

COMMISSIONER'S JOURNAL**Wednesday****Regular****April 29, 2026**

The Coshocton County Commissioners met in regular session on Wednesday, April 29, 2026 at 8:30 a.m. with Mr. Robert Bigrigg, Mr. Dane Shryock and Mr. Gary Fischer. Also, in attendance was Mrs. Mary Beck, County Administrator/Project Manager, Mrs. Brooke Alverson, Clerk, Mary Fergi, WTNS and Mr. Leonard Hayhurst, Tribune.

Approve Minutes

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

Vote: Bigrigg	yea
Shryock	yea
Fischer	yea

Coshocton Foundation Grant

Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fischer to sign the Coshocton Foundation Grant in the amount of \$12,984.30 for the Phase 2 Skelley Memorial Picnic and Swing Park Project at Skip's Landing, as requested by Mrs. Robin Schonauer, Budget Director.

Vote: Bigrigg	yea
Shryock	yea
Fischer	yea

CDBG Participation Agreement between the Coshocton County Commissioners and the Village of Warsaw

Mr. Fischer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to sign the CDBG Participation Agreement between the Coshocton County Commissioners and the Village of Warsaw in the amount of \$700,000.00 for the PY 2026 CDBG Neighborhood Revitalization Grant to reconstruct sidewalks on Bridge Street and Main Street, resurfacing of Plum Street, College Street, W. 4th Street, as well as storm sewer improvements on Bridge Street. This project will also include a concrete pad, pavilion and 2 flashing pedestrian beacons and 4 flashing stop signs, as requested of Mrs. Jillian Flowers, CDC of Ohio.

Vote: Bigrigg	yea
Shryock	yea
Fischer	yea

Resignation-Joe Rice

Mr. Shryock made motion, seconded by Mr. Fischer to accept the resignation of Mr. Joe Rice from his position as a Case Manager with the Coshocton County Department Job & Family Services effective April 27, 2026, as requested by Ms. Jaime Freeman, Assistant DJFS Director.

Vote: Bigrigg	yea
Shryock	yea
Fischer	yea

Bills

Mr. Fischer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to approve the bills per computer printout dated April 29, 2026.

Vote: Bigrigg	yea
Shryock	yea
Fischer	yea

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ODYS Subsidy Grant SFY 2026 Amendment #3

Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fischer to sign the ODYS Subsidy Grant SFY 2026 Amendment #3, which is a realignment of funds to adjust the salary of the staff at the Resource Center, as requested by Mr. Doug Schonauer, Court Administrator.

Vote: Bigrigg	yea
Shryock	yea
Fischer	yea

Community Facilities Grant Agreement

Mr. Fischer made a motion, by Mr. Shryock to sign the Community Facilities Grant Agreement between the Coshocton County Commissioners and the United States Department of Agriculture in the amount of \$1,000,000, as well as the Letter of Intent to Meet Conditions, and the Request for Obligation of Funds, all for the Skip's Landing Project, as requested by Mrs. Mary Beck, County Administrator/Project Manager.

Vote: Bigrigg	yea
Shryock	yea
Fischer	yea

Certificate of Honor and Appreciation for Mr. Sam Bennett

Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded Mr. Fischer to sign the Certificate of Honor and Appreciation for Mr. Sam Bennett for his dedicated years and service as a coal miner, and for his lasting contributions to the heritage, industry, and hardworking spirit of our region.

Vote: Bigrigg	yea
Shryock	yea
Fischer	yea

Dog Warden

Received the Dog Warden's Report for the week ending April 27, 2026, with 4 dogs picked up by the warden, 3 dogs euthanized, 2 dog licenses sold, 2 dogs sold, 1 dog surrendered by owner, 3 charges filed, and 24 calls handled for a total of \$75.00 in fees collected.

March Investment and Bank Statements

Mr. Fischer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to receive and review the March Investment and Bank Statements as presented by Mrs. Janette Donaker, Coshocton County Treasurer.

Vote: Bigrigg	yea
Shryock	yea
Fischer	yea

Judge Batchelor, 2025 Annual Court Report

At 8:30 a.m., Judge Batchelor presented his 2025 Annual Court Report and provided supporting documentation for the Commissioners' review. He reported that the court experienced a relatively typical year, though he anticipates an increase in caseloads moving forward, particularly with a rise in jury trials. Following the departure of Ashley Andrews, a new staff member has been hired, and cross-training is underway among office personnel. Judge Batchelor and Magistrate Christy Thornsley continue to complete their own entries and typing. He also noted that the court lost its court reporter at the end of 2025, which presents ongoing challenges, as it is already difficult to secure qualified reporters—often at significant cost. While the court has implemented a digital recording system, it is not

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Judge Batchelor, 2025 Annual Court Report-Continues

ideal for jury trials, and the court will continue to rely on IT support to optimize its use. However, capital cases will still require a certified court reporter to ensure accurate transcripts.

Judge Batchelor explained that the shortage of court reporters reflects a broader trend and emphasized the importance of maintaining clear and reliable records. He encouraged the Commissioners to begin considering the potential need for a second courtroom to accommodate future jury trial demands. One possible solution discussed was relocating the Clerk of Courts' office downstairs to convert existing space into an additional courtroom, acknowledging that such changes would require financial planning and long-term consideration.

The Judge also reported that the re-entry program continues to make a positive impact within the jail. Commissioner Shryock noted and commended Judge Batchelor for his consistent fiscal responsibility, including returning unused funds, and highlighted that, compared to other counties, the local court system is operating efficiently. Discussion also included updates on Job and Family Services (JFS), with Commissioner Bigrigg noting that the department is providing monthly updates and that current financial needs are slightly lower than anticipated. Judge Batchelor expressed appreciation for the Commissioners' support in managing this complex area.

Additionally, the Judge shared information from discussions with Todd Shroyer, EMS Director regarding overdose trends, noting that overdose rates are currently down, though the county continues to face challenges related to methamphetamine use. He emphasized that a significant portion of court resources is dedicated to low-level felony drug cases. Judge Batchelor also expressed appreciation for the Commissioners' support of adult probation services. He noted that Ohio common pleas courts are working to establish standardized rules and procedures for reporting to the Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI), a function handled locally through the Clerk of Courts' office.

Looking ahead, Judge Batchelor estimated that the court could see approximately 200 cases in 2026, a figure that remains comparatively low when contrasted with larger counties such as Muskingum County, which handles significantly higher caseloads. He remarked that this difference reflects positively on the local community.

Executive Session, Cameras- Security

At 10:00 a.m. Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fischer to go into executive session with Mr. Chad Lawrence, IT Director, Mr. Cameron Tidrick, Assistant IT Director, Mr. Jed McCoy, DJFS Director and Mr. Seth Dotson, DJFS IT Director, Mrs. Mary Beck, County Administrator and Mrs. Brooke Alverson, Clerk to discuss Camera Security. All vote Aye. At 10:35 a.m. Mr. Bigrigg returned the meeting to regular session. No action taken.

Mary Beck, County Administrator/ Project Manager

Mary Beck, Project Manager and County Administrator, reported on several ongoing projects and updates. She met with city representatives at Court Square to review plans involving cement and cobblestone work; the materials will remain unstamped, and existing lighting will be replaced. The city will install the electrical outlets independently. This project is scheduled to begin on May 4, with maintenance staff already having the necessary lighting prepared to start. All new lighting will match that of Veterans Plaza, with funding provided through Senator Brenner's Downtown Revitalization initiative. Work on the front side will be prioritized to ensure readiness for upcoming Court Square events, with Waganer's overseeing completion.

Mary also visited the CR1A bridge to select a color that matches the surrounding area. Additionally, she met with Kayley Andrews of CCMH to walk the trail and determine locations for hospital-donated exercise equipment. Tree cleanup at Skip's Landing will be incorporated into the Granger contract, with assistance from the maintenance team to help complete the project. Efforts will include clearing vines and small trees along the riverbanks to improve visibility of the river. Creekside Vinyl also met with Granger to coordinate a start date for their portion of work at the Skelley site.

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Mary Beck, County Administrator/ Project Manager- Continued

Plans are underway for a tentative ribbon-cutting ceremony at Skip's Landing on Saturday, July 11, to coincide with the Farmers Market, pending project completion. Lastly, Mary reported that Valerie Shaw, CPT Director has received notification that she will be moving forward with her building project utilizing federal funds.

Meetings Attended

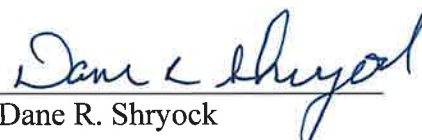
Both Commissioner Bigrigg and Commissioner Shryock attended the CORSA renewal meeting along with Mr. John Brownlee, CORSA Director, Mr. Tony West and Mrs. Jill Carnes both from Jacobs and Vanaman on Monday afternoon, the 27th. Commissioner Bigrigg along with Mayor Mills, Sharon Buscey, Roscoe Village, Kimberley Schumaker, CVB and Tiffany Swigert, Coshocton County Port Authority had a phone call with the PBS Director in regards to the possible series on Coshocton County on Tuesday afternoon, April 28th.

Adjourn

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



Robert W. Bigrigg



Dane R. Shryock



Gary L. Fischer



Clerk