

December 19, 2024

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 19th MEETING

All Commissioners were present. Staff and Commissioner elect 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:

V113-43	Minutes of December 17, 2024:
1 ST -Rush	2 nd -Striker Roll Call: Crowe-yes, Striker-yes, Rush-yes
V113-44	Bills
1 st -Striker	2 nd -Rush Roll Call: Rush-yes, Striker-yes, Crowe-yes
V113-45	CDBG Bills Choice One
1 st -Rush	2 nd -Striker Roll Call: Rush-yes, Striker-yes, Crowe-yes
V113-46	CDBG T&M Bills
1 st -Striker	2 nd -Rush Roll Call: Striker-yes, Crowe-yes, Rush-yes
V113-47	3% pay increase JFS
1 st -Rush	2 nd -Striker Roll Call: Rush-yes, Striker-yes, Crowe-yes
V113-48	Payout K. Baker
1 st -Striker	2 nd -Rush Roll Call: Rush-yes, Striker-yes, Crowe-yes
V113-49	Payout D. Eaton
1 st -Rush	2 nd -Striker Roll Call: Striker-yes, Crowe-yes, Rush-yes

Terri Billenstein- nurse and previous employee of Hardin Hills Health Center- read a personal letter that was written to previous commissioners regarding past events and an old administrator.

Judge Christopher and Gina Messner with Common Pleas- We have submitted our budget. We have to have that money in the budget in case we don't get the grants. The biggest bump in the budget is because we have a murder trial coming up. Of course I have no control over that jury trial. It's highly possible if not probable that we might get another indictment for another murder trial this year. It's a possibility that we have to come back and ask for more because we have another murder trial. If it comes in the first half of the year we will have that expense. I rarely ever come back and ask for more each year. Now, for the contract attorney for the OneOhio funding. We would like to establish that for next year and include that in the budget. We do not have a defense attorney on the treatment court. It pays Mark Schwemer a flat fee to be the treatment court defense attorney for a year. If you have any questions, ask Katey. Prosecutors have drafted it Mark and I have reviewed. My budget is flat and I may have to come back to get more because of another murder trial. I might need another ten grand to cover a jury trial. We'd love to push it to next year. Commissioners: What we are hoping to do is fund a Indigent Defense Attorney Contract position next year for \$70,000.00. Gina- for my purposes is that going to be a line item in my budget? Crowe- no, would be a separate line in the Indigent Defense budget.

Judge Grimslid-our budget stayed the same as last year. I need to hire a part time probation officer. We have too much work for one person. They have 2.5 probation officers in Wyandot County Municipal Court. Most counties have 2-3. I need some funds to put in there to get a part-time person to help on the days we are sentencing. My present probation officer is also the bailiff she needs to be in there for court security. Commissioner Crowe- on your budget sheet, it says victim advocate \$40,000.00? Judge- you all are involved in that they haven't come back with anything. I don't think it would be that high since Judge Santo is going to use the same person. Commissioner Crowe- \$50,000.00 for a part time probation officer, would they be an employee? Judge- yes they would be an employee. Commissioner Crowe- does that amount include PERs? Judge- that number includes everything. And again we've talked about it before. The funding for my court is minimal. The clerks are all paid employees by the city. The only people that are not are myself and probation bailiff and head clerk. That is all set up by legislature. My court covers the entire county. I wish it was like Auglaize and Putnam and in the courthouse and controlled by one entity. The state doesn't pay anything for our clerk, or probation officer. The majority of my salary is paid by the state. This is the last time I will be asking for money because I won't be Judge anymore. We have operated as bare

staff for a while. When I first started, we had 5 clerks. We operated with just two the last year. I've lost several employees because they are not getting paid compared to other surrounding counties. I wish I didn't have to ask for more.

Google meet with Holli Underwood and Bret Baumeister commercial lender with Middlefield- Commissioner Striker moves to go into executive session per ORC 121.22 (G)(8)(1) at 11:30. Commissioner Rush seconded the motion. Roll Call: Crowe-yes, Striker-yes, Rush-yes. Commissioner Crowe announced the end of executive session at 11:56. No action was taken.

Garmann Miller and Damschroder- update meeting courthouse reroof project -the crews are continuing the south roof section install. The crane will be here on the 20th, and then on the 6th. The crews were given two weeks off for the Holidays, no one will be on site. Richard is to update Damschroder on the north/south camera repairs and Damschroder will cover the replacements.

Commissioner Crowe moved to approve the signing of the agreement for services between Mark Schwemer and the county to be the defense attorney for the OneOhio funded treatment courts. Commissioner Rush seconded the motion. Roll Call: Striker-yes, Crowe-yes, Rush-yes

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