

Minutes for Thursday, February 05, 2026

Commissioners Present: Bell, Prouty, Cameron

Staff Present: Susan Reese

8:00 a.m. The Commissioners attended Landbank meeting at the Welcome Center.

10:00 a.m. The Commissioners took a progress tour of the John McIntire Library.

RES 26-0143 Meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. on the motion of Commissioner Cameron and the second of Commissioner Prouty.

Vote was Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

Commissioner Cameron moved to approve the payment of bills, pending review.

Seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

Vote was Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

The following legislation was now considered:

RESOLUTION 26-0144 approve and authorize Commissioner Melissa J. Bell, Board President; Kacey Stackhouse, Deputy Clerk; and Marcie Blackwood, Office Clerk to sign the Applications for Investigative Covert Plates and additional registration forms as needed for the various vehicle titles for the departments of Muskingum County on behalf of the Muskingum County Commissioners on an as needed basis for the purchase, sale and trade of vehicles as approved by the Muskingum County Commissioners. This resolution supersedes all previous resolutions.

Motion made by Commissioner Prouty, seconded by Commissioner Cameron.

Roll Call: Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 26-0145 approve the payment of invoices incurred in 2025 with 2026 Funds payable to the following vendors for invoice(s) dated prior to encumbrances as requested by Wendy Sowers, Clerk of Common Pleas Court.

<u>Name of Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Amazon	Credit card	\$64.00
Visa	Credit card	\$24.95

Motion made by Commissioner Prouty, seconded by Commissioner Cameron.

Roll Call: Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 26-0146 approve the payment of invoices incurred in 2025 with 2026 Funds payable to the following vendors for invoice(s) dated prior to encumbrances as requested by Peggy Taylor, Office Manager Muskingum County Water Department.

<u>Name of Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Telemetry & Process	Pressure Reducers	\$1,016.98

Motion made by Commissioner Prouty, seconded by Commissioner Cameron.

Roll Call: Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

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RESOLUTION 26-0147 approve the employment of Billie Guerra for Program Coordinator, Muskingum County Center for Seniors, contingent upon passage of the pre-employment assessments.

Motion made by Commissioner Prouty, seconded by Commissioner Cameron.

Roll Call: Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 26-0148 approve the payment of invoices incurred in 2025 with 2026 Funds payable to the following vendors for invoice(s) dated prior to encumbrances as requested by Stephanie Neuhart, Business Manager Muskingum County Board of Developmental Disabilities.

<u>Name of Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Invoice Number</u>	<u>Amount</u>
United Dairy	12-30-2025	# 5834211	\$127.48

Motion made by Commissioner Prouty, seconded by Commissioner Cameron.

Roll Call: Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 26-0149 approve the payment of invoices incurred in 2025 with 2026 Funds payable to the following vendors for invoice(s) dated prior to encumbrances as requested by Tom Smith, Fiscal Supervisor MCJFS.

<u>Name of Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Wise Processing Serv	Processing Serv Oct 2025	069-692-504029	\$792.43
Muskingum Valley Esc	Partnership Agreement Oct/Dec 2025	007-692-504401	\$6,056.52

Motion made by Commissioner Prouty, seconded by Commissioner Cameron.

Roll Call: Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 26-0150 approve the line item transfer of monies within Fund Number 033 as requested by Rachael Dille, Finance Manager Muskingum County Juvenile Court, as follows:

LINE ITEM TRANSFER OF MONIES

<u>From Line Item</u>	<u>To Line Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
033-244-503001	033-244-504344	\$500.00
Supplies	Incentives	

Motion made by Commissioner Prouty, seconded by Commissioner Cameron.

Roll Call: Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 26-0151 approve a Financial Grant FY 2026 for South East Area Transit in the amount of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) from the Board of Muskingum County Commissioners from line item 001-902-507024; Intergovernmental – Outside Agencies.

Motion made by Commissioner Prouty, seconded by Commissioner Cameron.

Roll Call: Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 26-0152 approve the Supplemental Appropriation of Funds within Fund Number 187, for the Muskingum County Community Development, as requested Kyle Dunn, Director.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

<u>Description</u>	<u>Account Code</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Administration	187-375-504300	\$8,365.00

Motion made by Commissioner Prouty, seconded by Commissioner Cameron.

Roll Call: Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

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RESOLUTION 26-0153 approve the payment of invoices incurred in 2025 with 2026 Funds payable to the following vendors for invoice(s) dated prior to encumbrances as requested by Kate Paul, Executive Director Muskingum County Center for Seniors.

<u>Name of Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Westwood Creative	Marketing/Advertising	\$1240.00

Motion made by Commissioner Prouty, seconded by Commissioner Cameron.

Roll Call: Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

After some discussion, the following was considered:

RESOLUTION 26-0154 approve to rescind Resolution 26-0041 dated January 12, 2026 regarding OMEGA appointments.

Motion made by Commissioner Bell, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

Roll Call: Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 26-0155 appoint OMEGA Board Members for 2026, as follows:

<u>OMEGA Membership</u>	<u>Executive Board</u>
Melissa Bell, Commissioner	Melissa Bell, Commissioner
Drake Prouty, Commissioner	Drake Prouty, Commissioner
Cindy Cameron, Commissioner	
Eric Reed, ZMCPA Director	
Kyle Dunn, Community Development Director	
Mark Eicher, County Engineer	

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

Roll Call: Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

There was continued discussion regarding delinquent real estate taxes. Certified delinquent one year before foreclosure.

The Commissioners discussed having a contest for a new County flag design. Commissioner Bell will create a flyer for the contest.

After some discussion, the following was considered:

RESOLUTION 26-0156 approve wage increase of 4% following the successful completion of 180 day Probationary Period, effective February 16, 2026, for Eric Watkins, Facilities Superintendent.

Motion made by Commissioner Prouty, seconded by Commissioner Bell.

Roll Call: Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

Commissioner Cameron reported on the Family and Children First meeting she attended.

Pam Davis, Human Resources, met with the Commissioners to discuss the Level 3 Snow Emergency that was called Monday, January 26 and how it will be reported on employee timesheets.

She also presented the following for consideration:

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RESOLUTION 26-0157 approve the re-employment of David Danison as Inspector for the Muskingum County Projects Department. Re-employment assessments will be waived. Employment will begin March 02, 2026 at the hourly rate of \$28.26.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

Roll Call: Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye.

Motion carried.

The Commissioners met virtually with Scott Wheeler, who is seeking letters of support in recognizing 70 years of the Lawrence Welk Show.

The Commissioners discussed the purchase of their vehicle. There will be a sign-out sheet in the Commissioners' Office for other departments to use the vehicle. There is a question about how to handle the gas card. The Clerk will look into how that will be managed.

There was discussion regarding:

- Center For Seniors Van
 - Should it go to auction
- Fleet Garage upgrades
- Health Department's storage in Recycling Building at EMA site
 - If they want to stay, they should pay their share and Mark Zanghi would prepare an agreement between the Health Department and Commissioners
 - There will be \$50,000 in upgrades and \$15,000 in replacing garage doors

The following met to discuss Benefits Preservation and International Sourcing:

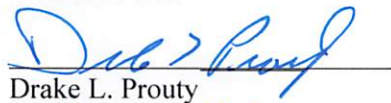
Frank Dosch, The Forker Company
Cam Craig, MedBen
Brian Fargus, MedBen
Deanna Lear, The Forker Company
Mike West, The Forker Company
Bethany Peters, MedBen
Pam Davis, County HR
Mackenzie Hill, County Benefits Specialist

Commissioner Prouty reported that he talked with Kevin DeWine, CBD Consultants, regarding the 2026 Capital Budget and the issues with SR146. It was decided to set up a meeting with Commissioners, State and Local Officials and representatives from the Engineer's Office, to discuss further.

A call was then placed to Kevin DeWine to discuss potentials.

With no further business being before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:34 p.m. on the motion of Commissioner Cameron and the second of Commissioner Bell.

Melissa J. Bell



Drake L. Prouty



Cindy S. Cameron