some roads in Pleasant Township that are involved in this project at a cost of \$744.00. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #149-24 – Resolution authorizing approval and execution of contract with M & B Asphalt Co., Inc. of Tiffin, Ohio for completion of the County/Township Local Resurfacing 2024 project. Phil stated M & B Asphalt Co., Inc. submitted the lowest bid, in the amount of \$2,233,037.90. This involves county, township and village roads. The county portion is \$1,551,617.50. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #150-24 – Resolution authorizing approval and execution of contract with Lake Erie Construction Company of Norwalk, Ohio for completion of a 2024 Guardrail Replacement project. Phil stated this is for a new project. The Lake Erie Construction Company provided the low bid of \$134,320.00. This just deals with county roads. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #151-24 – Authorizing entry into a contract with Davis & Newcomer Elevator Co., Inc., to provide improvements to the public elevator at 514 South Main Street. Phil stated this relates to the elevator in this building. It was determined the emergency communication system is defective. The cost to remove and replace the defective unit is \$1,173.00. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #152-24 – Authorizing the Solicitation of Bids for the Provision of Interior Repairs and Improvements within the Hancock County Job & Family Services Building. Commissioner Bechtol stated the revised up to date estimate for the construction is \$176,903.00. They recommend we set aside an additional 10% for contingency. The plans are currently at Wood County for building plan review. Michael Pepple made a motion to approve, William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Engineer Doug Cade stated that the projects in today's resolutions are part of their annual safety priority projects. He provided more detailed information regarding the guardrail replacement project. He stated that a lot of the guardrails in Hancock County are not up to current standards. All of the guardrails will be brought up to standards over the next few years. Doug stated a pavement marking evaluation is done each year on all of the county roads to determine the work that needs to be done. The pavement striping on roads with large traffic counts is done annually. Doug stated that the paving project continues to grow every year. Townships and Villages are cooperating with them to get their roads paved. They continue to get as much Ohio Public Works Commission money for everybody in the county.

Tim Stuart provided an update regarding the fiber. He is hoping to have a draft of the change order by tomorrow.

Adam Witterman stated Audit is on site.

Denise Timmerman, an Allen Township resident shared her concern with the 3 large wind turbines potentially being installed and the industrial growth in Allen Township. The Commissioners explained what their authority is regarding the wind turbines. Commissioner Bechtol stated he would be interested in researching more about the setbacks and density requirements. Dennis provided her email address.

Meetings/Reports

William Bateson attended the CAC meeting regarding the proposed new jail. A recommendation letter to be considered by the Commissioners will be coming from the committee hopefully before summer.

Michael Pepple along with the other two Commissioners and Engineer Cade attended the Cattleman Association banquet. In addition, Commissioner Pepple chaired the legislative committee for the Hancock County Coalition on Addiction meeting. They continue to discuss the drug problems in Hancock County and the changes with the marijuana laws.

Timothy Bechtol attended the Cattleman's Banquet. Commissioner Bechtol inquired if the other two Commissioners spoke with Denise Grant about the parking story in today's paper. Commissioner Bateson and Commissioner Pepple both responded that they did not have any discussion with her. Commissioner Bechtol will reach out to her to give her direct quotes, so she does not have to rely on published information. Yesterday, Commissioner Bechtol met to discuss the Court Recordings System for the New Judicial Center. He stated they are about 90% done with the drywall on the third floor and they are starting to drywall the second floor.

At 10:30 a.m., the Commissioners met with Nichole Coleman from the Veterans Service Office. Christine Carrigan, Phil Johnson, Adam Witteman, Jeff Wobser and Holly Frische were also in attendance. Nichole explained in detail the three slides that she submitted to the Commissioner's office to be used in The State of the County Address. She provided information regarding the population of Veterans in Hancock County, the 2023 budget that was returned to the General Fund and the local benefits provided to Hancock County veterans and Veteran's family members. In addition, Nichole provided information regarding the federal benefits that came into this county or was spent on veterans in Hancock County. Nichole stated that most of her staff's energy and efforts are spent on helping veterans understand and apply for the benefits they have earned. Nichole stated that around 62% of the 2023 expenses are employee expenses that are direct benefits to veterans or veteran's family members. The money received from funeral donations is being spent on all of the resiliency programs. Nichole stated that the new VA office plans to be open in August. Commissioner Pepple informed Nichole that they continue to look for new sites for their office.


At 11:00 a.m., the Commissioners met with Randall Galbraith for the JFS update meeting. Christine Carrigan, Cindy Land, Adam Witteman and Holly Frische were also in attendance. Randy explained that the total number of reports received for February has gone way up. The number of kids in custody has remained the same at 88. Randy provided the breakdown of the current placements. He stated kids entering care continues to drop. Randy gave an update of activities that the recently hired foster parent recruiter is doing to recruit local foster families. He stated that there is a five-county coalition in Northwest Ohio that is licensing Treatment Foster Care homes. He received an invite to join this coalition and will be checking more into it. The Pinwheels for Child Abuse Awareness month is scheduled for the first week in April. Randy stated they are currently looking to purchase some vehicles from the Department of Administrative Services. They have a few vehicles that need to be replaced. Randy stated that his Adult Protective Service employee is out on long term leave right now. He is looking into contracting with Wood County APS workers. Randy stated this service is for Hancock County residents 60 years of age or older that are experiencing some type of exploitation or are incompetent. Commissioner Bechtol commented like they are forcing them to run for president. Randy provided a breakdown of adults receiving SNAP. He stated there has often been the idea in the public that people receiving SNAP are not working and should be working. There are only 68 people that are required to do some time of work and the majority of them are working. He explained how eligibility is determined for their programs. In addition, Randy shared his frustration on information that he is not able to obtain from the state system.

Randy requested an executive session in regards to employee discipline and potential litigation.


At 11:20 a.m., Timothy Bechtol made a motion to enter into executive session in regards to employee discipline and potential litigation. William Bateson seconded. A roll call vote resulted as follows: Timothy Bechtol, yes; William Bateson, yes; Michael Pepple, yes. At 11:40 a.m., Timothy Bechtol made a motion to come out of executive session, in regards to employee discipline and potential litigation with no action taken. William Bateson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

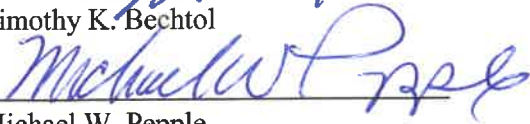
Commissioner Bechtol presented the paint and floor samples for the JFS building.


Respectfully submitted,

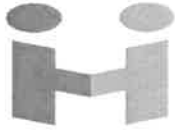

Christine Carrigan, Assistant Clerk

Reviewed and approved by:


Timothy K. Bechtol


Michael W. Pepple


William L. Bateson



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 – March 12th, 2024

- 1) Kids in Care
- 2) Foster Parent Recruitment and Treatment Foster Care Opportunity
- 3) Pinwheels for Child Abuse Awareness Month
- 4) Auto Purchases
- 5) APS Contracts
- 6) SNAP Stats
- 7) Executive Session – Employee Discipline

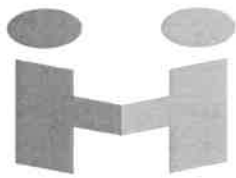
Providing Help Today and Building Hope for Tomorrow

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



Hancock County Job & Family Services

Children's Protective Services Unit
January 2024

Total Number of reports Received:	
January 2024	146
February 2024	189
March 2024	
April 2024	
May 2024	
June 2024	
Screened In/Out	
January 2024	IN=45 , OUT= 98
February 2024	IN=53 , OUT= 131
March 2024	IN= , OUT=
April 2024	IN= OUT=
May 2024	IN= OUT=
June 2024	IN= OUT=
Breakdown of case Type Screened In:	
January 2024	TR=13 , AR=23, FINS= 7, Dependency= 2
February 2024	TR= 21 AR= 25, FINS=6 , Dependency=1
March 2024	TR= , AR= , FINS=
April 2024	TR= ,AR=, FINS=, Dependency=
May 2024	TR= , AR= , FINS= , Dependency=
June 2024	TR=, AR=, FINS=, Dependency=
Total Number of Kids in Care at months end	
January 2024	88
February 2024	88
March 2024	
April 2024	
May 2024	
June 2024	

Breakdown of <u>Current</u> Placements (86 Kids plus one child on extended foster leave)	
Family Foster Home	45
Adoptive	0
Kinship Placement	27
Group Home	6
Residential	5
Independent Living	1
Detention	1
Hospitalization	0
AWOL*	0
Total number of Children Entering Care/Exiting Care	
January 2024	Enter= 3, Exit= 1
February 2024	Enter=2 , Exit= 4
March 2024	Enter= , Exit=
April 2024	Enter= Exit=
May 2024	Enter= Exit=
June 2024	Enter= Exit=
	Enter= Exit=
Total number of Children Receiving In-Home Services	
January 2024	64
February 2024	45
March 2024	0
April 2024	0
May 2024	0
June 2024	0

TR- Traditional Response

AR- Alternative Response

FINS- Family in Need of Services

AWOL- Absent without leave

SNAP E&T (Employment & Training) and ABAWD (Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents) Work Registration Exemptions

SNAP Work Registration Exemptions:

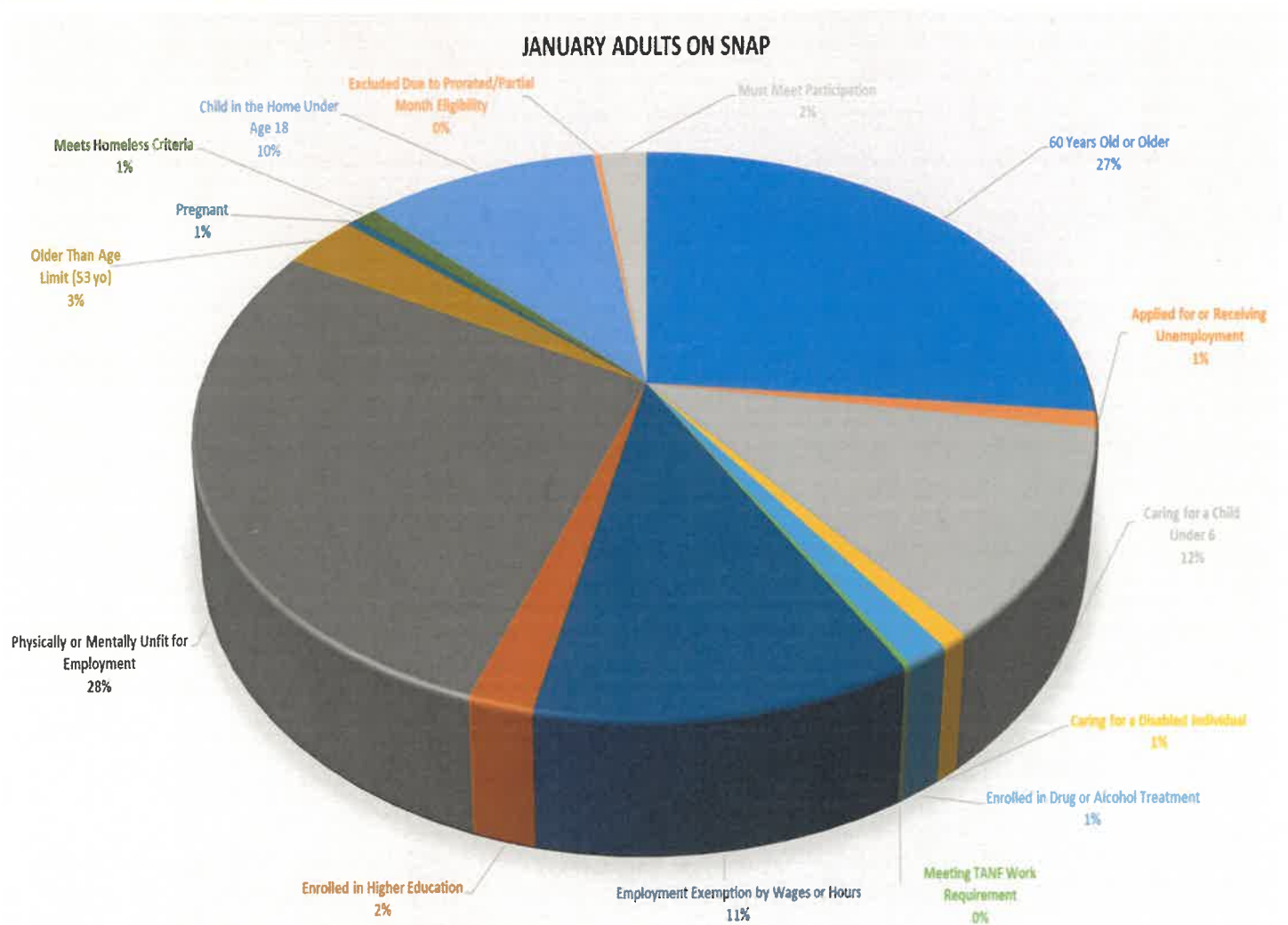
- A person younger than 16 years of age.
- 16- or 17-year-old participant who is not the assistance group name.
- A 16- or 17-year-old participant who is the assistance group name and is attending school or enrolled in an employment training program at least half time.
- Person 60 years of age or older.
- A parent or other assistance group member who is responsible for the care of a dependent child under age 6 – in or out of the home.
- A parent or other assistance group member who is responsible for the care of an incapacitated person – in or out of the home.
- A person receiving Unemployment Compensation benefits.
- A person who has applied for but is not yet receiving Unemployment Compensation benefits and is complying with the requirements of the UC application process.
- A person determined by the county agency to be physically or mentally unfit for employment – either permanently or temporarily.
- Physically or mentally unfit for employment – either permanently or temporarily (receiving disability benefits).
- Physically or mentally unfit for employment – either permanently or temporarily.
- Assistance group member who applies for both SSI and SNAP benefits at the local Social Security office. *Note* Our local Social Security office does not offer this option.
- A regular participant in a drug addiction or alcoholic treatment and rehabilitation program on a resident basis.
- A regular participant in a drug addiction or alcoholic treatment and rehabilitation program on a nonresident basis.
- A student enrolled at least half time in a recognized school, training program, or institution of higher education.
- Assistance group member subject to and complying with any work requirement under the Ohio Works First (OWF cash assistance) program.
- An employed person earning weekly wages at least equal to the federal minimum wage multiplied by 30 hours.
- An employed person working a minimum of 30 hours weekly.
- A self-employed person working a minimum of 30 hours weekly.
- Migrant and seasonal farm workers under contract or similar agreement with an employer or crew chief to begin employment within 30 days.

ABAWD Exemptions:

- A person younger than 18 years of age.
- Person 52 years of age or older.
- Pregnant
- Parent with an Assistance Group member under age 18.
- Residing in an Assistance Group with an AG member under age 18.
- Person unhoused or homeless.
- Veteran who served in the Armed Forces or reserves.
- Under 25 years old and aged out of foster care.

January 2024

Adults Receiving SNAP		
Total = 3611		
Exempt for SNAP E&T	60 Years Old or Older	965
	Applied for or Receiving Unemployment	34
	Caring for a Child Under 6	429
	Caring for a Disabled Individual	30
	Enrolled in Drug or Alcohol Treatment	49
	Meeting TANF Work Requirement	7
	Employment Exemption by Wages or Hours	412
	Enrolled in Higher Education	72
	Physically or Mentally Unfit for Employment	1010
SNAP E&T Required but ABAWD Exempt	Older Than Age Limit (53 yo)	114
	Pregnant	15
	Meets Homeless Criteria	34
	Child in the Home Under Age 18	359
	Excluded Due to Prorated/Partial Month Eligibility	9
Must Meet Participation		72



February 2024

Adults Receiving SNAP		
Total = 3617		
Exempt for SNAP E&T	60 Years Old or Older	970
	Applied for or Receiving Unemployment	29
	Caring for a Child Under 6	433
	Caring for a Disabled Individual	31
	Enrolled in Drug or Alcohol Treatment	46
	Meeting TANF Work Requirement	7
	Employment Exemption by Wages or Hours	414
	Enrolled in Higher Education	80
	Physically or Mentally Unfit for Employment	993
SNAP E&T Required but ABAWD Exempt	Older Than Age Limit (53 yo)	115
	Veteran	2
	Pregnant	13
	Meets Homeless Criteria	36
	Child in the Home Under Age 18	362
	Excluded Due to Prorated/Partial Month Eligibility	18
Must Meet Participation		68

FEBRUARY ADULTS ON SNAP

