

Minutes for Thursday, September 28, 2026

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

RES 26-0876 Meeting was called to order at 8:00 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:

RES 26-0877 accept and sign Contract No. 09-26-943 with DHS Associates, Inc for Non-Exclusive Software License Agreement, as requested by Lucretia Frame, Records Manager.
Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.
Roll Call: Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

RES 26-0878 approve the hiring of Jake Marshall as Part Time Custodial Support at the Muskingum County Center for Seniors. The offer will be contingent upon successfully completing pre-employment screenings.
Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.
Roll Call: Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

RES 26-0879 approve the fund to fund transfer of monies for the Muskingum County K9 Adoption Center as requested by Matt Lutz, Dog Warden, as follows:

FUND TRANSFER OF MONIES

<u>From Fund</u>	<u>To Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
001-999-510002	002-000-414002	\$200,000.00
General Fund	Dog & Kennel Fund	

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

RES 26-0880 hereby 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 FUND #251-Powelson Area Waterline

<u>Description</u>	<u>Account Code</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Contract Services	251-373-504001	\$50,000.00

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

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

Commissioner Prouty moved to approve the minutes of September 17th & 21st, 2026, session.
Commissioner Cameron seconded.
Vote was Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

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The County's Apiary Inspector is unable to be reached, and the Clerk notified the Ohio Department of Agriculture and was informed there was over 20 Counties unable to obtain an Apiary Inspector. The Clerk was told it is not a requirement to have one but suggested to try and appoint one for year 2027.

Chris Crook came in to give updates on blight properties & provide the Commissioners with an updated spreadsheet with property updates.

The Commissioners wanted to give a post audit summary:

The Auditor or States Office has issued an unmodified opinion on the year ended December 31, 2025, notes and financial statements (also known as the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report – ACFR) issued on June 25, 2026.

An unmodified opinion represents a clean audit report stating that the County's financial statements follow accounting rules and are presented fairly. In addition, the County audit confirmed there were no material weaknesses or significant deficiencies at the financial statement level and within the testing of the County's federal programs.

RES 26-0881 authorize Wage Adjustment for the following Maintenance employee: Theo Bugglin (Personnel action is attached)

Motion made by Commissioner Bell, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

RES 26-0882 authorize Wage Adjustment for the following Maintenance employee: Logan Hopkins (Personnel action is attached). This adjustment is to be effective October 10, 2026.

Motion made by Commissioner Bell, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

RES 26-0883 authorize Wage Adjustment for the following Maintenance employee: Rodney Abrams (Personnel action is attached). This adjustment is to be effective September 26, 2026.

Motion made by Commissioner Bell, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

RES 26-0884 hereby approve the Supplemental Appropriation of Funds within Fund Number 001 & Fund to Fund Transfer, for the Muskingum County Commissioners, as requested by the Muskingum County Commissioners. These funds are necessary for the Engineer's Office to order aggregate at this year's price for year 2027 use.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

<u>Description</u>	<u>Account Code</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Transfers Out	001-999-510002	\$400,000.00

FUND TRANSFER OF MONIES

<u>FROM FUND</u>	<u>TO FUND</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
001-999-510002	009-000-414002	\$400,000.00
Transfer Out	Transfer In	

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Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.

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

Motion carried.

Mark Eicher, Matt Russell, and Gary Williams came in to discuss some updates with the Commissioners.

- Retaining wall at the old Engineers Office
- Old equipment that needs to be sold at auction at the old Engineer's Office
- Clay Township, Ryder Rd, the slip is getting worse, the Township has no funding
- Monroe Township, Castor Road, update that the Engineer's office and Commissioners have received the resolution to regrade Castor Rd
- Dillon Falls Bridge, getting quotes to repair, the commissioners have notified the Engineer's office they agree to pay for it & have received many complaints.
- Pleasant Valley Bridge debris cleanout, estimated cost of \$26,000
- Gary Williams has completed the engineer work for 28 water/sewer projects, providing the County significant savings on Engineering expenses.
- Mark will be posting a mechanic and office position soon
- There was also discussion regarding the proposed gas tax relief
- Update on Ellis Dam Rd, in Muskingum Township
- Commissioners asked for an update on getting Township assistance on County Roads for mowing, Commissioners again offered to provide funding to complete mowing where needed.

Commissioners thanked Mark Eicher and the Engineers office staff again for all their help during the flooding with the road cleanup & trash/debris pickup.

Commissioners called Erin Webb regarding the interest in the open board appointment for Muskingum County Adult & Child Protective Services Board. She accepted the board appointment.

RES 26-0885 hereby appoints Erin Webb to the Adult & Child Protective Services Board to replace Ronda Hollingshead with a term to commence January 01, 2027, and end on December 31, 2030.

The Commissioners received a email to call a resident on Black Run Rd regarding their property. The Commissioners called the residents and spoke to them about their concerns. Chris Crook, Blight Specialist, Lane Dailey, Assistant Prosecutor and Kade Haddox, County Administrator were present for the phone call.

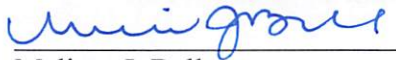
Stan Lucas came in to give the Commissioners a quick update regarding the sewer easement on Dona Drive.

The Commissioners had discussion about Environmental Protection Agency Grants available to apply for.

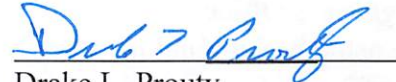
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There was brief discussion regarding the need for remodel at MCJFS.

With no further business being before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:29 p.m. on the motion of Commissioner Bell and the second of Commissioner Cameron.



Melissa J. Bell



Drake L. Prouty



Cindy S. Cameron