

COMMISSIONER’S JOURNAL

Monday

Regular

June 12, 2023

Transfers/Additional/Reductions

Mr. Fischer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Conkle to affirm the following Transfers/Additional/Reductions which were approved by County Administrator Mary Beck and certified by the County Auditor.

TO ACCOUNT	FROM ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
	Additional-CCC	
001-1510-590003 (TRANSFER OUT EMERG MGMT)		\$10,000.00
	Transfer-Common Pleas	
001-0229-510200 (Salaries)	001-0229-511000 (OPERS)	68.82
001-0229-510200 (Salaries)	001-0229-511500 (Medica	43.39
		\$112.21

Vote: Shryock yea
Fischer yea
Conkle yea

Transfer-CCC

Mr. Conkle made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fischer to approve the following Transfer.

TO ACCOUNT	FROM ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
140-0100-4007.00 Transfer-in EMA	001-1510-5900.03 Misc. Transfer Out	\$10,000.00

Vote: Shryock yea
Fischer yea
Conkle yea

EMS Budget Discussion

At 8:47 a.m. Mr. Todd Shroyer, EMS Director and Ms. Kayla Chapman, Assistant Chief of Administration spoke with the Commissioners as well as Mrs. Beck and Mrs. Schonauer in reference to the EMS Budget. Mr. Shroyer started by stated that the EMS levy will be on the ballot this November for a 1 mil renewal. Mr. Shroyer also stated that since EMS has come back to the county, the biggest cost increase is personnel. However, Mr. Shroyer realizes that they need to be competitive in their market and he feels fortunate for the staffing he currently has. Mr. Shroyer has attended numerous meetings with CCAO and has heard the struggles that other counties have had and are currently having. This is the first time in three (3) years that Coshocton County EMS is fully staffed with all positions and trucks filled, and they also have applications for employment as well. Unfortunately, Coshocton County EMS is not paying the top rate for employees but they are very competitive with the rates they offer. Mr. Shroyer reported after looking at his preliminary 2024 budget, he will have a shortfall of nearly \$700,000. Unfortunately, there is nothing they can do on the billing /revenue side. The cost of an ambulance to leave the station starts at \$700. Representatives from Columbus are empathic to the issues, but offer little guidance or hope for change. Mr. Shroyer wanted to start this discussion early with the Commissioners about this shortfall and plan on what would be best to do with the current levy and a possible additional levy as well. The renewal levy that is up next year will have to be put on the ballot this November for next year. The renewal is a 1 mill that was new in 2018 and based on 2018 valuations, this levy collects roughly \$600,000/year. Mr. Shroyer does not want to ask for an increase right now along with the renewal, as he thinks this is too much to ask for at once. Mr. Shryock asked Mr. Shroyer if he only wanted to renewal his current levy? Mr. Shroyer stated a renewal only will not work, additional funds need to be made up for somewhere. EMS’s primary levy was renewed in 2021, effective in 2022 and good through 2026, however this levy is based on 2008 valuations. All EMS levies together total 2.7 million. Mr. Shryock agrees with Mr. Shroyer, the face of the environment is not good and the public has a hard time understanding what it takes to run an EMS facility. 6 out of 10 calls result in a

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transport, EMS does not currently charge for lift-assist or treat but not transport patients. Mr. Shryock stated the city residents always support the EMS levy and where it fails is on the outskirts of the county. Mr. Shroyer agreed with that statement, as several townships have never supported an EMS levy. Mr. Shroyer stated if we put on the renewal without an increase EMS would have the \$700,00 shortfall, however if a renewal and increase were both on the ballot and neither passed, EMS would have a shortfall of double the \$700,000. Mr. Shroyer just wanted to initiate the conversation, however he and Ms. Chapman are still looking at the budget to see if funds could be cut from certain areas. During COVID, EMS was able to purchase power cots with grant funds, these cots now cost \$15,000 a year to maintain, these types of cost are adding up over the whole budget. The closest county who is running an EMS like Coshocton County is Delaware County and their EMS funds come from sales tax. Mr. Shryock does not think the renewal is in jeopardy and Mr. Fischer agrees with that statement. Warsaw has one (1) truck with a paramedic an EMT at all times, as well as West Lafayette and Coshocton City has two (2) trucks with paramedics available each day as well. If you took a whole crew out of service, the savings would be near \$700,000. The Commissioners will need to know what Mr. Shroyer would like to in regards to the levies sooner than later as Auditor's Certification would need to be asked for soon. Mr. Shryock thanked Mr. Shroyer and Ms. Chapman for their time.

Senior Citizens Levy Discussion

At 9:30 a.m. Ms. April George, Co-Director and Ms. Jean Jacobs, Co-Director both from the Senior Center came to discuss the upcoming Senior Citizens Levy with the Commissioners. The Levy is a renewal of 1.25 mils. During the past five (5) years the Coshocton Senior Center has provided more than 514,000 home delivered meals while traveling more than 475,000 miles with 11 routes. Additionally, nearly 55,000 meals were served at the Senior Center, including grab and go meals during the Public Health Emergency for the Covid-19 pandemic. 920 grocery ordering and delivery trips have been made for shut-in seniors, allowing them to get groceries when needed, this was a new program implemented during the Covid-19 pandemic. The Senior Center has distributed 360,000 pounds of food through the Commodity Supplemental Food Program and passed out produce during the winter months. In addition to all of those services, the Senior Center offered various exercise classes and activities, including Geri-Fit, senior exercise, yoga, cardio drumming, line dancing, bingo, art and craft classes, entertainment, card groups, free Wi-Fi, and informational presentations as well as blood pressure checks. The Senior Center is also a sign-up site for the Golden Buckeye card and a gateway for information and referral for seniors in our area. All of these activities and benefits are for area seniors 60 in over. If the levy was not placed on the ballot for renewal, all activities but the meals would be cancelled, as 40% of their funding comes from levy dollars. Mr. Conkle stated a lot of seniors rely on the meals. Ms. George stated that a lot of times the driver dropping off the meals is the only person the client has contact with and that relationship is a huge emotional support for the seniors in our community. Mr. Conkle said he is ok with the levy being on the ballot, as well is Mr. Fischer. Mr. Shryock asked for Auditor's Certification for the Senior Center Renewal Levy.

Executive Session-Employee Compensation

At 10:00 a.m. Mr. Fischer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Conkle to go into executive session with Mr. Ike Reger, Maintenance Supervisor to discuss employee compensation. All vote aye. At 10:38 a.m. Mr. Shryock returned the meeting to regular session. No Action Taken.

Meetings Attended

No meetings were attended by any Commissioner.

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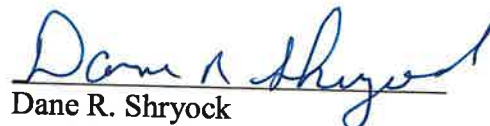
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Adjourn

Mr. Shryock adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.


Dane R. Shryock
Rick Conkle
Gary Fischer
Clerk