October 1, 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:

V116-230 Minutes of September 29, 2026:
1st-Rush 2nd-Striker Roll Call: Rush-yes, Sherman-yes, Striker-yes
V116-231 Elevation Construction additional funds needed
1st-Striker 2nd-Rush Roll Call: Striker-yes, Rush-yes, Sherman-yes
V116-232 Bills
1st-Rush 2nd-Striker Roll Call: Striker-yes, Sherman-yes, Rush-yes
V116-233 Additional Appropriation
1st-Striker 2nd-Rush Roll Call: Sherman-yes, Striker-yes, Rush-yes

Garmann Miller and Dry Lane Construction sent proposals for soil boring for the new event center at the fairgrounds. Based on their recommendation the Commissioners made the following motions:
Commissioner Striker moved to approve MTI to perform 9 borings at 15' down for a total of $6,885.00 to come from the Event Center permanent improvement fund 4000-1100-504272. Commissioner Rush seconded the motion. Roll Call: Sherman-yes, Striker-yes, Rush-yes V116-234

Commissioner Striker will be attending the Regional Planning meeting this evening.

Invenergy, Ohio Department of Development Pilot Discussion Hardin Solar III

- Macey Heslet, Zack Lackey , Tyler Barron, Jack Kramer were in attendance virtually
- Mike Bacon and Lisa Ruhlen were present from the Auditors office
- We need approval for three additional parcels. Four were removed from the application and three were added. We need approval from the county on that.
- Macey will approve. We can get that verified .
- Jack sent a sample resolution and an updated parcel list that includes all the parcels and a few that were initially approved were not used and in addition a couple were added. the resolution would be the cleanest quickest way to establish payment.
- Mike questions- it was originally going to be 300mw correct? Jack- yes, we were only able to build up to 250mw.
- Mike-Why did the parcels shift if you went less than? Jack- 300mw total allowance of energy, that number can come down due to connectivity and other reasons. There were a couple parcels we could not access. The three were adjacent to roundhead township. Mike- that is another issue, it shows everything in Marion township. All the real property is shown in Marion township, not Roundhead township. I need to set up rates for next year right now. USV and the township are put in a situation. I have to use the information I have if it doesn't get settled.
- Department of Ed sees that if we pass the resolution today we can do it in session while were here. Is that good enough to proceed? Macey- yes. Invenergy-yes
- Commissioner Rush- anyone have any other questions? -No-

Commissioner Striker moved to approve the resolution affirming the approval of the qualified energy project application submitted by Hardin Solar Energy III LLC in Hardin County. Commissioner Rush seconded the motion. Roll Call: Sherman-yes, Striker-yes, Rush-yes V116-235

Alliance updates- Holli Underwood

- Holli requested executive session to discuss information of an applicant for economic development assistance

Commissioner Rush moved to go into executive session per ORC 121.22 (G)(8)(1) to discuss confidential business information of an applicant for economic development assistance at 10:24 Commissioner Striker seconded the motion. Roll Call: Sherman-yes,

Rush-yes, Striker-yes. Commissioner Sherman announced the end of executive session at 10:33. No action was taken.

Economic Development

Business Attraction

- Responded to a JobsOhio Request for Information (RFI) regarding site opportunities.
- Communicated potential economic development opportunities and available sites with prospective partners and developers.

Business Retention & Expansion (BR&E)

- Conducted outreach and meetings with major employers, including:
  - Graphic Packaging
  - McCullough Industries
  - Stillwater Metal
  - Golden Giant
  - Ada Technologies
  - Associated Plastics (Kreate)
  - Wilson Sporting Goods
  - Rohrs Manufacturing
- Assisted Kenton Eagles with site expansion discussions, utility connection issues, and grant opportunities.
- Conducted outreach following the announced closure of the Durez facility and offered available partner resources.
- Assisted a local manufacturer with a facility-related issue.
- Distributed the Economic Development Quarterly Newsletter.
- Processed business documentation, including Certificates of Origin.

Workforce Development

- Evaluated intern performance and completed Site Supervisor Evaluation documentation.
- Continued partnership with Ohio Hi-Point to support student internship experiences.

Small Business & Entrepreneurship

- Continued collaboration on WealthWorks initiatives to encourage local entrepreneurship and business growth.

Community Development

- Continued work on:
  - Business Inventory
  - Vacant Commercial Property Inventory
  - Business & Organization Survey
- Promoted the Comprehensive Land Use Plan Community Survey during the Hardin County Fair.
- Followed up with the Housing Coalition regarding county housing priorities.

Alliance Operations & Administration

- Prepared materials for Executive Committee and Board meetings.
- Developed a Financial Reserves Strategy and Special Projects Fund proposal.
- Continued strategic planning efforts for Hardin County Community Development.
- Noted resignation of KHCD Coordinator Jennifer Ramge.
- Conducted account review meeting with Farmers National Bank.
- Hosted and attended the United Community LLC meeting.

Community Engagement

- Represented the Alliance at the Hardin County Fair Opening Ceremony and Poultry Barn Groundbreaking.

Hardin County Historical Museums Report- Jennifer Ulmer museum Director

Museum Operations

- Cataloged artifacts increased from 1,303 to 1,560, an addition of 257 artifacts through the Archival Renewal Program.

Education & Programs

- Hardin Northern Living History Day
- Preparing to launch the History Detective Program on November 1, with promotion beginning next week.

Community Relations

- America 250 Scholarship Program nearing launch pending final requirements.

- Deb Phillips is coordinating the America 250 time capsule project.
- Shared museum resources with the Seneca County Library for its Heritage Festival.
- Ridgemont FFA Chapter earned a top-10 national placement for its Oral History Project; museum director provided consultation.

Tours & Visitors

- ONU History Professor Russ Crawford scheduled to bring a local history class tour to the Sullivan-Johnson Museum on October 21.
- Black Swamp Driving Club scheduled for a full-day visit to the Heritage Center on October 24.

Events

- Planning for annual Scarehouse Event with proceeds benefiting Phi Alpha Theta and supporting local history programming.
- Promotion for the Festival of Trees begins this week.

Exhibit Development

- Continuing planning for the Ray Brown Exhibit.
- Director recommends county purchase exhibit items to retain ownership of display materials.

Collections & Preservation

- Identified two qualified appraisal firms to evaluate museum collections and firearms to USPAP standards.
- Received preliminary cost estimates:
  - Columbus firm: approximately **$250/hour**
  - Cincinnati firm: approximately **$350/hour**, minimum **$3,000**, plus travel expenses.
- Discovered mercury in an antique manometer; item has been secured with no known spill.
- Preliminary disposal estimate is approximately $2,300.
- Exploring alternative preservation and display options with museum professionals.

Director's Notes

- Submitted proposed community communication letter regarding museum governance transition and ongoing Archival Renewal Program efforts.
- Museum remains open, collections remain secure, and long-term governance planning continues.

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

_____, YES/NO
Fred M. Rush

_____, YES/NO
Timothy L. Striker

Attest_____
Clerk of the Board

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