

JANUARY 5– MEETING 1
VOLUME 29

The Ross County Board of Commissioners met on this day, January 5, 2026, in regular session.

Commissioner Jack Everson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., with Commissioner James Lowe and David Glass in attendance.

Commissioner Everson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES APPROVED

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Glass seconded, the minutes of the December 29, 2025 meeting, be approved as submitted. On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

BILLS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT

Mr. Glass moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, the following bills of the county be approved for payment:

DEPARTMENT	PAY TO NAME	TOTAL VALUE
Veterans Service Commission	McGee, Matt	123.76
Veterans Service Commission	Finley , John	89.38
Veterans Service Commission	Sewards, Randy A.	309.36
Veterans Service Commission	Holdren, Greg	82.5
Veterans Service Commission	Robert Davis	446.88
Sheriff	American Electric Power	205.34
Sheriff	American Electric Power	39.22
Dog Warden	Ross County Humane Society	503
Auditor	Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc.	351.13
Auditor	Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc.	2650.8
Auditor	American Electric Power	2130.73
Auditor	Amazon Capital Services	15.02
Auditor	Glacier Mountain Bottled Water	22.25
Auditor	Litter Quality Propane Gas	559.5
Adult Probation	Frizzell, Robert	2704
		\$10,232.87

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Mr. Glass moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to transfer \$40,000.00 fromaccount code 100-00-00-0010 General Fund, into account code 230-19-00-5901 Indigent Defense, per a request of January 5, 2026 from the Ross County Auditor.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Glass seconded, to transfer \$46,850.00 from account code 100-00-00-0010 General into account code 203-02-00-5901 Dog & Kennel, and \$3,510,731.67 from account code 100-00-00-0010 General into account code 212-29-00-5901 Correctional & LE, per a request of January 5, 2026 from the Ross County Auditor.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Glass moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to transfer \$29,473.25 account code 100-00-00-0010 General Fund, into account code 420-99-39-5901 VOCA/SVAA, per a request of January 5, 2026 from the Ross County Auditor.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Glass seconded, to transfer \$88,000.00 from account code 100-00-00-0010 General into account code 215-15-00-4800 Emergency Management, and \$240,000.00 from account code 100-00-00-0010 General into account code 093-41-01-4800 Soil & Water, per a request of January 5, 2026 from the Ross County Auditor.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

Mr. Glass moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to appropriate \$12,755,000.00 from Group Insurance into account code 690-00-00-7013 Group Insurance, \$430,000.00 from Workers Comp. into account code 690-00-01-7014 Workers Comp Premium, per a request of January 5, 2026 from the Ross County Auditor.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Glass seconded, to appropriate \$8,632,517.26 from Countywide Sewer & Rt 104 Sewer Fund, Into account codes 650-01-00-7103 Contact Services (\$744,650.30), account code 650-01-00-7104 Contract Services (\$7,840,766.96), account code 650-56-00-7103 Contract Services (\$33,000.00), account code 650-56-00-7107 Utilities (\$9,500.00), account code 650-56-00-7200 Equipment (\$2,200.00), account code 650-56-00-7409 Auditor & Treasurer Fees (\$200.00), and account code 650-56-00-7550 Other Expenses (\$2,200.00), per a request of January 5, 2026 from the Ross County Auditor.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

SOUTH CENTRAL OHIO REGIONAL JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER INVOICE

Mr. Glass moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to approve the invoice from South Central Ohio Regional Juvenile Detention Center for services rendered in the month of December at a cost of \$42,396.80.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried

The following resolutions were passed at the regular meeting of the Ross County Board of Commissioners of January 5, 2026 with Commissioners Jack Everson, James E. Lowe, and David Glass in attendance.

RESOLUTION NO. 001-26
WHEREAS, it has been determined by the Ross County Board of Commissioners that the health, welfare and safety of the people of Ross County, Ohio, can best and most efficiently be served by force account in matters pertaining to the maintenance, repair, construction and reconstruction of roads, bridges and culverts in Ross County, Ohio; now, therefore, be it
RESOLVED, that Charlie Ortman, Engineer of Ross County, Ohio, be and he hereby is authorized to employ labor and proceed by force account

in matters pertaining to the maintenance, repair, construction and reconstruction of roads, bridges and culverts in Ross County, Ohio during the calendar year 2026; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Ross County, Ohio, reserves unto itself the right and authority to make all purchases of materials and equipment required in the maintenance, repair or construction of roads, bridges and culverts in Ross County, Ohio, during calendar year 2026, except under certain circumstances when the Board may, from time to time by resolution, delegate such purchasing authority to the Ross County Engineer.

RESOLUTION 002-26
MARRIAGE LICENSE FEES

WHEREAS, Section 3 I 13 .34 of the Ohio Revised Code provides the mechanism for additional marriage license issuance fees and divorce filing fees to be collected, deposited in a special fund and expended to provide financial assistance to shelters for victims of domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, Section 3 I 13.35(A) of the Revised Code provides for a shelter for victims of domestic violence to apply to the board of county commissioners for the release of funds to be collected as fees for the issuance of marriage licenses pursuant to ORC Section 3113 .34, or fees collected as additional costs in annulment, divorce or dissolution of marriage actions and proceedings pursuant to division (D) of Section 2303.20 I of the Revised Code, and that are to be used for the funding of the shelter; and

WHEREAS, on November 23, 2025, the Ross County Board of Commissioners did receive an application from the Ross County Community Action, Chillicothe, Ohio, for the release of funds collected in Ross County pursuant to Section 3 I 13 .34 of the Revised Code during calendar year 2026, to be used for funding its operations; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners, has reviewed the qualifications for funding set forth in Section 3113 .36 of the Revised Code for a shelter for victims of domestic violence, and the criteria established in ORC Section 3113.38 and the application of priorities set forth therein to be considered as the basis for allocation of funds among shelters; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners of Ross County, Ohio, hereby approves the application of the Ross County Community Action to receive said funds to be collected in Ross County during the year 2026; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that these funds estimated to total \$ 19,000.00, be paid twice annually to the Ross County Community Action according to the following schedule: Actual funds collected from the first day of January through the thirtieth day of June, 2026, shall be disbursed to the shelter by the fifteenth day of July, 2026, and actual funds collected from the first day of July through the thirty first day of December, 2026, shall be disbursed to the shelter by the fifteenth day of January, 2027.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONERS STAFF MEMBERS AUTHORIZED TO PICK UP CHECKS FROM AUDITORS OFFICE IN 2026

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Glass seconded, commissioners staff members, Bradford M. Cosenza, Cathy Primer and Rylee Elliott be authorized to sign for and pick up all checks during the calendar year 2026, from the County Auditor’s office for delivery back to the Commissioner’s office.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTED TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF COMMUNITY ACTION COMMISSION

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Glass seconded, Commissioner James E. Lowe, be appointed to the Board of Directors of the Ross County Community Action Commission, as a representative for the Ross County Board of Commissioners, for the year 2026.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTED TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Glass seconded, Commissioner Jack Everson, be appointed to the Executive Committee of the South Central Ohio Regional Juvenile Detention Center, as a representative of the Ross County Board of Commissioners for the year 2026.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTED TO EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Glass seconded, that Commissioner Jack Everson, be appointed to the Executive Board of the Ross County Emergency Management Agency, as a representative of the Ross County Board of Commissioners for the year 2026.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTED TO THE ROSS COUNTY LAW LIBRARY RESOURCES BOARD

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Glass seconded, that Commissioner David Glass, be appointed to the Ross County Law Library Resources Board, as a representative of the Ross County Board of Commissioners for the year 2026.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTMENT TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Glass seconded, the Ross County Board of Commissioners, appoint Commissioners James E. Lowe, Jack A. Everson, and David Glass, to the Ross County Tax Incentive Review Council for the Enterprise Zones: according to the provision of Section 5709.85(a)(2) of the Ohio Revised Code.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO TERMINATE EXISITNG MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Glass seconded, to sign a letter, giving notice, to amend or terminate the existing management agreement with the Ross County Senior Citizens, prior to the new term of the agreement beginning January 1, 2027.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

LEASE AGREEMENT FOULKE BLOCK OFFICE SPACE

Mr. Glass moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to enter into a contract with the Foulke Block Ltd., for office space located 14 South Paint St., Suite 81 for a five year contract commencing March 1, 2025 for the rent schedule below.

Year 1 (March 1, 2025, through February 28, 2026):

Equal monthly installments of Two Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$2,250.00), in advance, on the first day of each and every month during the term.

Year 2 (March 1, 2026, through February 28, 2027):

Equal monthly installments of Two Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$2,700.00), in advance, on the first day of each and every month during the term.

Year 3 (March 1, 2027, through February 29, 2028):

Equal monthly installments of Three Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$3,250.00), in advance, on the first day of each and every month during the term.

Year 4 (March 1, 2028, through February 28, 2029):

Equal monthly installments of Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$3,500.00), in advance, on the first day of

each and every month during the term.

Year 5 (March 1, 2029, through February 28, 2030):

Equal monthly installments of Three Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars (\$3,900.00), in advance, on the first day of each and every month during the term.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

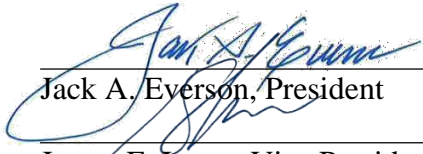
OTHER BUSINESS

Monthly Staff Meeting


Economic Development Work Session

ADJOURN

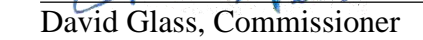
Mr. Jack A. Everson, President, adjourned the regular meeting of January 10:32 p.m., Board of Commissioners of Ross County, Ohio



Jack A. Everson, President



James E. Lowe, Vice President



David Glass, Commissioner