

# Minutes for June 28, 2021

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

**RES 21-0609** Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on the motion of Commissioner Cameron and the second of Commissioner Porter.  
Vote was Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

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

The Board spent some time reviewing and discussing Robert Moore's evaluation.

There was discussion regarding an email from Don Madden.

- Don said that Morgan reported that the bids were not as plentiful as he had hoped and the Commissioners need to make a decision,
  - If they want the project to move forward we will need to bid the pipe now with the understanding that when the pipe comes in we will have to pay more through force majeure and then bid the labor separately otherwise we're going to have to wait on projects until sometime in the fall
- The Commissioners decided to bid now....pipe only, no fittings
- The Clerk is to notify Don

The Clerk reported the responses to her email invitation regarding autopsies. Coroner Vinsel and Prosecutor Welch were not available any of the times/dates proposed.

- She was instructed to offer more dates starting with Thursday, July 29

The Clerk reported that Carson Bowden owner of 8350 Norfield Road stopped in and talked with Kacey.

- He would like to gift this parcel of land to the Commissioners
  - Would it be of value if running water there
  - Mr. Carson said there is historical value

Mr. Hunter reported that he has trapped nine groundhogs and one opossum at the EMA so far.

Commissioner Cameron said that if it would close the discussion, she would make a motion to give PAWS and the Humane Society \$1,000 and our part be done.

- Commissioner Crooks reported that Mayor Mason had set aside \$5,000 last year for the cat problem, but not sure it rolled over to this year
- Commissioner Crooks asked Commissioner Cameron if she would consider \$2,000
- It's Commissioner Cameron's thought that the landowners (specifically of trailer parks where the problem is exceptionally worse) should take some responsibility

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The following was then considered:

**RESOLUTION 21-0619** approve a financial grant for the Muskingum County Humane Society in the amount of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) from the Board of Muskingum County Commissioners from line item ..... to help in dealing with the feral cat issue in Muskingum County per request of PAWS and the Humane Officer.  
Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Crooks.

There was continued discussion before the vote:

- Commissioner Cameron doesn't feel it's our responsibility, but they've come to us multiple times and \$1,000 is better than nothing and shows that we've helped
- She still thinks they should be able to get help from the Animal Shelter
  - Should the money go to PAWS or the Humane Society
    - Commissioner Crooks would say to whichever helps them get the matching grant
  - Commissioner Crooks says the cat issue doesn't fall into County's responsibility but morally, but to protect the health and safety of the Community, she's happy to see us doing something about it
  - Commissioner Cameron pointed out that it seems that most of the problems are at trailer courts and people own those trailer courts and those people could call Don Hunter...it is their problem; landowners need to take responsibility
  - Commissioner Porter asked then why give them \$1,000
    - Maybe to get the process started
    - Put it to rest and we have done something
  - Commissioner Porter would like to see the Board make decisions as quickly on other issues, i.e. waterlines
  - Commissioner Crooks asked Theresa if the Animal Shelter had made any commitments to helping them
    - No, they are not willing to euthanize
      - Theresa does not anticipate them changing their position

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

There was continued discussion regarding Mr. Bowden's offer.

- Why would he want to do that
- Can we legally accept property
- Are there people living there

Commissioner Porter reported that he talked with Scott about the old Dog Pound building's air conditioner was not working.

- Upon investigation it was reported that it was turned to heat

Commissioner Cameron received a call from Jane Cooper, volunteer, asked if they could still keep the Humane Building on that old property

Commissioner Porter said that Amanda, Kennel Master, has been working seven days a week

- Why, when there are two deputies
- In Guernsey County the deputies help with everything

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Commissioner Crooks said the budget for operations at the Adoption Center is our responsibility; it is time for a conversation with the Sheriff about staffing and the deputies' duties.

It is a strain to have dogs at two facilities.

It was recognized that Doug McQuaid is quite an asset to the Adoption Center.

- Sheriff Lutz recognizes that, as well

The following legislation was now considered:

**RESOLUTION 21-0610** authorize the Mid-East Ohio Building Department to refund building permit fees to Halrich Inc – White Box Build Out located at 700 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Coshocton, OH 43812; Carl Gerstenslager, 2864 Premae Dr., Akron, OH 44312, in the amount of \$287.78 due to fees being paid previously with Plan Approval #16184. The request was received from Jason Baughman, Chief Building Official.

Motion made by Commissioner Porter, seconded by Commissioner Cameron.

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

**RESOLUTION 21-0611** authorize the Muskingum County Building Department/aka Mid-East Ohio Building Department to waive building fees in the amount of \$226.60 for Cass Township roof replacement on Township building.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Porter.

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

**RESOLUTION 21-0612** accept the specification, plans and authorize the advertisement of Pavement Marking for various road; MUS-PM2022-VAR-FY2022; PID #105931 as presented by Mark Eicher, Muskingum County Engineer.

Motion made by Commissioner Porter, seconded by Commissioner Cameron.

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

**RESOLUTION 21-0613** hereby accept the specification, plans and authorize the advertisement of Guardrail Improvements for various roads; MUS-VAR-GR-FY2022; PID #105928 as presented by Mark Eicher, Muskingum County Engineer.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Porter.

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

**RESOLUTION 21-0614** approve the funds transfer of monies and supplemental appropriations for the Muskingum County Juvenile Court as requested by Robert Smith, Court Administrator, as follows:

**FUND TRANSFER OF MONIES**

<u>From Fund</u>	<u>To Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
033-244-510002 Transfer Out	001-900-414002	\$61,688.77
Mental Health and Addiction Grant	General Fund	

**SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS**

<u>Description</u>	<u>Account Code</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Salary Probation	001-245-501002	\$ 6,854.33
PERS	001-245-502003	\$ 977.77
WComp	001-245-502009	\$ 101.15
Salary Clerk/Mag	001-244-501002	\$43,954.64
PERS	001-244-502003	\$ 6,332.23
WComp	001-244-502009	\$ 805.17
Insurance	001-244-502004	\$ 2,553.42

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Medicare 001-244-502001 \$ 110.06  
Motion made by Commissioner Porter, seconded by Commissioner Cameron.  
Roll Call: Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 21-0615** accepts Official Amended Certificate Number Fourteen (14) as submitted by Muskingum County Auditor, Debra J. Nye, on behalf of the Muskingum County Budget Commission dated June 18, 2021.  
Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Porter.  
Roll Call: Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 21-0616** approve the Supplemental Appropriation of Funds within Fund Number 014, for the Muskingum County Water Department, as requested by Peggy Taylor, Office Manager.

## **SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS**

<b><u>Description</u></b>	<b><u>Account Code</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>
Refunds/Reimbursements	014-373-507010	\$6,000.00

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

**RESOLUTION 21-0617** WHEREAS, the real property known as tax parcels nos. 60-70-01-02-000 (0.21 acres), 60-70-01-03-000 (0.21 acres) and 60-70-01-04-000 (0.19 acres); said property being located at 9065 Chandlersville Road, Chandlersville (Salt Creek Township), Ohio, 43727, was forfeited to the Board of County Commissioners, Muskingum County, Ohio as the result of a criminal matter (*State of Ohio vs. Dwight W. Taylor*, Case No. CR2020-0182); and

WHEREAS, the real property was originally sold at a public auction conducted by the Muskingum County Sheriff on May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the original purchaser has informed the Sheriff and the Prosecuting Attorney of the inability to obtain the necessary financing for the purchase of the property to close the sale; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners, Muskingum County, Ohio that the real property commonly known as 9065 Chandlersville Road, Chandlersville, Ohio 43727 shall be offered for sale to the highest bidder at a public auction to be conducted by the Sheriff on July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 in accordance with Ohio law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Commissioners' Clerk shall place a Notice of Sale for the real property in the July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 edition of the Times-Recorder and in the public notices on the Muskingum County Website.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Porter.

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

**RESOLUTION 21-0618** approve the line item transfer of monies within Fund Number 006 as requested by Sharon Ball, Librarian, Muskingum County Law Library, as follows:

## **LINE ITEM TRANSFER OF MONIES**

<b><u>From Line Item</u></b>	<b><u>To Line Item</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>
006-250-504132 Subscriptions	006-250-506001 Equipment	\$3,545.74

This request is being made to purchase a security (camera) system and to purchase computer monitors, update software, and other related items.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Crooks.

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

Commissioner Cameron asked about County Line Road water request from Jeff and Tom Roberts.

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- Commissioner Cameron reported that Jeff called and she asked if they had done the application process...no; must be done by owner
  - She had Peggy send Mr. Roberts an application
  - She asked Mr. Roberts if he was going to see about buying the pipe; he works for Shelly and Sands
    - Yes
    - Commissioner Cameron asked if he realized what the price would be
      - Yes
    - He will get back with the Commissioners when he finds out about the pipe
    - He mentioned again that Licking County residents were getting water from this project
      - Commissioner Porter said Tom Roberts knows exactly how many Licking County residents are getting Muskingum County water
      - Commissioner Cameron asked Julie to tell us how many
    - Tom Roberts told Commissioner Porter that there would be three taps
  - Commissioner Crooks asked if that property is current on their taxes

Commissioner Porter asked that the record show that he is in favor of taking water to Arch Hill Road that Cecil LeFever asked him about.

- Commissioner Cameron agreed – Arch Hill would serve more people
  - She was contacted by Jamie Perry who said they submitted petition for Arch Hill a year ago, but the petition was lost...they have since submitted a new petition
- Commissioner Porter said Arch Hill would be an opportunity to create a loop to Norfield
  - 25 taps

Commissioner Porter is concerned that we could miss the boat if we don't have tons of projects engineered.

- We could complete good, cheap projects if we do them during the winter when contractors are looking for work

There was discussion regarding the signing of the Jail Grant Application.

- Commissioner Porter asked if it is awarded, do we have to take the money, is there the option to return
  - Does that commit us to building a high cost jail
  - Can't imagine the County being locked in to \$70 million debt
- Commissioner Cameron thought we were considering the \$46 million
- Commissioner Crooks said typically you can return the grant money

Commissioner Porter called and left a message for Anthony Adornetto.

Commissioner Porter moved to approve the minutes of the June 17, 2021 session. Commissioner Cameron seconded.

Vote was Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye.

Motion carried.

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Commissioner Crooks said that she asked Kelly Ashby if Captain Page had been aware that he needs to get prior approval, or at least communicate with us, before he makes an expenditure.

- Kelly was not aware that Captain had ever been told that
- Do we agree or not agree that he should at least give us a heads up before he makes those expenditures

Anthony returned Commissioner Porter's call.

- Do we have the option to return if only \$100,000
  - Typically they will call and say, this is what we have to offer and you can take or leave it

When Anthony comes in today, the Clerk is to ask if he talked with Mark Eicher about being Project manager.

There was continued discussion regarding the Lorena.

- Commissioner Porter would be all for giving them an expenditure line item
  - All those funds and booking used to go through this office
  - A lot of our headaches would cease if we took it back over
- Commissioner Crooks thinks CVB is the perfect place to book
- Commissioner Porter has concerns with not knowing financial numbers
  - He thinks the Lorena needs an operational budget
  - It is not a money-maker but we should have an idea of income and expense
- Commissioner Crooks would suggest a conversation with Kelly Ashby
  - The Clerk is to schedule a meeting with Kelly for financial report

Commissioner Cameron moved to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2021 session.

Commissioner Porter seconded.

Vote was Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye.

Motion carried.

Commissioner Porter moved to approve the minutes of the June 24, 2021 session. Commissioner Cameron seconded.

Vote was Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye.

Motion carried.

The Commissioners adjourned for lunch to resume session at 1:30 p.m.

Beth Brown, President of the Muskingum Valley Garden Society came to meet with the Commissioners.

- The Society is looking for funding to replace 42 downtown planters.
  - Replacing a total of 58, but asking for funding of 42
  - They currently have four types of planters and would like for them to all be the same; concrete with rolled rims
  - Started with 30 planters and currently have 164
- Commissioner Porter asked if she had talked to the City about helping
  - They have not
  - The City has helped with the irrigation on the Y-bridge and helps with taking down the baskets in the fall

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- Commissioner Crooks asked if they hold fundraisers
  - Spring Gardening Symposium is their biggest fundraiser; first Saturday of March; did not hold this past year
  - Straker Foundation awarded them \$10,000 this year
  - They do keep a budget for emergencies
- Commissioner Cameron suggested asking the current sponsors of planters for extra to purchase new planters
- Commissioner Porter said we would ask the Mayor if the City would contribute
  - Commissioner Porter called the Mayor who said he would walk down to talk with the Commissioners

The Commissioners discussed a letter from MVESC regarding a leaking roof.

- The Commissioners were not aware of a problem with the roof

The Clerk reported that she asked Anthony about Mark Eicher being asked to be Project Manager for the jail facility.

- He did not talk with Mark, he didn't understand it to be his question to ask

**RESOLUTION 21-0620** declare an Executive Session at 1:58 p.m. for the purpose of discussing a Personnel Matter pertaining to the six month Evaluation of the Director of Muskingum County Information Services. This session ended about 2:04 p.m.

Motion made by Commissioner Porter, seconded by Commissioner Cameron.

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

Motion carried.

Robert Moore, IT Director, reported to the Board that the controller for the Courthouse lights needs hardware replaced.

- Should he replace it or fix the current one
- Commissioner Porter would like to keep going with what we have
- Robert will try to find out the name of the company where the lights were purchased

Commissioner Crooks reported that she called Theresa Hildebrand regarding the financial grant for feral cats.

- Theresa would suggest making the check to the Humane Society
- The matching grant is for spay and neuter program only

Mayor Mason came in to meet with the Commissioners, along with Beth Brown.

- Beth explained to the Mayor their desire to replace planters at a total cost of \$13,000
- Mayor Mason agreed to pay half if the County would pay half

The following was then considered:

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**RESOLUTION 21-0621** approve a financial grant for Muskingum Valley Garden Society in the amount of Six Thousand Five Hundred (\$6,500.00) from the Board of Muskingum County Commissioners from line item 001-902-507024 Intergovernmental; Outside Agencies, for the purchase of replacement planters along downtown streets.

Motion made by Commissioner Porter, seconded by Commissioner Cameron.

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

Motion carried.

The Mayor discussed with the Board possible ways to partner for the ARP money. They have cut his allocation to \$2.6 million for the City.

The Mayor said he has talked with John Huey, Falls Township Trustee about the opportunity to partner on the ARP money.

He also reported that a representative from the Governor's came last week to look at the Lear Property. He's hoping for help from the State on cleaning up that site, because it is an environmental issue.

- He also discussed
  - Dug Road
  - Putnam Area
  - Bridge on 666
  - Dresden Road water lines
  - Munson School

Commissioner Cameron asked the Mayor about his stance on Washington JEDD

- Original meeting April 01, 2021
- She feels we owe them an answer
- If the Mayor and City Council are going to be a “no” then the County should address what we are going to do
  - Is the Mayor prepared to give an answer
- Commissioner Porter is still waiting for an answer to, “Does the County and Township have the authority to change their percentages without the City”
  - Commissioner Cameron said she has asked Mark Zanghi that question and has not heard back from him
    - Mayor Mason had said that he would be willing to sign off on the County's decision

Commissioner Cameron asked the Mayor about talking about “jail talks”

- Combining the services of the County and the City
  - Holding/Booking
  - Female population
  - Mental health/rehabilitation
- Mayor is open to a meeting
  - The driving factor for him would be if you can show him the public is better off with whatever arrangement we come up with
- City's current income tax – 1.9%
  - 1% for City of Zanesville safety or service
  - .5% income tax for City of Zanesville Police
  - .2% for City Jail
  - .2% for City Fire
- Mayor would agree to meet regarding City and County jail services



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Commissioner Cameron asked about former talks about doing away with Municipal Court. The Clerk is to set up a meeting between the City, Port Authority, Sheriff and Prosecutor for a meeting to discuss jail facilities.

- Proposed Thursday, July 15 at the Welcome Center

There was brief discussion with the Mayor regarding the feral cat issue.

Further discussion regarding the Washington JEDD.

- One reason the Mayor wanted to wait until October is that he wanted to see what impact the tax refund HB157 would have

Commissioner Cameron placed a call to Debra Nye regarding the ARP money.

- She asked if Debra could come down some day to discuss

Scott Lee, Facilities Supervisor, came in to meet with the Commissioners

- He reported that there are still dogs housed in the old Dog Pound

Scott was asked about the roof on the Health Department building as a result of a letter from the Muskingum Valley Educational Service Center.

- Yes, the roof is old, but they've always repaired leaks
- The downside is that the roof is a roof that has rocks on the top, which can cause issues in finding the leak, but they've always found and repaired
- Has John Estep reported the issue several times?
  - Scott said that John thinks everything should be new
  - He's been hounding about the parking lot
- So does it need a new roof?
  - Not in Scott's opinion
- Scott will talk with Lori Snyder-Lowe from the ESC, who wrote the letter

Scott was also asked about an issue with the Prosecutor's office's air flow

- No one has called him
- He will find out what is going on

Scott reported that he has a quote for a siren/flasher for the Adoption Center front door

- Brown Security \$1,271
- Scott will share this information with the Sheriff

Commissioner Crooks placed a call to Lori Snyder-Lowe at the ESC in response to her letter about the roof.

- She was not available
- Commissioner Crooks will send her an email

It was decided to take lunch from 12:30 – 2:00 Thursday in order for the Commissioners to attend the Ice Cream Social at the Center for Seniors.

There was discussion regarding where to pay the \$6,500 for the planters to the Garden Society.

- 001-902-507024 – Intergovernmental; Outside Agencies

There were questions about the invoice for the repairs to the Fairgrounds Coliseum.

- The invoice was \$1,000 more than the original estimate

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Commissioner Porter explained that he did not tell John Graham that he would waive the fees for the building of a new scale house, but that he would have to submit a letter asking for such.

- Commissioner Porter's first concern was that John was going to go forward with the new construction of the scale building without involving the Building Department
  - In respect to the fees, "rules are rules"

A call was placed to John Graham regarding the discrepancy.

- The invoice will be scanned and sent to John
- He will contact the contractor

Commissioner Porter reported that Tom Roberts called him at lunchtime and said there would be two taps for sure.

- Asked if there were plans to take water further

With no further business being before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:29 p.m. on the motion of Commissioner Porter and the second of Commissioner Cameron.



Mollie S. Crooks

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James W. Porter



Cindy S. Cameron

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