

Minutes for Monday, February 23, 2026

Commissioners Present: Bell, Prouty, Cameron
Staff Present: Susan Reese

RES 26-0196 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.

Commissioner Cameron moved to approve the payroll, pending review.
Seconded by Commissioner Prouty..
Vote was Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

Kevin DeWine, CBD Consultants, met with the Commissioners virtually to discuss the Capital Budget.

The following legislation was now considered:

RESOLUTION 26-0197 approve the Supplemental Appropriation of Funds within Fund Number 014, for the Muskingum County Water Department as requested Peggy Taylor, Office Manager Muskingum County Water Department.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

<u>Description</u>	<u>Account Code</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Utilities-gas	014-373-504102	\$10,000.00

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.
Roll Call: Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 26-0198 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,

<u>Name of Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
CINTAS	SH/IM 12/19/25 Maint Cleaning Sup	\$93.65
CINTAS	SS 12/19/25 Maint Cleaning Supp	\$ 3.90

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.
Roll Call: Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 26-0199 approve the line item transfer of monies within Fund Number 001 and Fund to Fund Transfer from fund 001 to 031 as requested by John Deal, Financial Administrator, Muskingum County Sheriff's Office, as follows:

LINE ITEM TRANSFER OF MONIES

<u>From Line Item</u>	<u>To Line Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
001-458-501002 Salaries	001-999-510002 General Fund-Transfer Out	\$ 5,500.00
001-458-502001 Medicare	001-999-510002 General Fund-Transfer Out	\$ 1,250.00
001-458-502003 PERS	001-999-510002 General Fund-Transfer Out	\$15,250.00
001-458-502004 Insurance	001-999-510002 General Fund-Transfer Out	\$22,750.00
001-458-502009 Workers Comp	001-999-510002 General Fund-Transfer Out	\$ 1,250.00

Minutes for Monday, February 23, 2026

FUND TRANSFER OF MONIES

<u>From Fund</u>	<u>To Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
001-999-510002	031-000-414002	\$46,000.00

General Fund Transfer Out Drug Interdiction-Transfer In
 Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.
 Roll Call: Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 26-0200 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 Sewer Department.

<u>Name of Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Modern Office Methods	copier overage	\$37.86

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.
 Roll Call: Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 26-0101 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>
Browns Body Shop	Deer damage difference	\$7,842.04

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.
 Roll Call: Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 26-0102 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, Jason Baughman, Chief Building Official, Muskingum County Building Department.

<u>Name of Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
International Code Council	\$99.95
Ziegler Tire & Supply Co.	\$27.69

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.
 Roll Call: Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

The Commissioners discussed a letter and invoices from Jane Cooper, Medical Chair of the Muskingum County Humane Society. The following was then considered:

RESOLUTION 26-0103 authorize and approve the reimbursement of \$1,277.27 to the Muskingum County Humane Society, for the care of eight cats for 97 days involved in the Jeannette Fitch case. All eight cats were ordered by the court to be returned to Ms. Fitch's care with all costs being waived.

Motion made by Commissioner Prouty, seconded by Commissioner Bell.
 Roll Call: Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

Commissioner Prouty gave an update on the blighted property on SR555. Commissioner Prouty also gave an update on the Boyd property on Hoop Pole Road. He received a call from Clay Township Trustee Miller. Mr. Miller says that roads are being

Minutes for Monday, February 23, 2026

destroyed because of the amount of blight Mr. Boyd is transporting off his property. It was agreed that the County will help with road repairs.

Chad Hutchins, Water Department Manager; Stan Lucas, Sewer Department Manager and Don Madden, Projects Manager, met with the Commissioners to discuss the need for rate increases.

Chad also updated the Commissioners on the Norfield and Culbertson Roads projects.

Stan reviewed the Fairview sewer line project with the Commissioners. They gave him permission to move forward.

Mike Reiter, Director, SEO Joint Solid Waste met with the Commissioners to discuss voting Board Members.

The following met in the Commissioners' Session Room to discuss Delinquent Tax Collection:

- Mark Zanghi, Assistant Prosecutor
- Lane Dailey, Assistant Prosecutor
- Ron Welch, Prosecutor
- Chris Crook, Redevelopment Specialist
- Andy Roberts, GIS Director
- Jaci Moorehead, Prosecutor's Office
- Dennis Dove, Assistant Prosecutor
- Todd Hixson, Treasurer
- Kade Haddox, County Administrator

The Commissioners commended Dennis, Lane and Jaci for the work they have done to collect many of the larger delinquent real estate taxes. Thirty-five of the top 50 delinquents are currently in foreclosure. The Commissioners offered any assistance that would provide the Prosecutor and Treasurer help with collections. The Commissioners asked the Treasurer to write letters to the many other delinquent property owners that don't fall in the top 50.

Jeff Jadwin, EMA Director, reported on FEMA's request for extra expenses the entities within Muskingum County incurred due to the Level 3 snowstorm in January.

Villages that did not respond to their request:

- Adamsville
- Frazeysburg
- Fultonham
- Gratit
- Norwich

Townships that did not respond:

- Adams
- Clay
- Highland
- Jefferson
- Madison
- Monroe
- Washington

The Commissioners left for a meeting an out of office meeting with AEP.

Minutes for Monday, February 23, 2026

Commissioner Prouty reported that James Electric has looked at the extra security cameras stored at the Board of Elections. They will be offered to other County Departments.

Commissioner Prouty reported that he met with seven employees from the Health Department at EMA and Recycling to discuss their storage.

- They would like one bay for their motor home and one garage for the mosquito spray machine

It was reported that the Sheriff's Office would like to stay with their current phone provider which is Image Computer. All three Commissioners approved the Sheriff's decision.

The Commissioners approved the flyer for the 2026 County Flag Campaign.

A call was placed to Jane Cooper, Medical Chair for the Muskingum County Humane Society. Commissioner Prouty communicated that the Commissioners are not happy with the way Charity (Humane Society President), handled the sending of the dog with parvo to the old dog pound without communicating. Then after the dog was removed, Abby Bash, County Humane Officer, had to return to the pound to clean and remove contaminated bedding. Jane was asked to talk with Charity about this situation and emphasize how important it is to communicate with the Commissioners.

Kade Haddox, County Administrator, met with the Commissioners to update them on the AEP progress.

With no further business being before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:35 p.m. on the motion of Commissioner Cameron and the second of Commissioner Prouty.



Melissa J. Bell



Drake L. Prouty



Cindy S. Cameron