January 8, 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:

V115-20	Minutes January 6, 2026	
1st-Rush	2nd-Striker	Roll Call: Rush-yes, Sherman-yes, Striker-yes
V115-21	not used	
V115-22	Out of County Travel Clerk of Courts	
1st-Striker	2nd-Rush	Roll Call: Striker-yes, Sherman-yes, Rush-yes
V115-23	Out of County Travel Board of Elections	
1st-Rush	2nd-Striker	Roll Call: Sherman-yes, Striker-yes, Rush-yes
V115-24	Bills	
1st-Striker	2nd-Rush	Roll Call: Rush-yes, Sherman-yes, Striker-yes
V115-25	Additional Appropriation	
1st-Rush	2nd-Striker	Roll Call: Sherman-yes, Striker-yes, Rush-yes
V115-26	Out of County Travel Recorder	
1st-Rush	2nd-Striker	Roll Call: Sherman-yes, Striker-yes, Rush-yes

Commissioner Sherman attended the Fair Board meeting Wednesday evening.

Commissioner Striker will attend the regional planning meeting this evening in Vet's Hall. After this meeting the location will be changed.

Holli Underwood President and CEO HCCBA with updates- getting ready for full board meeting. Deb and I go down the list for strategic planning and put updates in a grid of what actions we're taking that coordinate with the strategic plan goals that were set. We are in such a good place. We check that monthly. We will have data and clear bullet points of what we did to achieve those goals. It keeps us on task and working towards those goals.
Sites and buildings: Added two Kenton iron products buildings to the zoom prospector building inventory, along with updating the former Hedstrom Plastics building in Dunkirk. Matt Davis, VP of real estate for RGP was the guest speaker at the December Economic Development Breakfast meeting. He gave a presentation on shovel-ready sites and what site selectors are looking for. There was good engagement with the attendees. We learned a lot in that meeting. We are going to connect site owners directly with RGP. BR&E: Had a meeting with graphic packaging internation. They are doing well. Performance was stable and strong in 2025. They are having issues with unreliable electric service, having had some downtime due to power outages. GPI corporate is working with the electric service. They are our number one employer in the county. Workforce: Got an alliance board approval to contribute $5000 toward the 3E position to keep the Career Task Force and 3 E program going strong in the county. 3E has been doing great things. The relationship between schools and employers has grown a lot. Small business: the vibrant community grant is a great opportunity there are a lot of requirements though. We met with the new owners of 1 N Detroit St. Kenton. And discussed their plans for the building and potential vibrant community project. General: annual meeting will be in February and will be virtual. Housing coalition: meeting tomorrow Ada and Kenton have different goals from each other and all the other smaller villages will have different emphasis that they want to focus on as well. The full meetings will be quarterly, smaller meetings in between. We want to support the smaller villages and give them information to make their communities more attractive for development.

Steve Gossard Executive Director, CVSO , Terry Hamm board member, Gerald Purcell board member- you had a request for a title to be signed off. $63,637.37 vehicle with $9,000 trade in $54,637.37. Commissioner Rush- what is current mileage on van? Steve- About 122,000. Commissioner Rush- how many times a month do you use it. Do you have a list of the usage of the vehicle? Steve- for one of them or all of them? Commissioner Sherman- all of them. Steve – if you do a public record request, I can do that. Steve- let me remind you guys of some things real quick . The prosecutor has stated on several occasions the board acts

independently of the commissioners in the county Dec. 27, 2010 the prosecutor stated " the commissioners do not have the statutory authority" Commissioner Sherman- we're not overseeing anything. Steve- it sounds like you are. Whether you deem it appropriate or not the board says we can buy a van. Commissioner Rush- its county money as stewards we need to understand how it's used. Steve-you can ask all the questions you like at the end of the day the board has decided we can buy a van. Commissioner Sherman- another thing coming from the state HB520 of DOGE. Mathews and Thomas are basically looking at services that are duplicated in the county. the property tax thing we don't know how it's going to be. We're not trying to pick fights. We are informing everyone that comes here about property tax and DOGE coming down. We have people to answer to, 30,000 some people. Steve- you can ask all the questions you want. My board has reviewed and approved this. Commissioner Rush- as stewards of the money we have to ask these questions. Steve- I will get you the exact mileage. Steve- public records request what is it again? Calander year? Commissioner Sherman- in county miles and out of county miles and trips. January 2025-december 31 2025. Steve- I can give you the logs. Any additional questions? Commissioner Sherman- what vehicle. Steve- replace that one. Wheelchair accessible. Commissioner Rush- do your records show you how many people you are taking? Steve- we should really replace it every 5 years. Since I am here, we have a couple of questions for you guys. Courthouse security- I asked 3 years ago and again last year. And still, we have no security. Anyone could walk in with a gun and start shooting. Is there going to be security in the courthouse? Commissioner Striker- have you used the south entrance? Check it again today and next week. Commissioner Sherman- it has been ordered machines should be in house today. Steve- there hasn't been a lot of communication to the employees from the commissioners. communication is very vital. I'm clearly in the dark and there are other department heads that are in the dark. Commissioner Sherman- it takes a while to get the machine. Our hope was by the end of January to have it locked down. We will have meetings with all the employees so everyone can be informed and on the same page. Commissioner Sherman- until we get with Scott and get the fine details. The sheriff's job is. Steve- we submitted an mou request last year after we checked out the building the county is going to be purchasing. Are you going to agree to the MOU presented? Commissioner Sherman- as of right now absolutely not. Those who will be moving are the title department who purchased the building and the BMV. Steve- that's all my questions Steve- it would be nice to have more communication. Commissioner Rush- it goes both ways it's a two way street. Steve- I'll get you the information.

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

_____, YES/NO
Fred M. Rush

_____, YES/NO
Timothy L. Striker

Attest_____
Clerk of the Board