

Minutes for Thursday, September 17, 2026

Commissioners Present: Bell, Prouty, Cameron
Staff Present: Kacey Stackhouse

RES 26-0827 Meeting was called to order at 8:32 a.m. on the motion of Commissioner Bell and the second of Commissioner Prouty.

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

Motion carried.

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

Seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

Motion carried.

Kade Haddox came in to give updates on invoices & change orders for parking lot renovations.

Lucretia Frame came in to discuss with the Commissioners a quote for a new software program for the Records Department. The new software would cost \$36,305.00. The software is needed to keep inventory on what goes into the Records Office and what goes out. The Commissioners approved the quote with DHS Worldwide Software Solutions.

RES 26-0828 accept and sign quote from DHS Worldwide Software Solutions as requested by Lucretia Frame, Records Manager. Quote total: \$36,305.00.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

Motion carried.

Chad Hutchins from the Water Department came in to discuss quotes for replacing the high service pump at the treatment center. Commissioner Prouty asked whether the current pump can be utilized as a backup if needed, and Chad confirmed that it could be used. The Commissioners approved the quote for Nichols Electric Motor Repair for the purchase of a new pump. Chad also discussed the need to replace the electronics solenoids at Cannelville pump station, due to a ongoing issue resulting in approximately 10-15 gallons of water being lost per day. The Commissioners approved the quote from PumpMan to address and repair the issue.

Chris Crook came in to give updates on blighted properties.

The following legislation was now considered:

RES 26-0829 approve the line item transfer of monies within Fund Number 191 as requested by Kyle Dunn, Community Development Director, as follows:

LINE ITEM TRANSFER OF MONIES

<u>From Line Item</u>	<u>To Line Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
191-375-504341	191-375-504300	\$1000.00
Home Repair	Admin	

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

Motion carried.

RES 26-0830 Whereas the property owners located at the addresses attached, are delinquent with their sanitary sewer bill owed to Muskingum County Utilities, and have neglected to pay said bills. Now, therefore be it resolved by the Board of Muskingum County Commissioners that:

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Section One: The proper official is hereby authorized pursuant to ORC 6103.02 to certify \$154,021.91 to the Muskingum County Auditor to the property taxes of the attached list.

Section Two: The assessed amount as stated in Section One above, is for the tax year 2026 payable in 2027, a period of one year.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

RES 26-0831 Whereas the property owners located at the addresses attached, are delinquent with their water bill owed to Muskingum County Utilities, and have neglected to pay said bills.

Now, therefore be it resolved by the Board of Muskingum County Commissioners that:

Section One: The proper official is hereby authorized pursuant to ORC 6103.02 to certify \$26,589.56 to the Muskingum County Auditor to the property taxes of the attached list.

Section Two: The assessed amount as stated in Section One above, is for the tax year 2026 payable in 2027, a period of one year.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

RES 26-0832 approve the Supplemental Appropriation of Funds within Fund Number 013, for the Muskingum County Sewer Department, as requested by Peggy Taylor, Office Manager.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

<u>Description</u>	<u>Account Code</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Old Southern Rebuild	013-372-506027	\$85,000.00

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

RES 26-0833 authorize Melissa J. Bell to sign Pay App #01 and the OWDA reimbursement form for the Licking View Sanitary Sewer Project . This Pay App is for the Shelly Company for \$86,542.64.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

RES 26-0834 authorize Melissa J. Bell to sign Change Order Number 1 for Shelly Company for the Licking View Sanitary Sewer Project. Change Order Number 1 is a Balancing Change Order that would be a \$563.23 increase for the Licking View Sanitary Sewer project to complete the asphalt work performed by Shelly Company.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

RES 26-0835 authorize Melissa J. Bell to sign Pay App #02 for the Licking View Sanitary Sewer Project . This Pay App is for the Shelly Company for \$533,277.14.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

RES 26-0836 approve the Supplemental Appropriation of Funds within Fund Number 022, for the Muskingum County Court of Common Pleas Juvenile Division, as requested by Rachael Dille, Finance Officer.

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SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

<u>Description</u>	<u>Account Code</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Contract Services	022-244-504001	\$300.00

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

RES 26-0837 authorize Melissa J. Bell to sign on behalf of the Board of Muskingum County Commissioners the Water Pollution Control Loan Fund showing that the HSTS 2024 Project is now closed, as requested by Kyle Dunn, Director.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

RES 26-0838 approve the Supplemental Appropriation of Funds within Fund Number 251, for the Muskingum County Water Department, as requested by Peggy Taylor, Office Manager.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

<u>Description</u>	<u>Account Code</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Engineering	251-373-504013	\$310,000.00

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

RES 26-0839 approve the Supplemental Appropriation of Funds within Fund Number 197, for the Muskingum County Court of Common Pleas Department of Probation, as requested by Melanie Richert, Chief Probation Officer.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

<u>Description</u>	<u>Account Code</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Supplies & Other Expenses	197-440-503001	6,000.00

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

RES 26-0840 approve the Shelly & Sands Proposal for the emergency work for the slip repair on Old River Rd in Brush Creek Township. Per Resolution 26-0792 & 26-0791. In the amount of \$ 216,000.00 being paid from line item #001-114-506028 Brush Creek will be reimbursing the County the full amount.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

RES 26-0841 hereby acknowledge that State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds investment earnings are not subject to program restrictions as shown in section 10.1 of the "Frequently Asked Questions" guidance published by the U.S. Department of the Treasury and hereto attached. The Board approves the accumulated interest earnings in fund 088 in the amount of \$222,019.61 to be transferred/paid to fund 001(detail attached).The Board also approves all future investments earning related to fund 088 to be deposited into fund 001.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

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RES 26-0842 approve the Supplemental Appropriation of Funds within fund number 048, for the Muskingum County Commissioners, as requested by Kade Haddox, County Administrator.

Supplemental Appropriations:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
048-102-504365	Jail Construction	\$800,000.00

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

RES 26-0843 approve the Supplemental Appropriation of Funds within fund number 001, for the Muskingum County Commissioners, as requested by Kade Haddox, County Administrator.

Supplemental Appropriations:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
001-114-506045	Parking Lot Improvements	\$41,500.00

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

RES 26-0844 approve the Supplemental Appropriation of Funds within Fund Number 001, for the Muskingum County Commissioners, as requested by Kacey Stackhouse, Clerk.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

<u>Description</u>	<u>Account Code</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Shelly & Sands (Brush Creek Twp) Old River Rd	001-114-506028	\$216,000.00

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

RES 26-0845 **WHEREAS** *Muskingum County* was impacted beginning August 10, 2026 and several times since by severe storms rainfall and winds; and

WHEREAS *Muskingum County* has declared a state of emergency and provided such information to the State of Ohio, participated actively in damage assessment activities and supported a request by the Governor of the State of Ohio to President Donald J Trump for a declaration of this emergency.

WHEREAS that request is still pending, several families are still without a safe and suitable homes, and resources are scarce.

WHEREAS *Muskingum County* supported the request to the State Controlling Board, documented by the formal request brought forward by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services at the request of Senator Tim Schaffer.

THIS request includes the following information:

FY 2027 HB 96 JFS0105176 Approved 9/14/2026

The request summary is to transfer from CEB 5KM0-CB Emergency Purposes ALI 911614 Controlling Board Emergency Purposes /Contingencies to JFS 5DM0-Audit Settlements and Contingency Fund 600633 – Audit Settlements and Contingency Funds the amount of \$500,000.00.

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The Explanation indicates the Department of Job and Family Services respectfully requests Controlling Board approval to transfer appropriation and cash in the amount of \$500,000 for FY27 from fund 5KM0, ALI 911614 (Controlling Board Emergency Purposes/Contingencies) to Fund 5DM0, ALI 600633 (Audit Settlements and Contingency) to assist individuals in Franklin, Morgan, Muskingum, and Perry counties who were affected by severe storms in August 2026. Beginning on August 10 and continuing through August 23, multiple rounds of heavy rainfall and severe storms caused flash flooding and a number of confirmed tornadoes. There was widespread damage to homes, vehicles, and businesses. Currently, county Job and Family Services offices can provide a limited amount of cash support, funded by TANF, to affected families with children under 200% poverty or to affected people without children under 200% poverty if they are over age 55 or disabled.

Using the same intake process at the county JFS offices, these additional dollars would provide similar support to families at up to 300% of federal poverty levels, including individuals without children who are under age 55 without a disability.

THEREFORE NOW BE IT RESOLVED, the Muskingum County Board of Commissioners requests the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services to release the \$125,000.00 allocated to Muskingum County for disbursement to those eligible under the afore mentioned qualifications. The Muskingum County JFS is authorized to complete any and all paperwork to draw and obligate those funds immediately, including issuance of an invoice to the State of Ohio as necessary. The Muskingum County JFS has continued to collect applications throughout this period and is prepared to fulfill those requests quickly with these funds.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

RES 26-0846 moved to go into Executive Session at 10:42 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 11:12 a.m.

Motion made by Commissioner Bell, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

The Commissioners left at 11:15 am to attend Capable Creations, a food truck operated by students in the Muskingum Valley Educational Service Center (MVESC) Adult Success Program.

The Commissioners returned around 12:25pm to resume session.

The Commissioners, Mayor Mason, Kade Haddox, Eric Reed, Scott Brown, Times Recorder & Whiz were present for a press release regarding the project of a traffic light at the intersection of Military & Northpointe. The project will cost roughly \$371,000 and will be funded by the County & the City. A roundabout was not an option as it was costly and would take more time for construction. The light will be installed sometime in March or April of 2027. The Commissioners also mentioned there is a turning lane project for 146 in the works. The Commissioners are waiting on ODOT to get an estimated cost together as well as the design.

The Commissioners attended a Multi County Hospital Tax District Meeting in the Commissioners session room to approve the 2026 & 2027 budget.

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Chase Bennett, Perry County Commissioner, stayed after the meeting to go discuss some concerns with the Commissioners regarding the recent flooding & the Red Cross Shelter at Coburn United Methodist Church.

Stan Lucas came in to go over some easement issues at the Old Southern lift Station.

Chris Crook came in to share with the Commissioners a property on Pinecrest that was poorly maintained by Property Manage Company. Pictures were shared with Park National Bank, who hired Property Management Company, so they were aware.

Commissioner Prouty moved to approve the minutes of September 10, 2026, session.

Commissioner Cameron seconded.

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

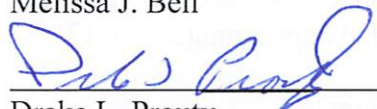
Motion carried.

Commissioner Prouty reported he attended the Harrison Township meeting Tuesday Night with Jason Mock from the Engineers Office. They answered some questions regarding the roads. Commissioner Prouty went over how the Commissioners and Engineers Office have helped with the offset of costs within the townships with road repairs.

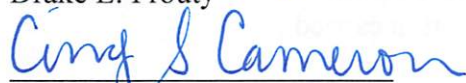
With no further business being before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:15 p.m. on the motion of Commissioner Cameron and the second of Commissioner Prouty.



Melissa J. Bell



Drake L. Prouty



Cindy S. Cameron