

Minutes for Monday, April 13, 2026

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

RES 26-0352 Meeting was called to order at 8:06 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 26-0353 approve and authorize the repayment of an ADVANCE of monies to Fund 001 from Fund 099 as requested by Rachael Dille, Finance Officer, Muskingum County Court of Common Pleas Juvenile Division, as follows:

REPAYMENT OF ADVANCE OF FUNDS

<u>FROM FUND</u>	<u>TO FUND</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
099-444-510001	001-000-414001	\$71,514.00

FORGIVENESS OF ADVANCE OF FUNDS

<u>FROM FUND</u>	<u>TO FUND</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
099	001	\$0.11

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

RESOLUTION 26-0354 approve the fund to fund transfer of monies for the Muskingum County Auditor's Office as requested by Stephanie Spencer, Chief Administrator, as follows:

FUND TRANSFER OF MONIES

<u>From Fund</u>	<u>To Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
001-999-510003	058-000-414002	\$1,400.00
001-999-510003	104-000-414002	\$738,918.75
013-372-510003	061-000-414002	\$10,700.00
013-372-510003	126-000-414002	\$5,182.00
014-373-510003	178-000-414002	\$154.00
039-801-510002	148-000-414002	\$1,704.78
001-999-510003	188-000-414002	\$698.64
013-372-510003	067-000-414002	\$693.72
013-372-510003	061-000-414002	\$3,944.20

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

RESOLUTION 26-0355 approve forwarding the amount of \$3,399.00 that was received from Treasurer of Noble County on behalf of SEO Joint Solid Waste for reimbursement for Washington Township funding, to Washington Township. These monies are provided to the County as provided in Ohio Revised Code Section 3734.57 (G) (4) as an allowable cost within District expenditures as provided by law.

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Washington Township is required to complete Attachment B “Documentation of District Funding Expenditure Report”.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 26-0356 approve the fund to fund transfer of monies for the Muskingum County Auditor’s Office as requested by Stephanie Spencer, Chief Administrator, as follows:

FUND TRANSFER OF MONIES

<u>From Fund</u>	<u>To Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
001-999-510003	104-000-414002	\$140,000.00
048-102-510002	104-000-414002	\$7,000,000.00

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 26-0357 approve the fund to fund transfer of monies for the Muskingum County Engineer’s Office as requested by Mark Eicher, Engineer, as follows:

FUND TRANSFER OF MONIES

<u>From Fund</u>	<u>To Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
009-368-510002	056-900-414002	\$89,605.97

Funds will be utilized for loan payments through the Ohio Public Works Commission and the State Infrastructure Bank.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 26-0358 WHEREAS, the proposed sewer rate increases are necessary to address significant infrastructure and operational needs across the system. Much of the South system is over 40 years old and is reaching the end of its useful life, requiring full replacement to maintain reliability. Similarly, the North system, which is more than 50 years old and largely constructed of clay tile, needs relining or replacement to prevent failures and infiltration. Numerous aging manholes throughout the system require rehabilitation, and several older lift stations must be upgraded to ensure consistent and efficient service. Beyond infrastructure concerns, the cost of operating and maintaining the system continues to rise, driven by increases in energy, labor, equipment, and parts. These factors necessitate adjusting rates to responsibly maintain the system, protect public health, and ensure long-term service reliability for residents.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this Board of County Commissioners of Muskingum County, Ohio, does hereby approve the adjustment of sewer rates for the Muskingum County Sewer System effective July 1, 2026, as attached hereto.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 26-0359 WHEREAS, the proposed water rate adjustments are necessary to address both immediate and long-term system needs while maintaining reliable service for residents. Key infrastructure projects, including the rehabilitation of the Sonora tank, ongoing repair and replacement of original infrastructure, and expansion efforts to serve residents who currently lack access to a municipal water supply, further contribute to system demand. At the same time, rising operating costs, particularly for energy, pumping, and treatment, continue to place pressure on the system. Compliance with increasingly costly requirements, including

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enhanced sampling, valve exercising, and system flushing, also requires additional resources to ensure our commitment to providing safe drinking water. Regular repair and maintenance of pump stations and pressure-reducing valves (PRVs) remain critical to daily operations. Strategic rate adjustments now will allow for planned, responsible investment in the system and help provide water to the many residents in our county who desire the service.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this Board of County Commissioners of Muskingum County, Ohio, does hereby approve the adjustment of water rates for the Muskingum County Water System effective July 1, 2026, as attached hereto.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

RESOLUTION 26-0360 approve the Supplemental Appropriation of Funds within Fund Number 128, for the Muskingum County Board of Elections, as requested by Lindsay Peadon, Director.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

<u>Description</u>	<u>Account Code</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Equipment & Maintenance	128-112-506001	\$10,000.00

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

RESOLUTION 26-0361 approve the establishment of new fund, number 251, which does not require approval of the State Auditor's Office, and line items as requested by Don Madden for the Muskingum County Water Dept

ESTABLISH NEW FUND

Purpose of New Fund Construct the Powelson Area Waterline Extension

Fund Number 251

Fund Name Powelson Area Waterline

Department Water Dept

Type Capital Project Fund

LINE ITEMS TO BE CREATED

<u>Revenue:</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Dept.</u>	<u>Account Code</u>
WSRLA Loan	Loan Funds	251	000	410016
WSRLA Grant	Grant Funds	251	000	409062
Amler Grant	ODNR Grant Funds	251	000	409044
Donations	Donations of Funds	251	000	412001
Advance In		251	000	414001
<u>Expenditures:</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Dept.</u>	<u>Account Code</u>
Contract Service		251	373	504001
Engineering Fees		251	373	504013
Contingency		251	373	504999
Land Acquisition		251	373	506030
Advance Out		251	373	510001

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

RESOLUTION 26-0362 approve the establishment of new fund, number 252, which does not require approval of the State Auditor's Office, and line items as requested by Don Madden for the Muskingum County Water Dept

ESTABLISH NEW FUND

Purpose of New Fund Construct the Old Nashport Area Waterline Extension

Fund Number 252

Fund Name Old Nashport Area Waterline

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Department Water Dept
Type Capital Project Fund

LINE ITEMS TO BE CREATED

Revenue:	Description	Fund	Dept.	Account Code
WSRLA Loan	Loan Funds	252	000	410016
WSRLA Grant	Grant Funds	252	000	409062
Donations	Donations of Funds	252	000	412001
Advance In		252	000	414001
Expenditures:	Description	Fund	Dept.	Account Code
Contract Service		252	373	504001
Engineering Fees		252	373	504013
Contingency		252	373	504999
Land Acquisition		252	373	506030
Advance Out		252	373	510001

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

RESOLUTION 26-0363 approve the establishment of new fund, number 253, which does not require approval of the State Auditor's Office, and line items as requested by Don Madden for the Muskingum County Water Dept

ESTABLISH NEW FUND

Purpose of New Fund Construct the Vickers Hill Waterline Extension

Fund Number 253

Fund Name Vickers Hill Waterline

Department Water Dept

Type Capital Project Fund

LINE ITEMS TO BE CREATED

Revenue:	Description	Fund	Dept.	Account Code
WSRLA Loan	Loan Funds	253	000	410016
WSRLA Grant	Grant Funds	253	000	409062
Donations	Donations of Funds	253	000	412001
Advance In		253	000	414001
Expenditures:	Description	Fund	Dept.	Account Code
Contract Service		253	373	504001
Engineering Fees		253	373	504013
Contingency		253	373	504999
Land Acquisition		253	373	506030
Advance Out		253	373	510001

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

RESOLUTION 26-0364 approve the establishment of new fund, number 254, which does not require approval of the State Auditor's Office, and line items as requested by Don Madden for the Muskingum County Water Dept

ESTABLISH NEW FUND

Purpose of New Fund Construct the Rt. 60 South Waterline Extension

Fund Number 254

Fund Name Rt. 60 South Waterline

Department Water Dept

Type Capital Project Fund

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LINE ITEMS TO BE CREATED

Revenue:	Description	Fund	Dept.	Account Code
WSRLA Loan	Loan Funds	254	000	410016
WSRLA Grant	Grant Funds	254	000	409062
Donations	Donations of Funds	254	000	412001
Advance In		254	000	414001
Expenditures:	Description	Fund	Dept.	Account Code
Contract Service		254	373	504001
Engineering Fees		254	373	504013
Contingency		254	373	504999
Land Acquisition		254	373	506030
Advance Out		254	373	510001

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

RESOLUTION 26-0365 approve the establishment of new fund, number 255, which does not require approval of the State Auditor's Office, and line items as requested by Don Madden for the Muskingum County Water Dept

ESTABLISH NEW FUND

Purpose of New Fund Construct the Harrison Township Waterline Extension

Fund Number 255

Fund Name Harrison Township Waterline

Department Water Dept

Type Capital Project Fund

LINE ITEMS TO BE CREATED

Revenue:	Description	Fund	Dept.	Account Code
WSRLA Loan	Loan Funds	255	000	410016
WSRLA Grant	Grant Funds	255	000	409062
CDBG Grant	Grant Funding	255	000	409010
Donations	Donations of Funds	255	000	412001
Advance In		255	000	414001
Expenditures:	Description	Fund	Dept.	Account Code
Contract Service		255	373	504001
Engineering Fees		255	373	504013
Contingency		255	373	504999
Land Acquisition		255	373	506030
Private Connections		255	373	504069
Advance Out		255	373	510001

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

RESOLUTION 26-0366 approve the establishment of new fund, number 256, which does not require approval of the State Auditor's Office, and line items as requested by Don Madden for the Muskingum County Water Dept

ESTABLISH NEW FUND

Purpose of New Fund Construct the Vista View Sewer Relining project

Fund Number 256

Fund Name Vista View sewer

Department Sewer Dept

Type Capital Project Fund

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LINE ITEMS TO BE CREATED

Revenue:	Description	Fund	Dept.	Account Code
WPCLF Loan	Loan Funds	256	000	410016
WPCLF Grant	Grant Funds	256	000	409062
Donations	Donations of Funds	256	000	412001
Advance In		256	000	414001
Expenditures:	Description	Fund	Dept.	Account Code
Contract Service		256	372	504001
Engineering Fees		256	372	504013
Contingency		256	372	504999
Land Acquisition		256	372	506030
Advance Out		256	372	510001

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

RESOLUTION 26-0367 authorize Todd Fitz to attend the 2026 Ohio Association of Court Administrators scheduled May 6-8, 2026 in Toledo, Ohio.

Registration/class materials: \$400.00

Rooms: \$380.00

Meals/Mileage: \$360.00

Estimated cost: Not to exceed \$1,140.00 Includes registration, lodging, and meals through GL account 001-244-502013 (Travel and Training)

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

RESOLUTION 26-0368 accept the specification, plans and authorize the advertisement of the Request for Proposals/Quotes for the Muskingum County Reverse 911 System/Notification System as requested by Jeff Jadwin, EMA Director.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

RESOLUTION 26-0369 authorize the advertisement of bids for the Rt. 555 Phase 2 Waterline Extension with a bid opening on May 7, 2026, at 10:00 am in the Muskingum County Commissioners office.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Porter.

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

RESOLUTION 26-0370 approve the fund to fund transfer of monies for the Muskingum County Engineer's Office as requested by Mark J. Eicher, Engineer as follows:

FUND TRANSFER OF MONIES

<u>From Fund</u>	<u>To Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
001-999-510002	009-000-414002	\$352,709.00
Transfer Out	Transfer In	

(For equipment purchased in 2026)

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

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RESOLUTION 26-0371 accept the specifications and authorize the advertisement of the Moxahala Creek Bridge Replacement as requested by the Muskingum County Engineer. Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty. Roll Call: Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

Commissioner Cameron reported a conversation with Todd Fitz, regarding a Juvenile Court employee's post on Facebook. The employee has removed it.

Commissioner Bell moved to approve the minutes of the April 02, 2026 session. Commissioner Prouty seconded. Vote was Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, abstain. Motion carried.

Commissioner Prouty moved to approve the minutes of the April 06, 2026 session. Commissioner Bell seconded. Vote was Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

Be it noted that this Board acknowledges the resignation of Greg Jadwin, Coroner Investigator.

Jason Baughman, Chief Building Official, met with the Commissioners at their request, to discuss Electrician Certification.

- Currently checking work, not license certification
- Will continue to research how other counties deal with

The Commissioners received and reviewed the March 2026 Financial Reports from the County Auditor.

A call was placed to Chelsea Pratt regarding a need for a pedestrian crossing on South River Road at The Bright Spot Campground and Marina. Commissioner Prouty told her he would look at the site and get back with her.

Commissioner Bell reported that Kate Paul, Center for Seniors Director, let her know that Rick Sabine called her to say that Fourth and Shinnick Streets intersection would be closed and Fourth Street would be closed, for a period, due to construction on Secrest Auditorium.

There was discussion regarding the tree that fell onto the old dog pound property. The tree belonged to the neighboring property owner. Commissioner Prouty will ask Eric Watkins, Facilities Superintendent, to talk with that property owner to get the issue resolved.

A message was left with Dave Yost, Ohio Attorney General, to call the Commissioners regarding ARPA monies for Heroes Landing.

Candy Emmert and Melissa Wood met with the Commissioners in recognition of Child Abuse Prevention Month. The Commissioners presented them with a proclamation.

The Commissioners recognized Muskingum Materials for their donation of \$1,500 of stone for the K-9 Adoption Center.

The Commissioners discussed water sewer rate increases to be effective July 1 and every July 1 thereafter thru 2030.

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Gary Williams, Engineer's Office, met with the Commissioners to ask them to sign the Porter Drive Sanitary Sewer Improvements, Newton Township, Title Page...an in-house project with the Sewer Department.

Commissioner Prouty recommended the following be considered:

RESOLUTION 26-0372 Whereas the Board is the record owner in title of a 2014 Chevrolet VIN Number 1G1PG5SB2E7392329, and

Whereas a board of county commissioners, pursuant to R.C. 307.12(B), may donate personal property to an eligible 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, if the fair market value of the personal property is less than five thousand dollars, and

Whereas the Board has determined, pursuant to R.C. 307.12(B), the 2014 Chevrolet VIN Number 1G1PG5SB2E7392329 is not needed for public use, and that the fair market value of the vehicle is less than five thousand dollars, and

Whereas the Muskingum County Center for Seniors, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, has expressed interest in obtaining the 2014 Chevrolet VIN Number 1G1PG5SB2E7392329.

Now, therefore, it is resolved by this Board of County Commissioners, Muskingum County, Ohio does hereby authorize the transfer of title for the 2014 Chevrolet VIN Number 1G1PG5SB2E7392329, to the Muskingum County Center for Seniors, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Motion made by Commissioner Bell, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

Motion carried.

Mike Reiter, Director, SEO Joint Solid Waste, asked about probation workers at Recycling. Commissioner Prouty will speak with Matt Gibson from the Probation Department about this.

Mark Zanghi, Assistant Prosecutor, talked to the Commissioners about Starlight's Budget Commission and Levy hearings.

The Commissioners adjourned for lunch to attend a TCP Software demonstration.

The Commissioners returned at 1:20 p.m. to consider the following:

RESOLUTION 26-0373 moved to go into Executive Session at 1:34 p.m. to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official of Muskingum County Maintenance. This session ended approximately 1:47 p.m.

Motion made by Commissioner Bell, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

Motion carried.

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RESOLUTION 26-0374 authorize Wage Adjustments for the following Maintenance employees:

Jason Lumbatis	\$28.00 per hour
Jeff Butler	\$28.00 per hour
Theodore Bugglin	\$24.50 per hour

These adjustments are to be effective April 13, 2026.

Motion made by Commissioner Bell, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

Motion carried.

Chad Hutchins, Water Department Manager, met with the Commissioners and Kade Haddox, County Administrator, to discuss and confirm water rate increases.

Jason Baughman, Chief Building Official, met with the Commissioners and the following was considered:

RESOLUTION 26-0375 moved to go into Executive Session at 2:46 p.m. to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official of Muskingum County Building Department. This session ended approximately 3:22 p.m.

Motion made by Commissioner Prouty, seconded by Commissioner Bell.

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

Motion carried.

Chris Crook, Redevelopment Specialist, met to update the Commissioners.

- 285 Washington Street, Roseville is making good progress

The Commissioners had continued discussion regarding wages and the following was considered:

RESOLUTION 26-0376 authorize the Wage Adjustment of Jeff Jadwin, EMA Director, of an additional \$3.00 per hour to be effective April 13, 2026.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Bell.

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

Motion carried.

Shannon Bell, Executive Director, Muskingum Respiratory Clinic, met with the Commissioners and requested the following:

RESOLUTION 26-0377 declare an Executive Session at 3:34 p.m. for the purpose of discussing a Matter Required to be Kept Confidential of the Muskingum County Respiratory Clinic. This session ended approximately 3:47 p.m.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

Motion carried.

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A call was placed to Mark Zanghi, Assistant Prosecutor, regarding the progress of the recent land purchase. He will follow-up with title office.

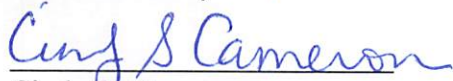
With no further business being before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:19 p.m. on the motion of Commissioner Cameron and the second of Commissioner Prouty.



Melissa J. Bell



Drake L. Prouty



Cindy S. Cameron