

# COMMISSIONER'S JOURNAL

**Monday**

**Regular**

**August 4, 2008**

The Coshocton County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, August 4, 2008 with Mr. Gary Fischer, Mr. Dane Shryock and Mr. Larry Stahl in attendance. Also present was Mr. Ken Smailes, WTNS, Ms. Kathie Dickerson, The Tribune and Ms. Mary Beck, Clerk.

## Approval of Minutes

Mr. Stahl made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to approve the minutes as presented for Wednesday July 30, 2008.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea

## Resolution 2008-39

Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stahl to sign Resolution 2008-39 Appointing Bond Counsel and An Investment Banker in Connection with a Proposed Voted Bond Issue of the County, The Proceeds of Which Will Be Used To Finance The Design, Construction, Improvement, Furnishing, and Equipping of Certain County Facilities.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea

## Resolution 2008-40

Mr. Stahl made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to sign Resolution 2008-40 Declaring Necessity of Bond Issue and to submit the Question of such Issue to the Electors.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea

## Purchase of Service Agreement – JFS/Big Brothers/Big Sisters

Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stahl to sign Purchase of Service Contract between JFS and Big Brothers/Big Sisters for the period of July 1, 2008 to terminate on June 30, 2009 for a sum not to exceed \$14,900.60.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea

## Contract – Untied Precast

Mr. Stahl made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to sign Contract with United Precast, Inc. of Mt Vernon, Ohio for the project 2008 Four Sided Concrete Pre-Cast Structures, OPWC RD 22, CNT08/MVG for the sum of \$57,312.00 for the OPWC portion subject to deductions as provided elsewhere in the contract documents or by change order at the request of County Engineer, Fred Wachtel.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea



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## Resolution 2008-41

Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stahl to sign Resolution 2008-41 Authorizing Terry W. Miller, Director of the Coshocton County Job and Family Services to approve and sign all contracts for said agency with a per-contract value of \$10,000 or less.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea

## Service Support Agreement – Medtronic

Mr. Stahl made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to sign Technical Service Support Agreement with Medtronic and the Coshocton County EMS for the period of 7/1/08 to 6/30/09 for the annual sum of \$12,082.00.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea

## Then and Now Certificates

Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stahl to approve the following Then and Now Certificates which have been certified by the County Auditor.

Payee	Amount	Department	Account Number
Commercial Electronics Inc	\$1,556.00	EMS	120-0100-5250.00
Hancock Cty Bd of Election	\$1,395.00	BOE	001-0310-5400.00
Pomerene Center for the Arts	\$ 360.00	JFS	030-0100-5400.02
RiverView Community Park	\$ 180.00	JFS	030-0100-5400.02

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea

## Transfers

Mr. Stahl made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to approve the following Transfers/Additional which have been approved by the County Auditor.

### Board of Elections/Transfer

From	To	Amount
Unanticipated Revenue	001-0310-5400.01 ADA Grant Funds	\$1,321.30
001-1510-5900.03 EMA	140-0100-4007.00 EMA	\$55,000.00
001-0310-526000 Contract Services	001-031054000 other expenses	\$1500.00

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea

## Prisoner Maintenance

Received the Prisoner Maintenance Report for the month of June 2008 from the Coshocton County Sheriff's Office.

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## Contractor Agreement – JFS/Ed and Chris Gallagher

Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stahl to sign an Independent Contract Agreement between JFS and Ed and Chris Gallagher in the amount not to exceed \$17,500.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea

## Discussion – Mr. Jim Bailey

Mr. Jim Bailey attended the meeting. He stated that he had an incident with the animal shelter. He had two dogs that were running at large and taken to the animal shelter. He got one dog back, but the other one was adopted out and that was only one day after the dog was taken to the animal shelter. Chris Sturtz at the shelter refuses to give him the name of the person she gave the dog to. He said that they have asked the gentleman to bring the dog back, but the person who got the dog says it is his dog. The issue seems to be that the gentleman that took the dog said it was his dog and that is why they gave him the dog. Mr. Shryock stated that the dogs that are seized, should be kept at least 3 days. He can understand why they gave the man the dog since he said that it was his. Mr. Stahl called Ms. Marilyn Bucklew at the Humane Society and requested that she take care of the situation. Ms. Bucklew told Mr. Stahl to have Mr. Bailey call her and she will work on the situation. The Commissioners asked Mr. Bailey to contact them if he does not get any resolution.

## Open Broad Band RFP's – Mr. Jeff Gamrath

Mr. Jeff Gamrath and Mr. Jon Mosier attended the meeting to open the Broad Band RFP's. They received the proposals and they are as follows: NexGenAccess, Inc., Delaware, Ohio Lightspeed Wireless, Berlin, Ohio and Connx, Cumberland, Maryland which was submitted by e-mail to the Commissioners Office. The Commissioners will take the proposals under advisement and will schedule conference calls with each prospect. The Commissioners thanked Mr. Gamrath and Mr. Mosier for attending.

## Broad Band Update – Mr. Aaron Schmitt, Congressman Space's Office

Ms. Marissa Mullett, Ms. Sara Jane Lindsey, Mayor Steve Mercer, Mr. Jon Mosier, Mr. Jeff Gamrath and Mr. Aaron Schmitt attended the meeting for an update on the Broad Band Issue for the county. Ms. Lindsey introduced everyone and stated that Mr. Schmitt is here for the day and is very interested in the Commissioners progress on the Broad Band Initiative. Mr. Fischer stated that the Commissioners just opened three proposals for the Broad Band Project. We have received a lot of interest in this project. We have offered the county 911 towers for the project as well as the State Marcs Towers, which will be subleased by the county at a cost of \$400 per month to recoup the monies the state will charge the county for the use of the Marcs Towers. We are very excited about this project and we have had great participation by the community in this endeavor. We actually had approximately 10 companies interested in the project, and had three companies actually submit a proposal. He also stated that we have some surrounding counties interested in the project as well. Mr. Schmitt stated that Congressman Space is very interested in this project and making broad band available to rural areas. He stated that in his office they have experienced the difficulty in getting broad band to rural areas and praised the Commissioners for their work on this initiative. He stated that if there is anything that his office can do in the way of grants or loans, please contact their office for assistance. He discussed the Connect the Nation Act that the Congressman is working on and has introduced a lot of legislation on this issue. He stated that they are working with the USDA to help make their loan process easier for companies. Mr. Mercer stated that what the Commissioners have put together is very pioneering and they have received inquiries from within the state and also outside the state on this project. Mr. Fischer stated that the Congressman has been involved in this plan from day one and at that time his office has been monumental in getting help from the state. Also, he feels that our timing on this initiative was optimal. Mr. Schmitt stated that sometimes when you are pioneering in your efforts, it takes the state some time to catch-up. So, if

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there is anything that they can do to help please get them involved. Mr. Fischer stated that he also feels that Mr. Chuck Ellis was instrumental in the project as his company is one that will benefit greatly from this initiative. He also praised the residents of Coshocton County in their efforts to get broad band out in the county.

Mr. Mercer asked for the Commissioners to discuss the Three Rivers Peninsula Project. Mr. Shryock stated that we have an area that has several properties in the flood plain and is continually being flooded. A project was initiated to purchase all the properties and move that area to a green space. Funding is in the process to help purchase those properties.

Also, Mr. Shryock stated that another project the county is working on is to extend the runway at the airport from 4,000 feet to 5,000 feet. We have applied for grant funding to help with this project and we are looking at all options for the remaining funds on this project. Mr. Schmitt stated that he is aware of the funding requests for these projects that have come into his office. At this time, this year's appropriations are pretty much spoken for. Next year when they go through the funding process again, they will need to submit a request and he will see what can be done.

Mr. Schmitt stated that next year the Congressman will be on the Transportation Committee and he is wondering if the County has any roads that they would like to submit for a project. This would also include the airport improvement request. Mr. Mercer asked about the funding for OSU Extension. Ms. Lindsey explained that they are federally funded, also through OSU and then the Commissioners also fund them. The Commissioners thanked Mr. Schmitt for attending. Mr. Schmitt stated that Coshocton County is a real model for the initiatives that Congressman Space is for and if there is anything his office can do to keep Coshocton County moving forward please contact him. Mr. Fischer thanked him for coming.

**2009 Preliminary Budget – Ms. Sandy Corder**

Ms. Sandy Corder and Ms. Chris Sycks and Ms. Robin Schonauer attended the meeting to discuss the 2009 Preliminary Budget. Mr. Fischer turned the meeting over to Ms. Corder. Ms. Corder stated that she and Ms. Sycks looked over the submitted 2009 estimated budget. She stated that they are estimating the carryover budget will be \$700,000 some odd dollars. She stated that she feels that some of the estimates for carryover in the past have been lower than what actually was carried over because of conservative estimates. She stated that she feels that we are not able to invest as much monies as in the past because the schools are asking for the total monies collected as we receive them from the tax collection. She did state that the sales collection is up over 4% from last year. However, the collection is a couple months behind and that is why we are seeing this increase now is because of the stimulus package. She uses the state reporting numbers which shows a decrease of 12% in the sales tax anticipated overall. She used these figures to estimate for 2009 and that is why the estimates are low. She also stated that conveyance fees this year are up and will impact some of our estimates for this year. When she looks at the expenses and the revenue, we are short almost exactly the same amount. We received a report from the Auditors Association that shows the Local Government Funds should be reduced by 2%. This will be \$16,000 less than expected. The original estimates showed that we should receive over \$30,000 more than last year. She asked if at this time the Commissioners are going to ask county offices to look at their budgets and see if they can cut. Mr. Shryock stated that in the past once we receive the estimated budgets, we then contact the departments and have a meeting closer to the end of the year to inform those departments of the estimated shortfall. Mr. Shryock stated that once we get a chance to get through all this, we will contact the departments and tell them that we really need them to look closely at their June anticipated budgets. Ms. Corder stated that with the nature of our economic times, we should meet a couple of times to discuss some of the estimated budgets. She feels the Commissioners should send something out to the departments suggesting how they should take a percentage cut. Mr. Shryock stated that historically, there has been a big difference in the June anticipated budgets and what they are really requesting by year end. Ms. Corder then stated that the Auditor's Association is working with this Governments Reform Association. She stated that she



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## Budget continued

met with her staff last week and they are looking for ways to work more efficiently. She stated that she has a payroll administrator that has 14 years worth of workers compensation experience and is willing to take over those duties as the Commissioners re-structure their office. Secondly, she stated that in 2006 the Commissioners came to her office and stated that they would like to take on the budget responsibilities that were in her office. She stated that her office has done this in the past, and would be willing to take this responsibility back. She sees this as an increased cost to the county and she would be willing to take that back. She stated that she is looking for ways to decrease costs in the county and she feels this would be one way to do this. She presented the Commissioners with the 2007 audit and stated that it was one of the cleanest audits for some time. Mr. Shryock stated that Coshocton County is up on the sales tax between 9 and 2% each month. He asked how the state is doing. Ms. Corder stated that the state is decreasing somewhat. He then asked if the Auditor' Office will do an amended certificate for the estimated shortfalls in the budget. Ms. Corder stated that they may do something in September as they normally do things quarterly. She also stated that they have not officially heard anything from the state at this time, but if and when they do, they will make the change.

## Discussion

Mr. Shryock stated that a buy-out option was investigated by the Clerk and the Commissioners Fiscal Officer to determine if there would be a savings to offer a 2 year buy-out for Commissioners employees. After the research it was determined if the Commissioners offer a 2 year buy-out, there could be a potential savings of over \$100,000 to the county. There is one employee eligible to take that buy-out and that is the safety and loss control coordinator. They offered that option to that employee and she elected to take the buy-out. With that being done, the Commissioners have elected to absorb that position and spread that job among three other employees. Ms. Tiffany Swigert will come over to the Commissioners Office and help with that position. Presently we are looking to reduce our staff by one full-time person. At this time, the employee that was offered the buy-out, has elected to take the buy-out and will retire tentatively on December 31, 2008. Mr. Fischer reiterated that this is a cost savings to the county. Mr. Fischer stated that because of the paperwork that needed to be filed and because of Ms. Harsh's acceptance of the buy-out, her name has been withheld until this time. Because of the restructuring of this office there were some concerns from other county offices of what was taking place. This office and I was trying to alleviate those concerns with Ms. Sandy Corder. Her ideas and her concerns will be taken in to considerations during this restructuring process.

## Bond Issue – Justice Center

Mr. Joseph Robertson, Seasongood and Mayer, Mr. Matt Stout, Bricker and Eckler and Sheriff Tim Rogers attended the meeting to go over the resolutions for the bond issue. Mr. Fischer opened the meeting and turned it over to Mr. Robertson. Mr. Robertson stated that at this time we have the details for this project worked out and the preliminary numbers for bond issue. There are a few minor details that need to be worked out on the assessed values. He stated that they are here to answer any questions or concerns. Mr. Stahl stated that 1.6 is the estimated millage that will need to be requested. He then stated that since the hospital levy came off and the 1 mill came off of the EMS levy, there is 2 mills that have been voted in that would not create an increase in the voted millage. Mr. Shryock asked if they see any time constraints on this issue. Mr. Stout stated that we are ahead of schedule. Mr. Shryock asked what percentage we are looking at. Mr. Robertson stated that he feels possibly 4.5 to 5%. Mr. Shryock asked how the bond would be broken out. Mr. Robertson explained that we will have three different breakdowns, with on principal payment. Mr. Stahl asked if we would by some miracle find some grant funding could we put this toward the jail and decrease the millage. Mr. Robertson stated that we could keep the notes in short term and wait to issue the bonds, or keep a portion in a note and utilize any funding we can find. Sheriff Rogers asked if the jail would produce revenue in the future, could we utilize those monies to reduce the bond. Mr. Robertson stated that we cannot call the debt until the state of call period, but we could put the monies in an account to help pay on the principal or unexpected expenses from the jail. Mr.

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## Bond Issue Continued

Shryock stated that we have done all the research we can do on this issue. It has been two years getting to this point and we are moving forward with this bond issue. He stated that he feels we are giving the voters facts for them to make an informative decision. Mr. Shryock then asked Mr. Robertson if this issue passes should we look at the outstanding bonds and possibly reissue. Mr. Robertson stated that we will definitely do that. Mr. Fischer stated that he feels that it is important at this time to state that we are taking a pro-active approach at this. It is very difficult to make the residents worry about prisoners, but the current holding capacity of the jail is 18 and at this time we have 62 prisoners in there. There are 2 mills of approved levy monies out there that have not been renewed so by putting this bond issue on the ballot, we will not be asking for additional levy dollars. The Commissioners thanked them for attending.

## Discussion – Stg. Daniel Baird

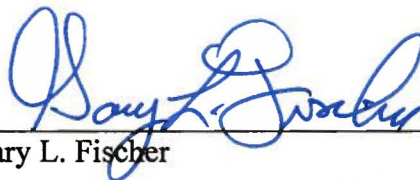
Mr. Baird stated that last Friday she received a call from Citizens of Patriots stating that the Commissioners were requiring the need for insurance to utilize the use of the Court Square. According to Mr. Baird Mr. Brian Benbow, Esq., contacted Angie Guilliams and stated that Mr. Stahl had told him they were required to have insurance. Mr. Baird then came to the Commissioners Office and was assured by Mr. Fischer and Mr. Shryock that he did not need to get insurance. When Mr. Benbow was called, he then stated that he had called Mr. Stahl and he told him this. Mr. Stahl stated that he has never spoken to Mr. Benbow ever before. He is very upset that this man would say such things. Mr. Baird wanted to make certain that everything is set to go and there are no issues. The Commissioners assured him that he is set to go on the Court Square.

## Recess

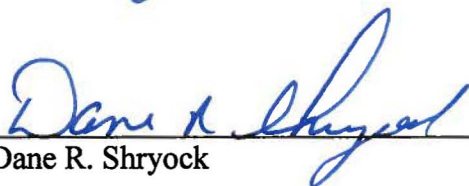
At 11:57 a.m. Mr. Fischer adjourned the meeting.

## Adjourn

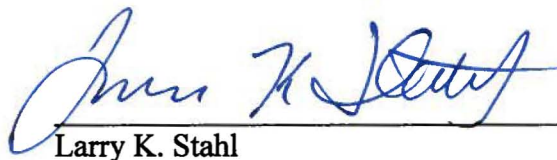
At 2:07 p.m. Mr. Fischer adjourned the meeting.



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Gary L. Fischer



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Dane R. Shryock



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Larry K. Stahl



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Clerk