

Minutes for Thursday, December 18, 2025

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

Motion carried.

Commissioner Bell reported that WHIZ will be in Monday to film the Commissioners reading part of the "Night Before Christmas" for a WHIZ presentation.

Margie Ramsey, Granger Construction Regional Director of Ohio, met with the Commissioners to discuss staff changes within Granger. Brian Addis, Owner's Representative and Kade Haddox, County Administrator were also present.

Margie will send the resume of Max Hassak and set up a meeting for the Commissioners to meet Max, as the potential new Project Manager for the jail project.

Brian Addis, Architect, gave an update on the Center for Seniors retaining wall replacement. He will continue to meet with Kate Paul, Center for Seniors Director, with updates.

The Commissioners discussed a request from the Park District and considered the following:

RESOLUTION 25-1253 approve a financial grant in support of general operations in an annual payment of Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000) for Budget Year 2026 from the Board of Muskingum County Commissioners from line item 001-902-507024.

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

Motion carried.

Commissioner Prouty reported that he visited the Animal Shelter last week and was surprised by their medical/surgical facilities and the overall cleanliness of this facility.

Commissioner Cameron responded by saying that previous Commissioners have tried numerous times to create a working relationship with the Animal Shelter, with no success.

Kade Haddox, County Administrator, came to present final numbers for the 2026 General Fund Budget. After some discussion, the following was considered:

RESOLUTION 25-1254 approve the permanent appropriations for County General Fund 001, submitted December 18, 2025 for Muskingum County for the calendar year 2026.

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

Motion carried.

It was noted that the 2026 General Fund budget is under the 2025 adjusted budget.

A call was placed to Mark Eicher, Engineer, to discuss the Licking View paving project. Everything that had asphalt before the sanitary sewer project, will be resurfaced. Falls Township committed \$150,000 of their ARPA dollars to this project, along with the County securing funding through Federal grant dollars through WPCLF.

The Commissioners responded to Dr. Gandolf regarding a request for support in her high-volume spay and neuter clinic;

"The Commissioners are pleased to provide \$20,000 in support for your high-volume spay and neuter clinic. We are currently working on the details of the MOU that will detail the number of hours committed to the Muskingum County Adoption Center. We will be back in touch soon."

Eric Reed, Port Authority Director, met with the Commissioners to discuss the Eastpointe rail spur.

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Commissioners Present: Bell, Prouty, Cameron
Staff Present: Susan Reese

RES 25-1248 Meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. on the motion of Commissioner Prouty and the second of Commissioner Bell.
Vote was Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

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

The following legislation was now considered:

RESOLUTION 25-1249 agree to sign change order “PCO -034 – Under Slab Plumbing” for the New Jail Project in the amount of \$3,871.82 (detail attached). This change order is classified as “Means and Methods” and therefore funded from Construction Manager’s Contingency.
Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Prouty.
Roll Call: Bell, aye; Prouty, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 25-1250 approve the Supplemental Appropriation of Funds within Fund Number 048, for the Muskingum County Commissioners, as requested by Kade Haddox, County Administrator.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

<u>Description</u>	<u>Account Code</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Architect Services-Jail	048-102-504044	\$39,000.00
Jail Construction	048-102-504365	\$580,982.18

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

Kade Haddox, County Administrator, met with the Commissioners to discuss 2026 Budget. The following was then considered:

RESOLUTION 25-1251 BE IT RESOLVED, that this Board of County Commissioners of Muskingum County, Ohio hereby grants a 3% wage rate increase for non-bargaining unit employees under the jurisdiction of the Board of Muskingum County Commissioners to be effective December 28, 2025;

WITH THE EXCEPTION of those New-Hire employees who are in their 180 day probationary period;

RESOLVED, that this Board of County Commissioners of Muskingum County, Ohio hereby approve for other General Fund departments, if the elected officials so choose, to grant the increase to their employees if reflected in their 2026 budgets.

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

RESOLUTION 25-1252 authorize and approve Market Adjustments for the following, to be effective December 28, 2025:

Mackenzie Hill	Increase \$4.00 per hour
Pam Davis	Increase \$4.00 per hour
Kade Haddox	Increase \$4.00 per hour
Kyle Dunn	Increase \$3.00 per hour
Susan Reese	Increase \$2.00 per hour

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Commissioner Prouty reported on the AEP towers to be moved. AEP still needs to obtain an easement for the project on the property adjacent to the Hixson Building on Fifth Street.

Eric Reed reported that the Workforce Advisory Council will now be the Workforce Advisory BOARD, moving forward.

Prosecutor Ron Welch met with the Commissioner to discuss staffing in the Prosecutor's Office. He also updated the Commissioners on Heroes Landing/Brave Beginnings.

Commissioner Bell reported that Muskingum County CHIP has been awarded \$750,000 FY2025. Kyle Dunn, Director, will be working on projects to submit.

Robert Moore, Information Services Director, presented the following for consideration:

RESOLUTION 25-1255 accept and sign Contracts with Information Services, effective January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026 for the following entities:

Center for Seniors
Muskingum Valley Park District
Zanesville-Muskingum County Health Department

Motion made by Commissioner Prouty, seconded by Commissioner Cameron.

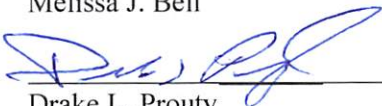
Roll Call: Bell, aye; Cameron, aye; Prouty, aye.

Motion carried.

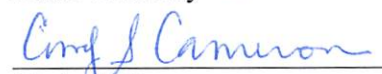
Chris Crook, Redevelopment Specialist, met with the Commissioners to update them on blighted properties.

With no further business being before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:25 p.m. on the motion of Commissioner Bell and the second of Commissioner Cameron.

Melissa J. Bell



Drake L. Prouty



Cindy S. Cameron