

COMMISSIONER'S JOURNAL

Wednesday

Regular

May 27, 2026

The Coshocton County Commissioners met in regular session on Wednesday, May 27, 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, Mr. Chuck Ellis, Mr. Leonard Hayhurst and Mary Fergali, WTNS.

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

Community Room Rental- Coshocton Public Health

Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fischer granting permission to the Coshocton Public Health District use of the Commissioners Community Room on May 28, 2026, from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. for a Board of Health Meeting.

Vote: Bigrigg	yea
Shryock	yea
Fischer	yea

Resolution 2026-030, ODOT, Office of Aviation Grant

Mr. Fischer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to sign Resolution 2026-029, a resolution authorizing the Coshocton County Commissioners to submit an application to the Ohio Department of Transportation, Office of Aviation, for an Ohio Airport Improvement Program Grant for State Fiscal Year 2027, to install a self-serve fuel system.

Vote: Bigrigg	yea
Shryock	yea
Fischer	yea

Road Vacation – Tuscarawas Township Trustees

Mr. Shryock made motion, seconded by Mr. Fischer to accept the road petition from the Tuscarawas Township Trustees for the vacation of all the alley, North of Willow Street, in Tuscarawas Township, Board of Trade, 5th Addition, P.B. 2, Page 29-31 Tuscarawas Township, Coshocton County, Ohio being all of the alley, which runs adjacent to the east line of lots 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, and the west line of lot 44, in the Board of Trade, 5th Addition, P.B. 2, page 29-31, Tuscarawas Township. It is the intent of this action to vacate all of the platted alley in this area. However, the Tuscarawas Township Trustees shall retain the right to own, operate, maintain, and expand as necessary, the storm sewer system in the vacated alley.

Vote: Bigrigg	yea
Shryock	yea
Fischer	yea

Annual Certification Federal Universal Service Fund

Mr. Fischer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to sign the Annual Certification Federal Universal Service Fund - Private Lines Less than 10% form, to remove taxes from the NextGen 911 phone lines, as requested by Mrs. Robin Schonauer, Budget Director.

Vote: Bigrigg	yea
Shryock	yea
Fischer	yea

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Approve Bills

Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fischer to approve the bills per computer printout dated May 27, 2026.

Vote: Bigrigg yea
 Shryock yea
 Fischer yea

Employee Hire – Tonya Williams, DJFS

Mr. Fischer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to hire Tonya Williams as a Child Support Case Manager with the Coshocton County Department of Job and Family Services, effective June 1, 2026, as requested by Ms. Jaime Freeman, DJFS Assistant Director.

Vote: Bigrigg yea
 Shryock yea
 Fischer yea

Revised Maintenance Agreement with Visual Edge IT- Sheriffs Office

Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fischer to sign the revised maintenance agreement between the Coshocton County Commissioners/ the Coshocton County Sheriff's Department and Visual Edge IT, to increase the printing allowance and lower the monthly rate, the new rate will be \$312.00 per month.

Vote: Bigrigg yea
 Shryock yea
 Fischer yea

Dog Warden Report

Received the Dog Warden's Report for the week ending May 25, 2026 with 2 dogs picked up by the warden, 1 dog brought in as a stray, 1 dog euthanized, 4 dog licenses sold, 2 dogs sold, 3 dogs redeemed, 2 dogs surrendered by their owners, 3 charges filed and 30 calls handled for a total of \$265.00 in fees collected.

Employee Re-hire, Madyson Holand, CPT

Mr. Fischer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shryock to re-hire Madyson Holand as a Part-Time Dispatcher with Coshocton Public Transit, effective May 28, 2026, as requested by Ms. Valerie Shaw, CPT Director.

Vote: Bigrigg yea
 Shryock yea
 Fischer yea

Then and Now Certificates

Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fischer to affirm the following Then and Now Certificates which have been approved by County Administrator Mary Beck and certified by the County Auditor.

Then and Now Certificates					
VENDOR	ACCOUNT	AMOUNT	DEPARTMENT	APPROVED	AFFIRMED
Argent Institutional Trust Company	081-0100-540001	\$24,159.38	Hopewell	5/18/2026	5/27/2026
Schindler Elevator Corporation	001-0420-526000	\$2,475.06	CCC	5/18/2026	5/27/2026
Intrado Life & Safety Solutions Corporation	100-0100-540000	\$3,300.00	CCC	5/18/2026	5/27/2026
Roger C. & Tammy J. McCabe	001-0110-540000	\$5,000.00	CCC	5/20/2026	5/27/2026
Dudgeon & Nabors	001-0230-540000	\$3,627.50	Probate/Juv	5/26/2026	5/27/2026
Cross law Office LLC	001-0230-540000	\$2,227.50	Probate/Juv	5/26/2026	5/27/2026

Vote: Bigrigg yea
 Shryock yea
 Fischer yea

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Transfers/Additional/Reductions

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

FROM ACCOUNT	TO ACCOUNT	AMOUNT	APPROVED	AFFIRMED
	Additional-CCC			
	001-0220-510200 (SALARIES - EMPLOYEES)	\$40,000.00	5/18/2026	5/27/2026
	Additional-Probate/Juv.			
	015-0100-540000 (OTHER EXPENSES)	\$2,000.00	5/26/2027	5/27/2026
	Additional-CCC			
	357-0100-526000 (Contract Services)	\$4,000.00	5/26/2026	5/27/2026
	Additional-CCC			
	357-0100-526000 (Contract Services)	\$3,040.00	5/26/2026	5/27/2026
	Transfer-CCC			
100-0200-521000 (Equipment)	100-0200-540000 (Other Expenses)	\$15,000.00	5/26/2026	5/27/2026

Vote: Bigrigg yea
 Shryock yea
 Fischer yea

April Bank and Investment Statements

Mr. Shryock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fischer to receive and review the April Bank and Investment Statements, as presented by Mrs. Lori Patterson, Deputy Treasurer.

Vote: Bigrigg yea
 Shryock yea
 Fischer yea

Anne Cornell, *As One Turns Up River* – Discussion

At 9:00 a.m., Grace Cullison and Anne Cornell, Artistic Director and Community Studio Artist for the Pomerene Center for the Arts, met with the Coshocton County Commissioners to discuss the “As One Turns Up River” project. Anne presented a slideshow presentation outlining the vision and goals of the initiative. She explained that the project has received grant funding from the Schooler Foundation and includes translation work from the Wyandot language by Scott Butler. Anne shared that the phrase “As One Turns Up River” references traveling north from Pittsburgh to Gnadenhutzen and described the title as aspirational, symbolizing the effort required to move forward and embrace change. She noted that, as the community enters a new era, the meaning behind the project becomes even more significant.

Anne spoke about the importance of civic arts practices and how projects like this help create shared experiences that illuminate the human condition. She emphasized that art allows communities to imagine alternate possibilities and fosters deeper understanding during times of change. Anne stated that society is currently experiencing a transformative period, making this a particularly meaningful and important time for the arts. One of the project’s primary goals is to bring together businesses, government entities, nonprofit organizations, schools, and artists in new and collaborative ways. She also commented on how naturally the arts connect with Coshocton County’s rich history and identity.

Anne reviewed several past projects completed through the Pomerene Center, both within the ArtPark and throughout the community. Among those discussed was “Calling Hours,” a production that reflected on the region’s energy history and served as a symbolic eulogy for the closure of AEP Conesville. Commissioner Bigrigg commented that while it is important to recognize the past, the community must also focus on the future and consider what Coshocton County will become and what it will need moving forward. He added that “Calling Hours” was very well received and described it as a thoughtful and uplifting production.

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Anne Cornell, *As One Turns Up River* – Discussion, Continued

Discussion then shifted toward the future of the community and the role of development, including conversations surrounding data centers and emerging technologies. Commissioner Shryock stated that he supports advancements in data services and believes communities must position themselves at the forefront of these industries. He expressed support for utilizing brownfield sites for development, especially when private developers are willing to invest their own resources into cleaning up previously developed land. Dane noted that such projects can strengthen infrastructure and create a substantial tax base for the community. He also stated that society is entering an era increasingly driven by data centers and technology and emphasized his support for fossil fuels as part of powering future growth.

Commissioner Bigrigg added that similar conversations are taking place in communities across the country and stated that while no location is perfect, Coshocton County may be well positioned to help lead future development efforts. He also expressed support for data centers, describing them as part of the community's next step forward and emphasizing the importance of planning for the future.

Anne explained that "As One Turns Up River" serves as Chapter Two of the "Calling Hours" project. She clarified that the current grant funding is specifically designated for research and planning purposes. The project has received \$20,000 from the Schooler Foundation; however, matching funds must be secured before the grant money can be released. Anne shared that the project will officially begin with a large community celebration at the ArtPark during the America250 events in Coshocton County.

Jessie Tubbs, Mayor of West Lafayette Grant Funding Discussion and

At 10:00 a.m., Jessie Tubbs, Mayor of West Lafayette met with the Coshocton County Commissioners to request financial assistance for the Mills Pond Project. Jessie explained that an application is being submitted for a BRIC (Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities) grant in the amount of \$450,000 to fund engineering work related to renovating the Mills Pond ditch overflow area. The project requires a local match of approximately \$45,000. Currently, the township has committed \$10,000, the owners of the Mills property have agreed to contribute \$5,000, and the village is able to contribute in-kind services valued at approximately \$3,723. Jessie requested that the Commissioners consider contributing toward the remaining balance needed to strengthen the grant application and support the potential funding opportunity.

Robin Schonauer, Budget Director noted that approximately \$30,000 is still needed. Jessie stated that the Port Authority with Community Development funds could also potentially assist with the project. Commissioner Bigrigg expressed concern that the project would directly benefit the residents of Lafayette Mills, which is privately owned property, and stated that he believes the private owners should consider contributing additional funding beyond the current \$5,000 commitment. It was noted that there are 48 apartments located at the mills.

Mary explained that engineering costs are typically around 10 percent of a project's total cost, indicating that this could ultimately become a \$4.5 million project. Discussion also included the current condition of the pond, which is presently full due to rising water levels. Proposed improvements could increase the pond's size by three to four times its current capacity. It was also noted that the watershed area does not fall under any single jurisdiction.

Jessie emphasized that they were not necessarily requesting the full amount from the Commissioners and stated that any contribution would be a tremendous help. There is also hope that the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District may assist with matching funds for the larger project. Commissioner Bigrigg commented that the current high-water conditions make this an ideal time to evaluate the area in question firsthand. Commissioner Shryock suggested that possible improvements could include stabilizing the ditch sides and enlarging the pond area.

The Commissioners agreed that further discussion would take place after Jessie explores additional funding sources and determines the minimum amount needed to move the project forward. Commissioner Bigrigg thanked Jessie for the work being done on the project and acknowledged the importance of pursuing the FEMA BRIC grant opportunity.

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Mary Beck, County Administrator/Project Manager Updates

County Administrator Mary Beck provided several updates to the Coshocton County Commissioners regarding ongoing county projects and initiatives. Discussion began with the Prosecutor's Office tear-down project, including plans for a retaining wall in front of the old sidewalk area to help support the grass section and improve water drainage throughout the site.

Mary also discussed an email the Commissioner's office received from Mr. Franks regarding data centers. She will forward the email to Tiffany Swigert, Port Authority Director and will they will work together on preparing a joint response letter to Mr. Franks. Mr. Chuck Ellis commented positively on the information available on the Aligned website, noting that it was very informative and well done, and suggested that this feedback also be shared with Mr. Franks.

Todd Shroyer, EMS Director talked to Mary regarding the possible sale of the old EMS property located between the old lot and Erwin's property. The Commissioners discussed possible next steps, including whether the property should be auctioned or transferred to the Port Authority for sale. It was noted that any proceeds from the sale would return to EMS, as EMS originally purchased the property. Commissioner Bigrigg emphasized the importance of ensuring the process is handled fairly. Mary will contact Tiffany to determine the proper procedure should the property be transferred to the Port Authority and to see whether the Port Authority would have any interest in acquiring it.

Mary also reported that she recently presented to the Rotary Club about the many projects and developments currently taking place throughout the county. She answered several questions and described the experience as very positive.

Additional updates included several lighting issues around the county. Three lights at Skip's Landing were found to be broken upon opening, and five lights around Court Square are currently not functioning due to damage caused by a driver, according to Dave Wagner. In addition, city workers accidentally damaged one of the lights while repairing the cobblestone area. Although the light has been straightened, it still has a scrape, and Ike Reger, Maintenance Supervisor will touch up the scratched paint.

Mary further noted that she is scheduled to meet with Val Shaw, CPT Director and Tekton to discuss ownership details related to upcoming building plans. The county has received \$654,000 of Moreno's allocated one million dollars. There is also the possibility of adding another restroom on the opposite side of the road if desired. The Skip's Landing area will be well lit, and security cameras will be installed throughout the site. Commissioner Bigrigg stated that he does not believe additional restrooms are necessary on the other side of the road. Mary indicated she would prefer to use the funding toward the Genesis Trail project while continuing to conserve funding for additional improvements in the area, including the possible paving of the ODNR lot.

Meetings Attended

All three Commissioners participated in the Warsaw Memorial Day Parade, while Commissioner Bigrigg also attended the Coshocton Memorial Day Parade and was the guest speaker for the Memorial Day Celebration on the Court Square afterwards. In addition, Commissioner Bigrigg reported attending the America250 meeting held last Wednesday and shared that he served as the commencement speaker for the Coshocton graduation ceremony on Friday evening.

Adjourn


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



Robert W. Bigrigg



Dane R. Shryock



Gary L. Fischer



Clerk