

Minutes for Thursday, August 28, 2025

Commissioners Present: Bell, Prouty, Cameron

Staff Present: Susan Reese

RES 25-0847 Meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. on the motion of Commissioner Bell and the second of Commissioner Cameron.

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

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

Seconded by Commissioner Cameron.

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

Commissioner Bell gave a brief report on the CCAO Conference she attended earlier this week.

The following legislation was now considered:

RESOLUTION 25-0848 approve the line item transfer of monies within Fund Number 001 as requested by Rachael Dille, Finance Manager, Common Pleas Juvenile Division, as follows:

LINE ITEM TRANSFER OF MONIES

<u>From Line Item</u>	<u>To Line Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
001-246-504366 (Nursing Contract)	001-246-507003 (Utilities)	\$3,000.00

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

RESOLUTION 25-0849 agree to sign pay application GMP 008 for the New Jail Project in the amount of \$2,146,050.38.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

RESOLUTION 25-0850 approve the line item transfer of monies within Fund Number 007 as requested by Tom Smith, Fiscal Supervisor, Muskingum County Job & Family Services as follows:

LINE ITEM TRANSFER OF MONIES

<u>From Line Item</u>	<u>To Line Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
007-692-504172 (PA PCSA)	007-692-503001 (PA SUPPLIES)	\$7,000.00
007-692-504172 (PA PSCA)	007-692-504400 (PA TANF)	\$250,000.00

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

RESOLUTION 25-0851 approve the line item transfer of monies within Fund Number 009 as requested by Mark Eicher, Engineer, as follows:

LINE ITEM TRANSFER OF MONIES

<u>From Line Item</u>	<u>To Line Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
009-368-501002 (Employee Salaries)	009-368-502006 (Unemployment)	\$2,300.00
009-368-501002 (Employee Salaries)	009-368-503001 (Supplies & Other Expenses)	\$8,500.00
009-368-501002 (Employee Salaries)	009-368-503008 (Materials-Bridges)	\$75,000.00
009-368-501002 (Employee Salaries)	009-368-503009 (Materials-Roads)	\$50,000.00
009-368-501002 (Employee Salaries)	009-368-503015 (Parts/Supplies)	\$20,000.00
009-368-501002 (Employee Salaries)	009-368-504001 (Contact Services)	\$20,000.00
009-368-501002 (Employee Salaries)	009-368-504014 (Equip Contract Repairs)	\$25,000.00

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009-368-501002 (Employee Salaries) 009-368-506001 (Equipment & Maintenance) \$25,000.00
 These funds will be utilized for bridge & road materials, as well as fleet repairs & maintenance.
 Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.
 Roll Call: Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 25-0852 approve the Supplemental Appropriation of Funds within Fund Number 009, for the Muskingum County Engineer's Office, as requested by Mark Eicher, Engineer.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

<u>Description</u>	<u>Account Code</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Equipment & Maintenance	009-368-506001	\$303,000.00

These funds will be utilized for the purchase of an Asphalt Distributor for chip-seal operations.
 Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.
 Roll Call: Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 25-0853 approve the fund to fund transfer of monies for the Muskingum County Commissioners as requested by Kacey Stackhouse, Deputy Clerk, as follows:

FUND TRANSFER OF MONIES

<u>From Fund</u>	<u>To Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
001-999-510002 (Transfer Out)	009-000-414002 (Transfer In)	\$303,000.00

For the purchase of Engineer's equipment
 Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.
 Roll Call: Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 25-0854 approve the Supplemental Appropriation of Funds within Fund Number 001, for the Muskingum County Commissioners, as requested by Kacey Stackhouse, Deputy Clerk.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

<u>Description</u>	<u>Account Code</u>	<u>Amount</u>
PA Mandated Transfer Out	001-999-510004	\$1,455.50

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

RESOLUTION 25-0855 approve the line item transfer of monies within Fund Number 001 as requested by Rachael Dille, Finance Manager, Muskingum County Juvenile Division, as follows:

LINE ITEM TRANSFER OF MONIES

<u>From Line Item</u>	<u>To Line Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
001-244-504171 (Child Support)	001-244-504039 (Cont. Serv-Subscriptions)	\$1,200.00

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

RESOLUTION 25-0856 approve the Supplemental Appropriation of Funds within Fund Number 001, for the Muskingum County Commissioners, as requested by Kacey Stackhouse, Deputy Clerk.

This request will correct 2024 Water & Sewer auction proceeds that were accidentally posted to the General Fund (County Commissioners)

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

<u>Description</u>	<u>Account Code</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Contract Services (Water Auction Proc)	001-114-504001	\$17,945
Contract Services (Sewer Auction Proc)	001-114-504001	\$ 2,037

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Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 25-0857 approve the Line Item Transfer of Funds within Fund Number 001, for the Muskingum County Commissioners, as requested by Kacey Stackhouse, Deputy Clerk.

The following request is for the Sophos & Managed Detection & response 3 year subscription.

LINE ITEM TRANSFER

<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
001-111-506001- Equip & Maintenance	001-111-504017 Licenses & Support	\$75,000.00

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

Motion carried.

Commissioner Bell reported that Sam Starrett called again regarding water for Poverty Ridge Road. She told Don Madden of the call.

Jason Baughman, Chief Building Inspector, met with the Commissioners to discuss staffing needs for the Building Department. Jason explained that because of increased project inspections the Department will need an additional Plans Examiner. Cost will be approximately \$6,000 per month plus another vehicle.

Jeff Jadwin, EMA Director, made the Commissioners aware of an ODOT Meeting to discuss the implementation of Phase III of the I70 construction. The meeting will be at the ODOT facility on Adamsville Road, Wednesday, September 3; 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

There is an unanswered question of how the Commissioners acquired the land on SR555 beside Prophets Park. Andy Roberts, GIS Director, is researching.

The Mayor sent an email asking to be on the agenda to discuss the North 4th Street project.

Kade Haddox, County Administrator and Eric Reed, Port Authority Director met with the Commissioners and requested the following:

RESOLUTION 25-0858 declare an Executive Session at 9:05 a.m. for the purpose of discussing Confidential Business Information of an Applicant for Economic Development and Personnel Matters of the Muskingum County Commissioners. This session ended about 10:00 a.m.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

Motion carried.

10:00 a.m. The Commissioners participated in the One Ohio Region 12 virtual meeting.

There was continued discussion regarding the County Depository Agreement.

Shannon Bell, Executive Director of the Rambo Memorial Health Clinic met with the Commissioners to discuss a request from the MVESC. The ESC is in need of an RN to work with their Adult Program and have asked Shannon if she would fill that position. It would be

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7:00 – 8:00 a.m. one day a month. If the schedule would require additional hours during Rambo hours, Shannon would schedule vacation or personal time to accommodate.
All agreed.

RESOLUTION 25-0859 moved to go into Executive Session at 11:42 a.m. to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official of Muskingum County. This session ended approximately 11:55 a.m.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

Motion carried.

The Commissioners adjourned for lunch to resume session at 1:00 p.m.

Andy Roberts, GIS Director; Steve Zemba and Rex Everhardt met with the Commissioners to discuss and consider the following:

RESOLUTION 25-0860 WHEREAS, a right-of-way easement for Ridge Road (CR-34) exists in Hopewell Township, Muskingum County, Ohio; and

WHEREAS, The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, are the record owners of title to the premises located at 7600 Ridge Road, Zanesville, Ohio 43701 (Tax Parcel No. 25-75-01-34-000; Deed Volume 3275; Page 781); and

WHEREAS, a building exists on the premises located at 7600 Ridge Road that encroaches into the right-of-way for Ridge Road (CR-34) (shown on the attached McPeck Survey dated 8/20/2018); and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Board of County Commissioners of Muskingum County, Ohio does hereby authorize granting an encroachment easement to the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, for the purpose of allowing the existing building to be located within the right-of-way for Ridge Road (CR-34) in Hopewell Township; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Melissa Bell, President of this Board of County Commissioners, Muskingum County, Ohio is authorized to sign any and all documents which may be required to convey the easement.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

Motion carried.

There was discussion regarding the Challenge Coins presented by Ron and Mary Ann Bucci. It was decided that each Commissioner would purchase their own.

Commissioner Bell reported that Leah Vensil asked if any of the County departments ever employed interns or volunteers...not typically.

Commissioner Cameron gave a report on the Muskingum Family and Children First meeting she attended this week.

Ron Welch, County Prosecutor, talked with the Commissioners about the 44 North 4th Street building to renovate for the Tax Division of the Prosecutor's Office.

Ron is also currently working on the One Ohio Funds proposal.

They also discussed the Flock cameras at the jail site. The trailer for the cameras is \$30,000 annually and that includes updating and maintenance. If contracted by August 29 the installation fees will be waived. The Commissioners approved the purchase of the cameras and the trailer.

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The Sheriff, the City of Zanesville and the Commissioners will pay one-third of the cost each for the cameras.

Todd Hixson, Treasurer; Stephanie Spencer, Chief Administrator; Kade Haddox, County Administrator and Tina Huebner (via phone) joined at the Commissioners' request to discuss the County Depository. The following was presented for consideration:

RESOLUTION 25-0861 WHEREAS, in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Chapter 135, the process for selecting the county's public depository begins with estimates of available fund balances, proposals from local banking institutions, and a recommendation from the Muskingum County Treasurer. The process concludes with a decision and a resolution adopted by the Board of County Commissioners.

WHEREAS, after significant discussion, research, and careful evaluation of the options presented,

BE IT RESOLVED, that this Board of Commissioners has made the decision to designate Park National Bank as the official depository for Muskingum County effective September 3, 2025 through September 2, 2029. This was not an easy decision. The process was complex and required balancing many factors, but ultimately, the Commissioners must do what is right for the long-term financial stability of the County.

WHEREAS, the determining factor was clear: the investment income potential offered by Park National Bank far outweighs the other values provided by competing institutions. While this transition will not be without challenges, we recognize and sincerely appreciate the intense work and preparation required to implement it successfully.

ALSO, BE IT RESOLVED, that The Community Bank be designated as the secondary depository to enable the County to make a smooth transition should Park National Bank not be able to provide the necessary services

LET IT BE KNOWN, that we, the Commissioners of Muskingum County, Ohio, do appreciate the work that the Treasurer's office, Auditor's office and others have contributed to this process, and we reaffirm our responsibility to ensure that County resources are managed prudently, transparently and in the best interest of Muskingum County taxpayers.

Motion made by Commissioner Prouty, seconded by Commissioner Bell.

Roll call: Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, abstain upon legal advice,
due to husband serving on Park National Board

Motion carried.

Commissioner Cameron noted that even though she was advised by legal counsel to abstain from voting, because of her husband serving on the Park National Bank Advisory Board, she supports the decision.

Todd then shared with the Commissioners that in anticipation of this decision, he has had preliminary discussions with Jen Snode at The Community Bank and they may be interested in still accepting tax payments at their bank branches with the County maintaining a balance of \$15,000,000 at Community with an interest rate of 3.75%.

Commissioner Prouty expressed his disappointment in Treasurer Hixson not sharing this information with the Board before today.

The Commissioners called Park National Bank and The Community Bank to let them know the Commissioners' decision on the County Depository.

Each bank was asked to copy the Commissioners on any and all communications with the Treasurer and Auditor regarding this decision and the process to follow.

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Chris Crook, Redevelopment Specialist, updated the Commissioners on the Auburn Avenue property. The Commissioners can and must retain a clear title for the car on the forfeited property so they can remove the car.

Kade Haddox, County Administrator, updated the Commissioners on the following:

- Estimates for power washing
 - Sewer Department could also help by using their power washer
 - The Commissioners approved Kade to accept the lowest bid and move forward
- Commissioner Prouty reported on the JFS fire alarm testing
- Kade, Don and Stan will be meeting again Tuesday to continue Water and Sewer Pay Chart and Rates

Commissioner Prouty reported that there has been an ongoing issue with the bailer at Recycling. Commissioner Prouty talked with Mike Reiter at SEO Joint Solid Waste and the bailer has been tuned- in and working properly now.

Commissioner Cameron moved to approve the minutes of the August 25, 2025 session.

Commissioner Prouty seconded.

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

Motion carried.

With no further business being before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:46 p.m. on the motion of Commissioner Bell and the second of Commissioner Cameron.



Melissa J. Bell



Drake L. Prouty



Cindy S. Cameron