

April 11th, 2024

MINUTES OF APRIL 11th 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:

V111-244	Minutes of April 9, 2024:
1 st -Rush	2 nd -Striker Roll Call: Rush-yes, Striker-yes, Crowe-yes
V111-245	Bills
1 st -Striker	2 nd -Rush Roll Call: Rush-yes, Striker-yes, Crowe-yes
V111-246	Award Bid-Engineer Materials
1 st -Rush	2 nd -Striker Roll Call: Striker-yes, Crowe-yes, Rush-yes
V111-247	Release of Funds JFS
1 st -Striker	2 nd -Rush Roll Call: Rush-yes, Striker-yes, Crowe-yes
V111-248	Transfer of Funds
1 st -Rush	2 nd -Striker Roll Call: Rush-yes, Striker-yes, Crowe-yes
V111-249	Ditch Maintenance Pike Repair Funds
1 st - Striker	2 nd -Rush Roll Call: Striker-yes, Crowe-yes, Rush-yes
V111-250	Ditch Maintenance
1 st - Rush	2 nd -Striker Roll Call: Crowe-yes, Rush-yes, Striker-yes
V111-251	Additional Appropriation Union/Hancock/Wyandot 1 st half real estate
1 st -Striker	2 nd -Rush Roll Call: Rush-yes, Striker-yes, Crowe-yes
V111-252	Hire SSWII S. Presley JFS
1 st -Rush	2 nd -Striker Roll Call: Crowe-yes, Rush-yes, Striker-yes
Signed:	All Sign Data Sharing and Confidentiality Agreement Area 8 JFS
1 st -Rush	2 nd -Striker Roll Call: Crowe-yes, Rush-yes, Striker-yes

Commissioner Striker moved to approve the purchase of EMA mobile workstation for \$2,368.00 from EMA equipment fund M020-M12. Commissioner Rush seconded the motion. Roll Call: Striker-yes, Crowe-yes, Rush-yes.

Dr. "Bob" Singh- conference call to discuss Hardin Hills- I don't know what my phone call is going to do but to let you know that you have a great thing going on there at the home. Commissioner Crowe- Thank you for your concern and taking the time to share your concerns. We will let you know if there is anything you can do.

Sharon Huston- Hardin Hills Administrator - Commissioner Striker moved to go into executive session per ORC 121.22 (G) (1) at 9:32 am. Joe Sherman was invited to stay. Commissioner Crowe announced the end of executive session at 10:00am.

Commissioners joined a Team's meeting with Rolf Law. Commissioner Striker moved to go into executive session per ORC 121.22 (G) (2) at 10:00 am. Joe Sherman, Katey Henson, Bradford W. Bailey, Mike Bacon, and Sharon Huston were all invited to attend the meeting. Commissioner Rush seconded the motion. Roll Call: Crowe-yes, Striker-yes, Rush-yes. Commissioner Crowe announced the end of executive session at 10:51am.

Commissioner Rush moved to close Hardin Hills Health center no later than July 10,2024 due to rising costs, reduction in census, failing infrastructure, and inadequate reimbursements from Medicare/Medicaid. Commissioner Striker seconded the motion. Roll Call: Crowe-yes, Rush-yes, Striker-yes. V111-254

V111-255

Brienne Sullivan-Interim Treasurer- came in to discuss new computers and printers. The estimate we received was March 1 of this year. We could not at the time make any decisions and IT added a new estimate for printers as well. He does not feel comfortable updating software or windows on our current computers and doesn't think they will accommodate the new software that the Auditor has coming. The funds that we have are not enough to cover the estimates. I have asked for a little more to cover labor. Commissioner Crowe let Brienne know that the account is under her control, and she will need to request Additional appropriation to that account.

Tim Thomas Editor-Kenton times- came in to get an update on what was happening with Hardin Hills. He was given the resolution that was passed earlier regarding the closure. The proverbial straw was the fire pump replacement. The cost of replacement could be as much as \$500,000. Approx. \$10,000 a week for 24/7 fire watch at the facility currently. Reimbursement for Medicare and Medicaid are up and down. Census-licensed for 85 using 75. Break even we need 67 occupied and our census is 52. We are holding staff meetings today. All residents will be informed in person today and all families will receive a letter that is being mailed today and will get personal phone calls today. This will be a very emotional issue and we recognize that. Through this process we need to keep the residents and family members as top priority. Safety for residents is number one. We have to be closed by 7/10/24 but can close earlier when residents are gone. We are working with staff to provide incentives. We are also working with the families to help with placement for their loved ones.

Commissioners, Clerk, Joe Sherman, Katey Henson, and Mike Bacon all attended Employee meetings at Hardin Hills. Commissioner Crowe spoke for the group to each of the 3 employee groups that were brought in. Each of those groups were asked if they were comfortable having Commissioner Candidate Joe Sherman present for the meetings and no one objected. Commissioner Crowe addressed each group and let them know the decision had been made this morning with a resolution passed to close Hardin Hills no later than July 10, 2024. We have been working for several months to find a solution to stay open, but unfortunately the fire pump suppression system failure was the final straw. We have two objectives at this moment. 1. Assist our residents and families in finding quality homes. 2. Providing a severance package to all of our employees who choose to stay with us until the final resident finds a new home. Everyone has a choice to sign the documents agreeing to the severance package or not. That is up to each individual employee. A general discussion was had with questions answered by both the Auditor and the prosecutor's office in each group. There will be research done and follow up questions answered.

Roll call resulted as follows:

_____, YES/NO
 President of the Board-Roger E. Crowe

_____, YES/NO
 Fred M. Rush

_____, YES/NO
 Timothy L. Striker

Attest _____
 Clerk of the Board