

NOVEMBER 25 – MEETING 48
VOLUME 27

The Ross County Board of Commissioners met on this day, November 25, 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 November 18, 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	~	SCHEDULED PA	~	TOTAL VALUE	~	DEPARTMENT	~	SCHEDULED PA	~	TOTAL VALUE	~
Adult Probation		11/25/2024		268.46		Engineer		11/25/2024		1901.4	
Adult Probation		11/25/2024		52.35		Engineer		11/25/2024		94.99	
Adult Probation		11/25/2024		30		Engineer		11/25/2024		625	
Adult Probation		11/25/2024		854.61		Engineer		11/25/2024		862.56	
Auditor		11/25/2024		178.18		Engineer		11/25/2024		460.19	
Auditor		11/25/2024		6772		Engineer		11/25/2024		602.77	
Auditor		11/25/2024		209.6		Engineer		11/25/2024		33	
Auditor		11/25/2024		1515.96		Engineer		11/25/2024		184.8	
Auditor		11/25/2024		755.97		Engineer		11/25/2024		500	
Auditor		11/25/2024		380.54		Engineer		11/25/2024		2835.88	
Auditor		11/25/2024		450		Engineer		11/25/2024		206.06	
Auditor		11/25/2024		577.5		Engineer		11/25/2024		110.6	
Auditor		11/25/2024		1125		Engineer		11/25/2024		174.95	
Auditor		11/25/2024		300		Engineer		11/25/2024		985	
Auditor		11/25/2024		922.5		Engineer		11/25/2024		156	
Auditor		11/25/2024		1147.5		Engineer		11/25/2024		644.59	
Auditor		11/25/2024		712.5		Engineer		11/25/2024		46.25	
Auditor		11/25/2024		745.88		Engineer		11/25/2024		65	
Auditor		11/25/2024		250		Engineer		11/25/2024		22500	
Auditor		11/25/2024		712.5		Engineer		11/25/2024		7551.5	
Auditor		11/25/2024		592.5		Juvenile Court		11/25/2024		167.88	
Automatic Data Processing Bk		11/25/2024		97.28		Juvenile Court		11/25/2024		249	
Automatic Data Processing Bk		11/25/2024		69.99		Juvenile Court		11/25/2024		45.54	
Automatic Data Processing Bk		11/25/2024		207.68		Juvenile Court		11/25/2024		87.44	
Board of Elections		11/25/2024		3304.44		Juvenile Court		11/25/2024		6676.66	
Board of Elections		11/25/2024		117.47		Juvenile Court		11/25/2024		6629.98	
Board of Elections		11/25/2024		12.48		Juvenile Court		11/25/2024		990	
Board of Elections		11/25/2024		97.24		Law Library		11/25/2024		162.03	
Board of Elections		11/25/2024		36.92		Law Library		11/25/2024		6283.79	
Board of Elections		11/25/2024		48.36		Law Library		11/25/2024		149.8	
Board of Elections		11/25/2024		148.72		Litter Control		11/25/2024		424.74	
Board of Elections		11/25/2024		39		Planning Commission		11/25/2024		139.98	
Board of Elections		11/25/2024		182.13		Planning Commission		11/25/2024		38.48	
Board of Elections		11/25/2024		91.29		Planning Commission		11/25/2024		15000	
Board of Elections		11/25/2024		71.45		Planning Commission		11/25/2024		123965.5	
Board of Elections		11/25/2024		130.64		Planning Commission		11/25/2024		16434.5	
Building Department		11/25/2024		8.5		Planning Commission		11/25/2024		30662.08	
Building Department		11/25/2024		80.22		Planning Commission		11/25/2024		69239.2	
Building Department		11/25/2024		394.93		Planning Commission		11/25/2024		2279.5	
Building Department		11/25/2024		85		Planning Commission		11/25/2024		10139.69	
Building Department		11/25/2024		16.98		Planning Commission		11/25/2024		21.27	
Building Department		11/25/2024		139.95		Planning Commission		11/25/2024		8275.22	
Building Department		11/25/2024		22		Planning Commission		11/25/2024		27384	
Building Department		11/25/2024		120		Planning Commission		11/25/2024		44798.36	
Building Department		11/25/2024		85		Planning Commission		11/25/2024		63.44	
Clerk of Courts		11/25/2024		127.41		Probate Court		11/25/2024		1016	
Clerk of Courts		11/25/2024		77.99		Probate Court		11/25/2024		297.44	
Clerk of Courts		11/25/2024		76.97		Probate Court		11/25/2024		250	
Clerk of Courts		11/25/2024		41		Prosecuting Attorney		11/25/2024		2266	
Clerk of Courts		11/25/2024		29		Prosecuting Attorney		11/25/2024		18.9	
Commissioners		11/25/2024		1600		Ross County Court System		11/25/2024		858.24	
Commissioners		11/25/2024		943.38		Sheriff		11/25/2024		36.39	
Commissioners		11/25/2024		113.46		Sheriff		11/25/2024		155.71	
Commissioners		11/25/2024		17.31		Sheriff		11/25/2024		229.43	
Commissioners		11/25/2024		771.39		Sheriff		11/25/2024		709.14	
Commissioners		11/25/2024		379.35		Sheriff		11/25/2024		510	
Commissioners		11/25/2024		105		Sheriff		11/25/2024		2462.22	
Commissioners		11/25/2024		423.42		Sheriff		11/25/2024		849.95	
Commissioners		11/25/2024		1528.41		Sheriff		11/25/2024		378.73	
Commissioners		11/25/2024		595		Sheriff		11/25/2024		330.96	
Commissioners		11/25/2024		80.97		Sheriff		11/25/2024		407.28	
Commissioners		11/25/2024		714.98		Sheriff		11/25/2024		1140.77	
Commissioners		11/25/2024		24405.41		Sheriff		11/25/2024		15513.71	
Commissioners		11/25/2024		1046.04		Sheriff		11/25/2024		79.95	
Commissioners		11/25/2024		47518		Sheriff		11/25/2024		667.89	
Commissioners		11/25/2024		72.8		Sheriff		11/25/2024		3600	
Common Pleas Court #1		11/25/2024		78.99		Sheriff		11/25/2024		375	
Common Pleas Court #1		11/25/2024		330		Sheriff		11/25/2024		126.94	
Common Pleas Court #1		11/25/2024		250		Sheriff		11/25/2024		41.45	
Common Pleas Court #1		11/25/2024		513.39		Sheriff		11/25/2024		44.21	
Common Pleas Court #2		11/25/2024		400		Sheriff		11/25/2024		6.45	
Common Pleas Court #2		11/25/2024		400		Sheriff		11/25/2024		8405.82	
Common Pleas Court #2		11/25/2024		10		Sheriff		11/25/2024		66.95	
Common Pleas Court #2		11/25/2024		125		Sheriff		11/25/2024		125.98	
Common Pleas Court #2		11/25/2024		250		Sheriff		11/25/2024		130	
Common Pleas Court #2		11/25/2024		582.31		Sheriff		11/25/2024		116.98	
Coroner		11/25/2024		286.99		Sheriff		11/25/2024		190	
Coroner		11/25/2024		79.15		Sheriff		11/25/2024		407.56	
Coroner		11/25/2024		173.79		Sheriff		11/25/2024		487.45	
Coroner		11/25/2024		27.98		Sheriff		11/25/2024		963.44	
Coroner		11/25/2024		30		Sheriff		11/25/2024		48.16	
Coroner		11/25/2024		5250		Sheriff		11/25/2024		62.91	
Dog Warden		11/25/2024		5339.85		Sheriff		11/25/2024		196.2	
Emergency Management		11/25/2024		121.65		Sheriff		11/25/2024		936.9	
Engineer		11/25/2024		159.52		Sheriff		11/25/2024		1586.85	
Engineer		11/25/2024		78		Sheriff		11/25/2024		252	
Engineer		11/25/2024		1407.83		Veterans Service Commission		11/25/2024		141.63	
Engineer		11/25/2024		27.98		Veterans Service Commission		11/25/2024		618.77	
Engineer		11/25/2024		988.7		Veterans Service Commission		11/25/2024		398.74	
Engineer		11/25/2024		3940		Veterans Service Commission		11/25/2024		275	
Engineer		11/25/2024		300		Veterans Service Commission		11/25/2024		800	
Engineer		11/25/2024		443.55		Veterans Service Commission		11/25/2024		1000	
Engineer		11/25/2024		4698		Veterans Service Commission		11/25/2024		17350.91	
Engineer		11/25/2024		76.37		Veterans Service Commission		11/25/2024		22.65	
										\$609,003.84	

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 November 11 through November 25, 2024, in the amount of \$13,046.82 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. Lowe moved, Mr. Everson seconded, to appropriate \$71,000.00 from General fund into account code 100-01-04-7001 Salaries Mntc/Janitorial and \$17,000.00 into account code 100-01-23-7001 Salaries Building, per a request of November 25, 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 appropriate \$22,000.00 from Children’s Services fund into account code 231-51-00-7103 Contract Services, per a request, of November 25, 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 appropriate \$34,000.00 from Senior Citizens Levy into account code 234-01-50-7103 Contract Services, per a request of November 25, 2024, from the Ross County Auditor.

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 appropriate \$187.50 from Treasurer Prepayment Interest into account code 214-03-00-7012 PERS, per a request, of November 25, 2024 from the Ross County Treasurer.

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 appropriate \$5,000.00 from General Fund into account code 100-20-00-7012 PERS Clerk of Courts, per a request of November 25, 2024, from the Ross County Clerk of Courts.

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 appropriate \$2,000.00 from General Fund into account code 100-29-00-7014 Group Insurance Sheriff, per a request, of November 25, 2024 from the Ross County Sheriff.

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 appropriate \$122.00 from Concealed Weapon into account code 218-29-00-7550 Other Expenses, per a request of November 25, 2024, from the Ross County Clerk Sheriff.

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

TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Everson seconded, to transfer \$866.00 from account code 100-21-00-7550 Other Expenses, into account code 100-21-00-7107 Cell Phone Service, per a request November 25, 2024 from the Ross County Coroner.

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 \$6,622.09 from account codes 100-02-00-7100 Travel (\$73.81), account code 100-020-00-7150 Supplies (\$1,924.10), account code 100-02-00-7157 Postage (\$978.78), account code100-02-00-7550 Other Expenses (\$1,552.97), account code 100-02-41-7001 PERS (\$428.03) and account code 100-02-42-7101 Advertising and Printing (\$1,664.40), into account code 100-02-00-7014 Group Insurance, per a request November 25, 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 \$9,500.00 from account code 100-00-00-7134 Tax Assessments, into account code 100-01-00-7123 Legal Council, per a request November 25 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 \$20,000.00 from account code 100-26-00-7200 Equipment, into account code 100-26-00-7103 Contract Services, per a request November 25, 2024 from the Ross County Board of Elections.

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 \$1,736.46 from account code 207-01-00-7154 Recycling Cost, into account code 207-01-00-7014 Group Insurance, per a request November 25 2024 from the Ross County Litter Control.

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 \$89,000.00 from account codes 212-29-01-7103 Contract Services, into account code 212-29-01-7550 Other Expenses (\$19,000.00), account code 212-29-01-7103 Contract Services, into account code 212-29-56-7550, Other Expenses (\$6,000.00), Account code 212-29-56-7012 into account codes 212-29-56-7001 Salaries Employees (\$50,000.00), account code 212-29-7014 Group Insurance (\$10,000.00) and account code 212-29-58-7014 Group Insurance (\$4,000.00), per a request November 25, 2024 from the Ross County Sheriff.

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 \$72,431.27 from account code 233-46-85-7409 Auditor & Treasurer Fees, into account code 233-46-85-7103 Contract Services, per a request November 25 2024 from the Ross County Board of DD.

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 \$10,275.00 from account code 208-02-00-7001 Salaries Employees, into account codes 208-02-00-7012 PERS (\$2,075.00) and account code 208-02-00-7014 Group Insurance (\$8,200.00), per a request November 25, 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 \$13,000.00 from account code 420-29-07-7103 Contract Services, into account code 420-29-07-7001 Salaries, per a request November 25 2024 from the Ross County Sheriff Jail Diversion.

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

RESIGNATION ROSS COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS TY HINTON

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to accept the resignation of out-going Clerk of Courts Ty Hinton, effective January 31, 2024.

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

The following proclamation was passed at the regular meeting of the Ross County Board of Commissioners, November 25, 2024, with Dwight A. Garrett, James E. Lowe, and Jack A. Everson in attendance.

**2024 TROOPER OF THE YEAR
ROSS COUNTY POST
TYLER L. BOETCHER**

WHEREAS, Tyler L. Boetcher began his Patrol career with the Ohio State Highway Patrol in 2015, as a member of the 159th Academy Class; and **WHEREAS**, throughout his 30 year career Trooper Boetcher has earned numerous commendations, including the Criminal Patrol Award from 2016-2024, the ACE Award for exemplary performance in 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2021, and the Blue Max award for recovering the most stolen vehicles in Ohio; and **WHEREAS**, Trooper Boetcher was selected for this award, by his peers, for his notable enthusiasm, leadership qualities, and community involvement, coupled with professionalism in his interactions with colleagues, supervisors and the public; and **THEREFORE**, Trooper Boetcher’s honor places him in contention for the District and State Trooper of the Year Awards, to be determined later this year; and **NOW THEREFORE**, The Ross County Board of Commissioners wish to express gratitude and appreciation to Trooper Tyler L. Boetcher for his many years of dedicated service to the Ohio State Highway Patrol and the safety of our community; and **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Commissioners of Ross County, Trooper Tyler L. Boetcher is hereby commended for his dedication and exemplary performance, as:

**OHIO STATE HIGHWAY PATROL
TROOPER OF THE YEAR 2024
TYLER L BOETCHER**

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

MEMORANDUM OF INTENT HOPEWELL CULTURE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Everson seconded, Mr. Garrett be authorized to sign on the Commissioners behalf, a Memorandum of Intent between Hopewell Culture National Historical Park and Ross County, Ohio for four Partner Design and Construction projects at Mound City Group, Seip Earthworks, Hopeton Earthworks, and Hopewell Mound Group.

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

CONTRACT ENTERED INTO WITH CITY OF WELLSTON

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to enter into a contract with the City of Wellston to enforce the Building Code of Ohio for the purpose of providing uniform standards and requirements for the erection, construction, repair, alteration, and maintenance of non-residential buildings defined by section 378 I .06(C)(10) of the Revised Code of Ohio.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION CALLED

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, the Ross County Board of Commissioners adjourn into executive session at 9:39am, to discuss Security Matters at the Ross County Law Enforcement Center.

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 9:39am was adjourned, and the regular meeting resumed at 11:46pm. No action was taken.

BID OPENING JAIL CELL METAL WALLS

Bids were opened as advertised at 12:00am in the Commissioner’s office. Four bids were received; Setterland - \$1,404,000.00 Alternate \$337,000.00, Stockmeister - \$1,438,848.56 Alternate \$302,435.00, IRR - \$1,462,612.00 Alternate \$399,437.00 and CG Group who’s bid was not accepted because there were two bid documents enclosed. Bids were given to Dynotec for review.

MARINE PATROL ASSISTANCE GRANT MATCH

Mr. Everson moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to provide matching funds for the Ross County Sheriff's Office for the 2025 Marine Patrol Assistance Grant. The grant will provide funds for personnel, uniforms, equipment, and miscellaneous costs incurred by our Marine Patrol Unit. The estimated total program cost is \$23,025.00. If awarded this amount, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources will provide \$17,268.75 (75%) and the agency match will be \$5,756.25 (25%).

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

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND CONTRACT BATCH 3

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Everson seconded, to enter into a contract with Burnette Dirtworks to replace three septic systems at a cost of \$34,168.00 to be paid from WPCLF funding.

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

COMBS HEATING AND COOLING INC ESTIMATE

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Everson seconded, to accept the quote from Combs Heating and Cooling, Inc., to furnish the right side expansion tank for the heating system in the prosecutor’s office at the LCNB Bank building, for the amount of \$7,800.00.

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

OTHER BUSINESS

Union Township Tax Increment Financing – Devon Shoemaker, Senior Planner, David Hodge, Attorney for D. R. Horton, and Jeff Harris, Attorney Bricker Graydon discussed the possibility of a residential development on Pleasant Valley Road. Traffic congestion at the intersection of Pleasant Valley Road, Veteran’s Parkway and Clinton Road, during peak hours could be a hindrance to the development. Construction of a round-about to alleviate some of the congestion has been discussed. Implementation of a TIF to help supplement the cost of building the round-about is also being discussed. It was agreed that before either of these two points of discussion can become a reality, a traffic impact study needs to be conducted. Mr. Shoemaker will meet with the county engineer to see what is involved with initiating the traffic study. This will help to determine if the residential development can become a reality.


Melissa Bodey, Senior Benefit Specialist CEBCO Health and Wellness Plans, talked about the 2026 Wellness rates no longer being adjusted by CEBCO. The County will have to determine how and what kind of incentive to provide for those who choose to complete the wellness program.

Mr. Brett Clark – spoke about the erosion of his property related to runoff from culverts under Beatty Road, in Huntington Township. Prosecutor Marks, the Huntington Township Trustees and the County Engineer plan to sit down with Mr. Clark this week to work out some type of solution for this issue.

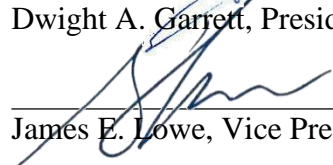
The County Commissioners met with the clerk of the court of common pleas Dionna Orr, Sheriff Lavender, Probate/Juvenile Judge Benson, and Major Paul Arledge, to review the plans for the Jail Cell Metal Wall project and the Courthouse restoration project. Judge Benson made the motion to approve the work on the jail cells, seconded by Ms. Orr, on call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Everson, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Garrett, yes; Ms. Orr, yes; Judge Benson, yes; Major Arledge, yes; Sheriff Lavender; yes. Motion carried.
Once a contract is drawn up for the Courthouse restoration project the committee will reconvene for approval.

ADJOURN

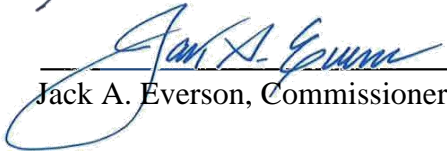
Mr. Dwight A. Garrett, President, adjourned the regular meeting of November 25, 2024, at 12:30 a.m. Board of Commissioners of Ross County, Ohio



Dwight A. Garrett, President



James E. Lowe, Vice President



Jack A. Everson, Commissioner