

# Minutes for April 23, 2020

Commissioners Present: Porter, Cameron, Crooks  
Staff Present: Susan Reese

**RES 20-0367** Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on the motion of Commissioner Porter and the second of Commissioner Crooks.  
Vote was Cameron, aye; Crooks, aye; Porter, aye. Motion carried.

Commissioner Porter moved to approve the payment of bills, pending review.  
Seconded by Commissioner Crooks.  
Vote was Cameron, aye; Crooks, aye; Porter, aye. Motion carried.

The following legislation was now considered:

**RESOLUTION 20-0368** approve the line item transfer of monies within Fund Number 021 as requested by Candy Emmert, Muskingum County Adult and Child Protective Services, as follows:

**LINE ITEM TRANSFER OF MONIES**

<u>From Line Item</u>	<u>To Line Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
021-695-504378 Protect Ohio/Non-Custody	021-695-503017 COVID-19	\$ 1,000.00
021-695-504378 Protect Ohio/Non-Custody	021-695-506001 Equipment	\$25,000.00
021-695-504378 Protect Ohio/Non-Custody	021-695-507001 Other Expenses	\$75,000.00
021-698-507001 Other Expenses	021-698-503017 COVID-19	\$ 1,000.00

Motion made by Commissioner Crooks, seconded by Commissioner Porter.  
Roll Call: Cameron, aye; Crooks, aye; Porter, aye. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 20-0369** approve the Supplemental Appropriation of Funds within Fund Number 037, for Muskingum County LEPC, as requested by Tiffany Beardsley, Administrative Assistant.

**SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS**

<u>Description</u>	<u>Account Code</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Contract Services	037-461-511100	\$1,000.00
Hazmat Supplies	037-461-511065	\$1,000.00

Motion made by Commissioner Porter, seconded by Commissioner Crooks.  
Roll Call: Cameron, aye; Crooks, aye; Porter, aye. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 20-0370** authorize Cindy S. Cameron to sign the Notice of Award and the Contract Documents for the Pembroke Force Main Railroad Crossing with Pipe Bridge project to Perry Reclaim, Inc. The contract amount is \$264,000.00.

Motion made by Commissioner Crooks, seconded by Commissioner Porter.  
Roll Call: Cameron, aye; Crooks, aye; Porter, aye. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 20-0371** accepts Official Amended Certificate Number Six (6) as submitted by Muskingum County Auditor, Debra J. Nye, on behalf of the Muskingum County Budget Commission dated April 08, 2020.

Motion made by Commissioner Porter, seconded by Commissioner Crooks.  
Roll Call: Cameron, aye; Crooks, aye; Porter, aye. Motion carried.

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**RESOLUTION 20-0372** accepts Official Amended Certificate Number Seven (7) as submitted by Muskingum County Auditor, Debra J. Nye, on behalf of the Muskingum County Budget Commission dated April 17, 2020.

Motion made by Commissioner Crooks, seconded by Commissioner Porter.

Roll Call: Cameron, aye; Crooks, aye; Porter, aye. Motion carried.

The Clerk presented to the Commissioners, an invoice for Mark Eicher's Surety Bond. She also explained that she had talked with Pam Davis about CORSA's Employee Dishonesty coverage. There was question about Mark's appointment date versus election date. Pam talked with Tammy at Rankin and Rankin and after some research, she said that Mark would be eligible for coverage under CORSA's plan. All agreed to cover him with CORSA.

Commissioner Cameron reported that Judge Vinsel had called her on her cell phone and said he had talked to Cole Ryan. He thought they would go ahead and go with the plan for security in the parking lot space and HVAC for County Court. They are also going to renovate the space for the office staff, but not as extensive as originally planned. He wanted the Board to know they would be moving ahead with that process. There was question about whether the Commissioners had signed the contract with APG Architects. Isn't that what prompted the visit to County Court and the questions as to their intent. There was question about the parking spaces affected. It appears the three that would be affected would be the Recorder, the Clerk of Courts and the County Van.

The Clerk did find the contract with APG signed January 2020.

Commissioner Cameron said that she had sent a message to the other Commissioners about the Center for Seniors using the Commissioners' Envoy temporarily. They were already down one vehicle and then they lost another in flood waters. Ann said if they would use the Envoy, they would use it on a city route and would not put a ton of miles on it.

There was also discussion regarding lowering the Center for Seniors' rent. The cost of their meals has increased significantly. Ann said that her and James would be willing to come to talk with the Board about their expenses. Commissioner Cameron said she didn't get in to any more details with Ann, but would be in favor of reducing their rent until they figure out what's going on or what they are going to do. Commissioner Crooks said she would be in favor of reducing for a period of time if we have an agreement, but not forgiving. Commissioner Cameron said Ann never used the word forgiving. The following was then considered:

**RESOLUTION 20-0373** WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners, Muskingum County, Ohio entered into a Lease Agreement on or about December 19, 2016 with the Muskingum County Center for Seniors, for the premises located at 160 North Fourth Street, Zanesville, Ohio [see attached Commissioners Resolution No. 16-1413]; and

WHEREAS, the agreed upon lease payment is \$7,500.00 (seven thousand-five hundred and 00/100 dollars) per month for a term of sixty (60) months commencing on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Muskingum County Center for Seniors has requested a temporary reduction in the monthly lease payment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Board of County Commissioners of Muskingum County, Ohio, does hereby approve a temporary reduction in the monthly lease

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payment, effective May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020, to \$5,000.00 (five thousand and 00/100 dollars) per month for a period of twelve (12) months (May 2020 through April 2021).

All other terms and conditions of the Lease Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

Commissioner Porter moved, seconded by Commissioner Crooks.

Roll Call: Cameron, aye; Crooks, aye; Porter, aye.

Motion carried.

Commissioner Cameron reported that Chris Crooks from The Times Recorder called to ask her about furloughs and lay-offs within the County. She told him there are no plans to furlough or lay anyone off. She also gave him the cell phone numbers of the other Commissioners.

The Clerk made the Board aware of an email she received from Allison Binkley of Squire, Patton and Boggs regarding the Engineer's purchase of trucks and pending loan with The Community Bank. Community Bank is requesting a bond to cover the \$800,000 loan. The Commissioners called Jan Baughman, legal representative for The Community Bank. She said that townships and villages are permitted to do lease purchases, but counties cannot. Can the County Prosecutor prepare a statement for the bank? Commissioner Porter said he wouldn't be opposed to paying for the trucks and then the Engineer paying it back. This would be done in the interest of saving bond council fees.

Commissioner Porter told the Board about a situation that he received a text about this morning. Supposedly, someone is organizing a parade for a boy on Boggs Road for his birthday party. They've invited the fire department to be in the parade. Commissioner Porter texted back and said according to the Health Department parades are prohibited.

A call was placed to Mark Eicher and explained to him that the Commissioners were considering purchasing the trucks and the Engineer paying them back. Mark agreed. The Commissioners will contact Mark Zanghi to write an agreement/resolution.

Commissioner Cameron reported that Troy McCollister called to let her know that the Board may receive a call from Chad Parker regarding the funds to pay his workers.

Mark Zanghi called at the Commissioners' request. He was asked for some guidance in preparing an agreement/resolution.

County Treasurer, Chris Hamill, stopped in to let the Commissioners know that they have moved \$5,000,000 in CDAR's that were due to the Bond portfolio to earn 1.4 to 1.75%. She also reported that she will be bringing all of her staff back May 4. She's going to wait and see what the rest of the County does in terms of opening to the public.

Commissioner Cameron reported that Tom Samson called in and said that he's tired of the Newton Township Trustees. There is a fence dispute between him and his neighbor, Gary Browning. He said nobody will help him and he would like the Commissioners to call the Trustees.

The Commissioners placed a call to Bob Stephenson, Newton Township Trustee. Bob said the fence was supposed to have been moved by April 1 and he's not sure what the hold up is. The fence is in the right-of-way and Samson is having trouble backing out of his driveway. Bob has

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had the County Engineer and the County Prosecutor involved. Bob said he is sure Mr. Browning is going to move the fence but it was to be done by the first of April, but he doesn't know why it hasn't been. Does Mr. Samson know that the fence will be moved?...yes. Commissioner Porter asked what the consequences are if Mr. Browning does not move the fence. Bob said the Township can remove the fence. Bob said it's a very expensive vinyl fence and they were going to remove it earlier but they were afraid it would crack because of the cold weather. Mr. Browning was going to pay someone to have it removed. Commissioner Crooks asked if the Trustees could follow up with Mr. Browning to find out the status. Bob's opinion is that because of the virus, everything has slowed down, causing the delay.

The Commissioners called Mr. Samson back and told him that they are 99.9% sure the fence will be moved but not sure when. If not, the Township will remove. Mr. Samson said that he was told that it would be moved by April 1 or the Township would remove on April 2. He has tried to make contact with the Township with no response. He said it is also dangerous for the school bus.

The Commissioners placed a call to Ann Combs, Director of the Center for Seniors. She was told she could use the Commissioners' Envoy for deliveries temporarily. She was also told that their rent would be reduced to \$5,000 a month for one year. She thanked the Commissioners.

Commissioner Crooks reported that Dan Long has ordered a speaker for the session room phones to be used for conference calls. Commissioner Porter said it would be okay for it to sit on the corner of his desk, because his desk is in the center.

Commissioner Cameron said that the Red Cross asked if the County could hold a blood drive. They are currently scheduling for May. Commissioner Porter suggested the Board of Elections community room, depending on the renovation timeline.

There was a brief discussion regarding the opening back up of the County.

Adam Holmes, State Representative, came to talk with the Commissioners. The Commissioners also hosted the Guernsey County Commissioners via Google-meets. Matt Abbot and Dana Matz also participated. Adam made the following points regarding the COVID-19 pandemic...

- \*Ohio was one of the first to shut down
- \*We are currently at 16% of the originally anticipated cases
- \*The virus was here before we thought: China lied
- \*It is more contagious, but less lethal than originally thought
- \*Muskingum County numbers are low
- \*There will be formal mandates and recommended practices, per industry, for opening
- \*It will be a released control – Commissioners and Health Departments will probably handle
- \*Essential and non-essential titles will be removed
- \*Geography and density will play a role in mandates and recommendations
- \*25% of all cases are in prisons
- \*Cuyahoga and Hamilton Counties are hot-spots

Commissioner Porter asked if there is a plan in place to handle a potential spike after opening. Adam said that would be a question for Dr. Butterfield, the Health experts, it will be regional. Is there a plan to restrict travel within counties? That would have to be an agreement between counties.

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- \*Enforcement and repercussions? Self-policing and individual responsibility
- \*Confusion with CARES Act and unemployment
- \*Communication with businesses that want to open – Governor’s press conference
- \*Website will lay out best practices
- \*The plan is to be ready
- \*Restaurant occupancies; there will be mandates and recommendations determined when guidelines set forth
- \*Center for Seniors guidelines? Director’s decision
- \*Ohio will be using the “dimmer switch” approach to opening

Commissioner Crooks presented a support letter for the Clay City Heritage Ceramic Center to send to the Ohio Arts Council. All agreed.

The Clerk forwarded an email she received to the Commissioners from Paul “Denny” regarding Hopewell Township Trustees. He claims his road is falling apart with nothing being done. Commissioner Crooks said this is Steve Denny and this has been an ongoing problem. She said he has been texting her since 2016 and she has made several calls to the Township Trustees regarding this matter. She told this gentleman that the Trustees don’t report to the Commissioners. Commissioner Cameron said this is the first she’s heard of it. Commissioner Cameron suggested that Commissioner Crooks answer him since she’s the one that’s been talking to him.

Commissioner Porter moved to approve the Minutes of the April 20, 2020 meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Crooks.

Roll Call: Cameron, aye; Crooks, aye; Porter, aye.

Motion carried.

There was discussion regarding the timeline for the Board of Elections HVAC work.

Pam Davis, Human Resources; Don Madden, Manager and Peggy Taylor, Office Manager of the Water Department will be interviewing 5 candidates tomorrow beginning at 1:30 p.m. It will probably be three weeks before a new person can start.

Commissioner Cameron asked about bringing back our full-time employees. Will that be May 4 or should we wait to see what the Governor says tomorrow. Will Teddy continue to work for the Water Department until the position is filled there? Can we share her between the Water Department and the Commissioners’ Office?

Andy Roberts, GIS, just stopped in to see if the Commissioners needed anything from him.


Commissioner Cameron asked what he is doing about the public or the media who would want to listen in on the LandBank meeting. He said the TR has already reached out and he will reach out to other media this afternoon.

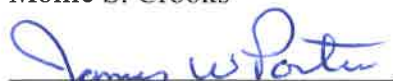
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With no further business being before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:35 p.m. on the motion of Commissioner Cameron and the second of Commissioner Crooks.

  
Cindy S. Cameron

  
Mollie S. Crooks

  
James W. Porter

*This is a condensed version of today's session. For a more detailed account, feel free to request a DVD recording.*