

December 5, 2023

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 5<sup>th</sup> MEETING

Commissioners were all present. Staff and Commissioner Candidate Joe Sherman recited the pledge at 9:00. Purchase orders and bills were reviewed and signed. Pending issues were discussed with the following resolutions approved and signed:

V110-374 Minutes of November 30, 2023:  
1<sup>st</sup>-Rush 2<sup>nd</sup>-Crowe Roll call: Crowe-yes, Striker-absent, Rush-yes  
V110-375 Appoint NCOSWD Policy Committee  
1<sup>st</sup>-Crowe 2<sup>nd</sup>-Rush Roll call: Rush-yes, Striker-yes, Crowe-yes  
V110-376 Paying Bills From Ditch Maintenance  
1<sup>st</sup>-Rush 2<sup>nd</sup>-Crowe Roll call: Rush-yes, Striker-yes, Crowe-yes  
V110-377 Paying Bills From Ditch Maintenance  
1<sup>st</sup>-Crowe 2<sup>nd</sup>-Rush Roll call: Crowe-yes, Rush-yes, Striker-yes  
V110-378 2024-2025 Alliance Agreement  
1<sup>st</sup>-more discussion needed  
V110-379 Reallocation: Board of Election, Recorder  
1<sup>st</sup>-Rush 2<sup>nd</sup>-Crowe Roll call: Crowe-yes, Rush-yes, Striker-yes  
V110-380 2024 Annex Agreement  
1<sup>st</sup>-Crowe 2<sup>nd</sup>-Rush Roll call: Rush-yes, Striker-yes, Crowe-yes  
V110-381 Reimburse Annex November Utilities  
1<sup>st</sup>-Rush 2<sup>nd</sup>-Crowe Roll call: Crowe-yes, Rush-yes, Striker-yes  
V110-382 Extend Probationary Period C. Varian 120 days to 3/7/2024  
1<sup>st</sup>-Crowe 2<sup>nd</sup>-Rush Roll call: Striker-yes, Crowe-yes, Rush-yes  
Signed: Commissioner Striker signed the Release of Funds for Federally Funded State  
Project Hardin County FY 2020 CHIP Private Rehab \$22,775 (1 home)  
1<sup>st</sup>-Rush 2<sup>nd</sup>-Crowe Roll call: Rush-yes, Striker-yes, Crowe-yes

Josh Anderson, **HHWP/CAC Director**, he continues to work on the ODOT grant to see what and how funds can be used and given for the Transportation project. America Rescue Funds can be used to purchase vehicles but not for operations or salaries. Morgan Ellis, and the Chamber are working to build up the coalition in Hardin County. July 1, 2024 is starting date for the transportation. The Head Start program is operating very well compared to other programs within the state. The federal requirements are up for review and are tough due to salary requirements.

Kara Brown, **Board of DD Superintendent**, the Board has approved asking for an additional 1.7 mill levy for seven years. The Board's resolution was submitted. A 1980 levy brings in a small amount and that potentially could be eliminated if it is found in excess funds-a long term thought. Commissioner Striker asked about a seven-year levy? Kara-law allows up to 10, seven was chose due to alternating levies. Commissioner Striker-Auditor thought only five years for a levy. Kara-I work with Bricker and Eckler, seven years has always been our target. Commissioner Rush-I am concerned. Is it to the point to offset new expenditures? Yes-we currently have enough to get thru 2025 but at the end of 2025 we cannot make it thru 2026 with maintaining our services. Commissioner Rush-you are requesting large increases for next year. Kara-2024 at \$4.4 million and 2023 \$4.3 million. Grant money is going away. Commissioner Rush-I saw \$4.9 million for 2024? Revenue numbers change but not expenses. Fred shared the green bar submitted yesterday for Kara's review. Kara noted the green bar is incorrect. Contracts are still spend the ODE grants that has to be spent by July (\$900,000) Commissioner Striker asked about the grant that is going away-are you expecting the voters to pick up? Kara-no-this is for after school programs. Looking for something sustainable. Not something figured into the future, the program ends. May keep some smaller portions without the grant. Projections are not based on the grant money which began two years ago and was in the 2023 request. Their plan for 2024 was to stay flat. Commissioner Striker-salaries-20% increase? Kara-several positions were taken out of contract services to salaries as they were hired. 3% increase was budgeted. Travel expenditures went up from \$45,000 to \$98,000.

Some training will be done virtually. She will get more information from the Fiscal Officer on particulars to the line items. Computers are supplies, not equipment. Kara will have the information asked for by end of day, will the Commissioners be able to take a vote either way? Time is a consideration. The Auditor wants to use 2023 numbers and Union County will not. She doesn't want the paperwork kicked back. Commissioners will review what she submits.

The **GIS Committee** met with the following present: Commissioner Striker, Commissioner Rush, Ryan Taylor, Nathan Saylor, Mark Doll. Tim moved to approve the last meeting minutes. Mark second. Old Business: Nathan has successfully moved to the new office in the Tax Map Office. Nathan noted the Auditor has the contract from Wolpert for aerials for 2024. No other business before the committee. Ryan noted things are going well, Nathan agrees. Commissioner Striker moved to disband, Mark Doll second. Roll-all ayes. CORSA will be informed.

**Family and Children First**, Kristy Gillfillian, Director, and Scott Howell met to review the FCFC program. The annual fiscal report was shared as forwarded to the state. 49 youth were served last year, referrals mostly by those around the table as well as some self-referred. Concerns were behavioral challenges; depression, aggression, etc. Developmental disabilities, mental health, housing crisis, transportation, substance issues, respite. Being included with peers is a good thing and they are able to help such as sending kids to camp. SFY24 multi system youth grants are available to apply. Rise Up is one grant. \$126,000 dollars awarded in total grants to date. She hopes to have \$500,000 in grants for the county. A SWAT analysis is being done by the state with some funds to assist. She found workforce burnout retention is an issue across the state. She has felt and discussed with the state and now they have a statewide retention and burnout specialist. Schools are becoming more involved. All five school districts are now being served and are assisting with funds. A list of funding sources was shared as well as a list of needs they can meet.

Sheriff Everhart stopped in to ask questions on the Dog and Kennel.

Christa Luttmann, **Governor DeWine's Office** regional liaison stopped in to talk with the Commissioners on their needs. Commissioner Striker noted the issue with the Multi-County Jail which is full and needs funds to build. With the joint venture being with two different Districts, no one wants to assist with getting grants, etc. The eclipse is an issue without government funding. Where are the people going to sleep, eat, restroom? That all cost money that no local entity can afford. The event is all dependent upon the weather. Some information is being forwarded to Elyria, which may take some attendees out of the area. She will look at some information on funding for the eclipse. The Governors School Bus Safety Review is due in January for answers. Nursing home funds are being depleted with the President wanting to keep the elderly at home. Hardin County has a county home and depends on residents. Affordable housing is another issue. A new local revolving loan fund was just started to hopefully start some small businesses.

Roll call resulted as follows:

\_\_\_\_\_, YES/NO  
President of the Board-Timothy L. Striker

\_\_\_\_\_, YES/NO  
Roger E. Crowe

\_\_\_\_\_, YES/NO  
Fred M. Rush

Attest \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the Board