The Board of Hocking County Commissioners met in regular session this 17th day of January 2017 with the following members present Sandy Ogle, Gary Waugh, and Jeff Dickerson.

**MEETING:** The meeting was called to order by President Jeff Dickerson.

**MINUTES:** Motion by Gary Waugh and seconded by Sandy Ogle to approve the January 12, 2017 minutes.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Waugh, yea, Dickerson, yea.

**AGENDA:** Motion by Sandy Ogle and seconded by Gary Waugh to approve the agenda.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Waugh, yea, Dickerson, yea.

**ENGINEER DEPT:** Maggi Berry form the County Engineer’s Office introduced Assistant Engineer Bob Heady. Maggie also presented 2 Road Repair Agreements.

**ROAD REPAIR AGREEMENT-AEP/COLUMBIA GAS:** Motion by Sandy Ogle and seconded by Gary Waugh to authorize President Jeff Dickerson to sign the Road Repair Agreements between the Board of Hocking County Commissioners and Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC. Leach Xpress Project and Associated Pipe Line Contractors, Inc., Apex Pipeline Services and for the AEP-Shawnee Rebuild.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Waugh, yea, Dickerson, yea.

**AMEND AGENDA:** Motion by Jeff Dickerson and seconded by Gary Waugh to amend the agenda to general business.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Waugh, yea, Dickerson, yea.

**HVCH BOARD:** Commissioner Ogle read a letter from Julie Stuck, CEO of the Hocking Valley Community Hospital regarding the appointment to their board and which commissioner would be willing to serve on the selection committee. Commissioner Jeff Dickerson stated he would serve on that committee.

**CERTIFICATION OF ADDITIONAL REVENUE-ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION:** Motion by Gary Waugh and seconded by Jeff Dickerson to approve the following Certification of Additional Revenue-Additional Appropriation:

1) Juvenile Ct - $15,000.00 to MM180-01/Salaries

Vote: Ogle, yea, Waugh, yea, Dickerson, yea.

**DISCUSSION:** Commissioner Ogle spoke of the fire that happened at the State Park Lodge and that during the event and port-a-johns were needed and didn’t know who would pay for them. Sandy said she said the important thing is get the port-a-johns there and then we will decide who is going to pay for it so evidently they assume we were going to pay for it, but she said she wasn’t saying they shouldn’t pay for it. Commissioner Dickerson stated that the State of Ohio should pay for them as it was used for their facility but he would talk to the EMA about the expense.

Commissioner Ogle commented on the Planning Commission and who served on that committee and she had personally talked to both people and they are interested in serving on the Planning Commission, Larry Kinsley and Bruce Ebert.

Commissioner Ogle read a request for the unapproved minutes, the same the minutes given to each commissioner, before each meeting in the future made by the Beth Lanning of the Logan Daily News. Sandy responded that in the past we have never given out the unapproved minutes, we have given them out as soon as they are approved, if you wanted to hear what was said you could come in and listen to what was said. Sandy said she does not feel they should give out the unapproved minutes, but till they are approved. Sandy said she does not want to do this till they talk to the Prosecutor’s Office.

Commissioner Dickerson said he responded to Beth’s email through the clerk and they appreciate their cooperation and out of fairness they do want the County Prosecutor’s opinion on this. Beth said it was no problem. Jeff stated that every meeting you attend you record, as does SAMFM, as does the county. Jeff said he wants clarification, as far as he knows the Sunshine Law says we have to comply with the request but these laws sometimes are vague they leave it to your discretion that the interpretation is in many ways many times vague that’s why we have asked for a legal opinion. Jeff asked for a reasonable amount of time and professionalism and curtesy as he is offering them. But to be told on the phone you have 15 -20 minutes to give an answer or you are going to print an article that we are breaking the Sunshine Law. Jeff continues saying it is unnecessary to make a threat and we need time as soon as the meeting is over to put the minutes together as there may be other things that our clerk has to do before she can get to the minutes, Jeff requested that LDN work with the commissioners and they will work with them. Beth said she wanted to make clear that they work with deadlines but in the past on the 6 o’clock thing that you did not want to address it to the next meeting that sometimes we do not have that luxury, if you could call me back that would be beneficial in the future and she is sorry if it came off like a threat. Commissioner Ogle said that’s how she took it also; Jeff said it was a threat. Beth said they wanted me to do an article on it and she apologized if it came off like that. Jeff accepted the apology.

**RECESS:** 9:21AM **RECONVENE:** 9:25AM

**SHERIFF NORTH:** Sheriff North presented a resolution to adopt the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Hocking County Sheriff and the Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Labor Council, Inc. for the period from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2019.

Motion by Gary Waugh and seconded by Sandy Ogle to make a resolution to adopt the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Hocking County Sheriff and the Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Labor Council, Inc. for the period from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2019.

Roll Call: Ogle, yea, Waugh, yea, Dickerson, yea.

**OPEN ENROLLMENT:** Motion by Gary Waugh and seconded by Jeff Dickerson to send a letter that permitting a special one-time health insurance open enrollment period for the Sheriff’s Department.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Waugh, yea, Dickerson, yea.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** County resident Bill Kaeppner commented that the purpose of reading the minutes is to see if it agrees with the tape. Bill also commented that the approving of the Sheriff’s contract will make the Sheriff’s budget - that it is going to be too low with the expenses the Sheriff’s Office has.

County resident Sue Morgan stated she appreciates the decision Commissioner Ogle by stepping up to the plate about the fire as it was a decision that had to be made, and she appreciated Commissioner Jeff comment that as it is a State facility that the State should pay.

Beth Lanning of the LDN asked the commissioners if there would be a possibility of a tax increase and what are the processes. Commissioner Ogle said she is working on it but she is not saying they are going to do that, but there is a procedure you have to follow.

Teresa Salizzoni of SAMFM commented on stating your name when speaking. Commissioner Dickerson stated he would greatly appreciate when speaking that they would state their name for the record.

County resident Mattie Snyder stated she agreed with Ms. Sue Morgan’s comments.

Beth Lanning of the LDN stated that the LDN reached out to a lawyer who deals with employment law and they told them about the classified and unclassified decision you guys made. They told us that unless someone is told that they are unclassified when they are first hired then they are automatically classified and are entitled to all the connections under the law and cannot be deemed unclassified unless they firmly agree to it.

Commissioner Dickerson stated they too consulted an attorney and obviously you don’t make decisions like that without the advice of a legal counsel we talked with legal counsel and our legal counsel said yes you can un-classify an employee and from what we were told it has to be done at the organizational meeting – it can be done one time a year. But our legal counsel advised us on the change affect-provided the resolution that was read and it wasn’t taken lightly to do and that’s why we had the resolution drafted by legal professional and read aloud and voted on. Commissioner Ogle stated if they had further information to contact their attorney. County resident Bill Kaeppner stated you are approving that the public can go to the prosecutor about decisions you have made- that’s who your legal counsel is. Jeff stated that is not who they consulted on this. Bill asked who was that you used. Commissioner Ogle stated it was Rufus Hurst. Bill stated that on a State level when you un-classify an employee you have to give a 90-day notice before it’s going to happen.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Motion by Jeff Dickerson and seconded by Gary Waugh to enter into Executive Session at 9:42AM to discuss personnel matters of compensation of a public employee.

Roll Call: Ogle, yea, Waugh, yea, Dickerson, yea.

**EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Motion by Jeff Dickerson and seconded by Gary Waugh to exit Executive Session at 10:23AM with no action taken.

Roll Call: Ogle, yea, Waugh, yea, Dickerson, yea.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Sandy Ogle and seconded by Gary Waugh to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: Ogle, yea, Waugh, yea, Dickerson, yea.

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| Peggi Warthman, Clerk |  |  |
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|  |  | Board of Hocking County Commissioners |
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| 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 January 17, 2017. |
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| Peggi Warthman, Clerk |  | Jeff Dickerson, President |