

COMMISSIONER'S JOURNAL

Wednesday

Regular

June 25, 2008

The Coshocton County Commissioners met in regular session on Wednesday, June 25, 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, Mrs. Sarahann Jenkins, Mr. John Jenkins and Ms. Mary Beck, Clerk.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stahl to approve the minutes as presented for Monday, June 23, 2008.

Vote: Shryock yea
Fischer yea
Stahl yea

Approve Bills

Mr. Stahl made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to approve the bills per computer printout dated June 25, 2008.

Vote: Shryock yea
Fischer yea
Stahl yea

Mental Health & Recovery Minutes

Received the minutes of the June 2008 Mental Health & Recovery Services Meeting.

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.

<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>ACCOUNT NUMBER</u>
Muskingum Valley Ed. Serv. Center	\$4,817.38	DJFS	030-0100-400.00
East Central Career Programs	\$1,704.51	DJFS	030-0100-400.00
Crowne Plaza	\$279.00	Veterans	001-0910-5300.00
Humor Consultants	\$2,250.00	Hopewell	080-0100-400.00

Vote: Shryock yea
Fischer yea
Stahl yea

Letter of Engagement – Isaac, Brant, Ledman & Teetor LLP

Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stahl to sign a letter of engagement with Isaac, Brant, Ledman & Teetor, LLP to represent the Commissioners in the Medbill Resources, Corp. v. Coshocton County Commissioners, et al.

Vote: Shryock yea
Fischer yea
Stahl yea



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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.

JFS – Transfer

FROM	TO	AMOUNT
090-0300-102.00 Salaries Sims	090-0100-400.00 Other Expense	\$20,000.00

Additional – EMS

Unappropriated Fund Balance	120-0100-5260.01 Rent	\$200.00
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Commissioners – Transfer

001-0110-5300.00 Travel	001-0830-5600.00 Crippled Children	\$0.40
001-1410-5112.00 Unemployment	001-0420-5210.00 Equipment	\$6,149.97

Transportation – Transfer

088-0100-5260.02 Cont. Serv. Driv	088-0100-5300.00 Travel	\$1,000.00
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Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea

Discussion – Justice Center Committee

Sheriff Tim Rogers, Lt. Bill Kobel, Lt. Jim MacDonald and Lt. Jim Crawford attended the meeting to discuss the Sheriff and Commissioners recommendations for the Justice Center Campaign Committee. Sheriff Rogers stated that he suggested Mr. Rick Merrell, Mr. Nate McNeal and Mr. Mike Snyder. Mr. Fischer stated that the Commissioners feel that we need to the eastern area, the western are and the city covered. In the eastern end of the county the Commissioners picked Mr. Nate McNeal and in the western end, Neil Croft or Reverend Ron Davis. In the City, Mr. Chuck Hathaway or Ms. Rhoda Crown. The Sheriff does not have a problem with any of the nominees. The Commissioners asked that the Sheriff contact Neil Croft, Rhoda Crown, Chuck Hathway. We will wait to determine if any of these persons are willing to be on the committee. If there are any that are not willing, we will go down the list and ask Reverend Ron Davis. The Sheriff stated that he will get back with the Commissioners.

Humane Society –Discussion

Ms. Marilyn Bucklew, Ms. Ann Herrell, Ms. Sandi Guinther, Ms. Holly Downing, Ms. Gale Mox, Ms. Christina Sturtz, Dr. Neil Heilman and Ms. Mary Carol Ungerean attended the meeting. Mr. Fischer asked the Humane Society for their update. Ms. Bucklew stated that they are asking the Commissioners for an extension of the contract for six months in order to get the construction completed and get things in order and running in a manner in which they intend to run the shelter. The construction should take approximately 2-3 months. She stated that she was at the shelter for 7 hours on Monday and it is caotic. The Dog Warden dropped off a list of requirements that still need to be clarified. They still feel like they do not know what the fees are and how they are to be determined. They are still in the process of defining the protocols. They are looking at ways to get more volunteers in to help so that Chris is free to do things she needs to do at the shelter. They are looking at a reporting system for the shelter and also they are trying to increase the rescued dogs and to create a system that they can tract the adopted dogs through these rescues. Developing a

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Humane Society Continued

volunteer coordinator to do the tracking of the dogs and cats. They would like to be able to utilize county departmental computers that they intend to send to the auction. They would like to update all their policies and get things in line as the Commissioners are requesting. That is why they need at least 6 months so that they are not always reacting but can plan some things as well. She presented the Commissioners with a resume of a person that would like to do all the bookkeeping at the shelter. Mr. Gale Mox stated that she is secretary of Friends of the Animal Shelter. She stated that she agrees that the shelter should be run as a business but with compassion. She feels that the Commissioners should allow the Friends of the Animal Shelter and the Humane Society to work together to accomplish this goal. Ms. Sandi Guinther stated that she has worked with all the local contractors to get the building completed. She feels this will make a big difference in how the shelter is run. With the addition and the way it is designed, it will really make a big difference in the way the shelter can be run. She would like to have the opportunity to get this done as she does not feel it will get completed if it goes back to the county. Dr. Heilman stated that he is in agreement with Ms. Bucklew on many issues. He is excited about the development of the protocols and policies. He would really like to be able to plan long term to fix the problems at the shelter. Ms. Holly Downing stated that she has done a lot of rescue in this county and Knox County and she stated that she works with the Wagon Wheel out of Knox County and they are willing to come and help our county. Ms. Herrell stated that she feels they have worked very hard to achieve goals and she feels they are moving in the right direction and she hopes they will extend the contract. Mr. Jenkins stated that he feels the Commissioners would need to hire at least 10 people if they take over the running of the shelter. Ms. Guinther stated that did some research and found that there should be approximately 4-5 people taking care of the animals at the shelter and this does not include office workers. Ms. Ungerean stated that they would like to see a Commissioner down there for several hours once in a while. Mr. Fischer stated that for the first time he has been in this office her has seen cooperation among the Humane Society and the Friends of the Animal Shelter. Mr. Fischer asked why Ms. Mox has stated that the shelter has been ignored for 30 years. Ms. Mox stated that really they have not been supervised for that long. Ms. Sturtz stated that no one ever gave her any direction. She is thankful that they now have a wonderful board. Mr. Fischer stated that we have been accused of picking on this department and this is all about accountability. We do not feel that if you have done something for 30 years it was done correctly. The Commissioners hold all departments accountable. Ms. Bucklew stated that the number of animals going through the shelter have increased over the years and the employees and help out there have not increased. She feels this is one of the possible issues. She also stated that they will now attend the Friends of the Animal Shelter Meeting and they will attend the Humane Society Meetings. Ms. Mox asked why the contract was let go for so long. Mr. Fischer stated that he cannot speak for prior boards, but the Commissioners have requested that the Humane Society form a board and have officers for the last year and a half at least. Ms. Sturtz stated that she was not even able to get the check book for the Humane Society until last August. Mr. Stahl stated that he understands all their requests and he feels that he sees positives and he feels the Commissioners should move forward. Mr. Shryock stated that three years ago when he came into office, he did request all the things of the Humane Society. He is not opposed to changing his vote if they can prove that things are moving in the right direction. He will take his no vote and put it on the line and give them an additional 6 months. He still has horror stories that he has heard in recent months, that need to be addressed as far as accountability and who is running the shelter. He stated that when a dog is dropped at the box or brought in by a resident, he feels they should still be charged a redemption fee because that person should be held responsible for that pet. Ms. Bucklew stated that she knows for a fact that kids playing pranks let these dogs loose knowing that the dogs will be picked up and taken to the shelter. Mr. Fischer stated that we have two or three issues that need to be address. Mr. Stahl made a motion in lieu of the progress made and the expected continuation of the progress that the Commissioners extend the contract for six months with the expected reporting as required.

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Viewing – Pike Township, West Carlisle, Streets/Alleyways

Mr. Tracy Brown, Ms. Sue Border, Mr. Jim Wesley, Mr. Ron Shearn, Mr. Gary Fischer, Mr. Dane Shryock, Mr. Larry Stahl and Ms. Mary Beck attended the 10:30 a.m. viewing. Ms. Border stated that she is opposed to some of the alleyways being vacated as this will land-lock her property. She is only opposed to the vacation request that affects her property and not any of the other requested alleyways. The Commissioners will hold a public hearing in their office on July 7, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.

Bed Tax Delinquency – Apple Butter Inn

Ms. Belinda Williamson, Ms. Megan Bradison, Mr. Robert Batchelor, Prosecuting Attorney and Ms. Sandra Corder attended the meeting to discuss the Apple Butter Inn and their bed tax delinquency. Mr. Batchelor stated that his office had a request for action on this facility on July 2, 2007. At that time they were trying to take action against the owner of the property. But, at that time, the owner's father had passed away and he put the file on hold. Ms. Corder stated that she spoke with the owner and he had made the inn separate from the carriage house and therefore, there should be no bed tax taken. This is just a recent conversation with him. However, there is a couple that is purchasing this inn on land contract and they have submitted bed tax some time, but it is sporadic. Mr. Batchelor asked if we know how much they owe, and no one has that information. He asked if it would be less than \$25,000. Ms. Williamson believes that it is less than \$25,000. Mr. Batchelor stated that before we file a lawsuit, we present them an opportunity to pay this fee. Ms. Corder asked if he would like to have her office audit this bed and breakfast. Mr. Batchelor stated that he feels this would be a good idea. She also stated that Roscoe Hillside Cabins are delinquent as well. These people are collecting the tax but are not submitting the payments to the Auditor. Mr. Batchelor asked for contact information for these individuals and he will be in contact with them. The Commissioners thanked everyone for attending.

Municipal Lease-Purchase Agreement – GMAC

Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fischer to sign a Municipal Lease-Purchase Agreement with GMAC in the amount of 4 annual payments totaling \$6,149.97 per year.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea

2008 CDBG Formula Grant Application

Mr. Fischer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to sign the 2008 CDBG Formula Grant application and submit it to the Ohio Department of Development for process..

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Fischer	yea
	Stahl	yea

Discussion Transportation – Deb Laney

Ms. Laney attended the meeting to update the Commissioners of where we stand with the vehicles and drivers for Hopewell. Ms. Laney stated that Ms. Heather Kendall asked her employees to determine if they want to be on Coordinated Transportation or stay with Hopewell. She has a meeting with them tomorrow to discuss this issue. Ms. Laney is very uncertain of how all this will end up as she wants to decrease the routs from 5 to 4 and she is also concerned that they give some of their employees full-time when they only work 25 hours. County employees must work at least 30 hours weekly to qualify for benefits. She also stated that Jill Lahna has moved the deadline date back from Friday. Mr. Shryock asked why Coordinated Transportation (CCCT) would want to

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Transportation Continued

take on this extra work. Ms. Laney stated that this would allow CCCT to have more income and also be able to have access to more than one wheelchair lift. She also stated that the original intent was to have a coordinated transportation in the county. She would like to move in that direction. Mr. Shryock asked her if in her opinion she would be able to operate her department within her budget. Ms. Laney stated that she feels she will have no problem staying with her budget. She feels that she may have to hire two or three employees. Mr. Shryock asked if she can see any negatives. She stated that she feels she should have been making these decisions in November of last year, but cannot think of any other negative. There will be no loss of jobs for these individuals either. She also stated that there are many outs in the contract as well. Mr. Shryock asked if the State would pull our funding and we would have to scale back, is there an out clause in these contracts. She stated that there is a 30 day out clause in these contracts. She also stated that she feels this is a good thing for the Coshocton County Coordinated Transportation. She feels it will be win/win for everyone. Mr. Shryock asked her if she would hire 3 or 4 employees and she stated possibly 5.

Executive Session

At 2:25 p.m. Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fischer to go into executive session to discuss personnel hiring. All vote aye. At 2:37 p.m. the meeting was returned to regular session. No action taken.

Adjourn

At 3:10 a.m. Mr. Fischer adjourned the meeting.



 Gary L. Fischer



 Dane R. Shryock



 Larry K. Stahl



 Clerk