

COMMISSIONERS MEETING

The Board of Hocking County Commissioners met in regular session this 21st day of September 2023 with the following members present: Sandra Ogle, Jessica Dicken, and Jason D'Onofrio.

MEETING

The meeting was called to order by President Sandra Ogle.

MINUTES

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve the September 14th minutes.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

AGENDA

Motion by Jessica Dicken and seconded by Jason D'Onofrio to approve.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

BILLS

The following bills were presented before examination and approval:

Name	No.	Purpose	Amount
SUNRUSH WATER		WATER	22.85
BRICKER GRAYDON LLP		!! VARIOUS LEGAL EXPENSE	5,417.99
QUILL CORPORATION		SUPPLIES THROUGH 2023	112.16
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES		SUPPLIES THROUGH 2023	46.98
GLACIER MTN BOTTLED WATER		WATER SUPPLY THROUGH 2023	25.50
VERIZON WIRELESS		CELL PHONE SERVICE THRU 2023	249.27
NEMEC, JOE		REIMB. FOR LIABILITY INSURANCE	290.00
STERICYCLE, INC.		!! SHREDDING SERVICE & BIN	110.51
VICKROY DISPOSAL		SERVICE TO COUNTY BUILDINGS	1,260.00
ATHENS-HOCKING RECYCLING CENT		RECYCLING PICK-UP	33.83
XEROX FINANCIAL SERVICES LLC		COPY MACHINE	78.37
TRI-COUNTY TERMITE & PEST		PEST CONTROL	45.00
ADT SECURITY SERVICES		SECURITY SERVICE	17.66
NAPA AUTO PARTS		CRUISER SUPPLIES	27.16
TANSKY MOTORS, INC		!! CRUISER MAINT & REPAIR	198.25
MI COLLISION LLC		REPAIR 2019 CHARGER DEDUCTIBLE	2,500.05
RH FIRE EXTINGUISHER SERVICE		!! FIRE EXTINGUISHER INSPECTION	112.15
MCDONALDS MUFFLER & TOWING		!! TOW CRUISER	150.00
OFFICE MART		SUPPLIES	81.52
FIDLAR TECHNOLOGIES		MICROFILM SERVICE	30.00
TREASURER STATE OF OHIO		BCMH-2023	6,296.45
GORDON FLESCH COMPANY		XEROX MAINT. (12 MONTHS)	1,386.96
FARLEY, TARA		MEALS & MILEAGE TRAINING 2023	93.02
FARLEY, TARA		MEALS & MILEAGE TRAINING 2023	88.09
RAFFERTY, VICKI		MEALS & MILEAGE TRAINING 2023	186.04

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RAFFERTY, VICKI	MEALS & MILEAGE TRAINING 2023	50.00
BAUM LAW OFFICE	!! PUBLIC DEFENDER	5,576.67
DRAKE, SONYA C/O	!! PUBLIC DEFENDER	487.50
FICKEL, BENJAMIN E.	!! PUBLIC DEFENDER	622.50
KLINE, DONALD L	!! PUBLIC DEFENDER	2,820.00
MOORE, WILLIAM	!! PUBLIC DEFENDER	3,000.00
MOORE, WILLIAM	!! PUBLIC DEFENDER	262.50
MEADOWS, JORDEN M	!! PUBLIC DEFENDER	4,335.00
CRYSTA PENNINGTON ATTORNEY AT	!! PUBLIC DEFENDER	360.00
THE LAW OFFICE OF JAMES LINEH	!! PUBLIC DEFENDER	420.00
RAHTER LAW OFFICE, LLC	!! PUBLIC DEFENDER	2,122.50
SMITH, SETH R.	!! PUBLIC DEFENDER	1,432.50
WEAVER, CAMERON M.	!! PUBLIC DEFENDER	3,765.00
NETCARE CORPORATION	COURT EVALUATIONS 2023	150.00
MADISON ENERGY COOPERATIVE	DOG POUND ELECTRIC	15.76
VICKROY DISPOSAL	DUMPSTER PICKUP	187.50
GIVENS, JOSH	TRAVEL	43.23
DESPETORICH, JASON M	REIMB SUPPLIES DRUG CRT COMMENC	238.55
OHIO ASSOCIATION OF MAGISTRAT	2023 CONF. FEES/2024 DUES	450.00
XEROX FINANCIAL SERVICES LLC	COPY MACHINE SEPT-DEC	21.62
XEROX FINANCIAL SERVICES LLC	COPY MACHINE SEPT-DEC	189.88
XEROX CORPORATION	COPY MACHINE LEASE/COPY CHARGES	110.02
JC MOJZER	REIMBURSEMENT FOR MILEAGE	34.32
NOLAN & MEEK CO., LPA	!! SUPERGAL	425.00

Motion by Jessica Dicken and seconded by Jason D'Onofrioto approve.

Vote: Ogle, abstain, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

APPOINTMENTS

9:30 - Jessie Powers with ORCA (Ohio Recreation Council of Appalachia) Presented the Commissioners with an invitation to join ORCA as partners at no cost for a limited scope of services, which include:
 Addition of the County to a multi-county outdoor recreation asset assessment and development plan.
 \$2,000 for eligible county identified market/ branding/ destination development efforts.
 Inclusion of the County in planning for the 2024 Ohio Outdoor Recreation Economy Conference, and the service area for an ARC ARISE Pennsylvania Wilds ORCA Planning Grant Application to assess and plan integration of technology into rural recreation economy development. Orca asks that Counties resolve to join and appoint up to three individuals to represent the County in advancing the above efforts. Commissioner asked how this would help Hocking County. Jessie Powers said it would highlight Hocking County, as to outdoor activities. Commissioner D'Onofrio stated that it needed to be looked into further.

Motion by Jessica Dicken and seconded by Jason D'Onofrio to approve going into General Business for public comment on the ORCA presentation.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

COMMISSIONERS MEETING

GENERAL BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sue Morgan voiced concerns about more tourism and the added traffic and problems that go with it.

Jamie Riggs asked if this brings more Federal Government involvement to Hocking County and she doesn't feel we need more Federal Government in Hocking County.

Micheal Nihiser asked if this is just for Southeastern Ohio. Hocking County is the biggest draw and we are spending a tremendous amount of tax money to bring more people to the area and local people can't afford to pay their property taxes and bills and young people are moving out of the community because they can't afford to pay the rent.

Bailey Simons commented that she feels that this is just a plan to see the benefits to be considered.

Jessie Powers says she lives in the Athens area and her family is from the area. ORCA wants to work together as a region, highlight the needs of every community in this plan and value an integrated plan that will work.

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve going back into appointments.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

APPOINTMENTS

Motion by Jessica Dicken and seconded by Jason D'Onofrio to approve going into General Business.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

GENERAL BUSINESS

APPROPRIATION TRANSFER

Board of Elections	-	A03 A02APoll Workers Salaries	-	A03A09D Other	\$4,015.00
		A03A03 Supplies	-	A03A09D Other	\$2,500.00
		A03A02 Salaries Employees	-	A03A09D	\$1,500.00

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

VACATION CARRY OVER

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve IT Director Mark Stout and Deputy IT Director Wes Barber to carry over earned vacation leave up to three years as outlined in the Employee Handbook section 6.C.5.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

CHRISTMAS DINNER

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve sending out notice for Christmas Dinner to get a count of people attending and menu choices at the end of November. And to also add the Sewer Dept.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

911

Motion by Jessica Dicken and seconded by Jason D'Onofrio to approve having Maintenance paint parking blocks at the 911 parking lot.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

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APPROPRIATION TRANSFER

EMA - EMA091 - Transfers - W91-11 - \$2,000.00

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

Prosecutor - VOCA Grant 062 - Salaries - VOCA Grant - TT62-01 \$3,805.09

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

EMA

Motion by Jessica Dicken and seconded by Jason D'Onofrio to approve EMA Director Mark Edgar to travel to Jackson County, Ohio in the County vehicle to the Emergency Management Association of Ohio's Fall Conference on September 28, 2023.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

BUDGET

Motion by Sandra Ogle and seconded by Jason D'Onofrio to approve having each department submit their budgets by Oct 16, 2023.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

Evening meeting

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve postponing the evening meeting for September 28, 2023 to a date to be determined.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

Interviews

Motion by Jessica Dicken and seconded by Jason D'Onofrio to have Clerk Christy set up interviews with the Sewer Technician candidates for Thursday September 28th.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

September 28th meeting

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve the September 28, 2023 meeting at 9:30 AM

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

Sewer Taps

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve keeping the standard sewer bills following the flow chart that is currently used.

Roll Call Vote: Ogle, abstain, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

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Brownfield Remediation Program for Hocking County

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve applying for Notice of Intent - Lead Entity Designation for Demolition and Site Revitalization and Brownfield Remediation Program for Hocking County. With Buckeye Hills Regional Council being the Lead Entity.

Roll Call Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

317 Board

Commissioner Dicken Informed that the 317 Board is interested in funding a range of program types that will support multi initiatives up to \$503,267.00 if entities in the County are interested in applying they can reach out to the 317 board on their website.

RECESS

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve going into recess.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

RECONVENE

10:28 AM

WEST STREET BID OPENING

Nathan Simons with HAPCAP presenting a sign in sheet to open bid for West Street. The Only Bid is from Jackson Brothers Construction out of Wellston, Ohio for \$467,929.00. Will be reviewed this week and will have an official recommendation next week.

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve putting Nathan Simons with HAPCAP on next week's agenda with results of the bid recommendation.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

RFQ

HAPCAP only received one submission for the Hocking County Jail Demolition Project from DLZ . And is recommended by HAPCAP.

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve beginning contract negotiations with DLZ for the Jail Demo.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

HAYDENVILLE SEWER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Nathan Simons with HAPCAP presented three RFQ'S for Engineering the Haydenville Sewer Project. DLZ scored 239.5, New River scored at 173.5, Fishbeck at 172.5 with the recommendation of going with DLZ. Commissioner Ogle asked what they are looking for when reviewing the RFQ'S?

Mr. Simons states that they look at how long the Companies have been in business, where they are located, what is their personnel and staff, availability, projected schedule for the project, how far from the jobsite, equipment and manpower, environmental reviews, have they worked for County or us in the past, CDBG experience, familiarity with funding, and have they done similar projects, and references of past projects.

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve contract negotiations with DLZ for Haydenville Sewer Project.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

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NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION GRANT

Mr Simons stated that HAPCAP applied on behalf of Hocking County for the Neighborhood Revitalization Grant for the Village of Murray City for \$750,000.00 with the help of Sands Decker to get estimates, and received the grant to carry out Water facility Improvements, Park Improvements, Street Improvements, Sidewalk Improvements, Flood and Drainage Improvements and New Water Meters.

ALLEN ALTFATER

Allen Altfater presenting for Appalachia Ohio Alliance requesting approval to apply for Clean Ohio funds to acquire 29 acres that butts up to State forest land for special habitat conservation property, the land has a cabin/house on it to be used as a rental to contribute to the property taxes.

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve.

Roll Call Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to approve going into General Business

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

GENERAL BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Allen Johnson inquired about the Haydenville sewer project.

Commissioner Ogle informed that a letter is being drawn up to send to residents that have sump pumps draining into the sewer to have that problem fixed by the first of November, so that when everyone is corrected a smoke test can be done.

Nathan Simons informed Mr Johnson that today was a recommendation for engineering services.

Allen Johnson asked what the engineering services would entail.

Nathan Simons responded that it would bring in a new sewer line infrastructure, each resident would have a new line and individual septic systems would be abandoned.

Allen Johnson responded that most people are already connected.

Nathan Simons replied that it would connect to Logan.

Commissioner Ogle stated that the upgrade would cost too much so it would be better to have it brought back to Logan.

Mr. Johnson asked about a time frame for the project.

Mr Simons stated that it varies but probably about a year. The design process will take months.

There was discussion on how the bidding process works and RFQ's for getting an engineering firm to work on the project.

Mr. Nihiser inquired if the village of Haydenville had its own EPA approved sewage treatment system. Commissioner Ogle said yes at one time it did, but it is way over the flowrate at this time.

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Mike Nihiser in regards to the ORCA membership, said he asked Jessie Powers about it in the hallway and Athens County would have the controlling vote, so then Hocking County is hitching to Athens County without a vote, when Hocking County is the premiere County.

Jamie Riggs asked if the public would have access to the 29 acres and if someday it would need to be developed, would they be able to.

Pat Hartman, Real Estate broker for the 29 acres said it can't be developed because there is a gas line going across the property, and it also butts up to state land behind it.

Sue Morgan voiced concerns about the property taxes on the 29 acres, and grants for the ORCA, and tourism getting out of hand.

Bailey Simons voiced her opinion about tourism and the tax money it brings in, and the livelihoods it provides.

Commissioner Ogle stated we need tourism but our infrastructure is not set up for it. Sales tax helped people make more and we are trying to work to make everybody happy.

Allen Altfater stated that they do provide public activities on their properties.

Susan Clay feels that people misunderstand conservation lands, but when land is conserved it adds value to the community. And stated that they do farmland preservation as well.

Commissioner Ogle added that she would like to see a map of property that the Appalachia Ohio Alliance has.

Mr. Altfater said he would get that for her.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Jason D'Onofrio and seconded by Jessica Dicken to adjourn.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Dicken, yea, D'Onofrio, yea.

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Christy Lindinger, Clerk

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Board of Hocking County Commissioners

This is to certify that the above is the true action taken by this Board of Hocking County Commissioners at a regular meeting of the Board held on September 21 , 2023.

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Christy Lindinger, Clerk

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Sandra Ogle, President