April 21, 2026

MINUTES

Staff and Commissioners 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:

V115-211	Minutes of April 16, 2026:	
1st-Rush	2nd-Striker	Roll Call: Rush-yes, Sherman-yes, Striker-yes
V115-212	Root Lumber Invoice for Machinery Building Supplies	
1st-Striker	2nd-Rush	Roll Call: Striker-yes, Rush-yes, Sherman-yes
V115-213	Fall and Son Dumpster for Fairground Cleanup	
1st-Rush	2nd-Striker	Roll Call: Striker-yes, Sherman-yes, Rush-yes
V115-214	HC Engineer Invoice Fairground Machinery Building	
1st-Striker	2nd-Rush	Roll Call: Sherman-yes, Striker-yes, Rush-yes
V115-215	Additional Appropriation Commissioners	
1st-Rush	2nd-Striker	Roll Call: Rush-yes, Sherman-yes, Striker-yes
Signed:	Title IV-E with JFS and Better Beginnings for a Brighter Future	
1st-Striker	2nd-Rush	Roll Call: Rush-yes, Sherman-yes, Striker-yes

The Maintenance Supervisor, Richard Lawson, requested the establishment of a County business account with Menards to enable invoicing for purchases in place of credit card transactions. The Commissioners approved the request.

Several Invoices were received for the fairgrounds the following have been approved:

Commissioner Rush moved to approve the invoice from Lester Miller Roofing LLC for repairs to the Jr. Fair Exhibits Building in the amount of $ 7,850.00 to come from the permanent improvements fund N000-N07. Commissioner Striker seconded the motion. Roll Call: Sherman-yes, Striker-yes, Rush-yes V115-216

Commissioner Striker moved to approve the invoice from Don Hull Tree service for cutting and cleaning up damaged trees at the fairgrounds for a total of $3,800.00 to come from the permanent improvement fund N000-N07. Commissioner Rush seconded the motion. Roll Call: Sherman-yes, Striker-yes, Rush-yes V115-217

Commissioner Rush moved to approve the quote from Jerome Davis Construction for repairs to multiple buildings at the Historical Village located at the fairgrounds for a total of $9,850.00 to come from permanent improvements fund N000-N02. Commissioner striker seconded the motion. Roll Call: Sherman-yes, Striker-yes, Rush-yes V115-218

Commissioner Striker moved to approve the quote from Guyton Concrete for repairing the north block wall of the maintenance building at the fairgrounds for a total of $8,000.00 to come from the permanent improvement fund N000-N07. Commissioner Rush seconded the motion. Roll Call: Sherman-yes, Striker-yes, Rush-yes V115-219

Commissioner Rush moved to sign the lease between Hardin County commissioners and Natural Choice Dairy for the County farm ground. Commissioner Striker seconded the motion. Roll Call: Sherman-yes, Striker-yes, Rush-yes

On Thursday, Commissioner Rush attended the Area 8 meeting. All matters were in good order, and funds are being expended appropriately. Sheriff Everhart attended his first meeting as the newest member. Commissioner Rush also attended the Open House for Vancrest of Upper Sandusky; the facility is exceptional.

Commissioner Sherman and Striker both attended the HCCBA Gala Thursday evening at the McIntosh Center. It was a wonderful evening. Congratulations to all award recipients. They also attended the Chamber Breakfast on Friday. Saturday morning attended the Dunkirk Fire Department Pancake Breakfast, which was excellent as always.

Commissioner Striker led a tour for the Riverside Mennonite School, consisting of approximately 20 individuals, including 17 students. The group received a one-hour tour of the Courthouse followed by a tour of the courtroom.

Dionne Staley, Interim Health Commissioner- requested an executive session. Commissioner Rush moved to enter into executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22(G)(5) to consider matters required to be kept confidential by federal law and state statutes at 9:29 a.m. Commissioner Striker seconded the motion. Roll Call: Sherman – Yes, Striker – Yes, Rush – Yes The Board exited executive session at 9:43 a.m. No action was taken.

Records Commission Meeting-
Commissioner Sherman called the Records Commission meeting to order.
Present:

- Brenda Rainsburg, Hardin County Recorder
- Stefani Epling, Clerk of Courts
- Mike Bacon, Auditor
- Katey Henson, Prosecutor's Office
- Commissioners Sherman, Striker, and Rush

RC-2 Records Retention Schedules

- One RC-2 was submitted by the Veterans Service Office.
    - Motion by Stefani Epling, seconded by Katey Henson.
    - All ayes.

RC-3 Records Retention Schedules

- RC-3 schedules were submitted by Soil and Water, Common Pleas Court, and Veterans Services.
    - Motion by Brenda Rainsburg, seconded by Commissioner Rush.
    - All ayes.

Commissioner Sherman asked if there was any further discussion. There was none. Meeting was adjourned.

Executive Session with Hardin County Prosecutor Brad Bailey-
Commissioner Rush moved to enter into executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22(G)(3) for pending or imminent court action with the Prosecuting Attorney present, Katey Henson, as well as investigators Allie Hall, and Ben Miller at 10:30 a.m. Commissioner Striker seconded the motion. Roll Call: Sherman-yes, Striker-yes, Rush-yes
Commissioner Rush moved to reflect that Bob Snavely was invited to join the executive session. Commissioner Striker seconded the motion. -all ayes The Board exited executive session at 10:48 a.m. No action was taken.

Bob Snavely- with Palmer Energy provided an update regarding electric aggregation pooling opportunities. Mr. Snavely explained that Palmer Energy is exploring the opportunity to pool county aggregation programs to obtain more competitive pricing, similar to the previously successful county facilities aggregation. By grouping counties, Palmer Energy received more bids from suppliers who typically do not bid on individual counties, resulting in increased competition and lower pricing. One supplier submitted a significantly lower bid, which was verified for accuracy. Suppliers cited the reliability of county payment and the size of the aggregated load as reasons for more aggressive pricing.
The proposed initial aggregation group includes Paulding, Putnam, Allen, Hardin, and Seneca Counties, all within the same utility region (AEP). The Prosecuting Attorneys Association would review and approve the base contract, with individual prosecutors retaining review authority. This process mirrors the facilities aggregation model.
The intent is to begin with a smaller group to address any issues before expanding statewide. Ultimately, all AEP counties could be grouped into a single aggregation program.
Mr. Snavely stated that Palmer Energy would coordinate meetings or calls to review the RFP process and ensure counties remain informed and involved. The goal is to achieve additional savings for counties and their constituents.
Timeline Discussion:

- Commissioner Sherman asked about timing.

- Mr. Snavely stated the goal is to implement the program in 2027, contingent upon prosecutor review and county participation.
- Counties have already signed the CCAO Agreement (Exhibits A and B); Exhibit C and the Power of Attorney are required to move forward. Prosecutors may review all documents.

Mr. Snavely noted that Palmer Energy's fees would not increase, and that expanding participation among villages, cities, and townships would further improve pricing opportunities.
Mr. Snavely will follow up with next steps.

The Prosecutor provided a completed and signed contract between the Engineer and property owner Michelle Steinhefler regarding the purchase of the right of way to widen an intersection to better public safety and prevent crashes at the intersection. Commissioner Sherman moved to sign the contract. Commissioner Striker seconded the motion. Roll Call: Sherman-yes, Rush-yes, Striker-yes.

_____, YES/NO
President of the Board-Joseph C. Sherman

_____, YES/NO
Fred M. Rush

_____, YES/NO
Timothy L. Striker

Attest_____
Clerk of the Board

V115-220