

# COMMISSIONER'S JOURNAL

## Monday

## Regular

**June 30, 2025**

The Coshocton County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, June 30, 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, Mrs. Mary Beck, County Administrator and Mr. Leonard Hayhurst, Tribune.

## Approve Minutes

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

Vote: Shryock      yea  
Fischer      yea  
Bigrigg      yea

## Certificate of County Auditor

Received the Certificate of County Auditor that the Total Appropriations from each fund Do Not Exceed the Official Estimate of Resources.

## Amended Certificate No. 8

Received Amended Certificate No. 8 of the Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources dated June 25, 2025, from the Coshocton County Budget Commission.

Court Square Request-Coshocton United

Mr. Fischer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bigrigg granting permission to Coshocton United use of the Court Square on July 17, 2025, from 5:30 p.m. until 7:00p.m. for a Rally.

Vote: Shryock	yea
Fischer	yea
Bigrigg	yea

### Transfers/Additional/Reductions

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

FROM ACCOUNT	TO ACCOUNT	AMOUNT	APPROVED	AFFIRMED
018-0100-521000 (DT Equipment)	Transfer-Probate/Juv			
018-0100-540000 (DT OTHER EXPENSE)	018-0100-520000 (DT SUPPLIES)	\$500.00		
018-0200-520000 (Sec Supplies)	018-0100-520000 (DT SUPPLIES)	\$100.00		
018-0200-521000 (Sec Equipment)	018-0100-520000 (DT SUPPLIES)	\$2,600.00		
	018-0100-520000 (DT SUPPLIES)	<u>\$800.00</u>		
		\$4,000.00	6/23/2025	6/30/2025
	Additional-DJFS			
	090-0100-582000 (GRANTS)	\$24,000.00	6/24/2025	6/30/2025
	Additional-Sheriff			
	001-0610-521000 (EQUIPMENT)	\$1,500.00	6/24/2025	6/30/2025
	Transfer-Common Pleas			
001-0236-510200 (Salaries)	001-0236-511000 (OPERS)	\$2,785.00		
001-0236-510200 (Salaries)	001-0236-511500 (Medicare)	<u>\$78.92</u>		
		\$2,863.92	6/24/2025	6/30/2025
	Transfer-Common Pleas			
244-0100-510200 (SALARIES - EMPLOYEES)	244-0100-511000 (OPERS)	\$728.00	6/24/2025	6/30/2025
	Additional-Common Pleas			
	001-0229-511000 (OPERS)	\$1,474.00		
	001-0238-511000 (OPERS)	\$1,721.00		
	001-0229-510200 (Salaries)	\$15,369.00		
	001-0229-511500 (Medicare)	\$247.00		
	001-0239-511000 (OPERS)	\$3,442.00		
	001-0238-510200 (Salaries)	\$40,069.00		
	001-0238-511500 (Medicare)	\$580.00		
	001-0239-510200 (Salaries)	\$70,656.00		
	001-0239-511500 (Medicare)	<u>\$902.00</u>		
		\$134,460.00	6/30/2025	6/30/2025

Vote: Shryock	yea
Fischer	yea
Bigrigg	yea

**June 30, 2025**

At 9:00 a.m. Mr. Shryock opened the public hearing for the Brine Application of Yoder Dry Kiln and the Old Wood People LLC. There being no persons present with any comment, Mr. Fischer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bigrigg to sign Resolution 2025-025, for the surface application of salt brine to be applied to the Yoder Dry Kiln and the Old Wood People LLC property roads.

Vote: Shryock            yea  
Fischer                yea  
Bigrigg                yea

Vote: Shryock      yea  
Fischer      yea  
Bigrigg      yea

At 10:00 a.m., DJFS Director Jed McCoy met to discuss the county's levy situation following the failure of recent levy efforts. The original levy, first passed in 1995 and renewed multiple times since, is set to expire this year. Attempts to replace and renew it have both failed, including a failed additional levy three years ago. The current levy generates approximately \$450,000–\$470,000 annually, yet projected foster care costs for this year are between \$3.7 and \$4 million. In May 2025 alone, the agency recorded its highest-ever monthly foster care expense at \$379,000. So far, \$1.6 million has already been spent this year. The number of children in care has risen dramatically, now at 85—triple the number from last year—driving up overall costs.

Most of the children in care are from the local area, not out-of-county. Mental health issues are cited as the most significant contributing factor, followed by parental drug addiction. Although not all children require high-cost placements, a small number of children in specialized settings cost upwards of \$2,000 per day. The agency is also seeing an increase in sibling group placements and kinship placements, the latter being seen as less traumatic for the children. These rising costs and numbers underscore the urgent need for continued financial support.

Despite efforts, public support for the levies has declined. The May 2025 renewal levy narrowly failed (52/48), and the general election replacement levy previously failed by a wider margin (57/43). The agency is facing growing concern from within, as staff are worried about the consequences if the levy fails again. Public frustration and negative perceptions of Children Services have contributed to the challenge, with criticism often centered around the belief that the parents should be held accountable. There was strong consensus during the meeting that the renewal levy must be placed back on the ballot for the fall election.

To address these challenges, the Commissioners' emphasized the need for a comprehensive grassroots campaign. Plans include outreach to local churches, community groups like Rotary and the Senior Center, mental health organizations, and media engagement. Events such as town hall meetings, livestreams in schools, and participation in community fairs are under consideration. An Independent Living Fair for youth in custody was recently held, with 14 out of 17 eligible youth attending.

Jed McCoy confirmed that a campaign finance committee is already established and will begin fundraising and outreach efforts. Data from the Board of Elections will be reviewed to identify the demographics that voted against the levy, with a focus on engaging those who didn't vote at all. Outreach efforts will include speaking engagements at local clubs such as the Moose, Elks, and Sportman's Club, as well as the Amish community.

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## Executive Session, Opioid Litigation Update

At 11:00 a.m. Mr. Fischer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bigrigg to go into executive session to go Executive Session to discuss pending Opioid Litigation. All vote aye. At 11:30 a.m. Mr. Shryock returned the meeting to regular session. No Action Taken.

### Meetings Attended

All three Commissioners attended Coshocton County Engineer, Mr. Frederick T. Wachtel's retirement celebration on Wednesday evening, June 25<sup>th</sup>. On Thursday, June 26<sup>th</sup> Mr. Bigrigg had a meeting with Judge Given in regards to the Pavilion at Lake Park, additionally afterwards, he met with Mr. Frank Cugliari about bike trials in Coshocton County.

Adjourn

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

Dane R. Shryock  
Dane R. Shryock

  
Robert W. Bigrigg

  
Gary L. Fischer

  
Clerk