

Minutes

November 30, 2021

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

Also Present: Christine Carrigan, Cindy Land, Phil Johnson, Auditor Rauschenberg and Mary Ann LaRoche.

Commissioner Bechtol opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioner's 1st floor conference room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Minutes from the November 23rd, 2021 meeting were read with William Bateson making a motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The Assistant Clerk presented the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolution #835-21 – Authorizing payment of the listed and/or attached purchase orders. William Bateson made a motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #836-21 – Repayment of advance from the Cops Hire Fund to the General Fund. William Bateson made a motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #837-21 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation – Sheriff. William Bateson made a motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #838-21 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation – Soldiers Relief Fund. William Bateson made a motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #839-21 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation – Family and Children's First Council. William Bateson made a motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #840-21 – Transfer of funds from the Indigent Defense to General Fund. William Bateson made a motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #841-21 – Transfer of funds from the General Fund to Juvenile Probate Bond Retirement. William Bateson made a motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #842-21 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation - Treasurer. William Bateson made a motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #843-21 – Additional appropriation within the Auditor's certification – Commissioner's to appropriate to Severance Fund. William Bateson made a motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #844-21 – Transfer of funds within the appropriation – Buildings & Grounds. William Bateson made a motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

William Bateson made a motion to approve the Warrant Journal, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0. The Commissioner's signed the Hancock County Landfill Explosive Gas Monitoring Report for November 2021 and a travel request for Job & Family Services. In addition, Tim Bechtol signed the Hancock County 2021 CDBG allocation request for release of funds for grant projects in the Villages of

Jenera and Mt Blanchard. William Bateson made a motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Cindy Land presented the following resolution for consideration:

Resolution #845-21 – Resolution authorizing the Hancock County Commissioners to enter into an agreement with Lima Radio Hospital, Inc., 829 Tiffin Ave., Findlay, Ohio 45840 for the Hancock County Radio Project Purchase Agreement. William Bateson made a motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0. This resolution will allow the Sheriff’s office to upgrade their radio system. Cindy Land stated the importance of keeping radios upgraded to keep the public and the first responders safe. She also stated the platform currently being used by the radios will no longer be supported in 2023. The cost to upgrade the equipment will be \$1,395,691.16.

Phil Johnson presented the following resolution for consideration:

Resolution #846-21 – An emergency resolution to accept the material terms of the One Ohio Subdivision Settlement pursuant to the One Ohio Memorandum of Understanding and consistent with the terms of the July 21, 2021 National Opioid Settlement Agreement in relation to a settlement with Janssen, and Johnson & Johnson. William Bateson made a motion to approve, Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0. This is a fourth settlement that will put a large sum of money into the One Ohio program. The method of approval was set up for DocuSign instead of physical papers. Tim Bechtol or Phil Johnson will execute the DocuSign agreement.

Phil Johnson requested an executive session in regards to potential real estate acquisition and pending litigation.

Cindy Land brought up for discussion the excess Dog & Kennel fund. She stated the Commissioners can decide to distribute the excess funds to the Humane Society or they can remain in the fund. If they decide to distribute the funds to the Humane Society it has to take place in December. Auditor Rauschenberg stated the Dog & Kennel Fund received less penalty revenue this year and they did have to use some of the 2020 excess Dog & Kennel funds. Cindy Land stated that she has received resolutions declaring the Township an unincorporated area not able to have any solar or wind farms from Cass and Orange Townships. Cindy requested the Commissioner’s to request a deadline for the Townships to submit the resolutions. Tim Bechtol suggested having a public meeting to be able to hear opinions of the residents of the Townships. Cindy Land received the amended lease for the Veteran’s office.

Auditor Rauschenberg reported she is working on the policies and procedures for the ARPA funds. In addition, Auditor Rauschenberg stated sales tax revenue is 13% over last year’s sales tax revenue at this time. Auto sales seemed to have stalled, but other sales tax categories are up over last year’s amounts. She reiterated that the Humane Society’s contract is for enforcement only not dog tag sales.

Discussion of the increasing COVID cases took place. Commissioner Pepple stated they have allowed each county office and elected official to incorporate their own COVID precautions.

Meetings/Reports

William Bateson attended his last Soy Bean Council meeting. His time served with the council is complete for now. Commissioner Bateson stated it was a wonderful time representing Hancock County farmers.

Michael Pepple attended the Habitat for Humanity Budget meeting and the Zonta Club balloon release to recognize the victims of domestic violence. In addition, Commissioner Pepple attended the MPRMA executive committee to discuss 2022 projections.

Timothy Bechtol was unable to go to the tour in Indiana. He has nothing to report.


At 11:30 a.m. Timothy Bechtol made a motion to enter into executive session in regards to personnel hiring. Michael Pepple seconded. A roll call vote resulted as follows: Timothy Bechtol, yes; Michael Pepple, yes; William Bateson, yes.

At 11:41 a.m., Timothy Bechtol made a motion to come out of executive session, having discussed personnel in regards to hiring with no action taken. Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

At 12:06 p.m. Timothy Bechtol made a motion to enter into executive session in regards to potential real estate acquisition and pending litigation. Michael Pepple seconded. A roll call vote resulted as follows: Timothy Bechtol, yes; Michael Pepple, yes; William Bateson, yes.

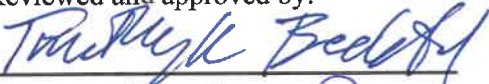
At 12:31 p.m., Timothy Bechtol made a motion to come out of executive session, having discussed potential real estate acquisition and pending litigation with no action taken. Michael Pepple seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Christine Carrigan, Assistant Clerk


Reviewed and approved by:



Timothy K. Bechtol



Michael W. Pepple



William L. Bateson