COMMISSIONER'S JOURNAL

Wednesday Regular June 25, 2025

The Coshocton County Commissioners met in regular session on Wednesday, June 25, 2025 at 8:30 a.m. with Mr. Dane Shryock, Mr. Bob Bigrigg and Mr. Gary Fischer. Also, in attendance was Mrs. Brooke Alverson, Clerk and Mrs. Mary Beck, County Administrator.

Approve Minutes

Mr. Fischer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bigrigg to approve the minutes from the last meeting as presented.

Vote: Shryock

yea

Fischer

yea

Bigrigg

yea

Approve Bills

Mr. Bigrigg made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fischer to approve the bills per computer printout dated June 25, 2025.

Vote: Shryock

yea

Fischer

yea

Bigrigg

yea

Rescind Dog Warden Agreement

Mr. Fischer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bigrigg to rescind the Agreement between the Coshocton County Board of Commissioners and the Coshocton County Sheriff for the operation of the Dog Warden Program.

Vote: Shryock

yea

Fischer

yea

Bigrigg

yea

Private Road Subdivision Plan

Mr. Bigrigg made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fischer to sign the Lavern Erb Private Road Subdivision, the creation of a two-lot private road subdivision located on TR 212 in Mill Creek Township, on property owned by Lavern Erb and Rosemary Erb, Auditor Parcel Numbers 0230000032805 and 0230000013409, as requested by Mr. Frederick T. Wachtel, Coshocton County Regional Planning Commission.

Vote: Shryock

yea

Fischer

yea

Bigrigg

yea

Dog Warden Report

Received the Dog Warden's Report for the week ending June 23, 2025 with 6 dogs picked up by the warden, 3 dogs brought in as strays, 4 dogs euthanized, 12 dog licenses sold, 11 dogs sold, 4 dogs surrendered by owner, 2 dogs surrendered to the dog warden, 7 citations issued and 47 calls handled for a total of \$400.00 in fees collected.

Mr. Sean Ryan-Enterprise Fleet Management

At 9:00 a.m. Mr. Sean Ryan and Ms. Elaine Clifton with Enterprise Fleet Management attended the meeting to discuss the possible vehicle needs in the county with department heads and how they may be able to help reduce cost moving forward. The following people were present to hear the presentation from Enterprise: Mr. Ike Reger, County Maintenance, Mr. Austin Savage, Vehicle Maintenance, Mr. Todd Shroyer, EMS Director, Mrs. Kayla Chapman, Assistance Chief of Administration, Mr. Joe Hunt, Assistant Chief, Mr. Jed McCoy, DJFS Director, Ms. Jaime Freeman, Assistance DJFS Director, Ms.

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Mr. Sean Ryan-Enterprise Fleet Management-continued

Christina Corbett, Administration Veterans Services, Mr. Doug Schaefer, Director Veterans Services, Mr. Joshua Kempf, County Engineer, Ms. Kirsten Bell, Health Commissioner, Ms. Nicole Shroyer, Coshocton Public Health and Mrs. Ashley Thomas, Coshocton County Recorder. Enterprise works with cooperative purchasing partnerships to offer more solutions to reduce the cost of the fleet ownership. Mr. Ryan stated some great reasons to work with Enterprise is that they are proactive with vehicle lifecycle plan, streamline the budget process with vehicle funding options to increase purchasing power, maintenance monitoring and approval process, vehicle aftermarket equipment and the vehicle resale. Solutions offered by Enterprise is they will help identify the best life cycle each year and plan for vehicle needs in advance, reviewing costs/budget; through the manufacturer and dealer relationships, helps to widen the acquisition availability; they will help maintenance monitoring to reduce cost and time spent approving repairs; lastly, they will work to leverage unique infrastructure to maximize equity back to the county and provide a streamline process for vehicle disposal. Enterprise offers comprehensive offering, so the county can focus on our objectives. Enterprise will work diligently to find the right vehicle selection per mile that meets the counties needs. Additionally, Enterprise has an open-ended leasing model, which equity at the time of resale is returned to the client or rolled into a replacement vehicle, reducing ongoing cost. In closing, of the 37 vehicles analyzed in our fleet the key objectives were to lower the average age of the fleet, as 25% of the current light and medium duty fleet is over 10-year-old, resale of the aging fleet is significantly reduced to help reduce operating cost, new vehicles have a significantly lower maintenance expense as well as an increased fuel efficiency with new technology implementations and to help maintain a manageable vehicle budget. Mr. Bigrigg asked if the all the vehicles in our fleet currently were owned, yes, but for the few that the Sheriff's office is now leasing with Enterprise. Mr. Bigrigg also asked if there are mileage restrictions, to which Mr. Ryan stated, no. This lease with Enterprise is not a typical lease, as it is built for government use and sometime referred to as an equity lease. Currently, Enterprise works with 50+ government partners all over Ohio. Mr. Bigrigg thanked the Enterprise team for their presentation

House Bill 335 Discussion with Elected Officials / Department Heads-Community Room

At 10:00 the Commissioners had a meeting with Elected Officials and Department Heads to discuss House Bill 335 with the following people present: Mr. Dean Hettinger, Mr. Joe Hunt, Assistant Chief, Ms. Kayla Chapman, Assistant Chief of Administration, Mr. Jed McCoy, DJFS Director, Ms. Jaime Freeman, Assistant DJFS Director, Mr. Grant Daugherty, Auditor, Mr. Todd Shroyer, EMS Director, Ms. Kirsten Bell, Health Commissioner, Mrs. Janette Donaker, Treasurer, Mr. Josh Kempf, Deputy Engineer, Mrs. Lori Patterson, Treasurer Office, Mrs. Brooke Alverson, Clerk, Mrs. Cortnie Jamison, Administration Assistant, Mrs. Robin Schonauer, Budget Director, Mrs. Mary Beck, County Administrator, Mr. Eric DeMattio, Sheriff's Office, Jennie Warden, Common Pleas, Judge Robert Batchelor, Mr. Cameron Tidrick, Assistant IT Director, Mrs. Diane Jackson, Office Manage Prosecutor's Office, Mr. Ben Hall, County Prosecutor, Mr. Frederick T. Wachtel, County Engineer, Mr. Leonard Hayhurst, Tribune, Mr. Doug Schaefer, Director Veterans Services, Mr. Rusty Dreher, Dog Warden, Mrs. Angie Smith, CPT, Mrs. Valerie Shaw, CPT Director, Mrs. Ashley Thomas, Recorder, Mrs. Katelyn Gordon, Deputy Auditor, Mr. Jeff Mullen, Public Defender, Mr. Steve Oster, Board of DD, Sheriff Walters, Deputy Stone, Ms. Arica Sapp, Clerk of Courts, Ms. Camila Graham, Clerk of Courts, Mr. John Glasure, Sheriff's Office, Deputy Glasure, Ms. Nicole Shroyer, Coshocton Public Health, Mr. Ryan Medley, Soil-n-Water and Mrs. Kelsey Saylor, Soil-n-Water.

At this meeting, the Commissioners discussed the potentially devastating implications of House Bill 335, introduced by Representative Davis Thomas of Ashtabula County. The bill, if passed, would eliminate property taxes, which would have a catastrophic impact on the county's budget and services. It was noted that if this legislation moves forward, the county would face the possibility of laying off at least 30 employees to maintain a balanced budget. This concern is tied closely to a grassroots movement attempting to place a constitutional amendment on the ballot that would abolish property taxes entirely. For the measure to reach the ballot, organizers would need to collect 400,000 signatures from residents in at least 44 counties.

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House Bill 335 Discussion with Elected Officials / Department Heads-Community Room-Continued

The Commissioners emphasized that the elimination of property taxes would dismantle funding for essential services including 911 emergency response, EMS, public schools, the county sheriff, fire departments, and the board of developmental disabilities. Additionally, foster care remains a growing burden on the general fund, with 90 children currently in the county's care. Presently, the county collects approximately \$40 million in property taxes, with 65% of those funds directed toward public education. Property tax collection is currently strong, with a 98% collection rate for the first half of the year.

In response to these challenges, Mr. Wachtel requested that a list of bullet points be developed to assist county officials in educating the public with consistent language and messaging. He and others stressed that the most effective way to combat the misinformation surrounding the bill is through widespread public education. Residents must understand the significant consequences of eliminating property taxes and the absence of a viable funding replacement for services currently supported by tax levies.

On a more positive note, the county's financial report indicated that sales tax revenue is currently 4% higher than projected. Moreover, the final payment on the Justice Center has not yet been made, allowing the bond money to remain invested and continue earning interest. However, a fiscal challenge lies ahead in the upcoming year, as the payroll schedule will include 27 pay periods instead of the typical 26, adding strain to the county budget.

Meetings Attended

On Monday afternoon, June 23rd, Mr. Shryock and Mr. Bigrigg had a lunch with Mr. Randy Cochran from Genesis Healthcare. On Tuesday, June 24th Mr. Bigrigg attended the Selection Committee meeting with the Coshocton Chamber of Commerce, then he attended the Coshocton Visitor's Bureau (CVB) meeting, additionally, all three (3) Commissioners attended the Muskingum Watershed meeting at the Community Room as well as the Don Well's Pavilion Dedication.

Adjourn

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

Gary L. Fischer

Clerk