

MARCH 2, 2023

The Gallia County Board of Commissioners met on this date for the purpose of approving the minutes of the previous meeting and current transfers, appropriations and bills. At 9:00 a.m. the meeting was called to order by President David K. Smith. Roll Call: President David K. Smith, present; Vice President Q. Jay Stapleton, present; Commissioner Leslie Henry, present.

The President entertained a motion for approval of the February 23, 2023 minutes. Q. Jay Stapleton made and Leslie Henry seconded the motion. Roll call: Mr. Smith, yea; Mr. Stapleton, yea; Ms. Henry, yea.

TRAVEL REQUESTS				
DEPARTMENT	NAME	DATE	TO	RE:
GCDJFS	Dana Glassburn	3/20-3/22	Ashtabula	JFS/PCSAO Consolidation Meeting

The President entertained a motion to approve travel requests as submitted. Q. Jay Stapleton made and Leslie Henry seconded the motion. Roll call: Mr. Smith, yea; Mr. Stapleton, yea; Ms. Henry, yea.

2023 Canine Shelter Weekly Report														
Week Ending	Came in	Adopted	Reclaimed	Euthanized	Out to Rescue	MIA	Died (Natural or unknown Causes)	Destroyed (in field)	Total Out	Remaining at shelter	Out to County Foster	In from County Foster	Died in Foster (Natural or Unknown Causes)	Total in Foster
2/26	5	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	20	0	0	0	8

EXECUTIVE SESSION – LEGAL

At 9:01 a.m. the President entertained a motion to enter into executive session with Prosecutor Jason D. Holdren, to discuss imminent court action. Leslie Henry moved and Q. Jay Stapleton seconded the motion. Roll call: Mr. Smith, yea; Mr. Stapleton, yea; Ms. Henry, yea. Also in attendance were: County Administrator Kevin Nicolas, Clerk to the Board Amanda Phillips, Tom White, and Connie Johnson and Candace Harmon from the sewer department. Returned to regular session at 9:24 a.m.; no action taken.

SEWER DEPARTMENT – POLICY AMENDMENT

President David K. Smith entertained a motion that the Gallia County sewer policy reimbursing new customers of the Porter sewer system \$600.00 be increased to \$1000.00 and be retroactive to January 1, 2022. President Smith discussed that all other new customer policy requirements to be eligible for the reimbursement would not change and this increase is due to the COVID pandemic and economic distress on new customers of the Porter sewer system. Q. Jay Stapleton made and Leslie Henry seconded. After discussion, a roll call vote was taken. Upon roll call votes were as follows: Mr. Smith, yea; Mr. Stapleton, yea; Ms. Henry, yea.

CDBG TARGET OF OPPORTUNITY – GRANT LOCAL MATCH

Grant Administrator, Karen Sprague introduced the following resolution for its passage:

A resolution to approve an authorized use of American Rescue Plan fiscal recovery funding and appropriate from unappropriated funds for the American Recovery Plan Fund, #384, for the purpose of Community Development Block Grant-Target of Opportunity Grant Local Match

WHEREAS, Title IX, Subtitle M, Section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act, Pub. L. 117-2 [H.R. 1319], signed into law March 11, 2021 (“**ARPA**”), appropriated Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (the “**Fund**”) payments from the U.S. Treasury Secretary to metropolitan cities, nonentitlement units of local government, and counties; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to the ARPA’s Fund methodology, Gallia County was allocated approximately \$5,800,000 (the “**Fund Payment**”) to “mitigate the fiscal effects stemming from the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)”; and,

WHEREAS, in response to this economic crisis, the Department of the Treasury (“**Treasury Department**”) is providing such relief to state and local governments to enable them to continue to support the public health response and lay the foundation for a strong and equitable economic recovery; and,

WHEREAS, the ARPA and its supporting guidance issued by the Treasury Department provide that the Fund Payment may only be used by the County to finance costs that (a) respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency or its negative economic impacts; (b) respond to workers performing essential work; (c) provide government services to the

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extent of reduction in revenue; and (d) make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure (collectively, "Criteria"); and,

WHEREAS, so long as the County duly directs its Fund Payment to finance those costs in compliance with the Criteria, the County may use the Fund Payment to offset the County's various fiscal effects from COVID-19 during the period beginning March 3, 2021, and ending December 31, 2024 (the "Covered Period"); and,

WHEREAS, the County received some or all of the Fund Payment directly from the Treasury Department and such Fund Payments has been or will be deposited into special revenue fund, #384 titled American Recovery Plan Fund, created and maintained by the County to cover only expenditures consistent with ARPA, including the criteria and applicable regulations; and,

WHEREAS, on January 27, 2022 Gallia County Board of Commissioners deemed the entirety of the County's Fund Payment under the "standard allowance" with respect to loss due to COVID-19. All as set forth under the ARPA, the Criteria, and its supporting Guidance, and as specifically authorized under 31 CFR 35.6(d)(1), to wit: "the reduction in the recipient's general revenue due to the public health emergency over the period of performance will be deemed to be ten million dollars".

WHEREAS, this expenditure (grant match) is aligned with the project code 6.1, Provision of Government Services.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GALLIA COUNTY THAT:

Section 1. The Board of County Commissioners approve the use of ARPA fiscal recovery funds as a provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue due to the COVID-19 public health emergency for Community Development Block Grant-Target of Opportunity grant local match consistent with the allowable use noted in the recitals above and in the U.S. Treasury guidance as of the date of this resolution.

The approval for use is as follows: Community Development Block Grant-Target of Opportunity grant local match in the amount of \$75,000. The stated CDBG Goal for Target of Opportunity Grant is to provide a means to fund worthwhile projects and activities that do not fit within existing program structures, and to provide supplemental resources to resolve immediate and unforeseen needs.

President Smith entertained a motion to approve the CDBG Target of Opportunity grant local match as submitted by Karen Sprague. Q. Jay Stapleton made and Leslie Henry seconded. After discussion, a roll call vote was taken. Upon roll call votes were as follows: Mr. Smith, yea; Mr. Stapleton, yea; Ms. Henry, yea.

ADOPTED: this 2nd day of March, 2023

TARA ESTATES SEWER REPLACEMENT PAYMENT RESOLUTION # 4

Grants Administrator Karen Sprague presented the Commission with Payment Resolution # 4 for the Tara Estates Sewer Replacement Project for the following items:

- Construction - \$187,607.84
- Engineering - \$26,742.98
- Total = \$214,350.82

Invoices will be or have been paid as follows:

- DLZ Invoice # 65908 = \$26,742.98 to be paid as follows:
 - \$25,975.98 from 2021 WWIP Grant Fund #387
 - \$767.00 from B-X-21-1AY-1 Grant Fund #388
- Southern Ohio Trenching & Excavating Inc. Pay Application # 4 = \$191,039.84 to be paid as follows:
 - \$42,211.76 from B-X-21-1AY-1 Grant Fund #387
 - \$13,695.37 from B-F-21-1AY-1 Grant Fund #388
 - \$131,700.71 from 2021 WWIP-Tara Estates Grant Fund #389
 - Household Connections = \$53,580.80
 - Tara Sewer Replacement = \$78,119.91

President Smith entertained a motion to approve payment resolution # 4 as submitted and sign the contractors pay application #4. Leslie Henry moved and Q. Jay Stapleton seconded the motion. Upon roll call votes were as follows: Mr. Smith, yea; Mr. Stapleton, yea; Ms. Henry, yea.

s/ David K. Smith, President

s/ Amanda Phillips, Clerk of the Board

s/ Q. Jay Stapleton, Vice President

s/ Leslie Henry, Commissioner

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GREEN SEWER PHASE 2 PAYMENT RESOLUTION # 19

GMCAA Grants Administrator Karen Sprague presented the Commission with Payment Resolution # 19 for the Green Sewer Phase 2 Project for the following items:

- Construction - \$0.00
- Legal Fees = \$2,766.25
- Engineering: \$51,944.16
- Total = \$54,710.41

Invoices to be paid as follows:

- Bricker & Eckler invoice 815952 = \$2,766.25 to be paid to DLZ by Gallia County from USDA draw #16
- DLZ invoice 65889 = \$51,944.16 to be paid to DLZ by Gallia County from USDA draw #16

Q. Jay Stapleton moved and Leslie Henry seconded a motion to approve payment resolution # 19 as submitted. Upon roll call votes were as follows: Mr. Smith, yea; Mr. Stapleton, yea; Ms. Henry, yea.

USDA - GREEN SEWER PHASE 2 DISBURSEMENT #16

GMCAA Grants Administrator Karen Sprague presented the Commission with USDA Disbursement #16 for the Green Sewer Phase 2 Project for the following items:

- Bricker & Eckler invoice 815952 = \$2,766.25 to be paid to DLZ by Gallia County from USDA draw #16
- DLZ invoice 65889 = \$51,944.16 to be paid to DLZ by Gallia County from USDA draw #16
- Total USDA Disbursement Request = \$54,710.41

Q. Jay Stapleton moved and Leslie Henry seconded a motion to approve and sign the USDA Disbursement #16 as submitted. Upon roll call votes were as follows: Mr. Smith, yea; Mr. Stapleton, yea; Ms. Henry, yea.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – DJFS – PERSONNEL

At 10:07 a.m. the president entertained a motion to enter into executive session with DJFS Business Administrator Kathy Campbell to consider the employment of a public employee. Leslie Henry moved and Q. Jay Stapleton seconded the motion. Roll call: Mr. Smith, yea; Mr. Stapleton, yea; Ms. Henry, yea. Returned to regular session at 10:11 a.m., no action taken.

DJFS – NEW HIRE

Kathy Campbell, DJFS Business Administrator, recommended the following new hire with an effective hire date to be determined by the Director upon successful completion of preliminary employment screening processes and in accordance with ORC 5101:2-33-55 (B) (1). Elisha Meadows-Biland, Classification Number 17223 Position control # 21005.0. Pay Rate of \$17.580 per hour. The President entertained hiring Ms. Meadows-Biland as recommended, Leslie Henry made and Q. Jay Stapleton seconded the motion. Upon roll call votes were as follows: Mr. Smith, yea; Mr. Stapleton, yea; Ms. Henry, yea.

EMS – QUARTERLY UPDATE

EMS director, Keith Wilson met with the commissioners to provide his quarterly update. No action taken.

911 – EQUIPMENT PURCHASING UPDATE

911 Director Sherry Daines provided an update on the 911 equipment purchase process. Mrs. Daines stated that the vendor would not provide her with an extension on the date the equipment quote would remain valid. President Smith stated that a decision toward purchasing the equipment would need to be reached by the end of March. Mrs. Daines also stated that Karen Sprague, Grant Administrator had applied for the USDA loan. Once that comes back, she will send the contract to the Prosecutor and meet again with the Commission. No action taken.

911 – AT&T ILEC SERVICE AGREEMENT – EXTENSION

911 Director Sherry Daines presented an AT&T extension amendment to their current service agreement for ILEC Centrex Service for an additional 12 months beyond the current service term. President David Smith entertained a motion to approve the AT&T extension amendment for 911 and to sign for the Commission. Q. Jay Stapleton made and Leslie Henry seconded the motion: Roll calls: Mr. Smith, yea; Mr. Stapleton, yea; Ms. Henry, yea.

NATIONAL NUTRITION MONTH 2023 – PROCLAMATION

The President entertained a motion to approve the following proclamation. Q. Jay Stapleton made and Leslie Henry seconded the motion: Roll calls: Mr. Smith, yea; Mr. Stapleton, yea; Ms. Henry, yea. Also in attendance: Gallia County WIC, Lorie Siders.

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**National Nutrition Month 2023
Proclamation**

WHEREAS food is the substance by which life is sustained; and

WHEREAS the type, quality, and amount of food that individuals consume each day plays a vital role in their overall health and physical fitness; and

WHEREAS there is a need for continuing nutrition education and wide-scale effort to enhance healthy eating practices;

NOW, THEREFORE we, the Board of Gallia County Commissioners, of Gallia County, Ohio in the city of Gallipolis, in the State of Ohio

DO HEREBY PROCLAIM the month of March **NATIONAL NUTRITION MONTH** in Gallia County, Ohio, and we encourage all citizens to join the campaign and become concerned about their nutrition and the nutrition of others in hope of achieving optimum health for both today and tomorrow.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF we have here to set our hand and caused the Great Seal of the Board of Gallia County Commissioners to be affixed.

Done at the Gallia County Courthouse on this 2nd day of March two thousand and twenty-three.

s/ David K. Smith, President

s/ Q. Jay Stapleton, Vice President

s/ Leslie Henry, Commissioner

AEP – GRANT APPLICATION SUPPORT LETTER

Kevin Nicholas, County Administrator presented a letter of support for AEP's Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnership Grant Application. AEP is submitting this grant application to the U.S. Department of Energy to support the implementation of AEP's underground distribution initiative technologies. The initiative is to connect the underserved and disadvantaged communities with long-term support and opportunity. The President entertained a motion to sign and provide the support letter to AEP as presented by Mr. Nicholas. Q. Jay Stapleton made and Leslie Henry seconded the motion: Roll calls: Mr. Smith, yea; Mr. Stapleton, yea; Ms. Henry, yea.

COURTHOUSE MAINTENANCE – TREE REMOVAL

Josh Skidmore, Maintenance Superintendent discussed with the Commissioners the issues with trees and shrubs around the courthouse that are potentially causing damage to the building foundation and sidewalks. President David K. Smith stated that the courthouse basement has been experiencing water intrusion issues for a long time, and since construction of the new Jail began, the water issue has gotten worse over the last year. The trees near the building can cause foundation issues from the large root network trees produce underground and the issue would only get worse with time. The President entertained a motion to give Mr. Skidmore the authority to work with Mount Tree Service to remove trees and shrubs encroaching on the sidewalks and building. Leslie Henry made and Q. Jay Stapleton seconded the motion. Roll calls: Mr. Smith, yea; Mr. Stapleton, yea; Ms. Henry, yea.

COURTHOUSE ANNEX WINDOWS – CHRISTIAN MORRIS CONSTRUCTION

Kevin Nicholas, County Administrator and Josh Skidmore, Maintenance Superintendent presented to the Commissioners a quote from Christian Morris Construction to install one test window for \$950.00 in the Annex side of courthouse. The window will be installed in the second-floor storage room to ensure the method and cost of installation will be acceptable for the remaining 39 windows that need replaced. The President entertained a motion to approve the window quote as presented by Mr. Nicholas. Q. Jay Stapleton made and Leslie Henry seconded the motion: Roll calls: Mr. Smith, yea; Mr. Stapleton, yea; Ms. Henry, yea.

COURTHOUSE REPAIRS – CHRISTIAN MORRIS CONSTRUCTION

Kevin Nicholas, County Administrator and Josh Skidmore, Maintenance Superintendent presented to the Commissioners a quote from Christian Morris Construction to replace missing fascia and repair gutters on the front and rear of the courthouse near the roof for \$2,500.00. The President entertained a motion to approve the gutter and fascia repairs as presented by Mr. Nicholas. Leslie Henry made and Q. Jay Stapleton seconded the motion: Roll calls: Mr. Smith, yea; Mr. Stapleton, yea; Ms. Henry, yea.

IT – HORIZON INTERNET AGREEMENT

John Grubb, IT Director presented a Fiber Service Agreement for 60 months with Horizon (The Chillicothe Telephone Company) to provide dedicated internet service to the new Jail at 1000mbps and a dedicated internet service to the courthouse at 500mbps for \$1,700.00 per month. President David Smith asked if this service to the new Jail would provide the necessary internet capability in 5 to 10 years from now, and Mr. Grubb agreed it would handle any forecasted needs to the new facility. The President entertained a motion to approve the Horizon Fiber Service Agreement as presented by Mr. Grubb. Leslie Henry made and Q. Jay Stapleton seconded the motion: Roll calls: Mr. Smith, yea; Mr. Stapleton, yea; Ms. Henry, yea.

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BOARD OF ELECTIONS – STORAGE

Chris Burnett, BOE Director and Eric Whitt, BOE Assistant Director met with the Commissioners to discuss storage of their equipment transport carts. In previous meetings they had entertained the idea of putting the carts in the front space of the Conley Building. Mr. Burnett does not believe the front section of the building will be accessible due to the hallway layout and size of the carts after conducting a walk-through of that area. Mr. Burnett is interested in another room in the rear of the building, but will require coordination with another tenant leasing those rooms. The Commissioners advised to coordinate with the tenant to see if an agreement can be made and the space not under lease is available. No action taken.

RESOLUTION DECLARING EMERGENCY – COURTHOUSE WATER INTRUSION

President David Smith discussed the critical need to immediately address the water intrusion problem in the Courthouse basement. The courthouse basement has been experiencing water intrusion after heavy rain storms for several years and the problem has increased after construction of the new Jail. The water intrusion has become a serious issue in the past several months. This increase in water pooling in the basement is damaging to equipment and foundations, and a safety hazard around electrical devices. President Smith stated the solutions to fix this serious problem must be implemented immediately. President Smith entertained a motion to declare an emergency to fix the water intrusion problem in the Courthouse basement. Q. Jay Stapleton moved and Leslie Henry seconded the motion to declare an emergency. Roll calls: Mr. Smith, yea; Mr. Stapleton, yea; Ms. Henry, yea.

COURTHOUSE – DRAINAGE PROJECT

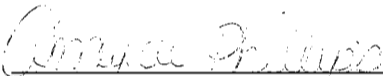
Kevin Nicholas, County Administrator presented three contractor quotes to complete a Courthouse drainage project around the exterior foundation that will address the water intrusion problem in the basement. Rod Clary Excavating quote: \$74,000.00; Grace Excavating quote: \$87,200.00; and LJ Excavating quote: \$175,000.00. President David Smith entertained a motion to award the Courthouse drainage project contract to Rod Clary Excavating in the amount of \$74,000.00. Leslie Henry made and Q. Jay Stapleton seconded the motion: Roll calls: Mr. Smith, yea; Mr. Stapleton, yea; Ms. Henry, yea.

ADJOURN

At 4:00 p.m. the President entertained a motion for adjournment. Q. Jay Stapleton made and Leslie Henry seconded the motion. Roll call: Mr. Smith, yea; Mr. Stapleton, yea; Ms. Henry, yea.



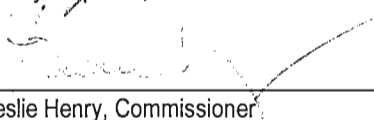
 David K. Smith, President



 Amanda Phillips, Clerk to the Board



 Q. Jay Stapleton, Vice President



 Leslie Henry, Commissioner