

**AUGUST 27 – MEETING 36**  
**VOLUME 29**

The Ross County Board of Commissioners met on this day, August 27, 2026, for a special meeting.

Commissioner Jack Everson called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m., with Commissioner James Lowe and Commissioner David Glass in attendance along with Brad Cosenza, County Administrator, Judge Benson Ms. Clevinger.

Judge Benson relayed his concern that an emergency situation exists at the Juvenile Detention Center due to failed HVAC units and the accumulation of mold within the facility. He expressed concern that the youth currently housed at the facility may be at risk. Judge Benson also reported that he had been contacted by Judge Skaggs of Jackson County, who indicated that Jackson County will not be sending detainees to the Ross County Juvenile Detention Center until the issue is resolved.

Judge Benson asked whether the Ohio Revised Code contains a provision addressing emergency situations that would allow the normal bidding process to be bypassed so that the necessary cleanup and remediation could begin in a more-timely manner.

Ms. Clevinger stated that a mold study had been completed and determined that the mold is currently inert and non-toxic. She further stated that the mold had been treated with a solution to prevent further growth.

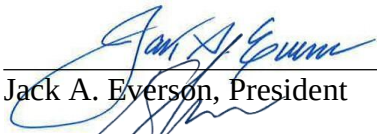
During the meeting, Mr. Cosenza contacted Ben Hyden of Bricker Graydon to obtain an opinion regarding the Ohio Revised Code and the applicability of emergency provisions to the situation. Mr. Hyden advised that the circumstances at the Juvenile Detention Center do not fall under the emergency provisions that would allow the normal bidding requirements to be bypassed.

Mr. Hyden further indicated that the bid documents were expected to be completed by the end of the week, with the project anticipated to go out for bid thereafter. Bids are expected to be received by the end of September.

Judge Benson stated that, knowing the mold has been determined to be inert and non-toxic, he is comfortable with the proposed timeline for completing the bidding process and beginning the project.

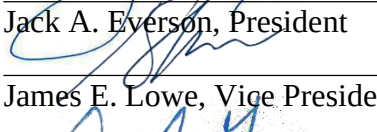
**ADJOURN**

Mr. Jack A. Everson, President, adjourned the meeting of August 37, 2026, at 9:00am, Board of Commissioners of Ross County, Ohio



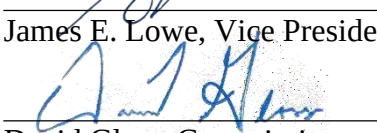
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Jack A. Everson, President



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James E. Lowe, Vice President



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David Glass, Commissioner