

December 31, 2024

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup> 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:

V113-61	Minutes of December 26, 2024:
1 <sup>st</sup> -Rush	2 <sup>nd</sup> -Striker Roll Call: Crowe-yes, Striker-yes, Rush-yes
V113-62	Ada Indigent Defense Contract
1 <sup>st</sup> -Striker	2 <sup>nd</sup> -Rush Roll Call: Rush-yes, Striker-yes, Crowe-yes
V113-63	Appoint K. Everhart acting sheriff
1 <sup>st</sup> -Striker	2 <sup>nd</sup> -Rush Roll Call: Crowe-yes, Striker-yes, Rush-yes
V113-64	Chase Stewart Application
1 <sup>st</sup> -Rush	2 <sup>nd</sup> -Striker Roll Call: Striker-yes, Crowe-yes, Rush-yes
V113-65	Commissioner Employee 2025 pay rate
1 <sup>st</sup> -Striker	2 <sup>nd</sup> -Rush Roll Call: Rush-yes, Striker-yes, Crowe-yes
V113-66	KHCB pay rate 2025
1 <sup>st</sup> -Rush	2 <sup>nd</sup> -Striker Roll Call: Rush-yes, Striker-yes, Crowe-yes
V113-67	Maintenance and Housekeeping 2025 pay rates
1 <sup>st</sup> -Striker	2 <sup>nd</sup> -Rush Roll Call: Striker-yes, Crowe-yes, Rush-yes
V113-68	2025 Wellness Contacts
1 <sup>st</sup> -Rush	2 <sup>nd</sup> -Striker Roll Call: Crowe-yes, Rush-yes, Striker-yes

**Sheriff Keith Everhart Chief Deputy Dennis Burns-** we have to get started on this levy. It will be the May election not March. We think the wording was confusing. The word sheriff was left out. We're working internally to make sure we get information out of there. It is a fixable issue; we're going to use social media and town halls and get the information out there. Start working on resolutions in the first few weeks of January. It's been a pleasure working with you for the last few years. I brag about our relationship down in Columbus. I think Hardin County is very fortunate. Thank you, Mr. Crowe, for everything you've done, and I hope you enjoy your retirement.

Richard Lawson provided a quote for 1879 electric to fix rooftop cameras. Commissioner Rush moves to approve the quote of \$6,524.52 to come from N000-N02. Commissioner Striker seconded the motion. Roll Call: Crowe-yes, Striker-yes, Rush-yes **V113-69**

Commissioner Crowe moves to approve the Holiday Schedule for 2025 as submitted. Commissioner Rush seconded the motion. Roll Call: Striker-yes, Crowe-yes, Rush-yes

Commissioner Striker moves to approve the 2025 membership dues for the County Commissioners Association of Ohio (CCAO) of \$7950.00. Commissioner Rush seconded the motion. Roll Call: Rush-yes, Striker-yes, Rush-yes

Commissioner Rush moves to release the bond for Waibel Energy systems for the Courtroom HVAC upgrades as the project is finished and payment is complete. Commissioner Striker seconded the motion. Roll Call: Striker-yes, Rush-yes, Crowe-yes

**Jeb Elsasser Taylor Creek Township-** as chairman of trustees I am submitting our resolution to declare Taylor creek as a restricted alternative energy zone. Jim Bidwell abstained from voting as he has signed up for solar. We ask that you expedite this request. Our December meeting had about 30 people show up mainly complaining that they didn't know about it. How do we know the voice of the township? So, we decided to pass out a petition to landowners and voters. Rusty Bingham started the petition and with the help of other residents obtained 264 signatures from landowners and registered voters of the township. We verified that the petition was accurate. We had a special meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

We validated 260 of 264 signatures. One of the biggest things that people complain about is drainage. #1 thing the Amish landowners were upset about was the drainage issues. If the drainage isn't right, it'll put a farmer out of business. The taxation was another issue. There was a bond issue with the Ridgemont school district. I think the tax burden that would be put on landowners is not fair. The footprint has changed quite a bit. They are now across 68, at the special meeting Loraine Bergman spoke on behalf of the solar farms. There are more farms that are signed up that are not on the most recent maps. We found out after that they had another 250 acres that wasn't even on the map. We don't feel that this is preserving agriculture. Commissioner Crowe- do you have proof that you advertised for your special meeting? Yes- I will leave all the information that we have with our resolution. Commissioners will start the process.

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