

**JULY 24 – MEETING 30
VOLUME 26**

The Ross County Board of Commissioners met on this day, July 24, 2023, in regular session.

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

Commissioner Garrett led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES APPROVED

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Everson seconded, the minutes of the July 17, 2023, meeting, be approved as submitted.

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

BILLS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT

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

| PURCHASE ORDER | PAY TO NAME | TOTAL VALUE | | | |
|----------------|--------------------------------|-------------|------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| 2023001615 | Integrated Protection Services | 3223.28 | 2023000137 | Modern Office Methods, Inc. | 419.64 |
| 2023000669 | Stacey Boroff | 74.19 | 2023001354 | Riffle & Son Machine Works | 320 |
| 2023000345 | Adena Medical Group, LLC | 7.9 | 2023000316 | FBI- LEEDA | 795 |
| 2023000320 | Dayton Motor Company | 2415.77 | 2023000325 | FBI- LEEDA | 795 |
| 2023000340 | Village of Greenfield | 16835 | 2023000320 | Total ID Solutions | 378 |
| 2023001163 | Shelley, Joshua | 10125 | 2023000320 | Amazon Capital Services | 335.16 |
| 2023000345 | Adena Health System | 952.32 | 2023000321 | Treasurer of State | 107 |
| 2023000912 | Treasurer, State of Ohio | 11835.25 | 2023000306 | B & C Communications | 113.42 |
| 2023000335 | Fayette County Commissioner | 4054.85 | 2023000534 | Gordon Flesch Co., Inc. | 11.86 |
| 2023000320 | AutoZone | 161.32 | 2023000587 | American Electric Power | 304 |
| 2023000345 | Apogee Medical Group, Ohio, | 153.68 | 2023000567 | Sedgwick Claims Management | 4625 |
| 2023001032 | Office City Express | 498.38 | 2023000320 | DTB Distributors, Inc. | 416.82 |
| 2023000320 | Davis Tire of Chillicothe | 403.43 | 2023000348 | DTB Distributors, Inc. | 989.52 |
| 2023000299 | Sprint PCS | 62.91 | 2023000327 | DTB Distributors, Inc. | 64.84 |
| 2023001527 | Verizon Wireless | 80.22 | 2023000324 | Wheeler, Carissa L. | 660 |
| 2023000300 | Wex Bank | 46.91 | 2023000266 | Office City Express | 29.96 |
| 2023000074 | American Electric Power | 181.43 | 2023001354 | Advance Auto Parts | 413.23 |
| 2023000320 | Superior Uniform Sales, Inc | 1422.5 | 2023001354 | Diamond Mowers, Inc | 1193.86 |
| 2023001163 | Shelley, Joshua | 7312.5 | 2023000159 | AT&T Mobility | 97.5 |
| 2023000074 | American Electric Power | 145.83 | 2023000587 | South Central Power Company | 314 |
| 2023000345 | Emergency Professional Servi | 177.8 | 2023000273 | Rutherford, Sherri K. | 200 |
| 2023000256 | Lowe's | 278.08 | 2023000273 | Hill, Laura J. | 200 |
| 2023000342 | Trinity Services Group | 11618.43 | 2023000273 | Cutright, James K. | 200 |
| 2023000635 | GFC Leasing | 378.57 | 2023000105 | Scioto Township (use 97113) | 1380 |
| 2023001623 | Thomson Reuters - West | 1926.4 | 2023000316 | APCO, AFC, Inc. | 60 |
| 2023000267 | Amazon Capital Services | 151.68 | 2023001621 | U.S. Geological Survey | 14500 |
| 2023001354 | AG-PRO OHIO, LLC | 386.44 | 2023000348 | Superior Uniform Sales, Inc | 491.35 |
| 2023000320 | Galls, LLC | 14.98 | 2023000317 | Office City Express | 76.61 |
| 2023001562 | Melvin Stone Co. | 1224.19 | 2023000348 | Office City Express | 239.12 |
| 2023000972 | Rush Truck Centers of Ohio | 771.06 | 2023000326 | Office City Express | 11.92 |
| 2023000345 | Columbus Radiology Corp. | 142.97 | 2023000320 | Downtown Auto Body Repair, I | 160 |
| 2023000320 | Red Diamond Uniform & Police | 264.96 | 2023000571 | Glacier Mountain Bottled Water | 22.5 |
| 2023000635 | GFC Leasing | 224 | 2023000533 | Kofile Technologies | 2937.6 |
| 2023000271 | Lighthouse Youth Services | 2387.43 | 2023001354 | Old Canal Stop | 151.93 |
| 2023000344 | Premier Health Care Services, | 25584.09 | 2023000180 | Benson, Melinda J | 125 |
| 2023000320 | Penwell, Julia | 114 | 2023000546 | Glacier Mountain Bottled Water | 15 |
| 2023000252 | Horizon Chillicothe Telephone | 147.53 | 2023000265 | Covetrus North America | 75.26 |
| 2023000278 | Modern Leasing | 121.41 | 2023000630 | State Electric Supply, Inc. | 179.76 |
| 2023000698 | Horizon Chillicothe Telephone | 145.18 | 2023000179 | Blosser, Jeffery M. | 1717.5 |
| 2023001121 | Ed Secrest | 405.64 | 2023000652 | Modern Leasing | 89.81 |
| 2023000296 | Sewards, Randy A. | 1003.77 | 2023000178 | Clark, John K. Jr. | 225 |
| 2023000271 | JBI, LTD | 2500 | 2023000326 | Office City Express | 24 |
| 2023000994 | Cintas Corporation # 530 | 341.9 | 2023000320 | Heath Horn | 450 |
| 2023001620 | Springdale Garden Center | 1490.37 | 2023001522 | Amazon Capital Services | 487.5 |
| 2023000635 | GFC Leasing | 0.34 | 2023001571 | Economic Development Allian | 25000 |
| 2023000320 | Cooper Glass Service | 530.86 | 2023000180 | Benson, Melinda J | 125 |
| 2023000320 | US Safety Gear, Inc. | 224.97 | 2023001616 | LL'W Holdings LLC | 1372 |
| 2023000298 | Price, Harold S. | 852.52 | 2023000563 | DTB Distributors, Inc. | 126.05 |
| 2023000303 | Modern Office Methods, Inc. | 694.32 | 2023000488 | Hart, Linda | 500 |
| 2023000338 | Modern Office Methods, Inc. | 231.42 | 2023000521 | Horizon Chillicothe Telephone | 135.08 |
| 2023000323 | Modern Office Methods, Inc. | 578.55 | 2023000572 | General Sales Company | 359.52 |
| 2023000329 | Modern Office Methods, Inc. | 115.71 | | | \$179,043.56 |

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

THEN & NOW CERTIFICATES APPROVED

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, the Ross County Board of Commissioners approve "Then & Now" Certificates, dated July 10 through July 24, 2023, in the amount of \$23,134.83 prepared by the Office of the Ross County Auditor and certified by the auditor as to the appropriation of funds for the purpose of encumbering the sum of the contract(s) or order(s) outlined therein, or the imminent collection of funds for credit to the appropriated fund(s) of the county, and as to the availability of funds for transfer within the appropriate department(s).

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

APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, \$11,570.00 be appropriated from General Fund into account code 100-01-00-7103 Contract Services, per a request of July 24, 2023 from the Ross County Commissioners.

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

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Everson seconded, \$4,215.77 be appropriated from LEPC Fund into account code 098-15-01-7148 Emergency Planning, per a request of July 24, 2023 from Ross County EMA.

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

LEASE AGREEMENT 70 CANAL ST YELLOWBUD

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Everson seconded, to enter into a lease agreement with Susan Sanford, for the property located 70 Canal St. Yellowbud, for \$1.00 a year for 10 years for a total cost of \$10.00 paid in full, effective 7/24/2023 through 7/24/2033.

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

ASSET DISPOSAL

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, the Ross County Board of Commissioners approve an Asset Disposal Form submitted by the Ross County Probation for disposal of the following surplus property of the county as indicated:

| QUANTITY | DESCRIPTION | TAG/ SERIAL | METHOD OF DISPOSAL |
|----------|---------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| 2 | Office Chairs | 15848, 12955 | Disposal |
| 2 | DVR Security Device | 2853, 13546 | Disposal |
| 2 | Monitors | 15325, 13231 | Disposal |

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

PUBLIC HEARING – 2024 TAX BUDGET ADOPTED

The commissioners held a public hearing as advertised, commencing at 9:30 a.m. this date, on the county’s proposed tax budget for the calendar year 2024. Auditor Lehner gave an overview of the 2024 Tax Budget, with no public participation. Commissioner Garrett closed the public hearing at 10:00am.

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Everson seconded, the Ross County Board of Commissioners adopt the Ross County tax budget for the fiscal year commencing January 1st, 2024, in the total amount available for all funds of the county of **\$88,685,413.81** and for the Ross County Health District in the amount of **\$7,748,435**. and authorize submission of same for the consideration of the Ross County Budget Commission as required by state law.

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

NOMINATION FOR MEMBER APPOINTMENT LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, the Ross County Board of Commissioners, by its President, Dwight A. Garrett, nominate John Eckelberry - American Red Cross, Chris Dubay - Chillicothe Police Department, Ron Myers - Chillicothe Police Department, Noel Akers - Chillicothe Fire Department, Aaron Brown - Chillicothe City Schools, Bruce Helton – Pixelle, Rogenia Hiles - Adena Regional Medical Center, Chuck Kempton - Chillicothe Fire Department, Kevin Pancake - Concord Township, IT, and Dan Riddle - Huntington Schools, for the term from August 10, 2023 thru August 9, 2025.

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

PERMIT APPLICATION FOR USE OF COURTHOUSE STEPS/PORTICO

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Everson seconded, to allow use of the Courthouse steps/portico by the Ross County Veteran Service Office, on September 22, 8:00am – 4:00pm, for the Silent Watch – Suicide Awareness.

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

The following resolution was passed at the regular meeting of the Ross County Board of Commissioners on June 24, 2023, with James E. Lowe and Jack A. Everson in attendance and Dwight A. Garrett, yes.

RESOLUTION 019-23

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONERS TO APPLY TO THE OHIO VALLEY REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (OVRDC) SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT (STBG) AND COMMIT MATCHING FUNDS

WHEREAS, the ROS-159 & US23 Interchange Reconfiguration with River Road is a high priority project in Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission’s (OVRDC) 2045 Comprehensive Transportation Plan, and

WHEREAS, the Ross County Board of Commissioners in partnership with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) intend to perform a comprehensive study of the interchange and associated network to identify and confirm improvements to increase the efficiency and reliability of the interchange, increase economic vitality of the area, and enhance connectivity and safety;

WHEREAS, Ross County is eligible to apply for up to \$200,000 for preliminary engineering projects and other eligible costs, and must provide a ten percent local match of total project cost; and

WHEREAS, the estimated total project cost of the study is \$350,000;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

Section 1. That Ross County Board of Commissioners authorize the Ross County Planning Department to file the grant application and to provide all necessary information and documentation with the Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission.

Section 2. That the Board of Commissioners authorize the appropriation of **\$35,000** meeting the matching funds requirement of the grant.

Section 3. That Dwight A. Garrett is authorized to sign the application and authorized to execute contracts on behalf of the Board of Commissioners.

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

The following resolution was passed at the regular meeting of the Ross County Board of Commissioners on June 24, 2023, with Dwight A. Garrett, James E. Lowe and Jack A. Everson in attendance.

RESOLUTION 018-23

WHEREAS, certain municipal corporations, counties and/or townships of the State of Ohio (the "Original Council Members") entered into an Agreement establishing the Outdoor Recreation Council of Appalachia, also referred to herein as "ORCA," (the "Agreement") pursuant to Revised Code Chapter 167, for the purpose of integrating conservation, outdoor recreation, and economic development in a way that strengthens and inspires communities in Southeast Ohio; and

WHEREAS, ORCA, is authorized by the USDA, Forest Service Wayne National Forest Athens Ranger District through supplemental agreement to Master Challenge Cost Share Agreement # 20-CS-11091400-014 to develop, construct, and cooperatively manage the Baileys Trail System in an efficient and sustainable manner that reduces the burden on both parties while providing increased benefits to the public, and

WHEREAS, the ORCA has expanded participation to include ORCA Partners as defined in ORCA Bylaws, and

- WHEREAS**, ORCA is authorized to expand the ARC POWER Grant, which is a grant from the Ohio Valley Regional Development Council, and Wayne National Forest Supported Multi-County Recreation Asset Assessment and Development Plan. This service is managed by ORCA and led by ORCA procured consultant Scott Linnenburger of Kay-Linn Enterprises. This plan will be a physical and digital document highlighting outdoor recreation and destination development opportunities in ORCA Member and Partner Counties.
- Support. ARC POWER Grant support to advance collaborative or regional branding/ destination development for top priorities identified by your county’s Convention and Visitor’s Bureau Director or leading tourism professional and compliant with ARC POWER grant regulations. A wide range of branding marketing activities may be possible, funding is limited to ~\$90,000 to share with all ORCA Members and partners.
- Representation. ORCA will represent and include interested counties as the service area for an ARC ARISE Planning Proposal in partnership with the Pennsylvania Wilds. There is no guarantee this proposal will be selected for implementation. Counties and communities interested in being represented will communicate with ORCA staff, which will then work with the PA Wilds team to analyze feasibility of integrating technology into outdoor recreation to bolster economies in rural areas. Communities represented will receive copies of the planning grant project’s conclusion, which is anticipated to be a technology integration implementation plan for rural Appalachian Pennsylvania and Southeast Ohio.
- Invitation to the 2024 Ohio Outdoor Recreation Economy Conference and the opportunity to participate in planning.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

The Ross County Board of Commissioners wishes to partner with ORCA. Dwight Garrett, Commissioner, representing Ross County will serve as ORCA Partner and appoints Ty McBee, Chillicothe-Ross Trail Partnership, Michael Lafreniere, Ohio University Chillicothe, and Melody Young, Ross-Chillicothe Visitors Bureau, to serve on the ORCA Advisory Committee.

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

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT REQUEST FOR EXTENSION

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to allow the 181 day extension for the CDBG Village of Adelphi improvements. The project has experienced major supply/equipment delays.

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

APPROVE LEGAL NOTICE FOR ROSS COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Everson seconded, to approve the legal notice for two public hearings for each set of regulations applicable to unincorporated Ross County. The first hearing will be held August 21, 10:30 am and the second August 28, 10:30 am.

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

LPA FEDERAL LOCAL LET PROJECT AGREEMENT

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to enter into an LPA agreement with the Ohio Department of Transportation to utilize federal funds for superstructure replacement on the following four bridges:

ROS-CR 184-3.76 Maximum funds \$410,000.00 ROS-CR 223-2.13 Maximum funds \$389,500.00
ROS-CR 166-5.88 Maximum funds \$233,950.00 ROS-TR 183-7.56 Maximum funds \$225,000.00

The superstructure replacement will extend the useful life of the structures for decades.

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

SUBGRANT AWARD AGREEMENT US 23 MAJOR CRIMES TASK FORCE

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Everson seconded, to enter into a sub-grant agreement with the Office of Criminal Justice Services for salaries for the US 23 Major Crimes Task Force in the amount of \$85,340.86.

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

WAIVE BUILDING PERMIT FEE GERMAN HERITAGE EVENT

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to approve the request from the Ross County Historical Society, to waive the permit fee of \$35.00, for erecting a tent for the German Heritage Event to be held September 15, 2023 at the Historical Society.

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

VOCA AND SVAA GRANT AWARD AND ACCEPTANCE FORM AMENDED

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Everson seconded, to agree to the amended grant period of October 1, 2022 thru September 30, 2023 for the VOCA and SVAA grant in the amount of \$39,365.00.

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

EASEMENT COLUMBIA GAS

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to approve an easement FOR AND IN CONSIDERATION of One Dollar (\$1.00) and other good and valuable consideration to it in hand paid, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF ROSS COUNTY, OHIO (hereinafter called the Granter), does hereby grant to COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC., with principal offices at 290 West Nationwide Boulevard, Columbus, Ohio 43215, (hereinafter called the Company), its successors and assigns, the right to lay pipelines, including lateral pipeline connections, together with service connections, over and through the premises hereinafter described, and to operate and maintain without restriction or limitation, repair, replace, or change the size of its pipes without interruption to service and remove same, together with valves and other necessary appurtenances on lands situated in the City of Chillicothe, Ross County, State of Ohio, and more particularly described as follows:

Recorded In: Official Record Volume 528, Page 3538

Permanent Parcel No.: 305301040000

Property Address: 39 W. Main St., Chillicothe, OH 45601

Containing: 0.000 acres more or less, being all that part of In Lot No. 59 of the City of Chillicothe

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

QUOTE B&B ROOFING FOR 15 NORTH PAINT STREET

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Everson seconded, to accept a quote, from B&B Roofing for a new rubber roof to be installed at 15 North Paint Street, for the amount of \$29,500.00

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

OTHER BUSINESS

Ross County Park District requested approval from the Commissioners to acquire temporary easements on 15 section of the county bike/walking trail in order to use grants funds for paving. The Park District will contact an attorney to begin work on the easements.

Chillicothe Railroad Museum – Ms. Stevens and Ms. Griffith described the condition of the two cabooses that reside in Yoctangee Park, and noted they have begun a quest to secure funds for the repairs. They have asked the Commissioners to contribute to the cause. The Commissioners would like to see the City of Chillicothe take the lead on this project since the Cabooses reside in the City Park.

Floral Hills Memory Gardens – Mr. Robertson brought in several examples of Ohio Revised Code showing what he believes states the County Commissioners are responsible for maintaining graves of veterans. Some of the legislation has been challenged by the CCAO, to the conclusion the Commissioners would only be responsible for Memorials to Veterans. Currently Floral Hills is in litigation, and until the case is settled the Commissioners feel it would be in their best interest to not interfere.

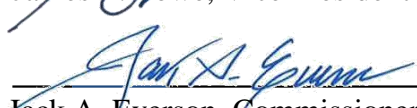
ADJOURN

Mr. Dwight A. Garrett, President, adjourned the regular meeting of, July 24, 2023, at 3:30 p.m.

Board of Commissioners of Ross County, Ohio


Dwight A. Garrett, President


James E. Lowe, Vice President


Jack A. Everson, Commissioner