

Minutes

March 4, 2021

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

Also Present: Lynn Taylor, Cindy Land, Phil Johnson, Charity Rauschenberg, Adam Witteman, Deb Cook and Jim Maurer.

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 2, 2021 meeting were read with William Bateson making the motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The Assistant Clerk presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #130-21 – Transfer of Hancock County Solid Waste Management District Tier Disposal Fees to the Tiered Disposal Fee Fund. William Bateson made the motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #131-21 – Additional appropriation within the Auditor's certification – Commissioners to appropriate to Ohio Public Works Commission. William Bateson made the motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #132-21 – Additional appropriation within the Auditor's certification – Commissioners to appropriate to Common Pleas Court - TCAP. William Bateson made the motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

William Bateson made the motion to approve the Warrant Journal. Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Lucinda Land presented the following resolution for consideration:

Resolution #133-21 – Amendment 01 to the MEBC-Hancock County Employee Health Care Plan document effective January 1, 2021. Cindy Land stated that this resolution indicates that telehealth/video call appointments are retroactive to January 1, 2021. William Bateson made the motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Phil Johnson presented the following resolution for consideration:

Resolution #134-21 – Authorizing entry into agreements related to property at 301 E. Main Cross St. and the MLK Parkway. Phil stated that the final version of the agreement will be received later today, however the resolution can be approved. Changes to the vacation date and a reference to the proposed payments of vacation were modified. Phil stated that \$700,000 will cover the demolishing of the building and certain moving expenses will be paid. William Bateson made the motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Phil Johnson requested an executive session in regards to potential litigation.

Charity Rauschenberg reported that she attended the Economic Advisory Board Meeting and submitted her resignation for their board commitment. The board meeting date and time conflict with prior obligations. Charity recommended that a new Commissioner be appointed. Cindy Land suggested that once the Board selects a replacement, the process of preparing a resolution can begin.

Meetings/Reports

William Bateson had nothing to report.

Michael Pepple reported that he attended the Downtown Improvement District Meeting. In addition, Mike attended via zoom the Township Trustee Association Meeting.

Timothy Bechtol reported that he also attended the zoom Township Trustee Association Meeting. It was decided that the annual banquet will not happen in 2021. With social distance measures in place, the April, 2021 meeting is being planned. Tim also stated he spoke to Lori Brodie regarding the increase of fraudulent claims. Charity stated that The Courier had a nice article recently about fraudulent claims. Furthermore, Charity indicated that Nancy has done a lot of work on claims being submitted through the County. Of the 30 potential fraudulent claims attempted, only 2 were not caught. Cindy Land also stated that she has spoken with Nancy recently, and she is doing a nice job preventing these issues. Tim stated that a date for the State of The County will be decided soon.

At 9:54 a.m., Timothy Bechtol made the motion to enter into executive session to discuss potential litigation. Michael Pepple seconded. A roll call vote resulted as follows: Timothy Bechtol, yes; Michael Pepple, yes; William Bateson, yes. At 10:05 a.m., Timothy Bechtol made the motion to come out of executive session with no action taken, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

At 10:30 a.m., the Commissioners met with Randy Galbraith from JFS for an update. Lynn Taylor, Adam Witteman and Jim Maurer were also in attendance. Randy asked the Commissioners for permission to display the pinwheels on the fence of the Courthouse. All three Commissioners gave their approval. Randy stated that the Thirty Days to Family grant will be expiring at the end of June 2021. The prior director found this grant back in 2019 and it has fully funded the caseworker assigned to this duty. Randy believes in this project and he will continue to search for ways to fund this much needed program. This program cuts down the number of kids in the foster care system. Currently, eight kids have been served by this program. Randy indicated that he may have to ask for additional funds in June 2021 if he is unsuccessful in finding additional money. Bill Bateson inquired if Randy finds value in this program and Randy stated that he does find value. Mike Pepple inquired about the area that is searched for kinship care. Randy stated that there are no geographical limits to the area searched for family. Randy stated that he wished the grant would be available for another year to get more of an opportunity for success. Randy stated that Commissioner Pepple requested a breakdown of kids in care. Randy provided a breakdown on the attached agenda. In addition, Randy continually works with Juvenile Court to get the kids out of the system. Randy provided information regarding the current levy funds advanced of \$443,414.93 as of 2/16/2021, which is anticipated

to last through April 2021. Adam Witteman stated that they are working on settlement figures for the next half. He indicated about \$800,000 is estimated to be collected. Half of that amount will be used to pay the advance, therefore, leaving \$400,000 available. Randy stated that will last an additional 4 months. If funds become short, Randy may be asking for additional funds. Tim informed Randy that Clouse Construction has been contacted to review the JFS roof. Tim and Randy discussed the visual damage of the roof area and ceiling tile. Adam inquired from Randy if the Thirty Days to Family Grant program can be used from levy proceeds. Randy indicated that levy funds can't be used to fund that program. Bill Bateson inquired if other counties use the Thirty Days to Family program, and Randy thought that about 15-20 counties use the program.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynn Taylor, Assistant Clerk


Reviewed and approved by:



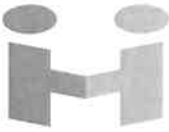
Timothy K. Bechtol



Michael W. Pepple



William L. Bateson



Randall L. Galbraith, Esq., Director

Commissioner's Report – March 4th, 2021

1) Child Abuse Awareness Month

- Pinwheel display is usually on the fence and a board on the side of the Courthouse
- Begins April 7th and runs through end of month

2) Thirty Days to Family

- Grant is \$6,000.00 per month
- Pays for salary/benefits of one caseworker and some technology subscriptions
- Grant through Kinnect runs out June 30th
- Program is working but eligibility for first two years was tight
- 8 kids served directly by program, ~ 29 cases assisted through 2/28/2021
- Needs to become self-sustaining
- Enhanced eligibility begins soon
- May have some ideas to supplement grant, but unsure of amount

3) Kinship Support Program

- As of 1/31/2021, CPSU had
 - o 43 kinship placements
 - o 44 foster care placements
 - o 8 group home placements
 - o 7 residential treatment and DYS placements
- Rough estimate of direct costs of program on CPSU

Total Children	43					
IV-E Eligible	22	51.16%	Reimbursement	12,830.79	Reimbursement	51,117.29
non-eligible	18	41.86%	Est Local Balance 2021	26,582.01	Est Local Balance 2022	105,931.51
pending	3	6.98%				
FMAP		63.63%				

- Does not count costs of home assessments and staff time

4) Placement Costs

- Levy advanced approx. \$443,414.93 as of 2/16/2021
- Advance will cover about 4 months of costs
- What happens after that?

Providing Help Today and Building Hope for Tomorrow