

**OCTOBER 15 – MEETING 42
VOLUME 27**

The Ross County Board of Commissioners met on this day, October 15, 2024, 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 October 7, 2024, 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. Everson moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, the following bills of the county be approved for payment:

DEPARTMENT	PAY TO NAME	TOTAL VALUE
Adult Probation	Wex Bank	125.14
Adult Probation	Verizon Wireless	88.5
Auditor	OSU Extension - Ross County	75000
Auditor	Appraisal Research Corp.	24381
Auditor	Appraisal Research Corp.	4050
Auditor	Appraisal Research Corp.	19046.25
Auditor	Berry, Jennifer	354
Auditor	Appraisal Research Corp.	15976.69
Auditor	Amazon Capital Services	21.49
Auditor	Benson, Melinda J	375
Auditor	Benson, Melinda J	135
Auditor	Rutherford, Chase Colin	300
Auditor	Rutherford, Chase Colin	1297.5
Auditor	Barrington, James E.	1500
Auditor	Ross Co. Water Company	97.42
Auditor	Pitney Bowes, Inc	2248.71
Auditor	Glo Fiber	3308.97
Auditor	Glo Fiber	505
Auditor	Glo Fiber	107.25
Auditor	Wex Bank	106.87
Automatic Data Processing B	Amazon Capital Services	513.6
Automatic Data Processing B	Amazon Capital Services	106.26
Automatic Data Processing B	Amazon Capital Services	194.24
Board of Elections	Pitney Bowes	5.48
Board of Elections	Go2ITGroup	256.97
Board of Elections	Go2ITGroup	1824.44
Board of Elections	US Postal Service	170
Board of Elections	Triad Governmental System	232
Board of Elections	Office City Express	93.7
Board of Elections	Election Systems & Software,	5925
Board of Elections	Office City Express	33.62
Building Department	John Deere Financial	246.97
Building Department	John Deere Financial	226.97
Commissioners	Ross County Humane Society	60000
Commissioners	SOUTH WESTERN COMMUNICA	22160.7
Commissioners	Rumpke Of Ohio, Inc	13.26
Commissioners	American Electric Power	7708.36
Commissioners	Office City Express	37.1
Commissioners	DTB Distributors, Inc.	1166.23
Commissioners	Schooley Caldwell Associates	1812.5
Commissioners	Ross Co. Water Company	260.56
Commissioners	Ross Co. Water Company	27.64
Commissioners	Ross Co. Water Company	26.54
Commissioners	Thomas Gas Services, Inc.	7.35
Commissioners	State Electric Supply, Inc.	125
Commissioners	Advanced Services	148
Commissioners	Sherwin Williams Company	43.21
Commissioners	All Signs of Chillicothe Inc	655
Commissioners	Veregy East, LLC	747.14
Commissioners	Master Locksmith and Safe S	36
Commissioners	Ross County Sheriff's Dept.	29
Commissioners	CCAO	495
Commissioners	Ohio Dept. of Agriculture	150
Commissioners	Fastenal Company	244.78
Commissioners	Liberty Mutual Insurance Con	100
Commissioners	Lowe's	1127.04
Common Pleas Court #1	Office Depot Inc.	378.65
Common Pleas Court #1	Mears Photography	23
Coroner	INTERACTIVE DATA LLC	126
Coroner	Haller Funeral Home, LLC	415
Coroner	Mark A Gray	19
Coroner	Moccasin Creek Tactical	163
Coroner	Thomas, Jodi L.	140
Coroner	Moccasin Creek Tactical	87
Coroner	NMS Labs	442
Coroner	Central Center, LLC	647.97
Dog Warden	Sports Plus	120
Dog Warden	Menards	64.15
Emergency Management	Joshua Garrett	199.9
Engineer	Adams, Jeff	491.78
Engineer	Airgas Great Lakes	125.1
Engineer	Chillicothe Steel Co.	1216
Engineer	Cintas Corporation # 530	414.34
Engineer	EQUIP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	169.25
Engineer	Fastenal Company	699.51
Engineer	Kenworth Truck Co.	208.52
Engineer	Lowe's	692.15
Engineer	The Mannik & Smith Group, I	3333.15
Engineer	Matco Tools	142.09
Engineer	Old Canal Stop	33
Engineer	Bob SumereI Tire Co.	171
Engineer	Sunbelt Rentals, Inc	665.77
Engineer	Unifirst First Aid Corp	516.12
Engineer	Ace Truck Body, Inc.	4630.56
Engineer	Bane-Welker Equipment, LLC	82.9
Engineer	Eitel's Towing Service Inc.	581.24
Engineer	Southeastern Equipment Co.	129.97

DEPARTMENT	PAY TO NAME	TOTAL VALUE
Engineer	Southeastern Equipment Co.	1225.35
Engineer	Tow Path Materials	40.6
Engineer	Claudia Cockrell	649.55
Engineer	Do It Right Cleaning Service, I	600
Juvenile Court	King, Kristen	900
Juvenile Court	King, Kristen	261.37
Juvenile Court	Zane Trace Local School Distr	1345.92
Juvenile Court	Amazon Capital Services	152.17
Juvenile Court	ERIKA MAGANA-HARRIS	156
Juvenile Court	Verizon Wireless	704.88
Juvenile Court	Amazon Capital Services	40.15
Juvenile Court	Glacier Mountain Bottled Wa	15.5
Juvenile Court	Peachtree Electronic Monitor	1232
Juvenile Court	Lighthouse Youth Services	2916.67
Juvenile Court	Lighthouse Youth Services	5416.67
Juvenile Court	Lighthouse Youth Services	3211.07
Juvenile Court	AbraXas Ohio	7500
Juvenile Court	Pike Co. Recovery Council	200
Law Library	Glo Fiber	133.41
Planning Commission	APG Architects LLC	3437.5
Planning Commission	Stratton, Bryan	418
Planning Commission	Ohio Regional Development	1684
Planning Commission	Ross County Treasurer	14000
Probate Court	Glacier Mountain Bottled Wa	13.5
Probate Court	Cutright, James K.	600
Probate Court	Amazon Capital Services	247.04
Prosecuting Attorney	Gordon Flesch Co, Inc.	106.4
Prosecuting Attorney	Microsystems Inc	416.2
Prosecuting Attorney	Gordon Flesch Co, Inc.	247
Prosecuting Attorney	Gordon Flesch Co, Inc.	883
Prosecuting Attorney	Axia Technology Partners, LLC	29.99
Prosecuting Attorney	Axia Technology Partners, LLC	1775
Prosecuting Attorney	Lexis-Nexis	688
Prosecuting Attorney	Gordon Flesch Co, Inc.	378.57
Ross County Court System	Thomson Reuters - West	317.98
Ross County Court System	ALLIED UNIVERSAL ELECTRONIC	547.8
Ross County Court System	Office Depot Inc.	111.99
Ross County Court System	Child Protection Center of Ros	2138.15
Ross County Court System	Mears Photography	275
Ross County Court System	GFC Leasing	374.83
Ross County Court System	Compass Integration LLC	3714.45
Ross County Court System	Compass Integration LLC	2534.06
Ross County Court System	GFC Leasing	1241.54
Ross County Court System	Amazon Capital Services	36.85
Sheriff	Ross County Sheriff's Dept.	5000
Sheriff	Rumpke Of Ohio, Inc	71.51
Sheriff	Wex Bank	1417.43
Sheriff	Treasurer - State of Ohio	3415.25
Sheriff	Southern Ohio Shredding LLC	51.5
Sheriff	Total ID Solutions	695
Sheriff	Stericycle, Inc.	157.5
Sheriff	Premier Health Care Services	41862.58
Sheriff	Red Diamond Uniform & Poli	491.84
Sheriff	DTB Distributors, Inc.	622.45
Sheriff	DTB Distributors, Inc.	903.45
Sheriff	DTB Distributors, Inc.	96.83
Sheriff	Watch Systems, LLC	135.78
Sheriff	Adena Health System	911.52
Sheriff	Allen's Pharmacy	2176.99
Sheriff	VISA	90.63
Sheriff	VISA	285
Sheriff	Aramark Services, Inc	7830.54
Sheriff	VISA	90.63
Sheriff	Insight Public Sector, Inc	2754.94
Sheriff	Glo Fiber	511
Sheriff	P&R Communications Service	472.77
Sheriff	Adena Health System	48
Sheriff	Red Diamond Uniform & Poli	84.98
Sheriff	Fayette County Commissione	3004.63
Sheriff	Coughlin Chevrolet of Chillico	589.69
Sheriff	Amazon Capital Services	346.73
Sheriff	Larry McGarvey	40.6
Sheriff	Jason Gannon	49.74
Sheriff	Sam Angle	58
Sheriff	Matthew Frantz	58
Sheriff	Sparkle Cleaners	103.95
Sheriff	BRYAN VANGUNDY	232.96
Sheriff	Treasurer of State	364
Sheriff	Rumpke Of Ohio, Inc	1377.75
Sheriff	Glo Fiber	244.69
Sheriff	VISA	870
Veterans Service Commission	Ed Secrest	481.25
Veterans Service Commission	Sewards, Randy A.	550
Veterans Service Commission	Richard Manson	177
Veterans Service Commission	Stephen M . Deffenbaugh	309.38
Veterans Service Commission	Amazon Capital Services	279.36
Veterans Service Commission	Haller Funeral Home, LLC	994.75
VOCA	T-Mobile USA Inc	27.89
		\$416,359.22

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, 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 September 30 through October 15, 2024, in the amount of \$8,807.39 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.

TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Everson seconded, to transfer \$52,820.00 from account code 100-01-00-7900 Unanticipated Emergency, into account code 100-01-04-7103 Contract Services, per a request October 15, 2024 from the Ross County Commissioners.

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

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to transfer \$1,289.71 from account code 208-02-00-7013 Workers Comp, into account code 208-02-00-7137 BOR Expenses, per a request October 15, 2024 from the Ross County Auditor.

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, to transfer \$3,700.00 from account code 100-07-00-7001 Salaries Employees, into account code 100-07-00-7103 Contract Services, per a request October 15, 2024 from the Ross County Planning & Development.

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 Board Clerk of Courts for disposal of the following surplus property of the county as indicated:

QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	TAG/ SERIAL	METHOD OF DISPOSAL
1	Office Chair	16022	Surplus Property

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

RESCIND RESOLUTIONS 044-24 AND 045-24

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Everson seconded, to rescind Resolution 044-24 A Resolution to Establish the Ross County Residential Building Department and Resolution 045-24 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A REQUEST TO THE OHIO BOARD OF BUILDING STANDARDS TO CERTIFY THE COUNTY OF ROSS FOR ENFORCEMENT OF THE RESIDENTIAL CODE OF OHIO TO EXERCISE ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY AND ACCEPT AND APPROVE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS, MAKE INSPECTIONS.

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

OHIO DIVISION OF LIQUOR CONTROL PERMIT APPLICATION

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Everson seconded, to not request a hearing for the applied for liquor permit for Atomic Speedway inc., 2535 Blain Hwy & Pit area excl parking lot, Huntington Twp, Waverly Ohio 45690.

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

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND PAY REQUEST

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to request payment for two home sewer repair/replacements for the amount of \$42,977.06.

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

VOCA/SVAA GRANT AWARD AND ACCEPTANCE FORM

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Everson seconded, to sign the certificate of compliance for civil rights for the VOCA/SVAA sub-grant award for Ross County CASA, in the amount of \$28,258.14.

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

GRANT AWARD/CONDITIONS ACCEPTANCE – VICTIM/WITNESS PROGRAM

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Everson seconded, the Victim/Witness Assistance Program Director, Kathy Richardson, be authorized to submit the award acceptance and special conditions electronically, on behalf of the Ross County Board of Commissioners, executing a VOCA and SVAA Grant Award and Acceptance Form, for Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding in the amount of \$39,364.00 with a cash match of \$9,841.25 from the County, for the Victim/Witness Program administered by the Ross County Prosecuting Attorney, for the period from October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025, as well as Mr. Garrett’s execution of the accompanying statements of understanding and acceptance of general and special conditions for the grant program.

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

SUBGRANT AGREEMENT RECOVERY OHIO US 23 PIPELINE TASKFORCE

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to approve the sub-grant award agreement for the US23 Pipeline Task Force in the amount of \$75,000.00

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

PROMULGATION STATEMENT AND AUTHENTICATION EMA

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Everson seconded, to approve the following Promulgation Statement and Authentication: The Ross County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) has developed this Hazardous Materials Annex of the Ross County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) to coordinate an integrated, effective response to any chemical release to enhance the protection of citizens and to limit the loss of property.

Preparedness to cope with the effects of a hazardous chemical release includes many diverse, but interrelated elements, which must be woven into an integrated emergency management system involving Ross County's governmental agencies, facilities, private contractors, support agencies, plus the individual citizen. A disaster response involves an escalation in all categories of need; personnel, equipment, and resources. In a disaster, there is a major escalation of emergency response which overtaxes the routine capabilities of available organizations. To establish an effective emergency management and response system, it is vital to develop a plan which reflects emergency operation capabilities and limitations county-wide and how an effective, timely response will be conducted.

This annex contains the concept of operations and other instructions regarding emergency management within Ross County during a hazardous chemical release, the assignment of tasks and responsibilities to county elected and appointed officials and department heads, identification of roles during Hazmat emergencies.

The annex has been developed in accordance to Ohio Revised Code (ORC) § 3750 and the rules adopted under it, the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act: Title III -Emergency Planning and Right-to-Know Act of 1986 (100 Stat. 1729, 42 USCA 11001), other applicable local, state and/or federal laws and the Resolution by the Board of Ross County Commissioners, dated August 6, 1991, assigning emergency responsibilities.

This annex supersedes all other Ross County Hazardous Materials plans, compliments the Ross County EOP, supports the State of Ohio Hazardous Materials Emergency Management Plan, and is coordinated with all neighboring local emergency planning district plans.

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

ROSS COUNTY DOG WARDEN NEW HIRE DEPUTY DOG WARDEN

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to approve the new hire, Alexis Knight, for Deputy Dog Warden at \$17.00 per hour with full benefits.

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

The following resolution was passed at the regular meeting of the Ross County Board of Commissioners, October 15, 2024, with Dwight A. Garrett, James E. Lowe, and Jack A. Everson in attendance.

FINAL RESOLUTION 025-24

The following Final Resolution enacted by the Board of County Commissioners, County of Ross, Ohio, hereinafter referred to as the Legislative Authority/Local Public Agency (LPA), in the matter of the stated described project.

WHEREAS, on the 10th day of June 2024, the LPA enacted legislation proposing cooperation with the Director of Transportation for the described project: The project consists of improvements to Walnut Creek Road (C.R. 233) and Charleston Pike (C.R. 222) by upgrading existing guardrail including installation of new guardrail, lying within Ross County; and

WHEREAS, the LPA shall cooperate with the Director of Transportation in the above described project as follows:

The County agrees to assume and bear one hundred percent (100%) of the entire cost of the improvement, less the amount of Federal-Aid funds set aside by the Director of Transportation for the financing of this improvement from funds allocated by the Federal Highway Administration, U. S. Department of Transportation.

In view of the fact that the LPA's share of the project is now estimated in the amount of Zero and - - - - 00/100 Dollars, (\$0.00), therefore, the County will not be required to deposit any funds at this time. The LPA's ultimate share of the cost will be determined when final actual costs and allocations are determined.

WHEREAS, The Director of Transportation has approved said legislation proposing cooperation and has caused to be made plans and specifications and an estimate of cost and expense for improving the above described highway and has transmitted copies of same to this legislative authority; and

WHEREAS, This legislative authority desires the Director of Transportation to proceed with the aforesaid highway improvement.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved:

I. That the LPA hereby requests the Director of Transportation to proceed with the aforesaid highway improvement.

II. That the LPA enter into a contract with the State, and that the Ross County Engineer be, and is hereby authorized to execute said contract for improving the described project.

That the LPA transmit to the Director of Transportation a fully executed copy of this resolution

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

CONTRACT ODOT - IMPROVEMENTS TO WALNUT CREEK ROAD AND CHARLESTON PIKE

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to enter into a contract by and between the State of Ohio, Department of Transportation, acting through its director, 1980 West Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43223, and the Board of County Commissioners, County of Ross, The project consists of improvements to Walnut Creek Road (C.R. 233) and Charleston Pike (C.R. 222) by upgrading existing guardrail including installation of new guardrail, lying within Ross County. In view of the fact that the LPA's share of the project is now estimated in the amount of Zero and 00/100 Dollars, (\$0.00), therefore, the County will not be required to deposit any funds at this time.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION CALLED

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Everson seconded, the Ross County Board of Commissioners adjourn into executive session at 12:45pm, to discuss eminent litigation.

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

REGULAR SESSION RESUMED

The executive session called at 12:45pm was adjourned, and the regular meeting resumed at 2:00am. No action was taken.

OTHER BUSINESS

An assemblage of concerned citizens appeared at the Commissioner's meeting to discuss their disapproval of resolutions 044-24 To Establish a Residential Building Department and 045-24, Authorizing the County to Enforce Residential Code of Ohio. The Commissioners rescinded both resolutions, effective immediately.

Beard Ohio Public Finance – Michael Burns discussed what avenues are available if the Commissioners decide to finance the project Ross County Courthouse Restoration. He also discussed the possibility of refinancing the LEC Project Bond to reduce the payment.

Buck Fifty representatives Dave Huggins and Julie Preston – asked the Commissioners about purchasing a piece of property on the corner of Anderson Station Road and Veterans Parkway, to build a storage facility for items related to the Buck Fifty. The Commissioners will do some research on the site and follow up with Mr. Huggins in the near future.

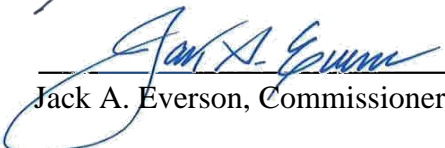
Departmental Budget Meetings were held.

ADJOURN

Mr. Dwight A. Garrett, President, adjourned the regular meeting of October 15, 2024, at 2:10 p.m. Board of Commissioners of Ross County, Ohio


Dwight A. Garrett, President


James E. Lowe, Vice President


Jack A. Everson, Commissioner