

**JANUARY 8 – MEETING 1
VOLUME 28**

The Ross County Board of Commissioners met on this day, January 8, 2025, in regular session.

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

Commissioner Lowe led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES APPROVED

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, the minutes of the December 30, 2024 meeting, be approved as submitted.

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

APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

Mr. Glass moved, Mr. Everson seconded, \$544,750.00 be appropriated from General Fund into account code 100-01-00-7105 Contract Services Comprehensive Plan, per a request of January 8, 2025 from the Ross County Planning Department.

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

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Glass seconded, \$2,174,773.00 be appropriated from General Fund into account code 100-58-67-7210 Escrow Account - Bridge, per a request of January 8, 2025 from the Ross County Engineer.

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

Mr. Glass moved, Mr. Everson seconded, \$24,000.00 be appropriated from 2024-RO-ETF-R575 into account code 420-29-11-7550 Other Costs, per a request of January 8, 2025 from the Ross County TASK Force.

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

TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Glass seconded, to transfer \$3,357,306.67 from account code 100-00-00-0010 General, into account code 212-29-00-5901 Correctional & LE, \$28,125.00 for account code 100-00-00-0010 General into account code 207-01-00-5901 Litter, \$46,850.00 from account code 100-00-00-0010 General into account code 203-02-00-5901 Dog & Kennel and \$40,000.00 from account code 100-00-00-0010 General into account code 230-19-00-5901 Indigent Guardianship, per a request January 8, 2025 from the Ross County Auditor.

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

Mr. Glass moved, Mr. Everson seconded, to transfer \$22,289.50 from account code 100-00-00-0010 General, into account code 420-99-39-5901 VOCA/SVAA, per a request January 8, 2025 from the Ross County Auditor.

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

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Glass seconded, to transfer \$285,000.00 from account code 100-00-00-0010 General, into account code 097-67-01-4800 Park District, \$88,000.00 for account code 100-00-00-0010 General into account code 215-15-00-4800 Emergency Management and \$275,000.00 from account code 100-00-00-0010 General into account code 093-41-01-4800 Soil and Water, per a request January 6, 2025 from the Ross County Auditor.

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

The following resolutions were passed at the regular meeting of the Ross County Board of Commissioners on January 8, 2025, with James E. Lowe, Jack A. Everson and David Glass in attendance.

**RESOLUTION ADOPTED – AUTHORIZING COUNTY ENGINEER TO PROCEED BY FORCE ACCOUNT 2025
RESOLUTION NO. 001-25**

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 2025; 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 2025, except under certain circumstances when the Board may, from time to time by resolution, delegate such purchasing authority to the Ross County Engineer.

**RESOLUTION 002-25
JAIL BOND FUNDS MOVED TO GENERAL FUND**

WHEREAS, the Ross County Commissioners have paid in full all outstanding debt on the Law Enforcement project and all bonds have been retired; and **WHEREAS**, the cash balance of the bond fund is \$3,600,000.00 (\$3.6 million dollars) as of January 8, 2025 and there is no further necessity for said bond, and;

THEREFORE, the Ross County Board of Commissioners wish to transfer these funds into the General Fund for use on capital improvement projects, and;

BE IT RESOLVES, this Board authorizes Ross County Auditor Jeff Lehner to transfer the cash balance as of January 8, 2025 into the General Fund of Ross County.

RESOLUTION 003-25

WHEREAS, Section 3113.34 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 3113.35(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, 2022, 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 3113.34 of the Revised Code during calendar year 2023, 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 2025; 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, 2025, shall be disbursed to the shelter by the fifteenth

day of July, 2025, and actual funds collected from the first day of July through the thirty-first day of December, 2025, shall be disbursed to the shelter by the fifteenth day of January, 2026.

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

SOUTH CENTRAL OHIO REGIONAL JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER INVOICE

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Glass 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 \$43,869.26.

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

COMMISSIONERS STAFF MEMBERS AUTHORIZED TO PICK UP CHECKS FROM AUDITORS OFFICE IN 2025

Mr. Glass moved, Mr. Everson seconded, commissioners staff members, Bradford M. Cosenza and Cathy Primer be authorized to sign for and pick up all checks during the calendar year 2025, from the County Auditor’s office for delivery back to the Commissioner’s office.

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

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTED TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF COMMUNITY ACTION COMMISSION

Mr. Everson 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 2025.

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

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTED TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER

Mr. Glass moved, Mr. Lowe 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 2025.

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

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTED TO EXECUTIVE BOARD OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Mr. Glass moved, Mr. Lowe 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 2025.

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

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTED TO THE ROSS COUNTY LAW LIBRARY RESOURCES BOARD

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Lowe 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 2025.

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

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE RE-APPOINTMENT TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL

Mr. Glass moved, Mr. Everson 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. Everson, yes; Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes. Motion carried.

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN PAYMENT

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Glass seconded, to approve the payment request for the WPCLF Loan Fund for one home sewer repair and one replacement for the amount of \$16,473.90.

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

BID OPENING WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND BATCH 4

Bids were opened as advertised at 11:00am in the Commissioner’s office. Only one bid was received, JB’s Construction, for repair or replacement of three home sewage disposal systems for a cost of \$10,650.00. The bid will be given to the Health District for review and to award the contract.

ROSS CHILLICOTHE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Glass seconded, the Ross County Board of Commissioners, appoint Commissioner Glass as the county representative, Mr. Andrew Hall as Ross County Historical Society’s representative, and Kathy Payne to fulfill the vacant city representative position, to the Ross-Chillicothe Convention & Visitor’s Bureau Board of Directors.

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

ROSS COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT MOBILITY MANAGEMENT FUND REQUEST

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Glass seconded, the Ross County Board of Commissioners, provide matching funds, in the amount of \$6,100.00, to the Ross County Health District’s 2026 Ross County Mobility Management Program.

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

CEBCO INSURANCE FLAT RATE FEES

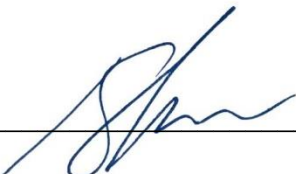
Mr. Glass moved, Mr. Everson seconded, to continue to pay CEBCO insurance rates, for employees, at the 85% - 15%. CEBCO no longer provides a wellness or a non-wellness rate, it falls upon the Auditor’s staff to adjust the rates to show the employees that have completed the wellness program and qualify for a reduced monthly insurance rate. This will require departments to possibly have to adjust their budgets at the end of 2025.

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

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURN

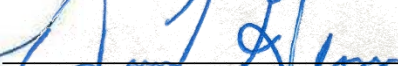
Mr. James E. Lowe, Vice President, adjourned the regular meeting of January 8, at 12:16 p.m., Board of Commissioners of Ross County, Ohio



James E. Lowe, Vice President



Jack A. Everson, Commissioner



David Glass, Commissioner