

COMMISSIONER'S JOURNAL

Monday

Regular

February 11, 2008

The Coshocton County Commissioners meet in regular session on Monday, February 11, 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, February 6, 2008.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea

Prisoners Maintenance Report

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

Transfer Request

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

JFS

FROM	TO	AMOUNT
001-1510-5900.06 Mandated Share	030-9999-4009.00 Trans. In Mand. Share	\$85,224.00

Emergency Management

FROM	TO	
Unanticipated Funds	140-0400-5400.08	\$1,615.51
Unanticipated Funds	140-0100-5260.00	\$4,500.00
Unanticipated Funds	140-0100-5400.00	\$4,467.00

Sheriff

001-0610-5260.00	001-0610-5210.01	\$3000.00
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Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea

Coshocton/Guernsey Guardrail 2008

Mr. Stahl made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to award the bid for Coshocton/Guernsey Guardrail to PDK Construction Inc., with a total bid of \$506,593.50 as their bid is the lowest received and is recommended by Mr. Fred Wachtel, County Engineer.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea

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2007 Municipal Court Report

Received the Coshocton Municipal Court Report for the year ending December 31, 2007.

JFS/Family Literacy Contract

Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stahl to sign a contract amendment between JFS and Coshocton Family Literacy. Change in contract value from \$73,840.00 to \$75,840.00 effective January 16, 2008.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea

JFS/Juvenile Court Amendment

Mr. Stahl made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to sign a contract amendment between JFS and Coshocton County Juvenile Court. Change in contract value from \$40,714.00 to \$43,772.96 effective January 1, 2008.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea

JFS/Ridgewood Schools – Middle School Amendment

Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stahl to sign a contract amendment between JFS and Ridgewood Local School District-Ridgewood Middle School. Change in contract value from \$16,277.60 to \$23,200.00 effective February 4, 2008.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea

Contract Amendment – JFS/Jennifer Biggers

Mr. Stahl made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to sign a contract amendment between JFS and Jennifer Biggers. Change in contract value from \$5,850.00 to \$11,700.00 effective January 1, 2008.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea

Contract Amendment – JFS/Ridgewood Elementary Schools

Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stahl to sign a contract amendment between JFS and Ridgewood Local School District- West Lafayette Elementary. Change in contract value from \$16,277.60 to \$23,200.00 effective February 4, 2008.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea



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Contract Amendment – JFS/Ridgewood Alternative Schools

Mr. Stahl made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to sign a contract amendment between JFS and Ridgewood Local School District- Alternative School. Change in contract value from \$65,000.00 to \$73,500.00 effective February 4, 2008.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea

Contract Amendment – JFS/Debra Philabaum

Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stahl to sign a contract amendment between JFS and Debra Philabaum. Change in contract value from \$5,850.00 to \$11,700.00 effective January 1, 2008.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea

Contact – ATC Associates, Inc.

Mr. Stahl made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to sign a contract between Coshocton County and ATC Associates, INC. For the provisions of lead hazard risk assessment services to the Coshocton County FY 2007 Community Housing Improvement Program.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea

Investment Portfolio

Ms. Michelle Darner attended the meeting and presented her Investment Portfolio to the Commissioners. She stated that the rates continue to go down just a bit. She is watching it very closely. The Commissioners thanked her for attending.

Report of Meetings

Mr. Fischer reported that he attended the Crossroads RC& D Meeting on February 8th and at that meeting the Ohio State Beekeepers, along with its partners, Ohio State Extension, Eastern Ohio Governments Association (OMEGA), and Crossroads RC&D have develop a project which will create 100 new businesses, educate the public through multiple means about the declining bee population and what they can do about it, and provide for 200 new bee hives (100 apiaries) in Ohio. Interested participants who want to be a new beekeeper will apply and be selected to receive training on beekeeping. They will also be provided a complete start-up kit, including 2 hives of bees, and will be assigned a local experienced beekeeper as a mentor.

Humane Society – Discussion

Ms. Chris Sturtz, Christopher Winden and Chad Bradford attended the meeting to discuss the Humane Society's contract with the Commissioners for the running of the Animal Shelter. Ms. Sturtz stated that the Humane Society had a meeting and determined officers and a board now. She stated that they have some monies in their savings and they would like to continue the contract with the Commissioners. Mr. Fischer stated that the contract does not expire until April 1st. He then stated that the Commissioners were concerned because the Humane Society did not have by-laws, were not having regular meetings and were not reporting. By law, they are required to do this. Mr. Fischer asked who the members of the Humane Society were. Ms. Sturtz stated that they have not had a membership drive for over a year and they intend to have another one. They have about 13

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Animal Shelter Continued

members at this time. Mr. Stahl stated that he commends Ms. Sturtz on her effort at the shelter, but as a Commissioner and citizen he disagrees with comments. According to the membership roster, there are 91 members. They were very upset that not all the members were notified of the meeting that was held last Thursday. He stated that the members she has in place have not paid membership dues and he will not go along with the meeting that she held as a legal meeting. He purchased stamps and he will help her address them if need be, but he does not feel that she followed the proper procedure in this matter, Mr. Shryock stated that the Commissioners do not appoint the Humane Officer. That is done by the Juvenile/Probate Judge. He stated that the statute does not allow the Commissioners to appoint this position. The Dog Warden however, is appointed by the Commissioners. The Dog Warden is required to handle dog licenses and dogs running at large. The Dog Warden can intervene at some point if there is a humane issue by notifying the Humane Society. The only involvement that the Commissioners Office has with the Humane Society is the running of the Animal Shelter and this is by contract. Mr. Stahl stated that his issue here is that the Commissioners do contract with the Humane Society and they do get tax dollars for this contract. Our Contract is with the Humane Society and not the Humane Officer. The issues that need to be addressed have been ongoing for years and they need to be addressed before we can discuss the new contract. He stated that the Humane Society has to be a functioning 501-C3 and it should involve all the members or at least have them notified. They do not have any by-laws in place at this time. He is asking that they have a 5 member board and one of those members need to be a veterinary. These are suggestions and the Humane Society does not have to do this. The reason he is requesting this is that he has a petition signed by the veterinaries stating that they do not agree with some of the Humane Society's policies. He feels this will help with communication and fix the problems that need to be addressed. He wants to get everyone on the same page and work together. He stated that humane membership fees are \$10 per person and \$20 per family. He asked if they intend to keep those rates. She stated that she does intend to keep the same rates. He also stated that they are to report at least 4 times a year to the Commissioners Office. Monthly would be better, but at least annually. He would like to know how many dogs and cats are going through that shelter. Ms. Sturtz stated that they do get a dog report from the Dog Warden. Mr. Stahl stated that he still would like to see the Humane Society Report. Also, the Commissioners asked that they get financial reporting as well. Ms. Sturtz stated that they (Humane Society) serve this county very well. She and Ms. Farley are both certified euthanasia technicians. She is very proud of this animal shelter and what she and Ms. Farley have accomplished together. She feels they are very progressive and doing a wonderful job. Mr. Stahl then stated that Ms. Sturtz asked the last time she was in if the Commissioners would consider adding \$5 to the dog licenses of dogs that are not neutered. If the Commissioners would consider doing this and the veterinarians work with the Commissioners, can it be a goal that no dog leaves the shelter that is not neutered. Ms. Sturtz agreed that no adopted dog should leave the shelter not neutered. This does not apply to reclaimed animals. Mr. Fischer stated that when the Commissioners get calls about the shelter, they must deal with the issues. He feels there needs to be a distinction of what Ms. Sturtz must do to be in compliance with the Ohio Revised Code and no one in this room would question that she is over worked and under paid. They understand that dogs must be put down and it is a difficult job. Mr. Shryock stated that he has worked with Ms. Sturtz for many years. He agrees that she is underpaid and over worked. There is an issue with a county run shelter and a humane run shelter. In a true county run shelter, there is not cats, according to ORC, after 3 days, the dogs are put down. He feels philosophically there is a big difference in a humane run shelter and a county run shelter. Ms. Sturtz stated that from her experience, if you don't have a humane run shelter, then the dogs are treated inhumanely. You have to have caring people running the shelters. Mr. Shryock stated that he was merely stating that there is a difference in county vs. humane shelters. He is not suggesting that we change what we are doing. Mr. Stahl asked if rescue operations are given a lesser fee than normal. Also, he asked if there is any way they can put every dog on pet finder that comes into the shelter. He understands that they have access to a computer if they need a new one. Ms Sturtz stated that she understands that all dogs are being put on pet finders. Mr. Stahl stated that deposits to the county need to be done within a 24 hour period according to the State Auditors. Ms. Sturtz assured him that they will give the Dog Warden the monies they receive daily. Ms. Sturtz stated that they are doing a wonderful job at the animal shelter and she doesn't know

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Humane Society Continued

who is contacting Mr. Stahl, but they are not working out at the animal shelter or they would see how good of a job they are doing. Mr. Fischer stated that the Commissioners appreciate the extra effort Mr. Stahl has put into this issue. He asked that Ms. Sturtz look into making certain that all fees are being charged at the Animal Shelter. Ms. Sturtz stated that she asks them to foster some dogs sometimes because that is what is best for the animals. She stated that if people are concerned about the employees making monies, they do not make any money on the dogs. They are licensing each dog. Mr. Stahl asked if they are turning rescues away. Ms. Sturtz stated that yes, they just found out that the rescuer was not spay or neutering. Mr. Bradford asked when the last time she contacted the Drushals was. Ms. Sturtz stated that probably over a month or so ago. Mr. Bradford asked why she chastised his mother for calling her on a Sunday. Ms. Sturtz stated that she told his mother that she worked all week and why did she wait until Sunday to call her. Her powers lie in food water and shelter. When she visited the dog, it had food water and shelter. Her job is to educate the owners and if they are telling her they feed the dog, then she tries to educate them on worming the dog. Mr. Bradford stated that these dogs were not licensed until last week when they called the Commissioners Office. Ms. Sturtz stated that she is trying as hard as she can to educate these people. Mr. Windem stated that they are mistreating this dog out of spite. Ms. Sturtz stated that she is doing the best job she can. She does everything that she can. Mr. Windem stated that he has contacted everyone he can about this dog. No one has done anything. Ms. Sturtz stated again that when she has been to this home the dogs have had food, water and shelter. There is nothing else she can do. Mr. Shryock stated that we will make no excuse on the licensing issue. When this office was made aware of the issue, he personally instructed Ms. Farley to take care of this situation. She did address the issue and licenses were issued. He then stated that the animal laws are very weak in the State of Ohio. Now that everyone knows there is a problem, let's see if we can move forward on this issue. Mr. Windem stated that he will now focus his concerns changing legislation to address these issues. Mr. Bradford stated that their main concern is that his mother runs a business not 300 feet from this dog and clients are afraid of this dog. Mr. Fischer thanked them for attending and stated that this is a frustrating issue, but we are doing everything we can. Mr. Shryock asked where the construction at the Animal Shelter is. Ms. Sturtz stated that it is progressing slowly.

Discussion – Sims Group Home Issues

Mr. Terry Miller attended the meeting to discuss some issues at the Sims Home. Mr. Miller stated that he spoke with Judge Pierce on Friday about the Sims Group Home. He stated that they have been trying to determine whether or not to keep the home open or not. The Judge had always like to have the option of utilizing the home. He has determined that there are ongoing concerns with the home. They have had difficulty in the past finding house parents. If they close the home, they will need to utilize foster care for the children. At this time the house is staffed by house parents that live at the home. Other counties have gone to shift work or close the home all together. There are group homes that are run by private agency. He really doesn't want to go to shift work at the home because it will be very expensive to the agency and it is difficult to find people to work. Currently they have two house parents at this time. They work 3 days on and 4 days off, then four days on and three days off. It continues to become more difficult to keep the home open due to state requirements. There are also many administrative costs to the agency as well. The census in 2007 was less than 2 kids per day. The trend that they are seeing is lengthening and the kids end up in foster care. They are considering closing the home at this time. He believes it is the right thing to do. Judge Pierce stated that he would prefer to keep the house open, but if JFS is diligent in finding foster homes, he will go along with closing the facility. Mr. Shryock asked if there is a cost analysis for last year. Mr. Miller stated that the current 2008 budget for the Sims Home is \$139,588. If they would close the home, there would be some cost savings. He then stated that when they had the accreditation people in the county, they told JFS that they could recoup some monies if they took children in from other counties. He does not feel this is a viable option. The Commissioners stated that Mr. Miller should progress with closing the home. Mr. Shryock asked if they have any use for the building once it is closed. Mr. Miller stated that they would like to keep the building and utilize it for meetings and such. The Commissioners thanked him for attending

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Discussion - Robin Schonauer

Ms. Schonauer attended the meeting to discuss the hiring of Mr. Tyler McKee. If they want to hire Mr. McKee full-time and keep their summer program, they will have to do away with the overtime in maintenance or they will have to appropriate more monies. If they decrease the overtime to 5 hours per employee, then it will cost an additional \$10,000 in funding. Mr. Shryock stated that he is very adamant about the summer employment program. He agrees with Mr. Fischer in that they should contact Mr. Greer and tell him that they can put Mr. McKee on at full-time, but they will have to cut out or cut down on overtime.

Discussion

Mr. Shryock stated that in regards to the water line project extension at Lake Park, the cost to extend this line would be approximately \$40,000 and OPWC may have funding in the amount of \$20,000 available.


Environmental Review B-F-07-016-01

Mr. Stahl made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to sign the Environmental Review for B-F-07-016-01 as requested by Ms. Robin Schonauer, Fiscal Officer.

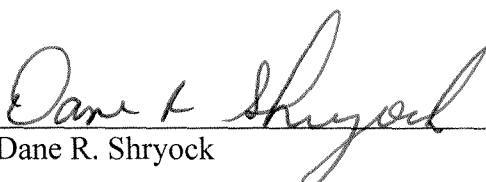
Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea

Adjourn

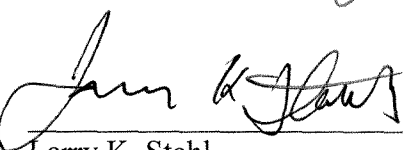
At 2:30 p.m. Mr. Fischer adjourned the meeting.



Gary L. Fischer



Dane R. Shryock



Larry K. Stahl



Clerk