

COMMISSIONER'S JOURNAL

Wednesday

Regular

December 31, 2008

The Coshocton County Commissioners meet in regular session on Wednesday, December 31, 2008 with Mr. Dane Shryock, Mr. Gary Fischer and Mr. Larry Stahl in attendance. Also present was Ms. Kathy Dickerson, Tribune, Mr. Ken Smailes, WTNS, Mr. Curtis Lee and Mary Beck, Administrator/Clerk.

Minutes

Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stahl to approve the minutes as presented for the Monday, December 29, 2008 meeting.

Vote:	Fischer	aye
	Shryock	aye
	Stahl	aye

Animal Claim – Charles Beatty

Mr. Stahl made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to approve an Animal Claim fro Mr. Charles Beatty, 45844 CR 23, Coshocton, Ohio, in the amount of \$250.00 and certified by Mr. Russell Dreher, Assistant Dog Warden.

Vote:	Fischer	aye
	Shryock	aye
	Stahl	aye

Dog Warden's Report

Received the Dog Warden's Report for the week ending December 26, 2008 with 11 dogs left in the box, 2 dogs picked-up by the warden, 12 dogs per owner surrender, 2 dogs brought in as strays, 10 dogs destroyed, 2 warnings issued, 24 tags sold, 3 dogs sold, 12 puppies under 90 days sold, 3 dogs or puppies sold to rescue, \$20.00 in boarding fees collected, 2 dogs redeemed for a total fees collected of \$455.00.

Resolution 2008-74

Mr. Terry Miller and Mrs. Mindy Fehrman attended the meeting. Ms. Fehrman explained the necessity for the requested resolution. Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stahl to sign Resolution 2008-74 granting permission to Mr. Terry Miller, Director, JFS to sign contracts under the \$10,000.00 cap for the period 7-29-08 through the present.

Vote:	Fischer	aye
	Shryock	aye
	Stahl	aye

Access Management Changes Accepted

Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stahl to accept the changes as recommended by the Advisory Committee which was appointed to review the plan and petition changes to the Board of Coshocton County Commissioners for the Access Management Plan.

Vote:	Fischer	aye
	Shryock	aye
	Stahl	aye

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Transfers/Additional

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

FROM	Commissioners – Additional TO	AMOUNT
Unappropriated Fund Balance	001-0420-5260.08 gas	\$2,000.00
	262-0100-5999.99 Advance North Corridor	\$1,200.00

Commissioners – Transfer

001-0420-5200.00	Supplies	001-1410-5263.00	Official Bonds	\$ 72.14
001-0110-5200.00	Supplies	001-1410-5263.00	Official Bonds	\$ 30.28
001-0110-5300.00	Travel	001-1410-5263.00	Official Bonds	\$ 43.65
001-0420-5115.00	Medicare	001-1410-5263.00	Official Bonds	<u>\$242.93</u>
			Total	\$389.00

Sheriff – Litter – Transfer

FROM	TO	AMOUNT	
200-0400-5102.00	Salaries	200-0400-5400.07 Litter Reimb. \$ 956.33	
200-0400-5110.00	PERS	200-0400-5400.07 Litter Reimb. \$1,103.63	
200-0400-5113.00	H,L,D	200-0400-5400.07 Litter Reimb. \$1,300.79	
200-0400-5115.00	Medicare	200-0400-5400.07 Litter Reimb. \$ 290.38	
200-0400-5210.00	Equipment	200-0400-5400.07 Litter Reimb. \$ 512.09	
200-0400-5310.00	Transportation	200-0400-5400.07 Litter Reimb. <u>\$ 791.66</u>	
		Total	\$4,954.88

Sheriff – Transfer

001-0610-5102.00	Salaries	001-0611-5400.04	Prisoner Medical	\$ 118.80
001-0610-5102.01	Salaries Ct. G.	001-0611-5400.04	Prisoner Medical	\$ 15.10
001-0610-5104.00	Salaries SRO	001-0611-5400.04	Prisoner Medical	\$ 187.89
001-0610-5104.04	Ins. SRO	001-0611-5400.04	Prisoner Medical	\$ 21.70
001-0610-5110.00	PERS	001-0611-5400.04	Prisoner Medical	\$1,146.33
001-0610-5115.00	Medicare	001-0611-5400.04	Prisoner Medical	\$ 310.02
001-0610-5200.00	Supplies	001-0611-5400.04	Prisoner Medical	\$ 200.00
001-0610-5210.00	Equipment	001-0611-5400.04	Prisoner Medical	\$1,133.99
001-0610-5250.00	Contract Repair	001-0611-5400.04	Prisoner Medical	\$ 231.56
001-0610-5260.00	Cont. Services	001-0611-5400.04	Prisoner Medical	\$8,375.33
001-0610-5400.00	Others	001-0611-5400.04	Prisoner Medical	\$2,000.00
001-0610-5400.01	Training	001-0611-5400.04	Prisoner Medical	\$1,813.43
001-0610-5400.02	Gasoline	001-0611-5400.04	Prisoner Medical	<u>\$1,000.00</u>
			Total	\$16,554.15

Sheriff – Transfer

001-0610-5400.03	Other	001-0611-5400.04	Prisoner Medical	\$926.16
001-0611-5102.00	Salaries	001-0611-5400.04	Prisoner Medical	\$307.06
001-0611-5110.00	PERS	001-0611-5400.04	Prisoner Medical	\$4,757.06
001-0611-5115.00	Medicare	001-0611-5400.04	Prisoner Medical	\$327.38
001-0611-5200.00	Supplies	001-0611-5400.04	Prisoner Medical	\$857.70
001-0610-5260.00	Cont. Serv.	001-0611-5400.04	Prisoner Medical	\$412.00
001-0611-5210.04	Equipment	001-0611-5400.04	Prisoner Medical	\$2,066.04
001-0611-5210.04	Equipment	001-0611-5200.01	Supplies Pris. Maint.	<u>\$5,000.00</u>
			Total	\$14,653.40

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Transfers/Additional Continued
Sheriff – Additional

Rev. not anticipated pay in 87520	001-0610-5260.00	Contract Services	\$2358.85
Rev. not anticipated pay in 87100	001-0611-5400.04	Prisoner Medical	\$450.00

Airport – Transfer

001-0510-5102.00	Salaries	001-0510-5400.00	Other Expense	\$5,166.00
001-0510-5110.00	PERS	001-0510-5400.00	Other Expense	\$1,240.00
001-0510-5111.00	W. Comp	001-0510-5400.00	Other Expense	\$1,349.55
001-0510-5113.00	Insurance	001-0510-5400.00	Other Expense	\$1,230.04
001-0510-5115.00	Medicare	001-0510-5400.00	Other Expense	<u>\$ 100.53</u>
				Total \$9,086.12

Vote: Fischer	aye
Shryock	aye
Stahl	aye

Proclamation – Mrs. Patricia Harsh

Mr. Stahl made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to sign a Proclamation commending Mrs. Patricia Harsh for her many years of service with Coshocton County and wishing her health and happiness in the future.

Vote: Fischer	aye
Shryock	aye
Stahl	aye

Proclamation – Larry Stahl

Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fischer to sign a Proclamation commending Mr. Larry Stahl for his many years of service for Coshocton County and wishing him health and happiness in the future.

Vote: Fischer	aye
Shryock	aye
Stahl	abstain

Discussion – JFS Layoffs

Mr. Terry Miller and Mrs. Mindy Fehrman attended the meeting and Mr. Miller stated that due to three budget cuts in SFY '09, there is insufficient funding to go forward with the approved \$.60 raise due January 1, 2009. The Commissioners agree to approve this raise effective to January 1st once the funds are available. The agency will enact cost cutting measures in 2009 for the purpose of aligning expenses with revenue and to grant raises to employees. Mr. Miller stated that he did send an e-mail to the staff about these issues. He explained to them the seriousness in which the Commissioners feel about the wage and benefits plan. He stated that he feels they all understand as he did not receive any complaints from any staff members. He then convened the wage and benefits committee to try to help them understand why all the monies cannot be put in one large pot and must be distributed as required and to help understand what we are facing. He will hold another staff meeting on January 18, 2009 to address again some of these issues. He stated that they are looking at staffing levels at JFS. They have two part-time employees that they are looking at abolishing those positions. They also have another person on a temporary position that will also be cut. They will bring a resolution forward to achieve this in the future. They will also be looking at other steps as well. Mr. Stahl asked if Mr. Miller felt there would be additional cuts. Mr. Miller stated that they are possibly looking at a 25% cut in FY' 10. If this would happen, they would have to take extreme measures at that time.

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Amend Resolution 2007-13

Mr. Stahl made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to amend Resolution 2007-13 due to three budget cuts in SFY '09, there is insufficient funding to go forward with the approved \$.60 raise due January 1, 2009. The Commissioners agree to approve the raise effective January 1, 2009 once the funds are available.

Vote:	Fischer	aye
	Shryock	aye
	Stahl	aye

Executive Session – Tracy Haines – Compensation

At 9:01 a.m. Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stahl to go into executive session with Mrs. Tracy Haines to discuss personnel compensation. All vote aye. Also present was Mrs. Mary Beck and Mr. Curtis Lee. At 9:13 a.m. the meeting returned to regular session with the following motion: Mr. Stahl made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to appoint Mrs. Tracy Haines as the Coordinated Transportation Director effective January 1, 2009 at a rate of \$18.32 an hour for a six month probationary period at the completion of which her rate will go to \$19.32 per hour.

Vote:	Fischer	aye
	Shryock	aye
	Stahl	aye

Executive Session – Chad Lawrence – Compensation

At 9:30 a.m. Mr. Stahl made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to go into executive session with Mr. Chad Lawrence to discuss personnel compensation. All vote aye. Also present was Mrs. Mary Beck and Mr. Curtis Lee. At 9:50 a.m. the meeting was returned to regular session. No action taken.

Executive Session – Mike LaVigne – Compensation

At 10:00a.m. Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stahl to go into executive session with Mr. Mike LaVigne to discuss personnel compensation. All vote aye. Also present was Mrs. Mary Beck and Mr. Curtis Lee. At 10:35 a.m. the meeting was returned to regular session. No action taken.

Conference Call – Mr. John Cleek, CDC

Mrs. Robin Schonauer attended the meeting she stated that Mr. Cleek would like to speak with the Commissioners about the Neighborhood revitalization Grant. Mr. Cleek stated that this is part of the National Recovery Act of 2008. The funds will be used for abandoned foreclosed, vacant properties. We can use these funds to build new housing units or acquire foreclosed properties and re-build then sell to a low income family. This will allow us to help people up to 120% LMI. There are still a lot of things we need to learn before we move forward with this. A lead agency needs to be established. He feels Coshocton County should not take the lead role in this. He is certain that Dale Hartle's company will want to take the lead on this. He stated that the counties need to determine the lead agency. He stated that he would hope that Coshocton would not be the lead agency and CDC would like to help once the funds come back to the county. He asked if anyone has set-up a meeting with all the communities. Mr. Fischer stated that no meeting had been set-up yet. Mr. Cleek stated that he will contact Mr. Hartle and set-up a meeting with all the communities involved to determine the lead agency. Mr. Fischer asked if Mr. Cleek feels we should have Mr. Hartle's Company be the lead on this. Mr. Cleek stated that he feels that Mr. Hartle should be the lead agency through another community.

COMMISSIONER'S JOURNAL**Wednesday****Regular****December 31, 2008****Mr. Larry Stahl – Closing Comments**

First of all I want to thank everyone involved for the chance I had to serve Coshocton County. It has been a real privilege and I tried every day to serve to the best of my ability. I personally feel we had one of the best Board of Commissioners as we all shared a common vision of being pro-active, not reactive. We played off of each other's strengths, we didn't always agree, but we went forward to the next agenda item. We tackled hard subjects and tried to run the county like a business.

As this is my last meeting as Commissioner, I would like to briefly cover a few topics of concern to me. First I want to publicly acknowledge my gratitude to Gary Fischer and Dane Shryock for the working relationship we had. You both are two intelligent individuals who truly care about the county you live in and are not afraid to take the daily challenges of the office head on, yet in an open, public accessible way.

I have also seen the increased responsibility and demands handled by our Administrator/Clerk Mary Beck and our Financial Analyst Robin Schonauer and will publically say that very few realize the diversity of their position or the long hours that they put in handling the wide variety of ever changing tasks put before them. Their experience is a vital asset to this office and as the economic times get worse for the short foreseeable future their value to this office will readily be apparent. I want to publically say to each, thank you for a job well done.

A term in office is a little like life, one never has enough time to get everything accomplished that one wishes to. I want to take a brief minute to reflect on a few pluses that have happened while I have been here. I am glad EMS is back as a true county agency. I feel honored to have been part of our ground-breaking broad band initiative in contracting with the state to use the MARCS towers and at the same time enhance our own safety services communications. We have promoted and hired several new individuals, including Steve Cox and Rusty Dreher as Dog Warden and Assistant Dog Warden, Bernie Minuet and Todd Shroyer at EMS as directors, Tracy Haines, Director at Transportation, Tiffany Swigert, Director at Regional Planning, etc. All are a true asset to the county.

Unfortunately as part of the job we have also had to take some disciplinary actions from time to time, but again we have always held to our duty and did our responsibility to the residents and taxpayers of Coshocton County.

We put to the public a solution to our jail overcrowding liability. Unfortunately the levy was voted down and the problem remains. I just want to say that I still have people telling me that we cannot be forced to build a jail by a Federal Judge. One last time I want to say, yes we can be and if we have to build it to federal standards staffed at federal levels it will absolutely break the county. I feel the Sheriff and Commissioners did have a sensible solution, but as in good government, the final say was the voting public. I pray that their decision does not come back to haunt them.

I was put in a position where I had to make a decision on a public request for our e-mails on four computers for 90 days. Our office complied with the letter of the law. Since that time the Ohio Supreme Court has ruled such broad demands are not legal. However, the \$6187.50 we had to pay to defend the integrity of our office to me is one of the biggest waste of taxpayers' money I have ever seen. I feel the request was vindictive and political and meant to discredit our office, but as the results proved, our office is absolutely in compliance with the laws of Ohio and NO misconduct or improper use of e-mails was proven as there was none.

I am also disappointed we did not get a water contract with the city during my term. Point blank, I will not sign a bad contract or sign one strictly for political reasons. The city has plenty of water to sell. According to their own audit their cost of producing water is \$2.40 per thousand gallons of water. Anything they receive above that price is profit. This is strictly a business deal. The county wants to buy bulk water. We cannot lay water lines and sell water at the terms proposed by the city.

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Closing Comments - Continued

It would be cheaper in the long run to build our own plant, but we have held off as the city residents are our constituents also and if we build our own plant and shut off buying water from the city, their water plant will go under as they have too much debt and not enough customer base. It is my sincere wish that an agreement can be reached that works for both parties. If not, then I urge the county to move forward with infrastructure. We have residents and businesses needing water and Coshocton County will not grow without proper infrastructure.

As we see budgets shrinking, the Commissioners as the taxing authority and setter of county budgets will be challenged with hard decisions. We had to make some cuts this year, but with looking at what I see as the expected carry-over I want to make the following suggestions if the money is there.

I would like to see the airport's budget funded level with last year as we have in most departments. I would like to see the money restored to the parks. Granted this is a quality of life issue, but the money we cut may put them out of business as they are on very limited budgets. I would like to see the \$500.00 to the Tiverton Institute reinstated. This is one of the last in the nation and it is educational, but also a good reflection on our county as it brings statewide attention to our community. I would like to see the fair board's budget also restored to last year's level if the funding is there. Our Coshocton County Fair is one of the best in the state and without that funding their operations will be severely crippled. Last but not least, if some funding can be restored to the apiary program, if only on a limited scale, I would hate to see that program fall by the wayside as it is important to agriculture, the county's number one industry.

I want to see the county continue to support Regional Planning as that department has come a long way and will grow in importance as our population grows. Sensible growth is a plan for success. I want to see the county continue to promote infrastructure. We have a great utilities director in Matt Robinette and if the county is to grow, this is where we will bring in growth. We have the resources; we just have to manage them. We also must continue to promote Coshocton County and continue to support the Port Authority.

We also have been very active in promoting technology. Our I.T. department is second to none. What the ones involved with the GIS system have developed is far ahead of the curve. In today's world our first impression is many times gained over the internet. It is my hope the Commissioners continue to be a leader in this vast, ever changing tool of the future.

Thank you again for letting me put forth a few closing comments. To have been a public official from 1977 to 2009 has been an accomplishment that I am proud of, but know it only happened because of the help of many individuals, and to each and every one of them I am truly grateful. I have the dubious honor of having the most votes as a County Commissioner candidate and still lost an election, so at least to some I can go out knowing I have done my job.

God bless America, God bless Coshocton County, and God bless each and every one of you.

Recess

At 11:31 a.m. Mr. Stahl moved the meeting to recess. At 1:00 p.m. Mr. Fischer returned the meeting to regular session.

Direct Energy

Mr. Stahl made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to an agreement to have Direct Energy be the County's retail dealer for gas consumption.

Vote:	Fischer	aye
	Shryock	aye
	Stahl	aye

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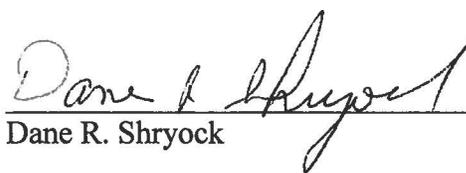
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Adjourn

At 2:30 p.m. Mr. Fischer adjourned the meeting.



Gary L. Fischer



Dane R. Shryock



D. Curtis Lee



Administrator/Clerk