

# COMMISSIONER'S JOURNAL

**Wednesday**

**Regular**

**January 24, 2018**

The Coshocton County Commissioners met in Regular session on Wednesday, January 24, 2018 with, Dane R. Shryock, Mr. D. Curtis Lee and Mr. Gary L. Fischer. Also in attendance was Mr. Ken Smailes, WTNS, Mr. Leonard Hayhurst, The Tribune, Mrs. Beth Scott, The Beacon and Mrs. Mary Beck, Administrator/Clerk.

## Approve Minutes

Mr. Lee made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fischer to approve the minutes for Monday, January 22, 2018 as presented.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Lee	yea
	Fischer	yea

## Phase 5 Transition Program/Body Scanner Addition – Sheriff's Office

Mr. Fischer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lee to sign the Phase 5 Transition Program/Final Walk-thru Submission Checklist for the Body Scanner Addition – Coshocton County Justice Center as requested by Mr. Dennis Lowe, Construction Consultant.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Lee	yea
	Fischer	yea

## Dog Wardens Report

Received the Dog Wardens Report for the week ending January 22, 2018 with 3 dogs picked up by the warden, 40 dog licenses sold, 7 dogs sold, 1 dog redeemed, 2 dogs per owner surrender, 3 citations issued, \$5.00 in boarding fees collected for a total of \$630.00 in fees collected.

## Policy Manual Chip

Mr. Lee made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fischer to adopt the Coshocton County Policies and Procedure Manual for the Community Housing Impact and Preservation Program (CHIP) as submitted by Mr. John Cleek, CDC of Ohio.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Lee	yea
	Fischer	yea

## 2018 Apiary Agreement

Mr. Fischer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lee to sign an Agreement with Mr. Larry Meherg for the Coshocton County Apiary Inspection for the calendar year 2018 at a cost not to exceed \$2,200.00.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Lee	yea
	Fischer	yea

## Approve Bills

Mr. Lee made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fischer to approve the bills per computer printout dated January 24, 2018.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Lee	yea
	Fischer	yea

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## Memorandum of Understanding – CCCTA/Board of DD

Mr. Fischer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lee to sign a Memorandum of Understanding between the Coshocton County Coordinated Transportation Agency (CCCTA) and the Coshocton County Board of Developmental Disabilities beginning July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 as requested by Mr. Nic Carey, CCCTA Director.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Lee	yea
	Fischer	yea

## Right of Way Easement – Zinkon

Mr. Lee made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fischer to sign a Right of Way & Easement with Paul D. Zinkon and Linda L Zinkon to access Zinkon's real property for the purpose of accessing a communications tower owned by the County of Coshocton in the amount of \$600.00 annually.

Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Lee	yea
	Fischer	yea

## 911 Levy Funds Discussion

Sheriff Timothy Rogers, Lt. James Crawford, Lt. Dean Hettinger and Mrs. Robin Schonauer attended the meeting to discuss the 911 Levy Funds. Mr. Shryock stated that the Sheriff asked to be on the agenda to discuss these funds. Lt. Crawford stated that he wants to discuss our future and current needs for our CAD (Computer Automated Dispatch) System. We currently have 2 Peace Apps. in the County. In the future we will be only able to operate one as the requirements are becoming very strict. We must have all Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) certified dispatchers and they must have 24 hours of educational credits each year. This will be increased to 36 in the near future. He then stated that the required added costs will be increased and in order to be compliant we will need a new CAT RMS System. He stated that the software we have in place now is only being maintained and not upgraded. We upgraded our system in 2003 and again in 2009. If we do not upgrade and are not compliant with their requirements we will lose our E-911 funds which is about \$92,000.00 per year. He was informed that Emergitech, which was bought out by Zuercher will eventually stop maintaining this system and he would like to be pro-active instead of re-active when that happens. He stated that they have had some demonstrations from companies to upgrade. The cost to upgrade is between \$448,000.00 and \$550,000.00 depending on which company is selected. Then you have a maintenance agreement and that will be approximately \$ 48,000.00 annually. This will need to be done in phases and phase I will be around \$338,000.00. Mr. Lee asked how much time do we have to get this complete. Lt. Crawford stated that as long as we are moving in the right direction, we could probably complete this over a 1 year period. Some other projects that will need 911 funding in the near future is the coordination of all GIS Systems. He stated that he understands that we are looking at some funding issues in the near future, and that is why he is here now. Mr. Shryock stated that in looking at the 911 funds carried over from last year, it would appear that we have funding available to cover phase I of this project. Mr. Shryock then asked if there are any other additional projects that would require more of the carry over funds. Lt. Crawford stated that this is the only project he is working on with 911 funds. He then stated that it takes 6 months from the time the money is encumbered for phase 1 and then 12 months for phase 2. Mr. Lee asked if we need to change the equipment that we have in place at City Fire when we upgrade. Lt. Crawford stated that if lose the use of our communications center, we would then roll our system over to Muskingum or Tuscarawas Counties. Sheriff Rogers stated that he feels at this point we need to find something to move forward with as in the next 2 to 3 years we will no longer have Emergitech available. Mr. Fischer stated that in looking at the 911 balances, it appears we can move forward with phase I, however, we may have to do a payment plan for phase II. Mr. Shryock asked if this would be considered a capital improvement or not. Lt. Crawford stated he did not know the answer to that. The Commissioners feel the monies are available to start phase I and if we need to wait on phase II a little bit we could, or we can possibly sign a lease option for phase II. Mr. Shryock asked if they see any large expenses in the near future in addition to this one.

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Lt. Crawford stated that unless we would be able to build a new justice center that would be the only large expense in the future. The Commissioners are in agreement that we need to look at the total cost and possibly consider leasing the whole project for the next 7 years or possibly putting a larger sum down and financing the rest. Lt. Crawford stated that he will get the numbers together for all options and get them back to us. Sheriff Rogers thanked the Commissioners for their consideration as with this upgrade they will be able to do many more things in their vehicles. The Commissioners thanked everyone for attending.

**EMS Funding/New Building/Possible Levy**

Mr. Todd Shroyer and Ms. Kayla Chapman attended the meeting to update the Commissioners on the EMS Funding as well as the possible new building renovations. Mr. Shryock stated that we have some concerns about EMS funding and future funding as well as the new building renovations. He questioned the renovations first. Mr. Shroyer stated that they either have to go back to 3 crews as he does not have the funding to support 4 crews let alone 5. He stated that they have spent hours and hours going over the billing trying to figure out why they are losing so much funding, but he feels they are collecting about 90% of what they should be collecting. However, we continue to have a loss of funding through AEP, Non-emergent transports, local economy and the billing company is not billing correctly. He has reduced staff by 8 full-time people and when he has an employee retire in March he will not replace him. The building is important, but not the most important issue right now. The issue is he has wages of approximately 2.5 million and he is only collecting through billing and the levy a little over 3 million so this allows very little money for the equipment, medications and vehicles. They plan to bring the billing back in house and he feels they will do as good a job or better than what they have now and it will cost no more money than we are paying at this time. Mr. Lee asked if we are at 4 crews now. Mr. Shroyer stated that we are at 4 crews now and sometimes 5. Mr. Shryock stated that he feels that the average person does not realize how difficult it is to bill these claims. He asked what the 10% loss from the billing company would add up to. Mr. Shroyer stated that amount is around \$100,000.00. Mr. Lee asked how much Medicaid has affected us. Mr. Shroyer stated that our Medicaid billing is up 300%. We typically use more supplies than we receive in funding on a Medicaid call. Mr. Fischer asked what our options are. Mr. Shroyer stated that we could start to hard bill, but again we would get not additional funding for the Medicaid runs. So, basically we can only bill private pay and that amounts to only 25% of the billing. Mr. Shroyer stated another way of saving funds would be to go to 3 crews. There would be one in Warsaw, Coshocton and West Lafayette. Mr. Fischer reviewed the options: In house billing, reduce to 3 crews which would require a layoff or ask for additional tax monies from the county residents. Mr. Shroyer stated that if they went with the additional on a levy, then they would need to ask for an additional mill to get the funding that they have lost back. Mr. Shryock asked if they go to 3 crews how that will affect us. Mr. Shroyer stated that we routinely have to send 2 trucks to move a patient. So going to 3 crews will drastically affect our response time and availability as we have between 15 and 20 calls per day. Mr. Shryock stated that one thing that will need to be conveyed to the public if they go the route of an increase in the tax levy, is the purchase of the new building. Mr. Shroyer then stated that the purchase of the building in no way affects the funding issues we are dealing with. The cost does not affect our overall loss of funding. If we are able to ask for a new additional 1 mill then that should help us keep 4 ½ crews in place always and sometimes 5 crews. Mr. Fischer asked if there is another option, possibly a private ambulance coming in to take this over. Mr. Shroyer stated that he feels there will be a point in time that a stand-alone EMS county funded is not the best option. It needs to be a combination of EMS and Fire or a private company. Mr. Fischer stated that he is not trying to be disrespectful, but the Commissioners are just trying to determine what will be best for our community. Or, would there even be some private company interested in coming in here. Mr. Shroyer stated that we would not have the quality service that our residents have at this time as well as if we would even have a private company interested in doing it. Mr. Fischer agreed with him on this. With that being said, the Commissioners asked Mr. Shroyer to get his information to Mrs. Beck and we will ask for the County Auditor certification on Monday.

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E-mailed Letter to Congressman Gibbs

Mr. Fischer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lee to send a letter to Congressman Bob Gibbs in opposition to his letter he is considering sending to President Trump about the "material preference policy".

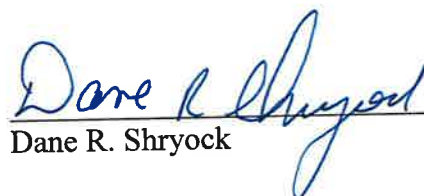
Vote:	Shryock	yea
	Lee	yea
	Fischer	yea

## Meetings Attended

Mr. Lee attended a CVB Meeting yesterday.

## Adjourn

At 1:00 p.m. Mr. Shryock adjourned the meeting.

  
Dane R. Shryock

  
D. Curtis Lee

  
Gary L. Fischer

  
Administrator/Clerk