

COMMISSIONER'S JOURNAL

Wednesday

Regular

January 9, 2008

The Coshocton County Commissioners meet in regular session on Wednesday, January 9, 2007 with Mr. Dane Shryock, Mr. Gary Fischer and Mr. Larry Stahl in attendance. Also present was Ms. Robin Schonauer, Asst. Clerk.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Fischer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stahl to approve the minutes as presented for Monday, January 9, 2008.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea

Disbursement Request #2

Mr. Stahl made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fischer to sign Disbursement Request #2 for OPWC, in the amount of \$6,664.03 for the SR 83 Waterline Extension Project.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea

Prisoner Food Cost

Received Prisoner Food Cost for the month of December 2007 from Sheriff Tim Rogers.

Board Appointment

Mr. Fischer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stahl to appoint Mr. Duane Meyers to the Muskingham River Advisory Committee for unlimited term.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea

1st Quarter Payment-Port Authority

Mr. Stahl made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fischer to approve the 1st quarter payment of \$13,750 to the Coshocton Port Authority.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea

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Treasurer Report

Ms. Barb Karr from the Treasures office attended the meeting to give the Commissioners the month Treasurer's report. Ms. Karr stated that 2007 was a good year and 2008 will prove to be a challenge with the changing of the rates to start 2008.

Cross Roads RC &D

Ms. Sandy Chenal with Cross Roads RC &D attended the meeting. Mr. Shryock informed Ms. Chenal that the Commissioners have decided to join Cross Roads this year. Ms. Chenal stated that the Commissioners would need to appoint one of the three of them to be a member and then they would also have to appoint an at large appointee. Ms. Chenal explained different projects that they have help with in the past in Coshocton County and the benefits of being a member of Cross Roads. She indicated that if they are never approached for assistance they would never be present in our community. They would like to use the Commissioners as the local filter to know if a project is viable. They also assist organizations to become non profit and help with fund raising for projects. Mr. Shryock asked how many counties were members of Cross Roads? Ms. Chenal stated that all the counties have been members for a long time except for Coshocton County and also the Soil and Water Boards have been members with the exception of Coshocton. She also, stated that Coshocton as not been a member for least 5 years. Mr. Stahl asked if she had done any work with bicentennial activities? She indicated that they have helped one community. Mr. Shryock wanted Ms. Chenal to know that the current board is trying to be very proactive in the using resources that available to them. Mr. Fischer asked if she has ever done any restoration of Courthouses. She stated that they have not but she suggests some counties have used CDBG funds and local foundations. Ms. Chenal stated that there are 4 meetings a year that the members would attend unless they are on the executive committee that meets once a month.

Employee/Employer Relations

Ms. Dana Callahan and Ms. Joanie Durben attended the meeting. Minutes were read and accepted. Mr. Shryock asked if anyone had any comments or concerns. Ms. Callahan stated she was disappointed that there were no more employees present at the meeting and she had no concerns to bring to the meeting and she hoped they would continue the meetings. Ms. Durben had the same feelings as Ms. Callahan. Next meeting is scheduled for February 13, 2008 at 10 a.m.

EMS-Mike Perkins

Mr. Mike Perkins, Director of Coshocton County EMS, LLC attended the meeting. Mr. Shryock stated that Mr. Perkins was in attendance to discuss a timeline for the Commissioners to bring the Coshocton County EMS, LLC, who is owned and operated by Ohio Medical Transportation Inc. with levy funds back as a county agency. Mr. Shryock stated that he has spoken with Ms. Pat Harsh, the insurance representative for the county about insuring the vehicles and buildings plus contents of EMS, Ms. Harsh indicated that she has already spoken with Jacobs Vanaman Agency and that there would not be an issue bring them on to our policy other than we will need the titles to the vehicles in the county's name also Mr. Shryock spoke with Ms. Sandy Corder, Auditor of the county's intention to bring EMS back to the county and that we would be using a timeline of July 1, 2008 and we would need to have the budget set at this time. Mr. Shryock stated that Ms. Corder did not see a problem with the process. Mr. Fischer stated that it is important to note the Mr. Perkins has expressed that if the EMS becomes a county agency all equipment and vehicles will become county property and the management and resources are a lot different now then before when the county operated EMS and that all the Commissioners are in agreement that this is a turn key operation and that the public will not see a significance difference if any in the change of ownership in this organization. Mr. Stahl stated it was his understanding that Mr. Perkins would be keeping all the current employees. However, they would have to go thru the county hiring process and if they met that process, then they would be retained. Mr. Perkins stated yes that is his intent unless the

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Commissioners change the structure of the operation or the philosophy then that would change but he does not feel that a change in the structure will happen. Mr. Stahl asked Mr. Perkins if the decision to bring EMS back to the county is in the best interest of the county and if he says yes he will back him 100 %. Mr. Perkins started by saying Ohio Medical Transportation has been very receptive to the decisions made by the Coshocton County Commissioners who were there in 1999 when the Commissioners come to them for help, Mr. Perkins stated that he thought that Mr. Shryock had stated at one time in the paper that some of the deficiencies were corrected that the time and the that this agency is a tight run operation and some of the issues of the private vs. public operation will be eliminated by the county taking the serve back. He feels that if you have the right people and the proper funding in place then there is now reason why the service will not continue to be a good service to the county and agrees that county can run the EMS service as it was run by Ohio Medical Transport. Mr. Perkins feels that he and the Commissioners have the same vision and that is to take care of people in the most cost effective and safe manner as possible. Mr. Fischer stated there has always been a concern of a private not for profit agency using tax dollars to operate EMS and that the most efficient way to use county tax dollars would be to take the agency back. We can then effectively manage the tax dollars for the much needed capital improvements to the jail and EMS buildings. Mr. Perkins stated the Ohio Medical Transportation transition will be smooth and can to take place on July 1, 2008. Mr. Fischer wanted to thank Ohio Medical Transportation for effectively managing and operating EMS for the past seven years and working with the Board of County Commissioners. Mr. Shryock stated that he would not be comfortable making this transition if this organization hadn't been run so smoothly in the past several years by OMT and Mr. Perkins. Mr. Shryock stated that he has been approached by several individuals about a private company operating EMS with levy dollars and this will remove that concern. As for the budget we will now know exactly were the tax dollars are going in the operation of the ambulance service. That is one reason they have been able to operate in the manner that they have for the passed several years and as the public safety service the EMS agency will never be a self sufficient operation run with out levy dollars. It will need public support and confidence when it comes time to vote on this levy and the public needs to know that the privatization has been removed. Mr. Fischer stated the past Commissioners did not have the resources of a levy to properly manage EMS. Mr. Shryock asked for any other comments. Mr. Perkins stated that his only concern would be the structure of the agency being an emergency and non-emergency agency if it would stay the same it is going to be a lateral transfer if not then there will need to be more conversation to re-structure of the organization. Mr. Shryock stated that from where the board stands it should be a lateral transfer. Mr. Shryock feels that at this time we want to be the 911 provider for emergencies in the county and that would be top priority and other transports would be secondary transports. Mr. Shryock then requested the following motion:

Mr. Fischer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stahl to except the responsibility of the Coshocton County EMS, LLC from Ohio Medical Transport Inc. to the Coshocton County Commissioners office and operate it as Coshocton County EMS under the Coshocton County Commissioners office effective July 1, 2008. Rule call vote was taken. All voted yea.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea

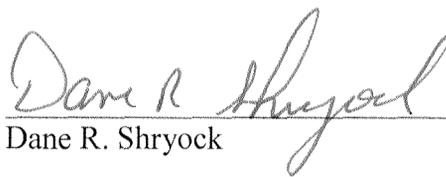
COMMISSIONER'S JOURNAL

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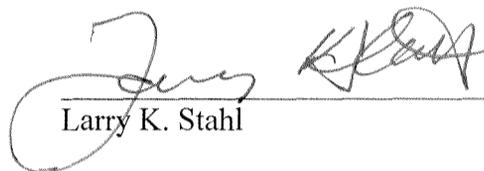
At 12:00 p.m. Mr. Shryock adjourned the meeting.



Dane R. Shryock



Gary L. Fischer



Larry K. Stahl



Clerk