

THE BOARD OF ATHENS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, met in regular session January 2, 2024, with Lenny Eliason presiding, Chris Chmiel and Charlie Adkins in attendance.

**Agenda**

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Adkins to approve the following agenda:

Athens County Board of County Commissioners

Meeting Agenda for Tuesday, January 02, 2024 Convenes at 9:30 a.m.

Approve Agenda

Approve Minutes of December 19, 2023

9:45 DJFS Dir Jean Demosky - weekly updates

10:00 EMS Chief Amber Pyle - union negotiations

10:30 W&S Supt Rich Kasler - weekly updates

10:45 911 Dir Teresa Fouts- Imler

11:30 Visit to Rising Suns Pharmacy

~Agenda Items

W&S Extensions

Palmer Conservation invoice for the HVAC Project to be paid from ARPA

Support letter for Frontier and Spectrum

Law Library Surplus

US 50 Sewer Disbursements (ratify signature)

2024 CEBCO Wellness Grant

2024-Appointment for County Apiary Inspector

Clerk of Courts Surplus

Auditor-Weights and Measures Contract 2023 & 2024 with Vinton County

Closure of SEPTA fund

~TRAVEL

Auditor Jill Davidson; CAAO District Meeting, Waverly OH; January 12

WIA Joe Frazier; OhioMeans Jobs Meeting, Perry Co; January 10

WIA Joe Frazier; Meigs Co JFS Meeting, Meigs Co; January 18

ADJOURNMENT

The roll being called upon for adoption, the vote resulted as follows: Mr. Eliason, yea; Mr. Chmiel, yea; Mr. Adkins, yea.

**Minutes**

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Adkins approving the minutes from December 19.

The roll being called upon for adoption, the vote resulted as follows: Mr. Eliason, yea; Mr. Chmiel, yea; Mr. Adkins, yea.

**DJFS Dir Jean Demosky - weekly updates**

DJFS Dir. Jean Demosky provided the following Program Updates:

Ohio exceeded both our overall and two-parent TANF work participation rates for fiscal year 2022.

Ohio's child care licensing staff mad it possible for an estimated 355,000 children to be cared for in settings outside their homes.

Ohio's child support workers made it possible for nearly 675,000 children to receive \$1.6 billion in support.

Ohio processed over 350,000 new Medicaid or CHIP applications and fielded more than 1.6 million telephone inquiries while also managing unprecedented rates of monthly determinations.

Aspire Program Volunteers Needed.

CARBON Hub Summary-Workforce Development: A K-16 STEM education and training ecosystem is already emerging, catalyzed by Intel's recent investment in educational institutions across the region. The trained workforce growing from these efforts can support the burgeoning carbon materials technology sector. Focal areas for training are physical plant operations, manufacturing technologies, advanced machining, mechatronics, automation, and safety.

DJFS Staff sent a letter of thanks to the Commissioners for Closing December 26, 2023 for the holiday.

**W&S Extensions**

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Adkins approve the following extension:

an extension as requested by Mathew Tennant for monies owed the Athens County Water & Sewer District for water and sewer service, the total amount due is \$242.93 with \$242.93 to be paid by 01/12/2024. If the terms of this agreement are not met, the account will be considered delinquent and service could be shut off.

The roll being called upon for adoption, the vote resulted as follows: Mr. Eliason, yea; Mr. Chmiel, yea; Mr. Adkins, yea.

**Palmer Conservation invoice for the HVAC Project to be paid from ARPA**

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Adkins to approve the Palmer Conservation invoice for the HVAC Project to be paid from ARPA funds in the amount of \$17,220.00.

The roll being called upon for adoption, the vote resulted as follows: Mr. Eliason, yea; Mr. Chmiel, yea; Mr. Adkins, yea.



**2024 CEBCO Wellness Grant**

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Adkins to enter into a grant agreement with CEBCO, for the 2024 Wellness Grant. Grant funding amounts, Administrative Funds \$4,000.00 , Program Funds \$10,020.00.

The roll being called upon for adoption, the vote resulted as follows: Mr. Eliason, yea; Mr. Chmiel, yea; Mr. Adkins, yea.

**2024 Appointment for County Apiary Inspector**

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Adkins appointing Edward Newman, 30 Carrier Street, Athens, Ohio as the 2024 Apiary Inspector.

The roll being called upon for adoption, the vote resulted as follows: Mr. Eliason, yea; Mr. Chmiel, yea; Mr. Adkins, yea.

**Clerk of Courts Surplus**

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Adkins approving the request from Candy Russell, Clerk of Courts to declare the following county property surplus for redistribution:  
2-Exercise Ball Chairs

The roll being called upon for adoption, the vote resulted as follows: Mr. Eliason, yea; Mr. Chmiel, yea; Mr. Adkins, yea.

**Auditor - Weights and Measures Contract with Vinton County**

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Adkins approving the intergovernmental contract for 2024 between the Board of Commissioners of Vinton County, Athens County, and the Auditors office. The purpose of this agreement is for the Contractors to provide Weights and Measure. Contractors will provide an inspector and sealer in as "as needed" basis to the Board for the purposes of inspecting and sealing all necessary devices as required by the Ohio Department of Agriculture. The Board will be responsible for Contractors mileage and hourly rate. Contractor will submit the invoices in a timely manner. The Board shall pay the invoices within 30 days after receipt.

The roll being called upon for adoption, the vote resulted as follows: Mr. Eliason, yea; Mr. Chmiel, yea; Mr. Adkins, yea.

**Closure of SEPTA fund**

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Adkins approving the request from STAR Community Justice Center (aka SEPTA), for unclaimed funds from their facility when it was SEPTA. Fund 837 has a cash balance of \$57,627.20 and Workers Compensation Fund has \$28,361.02. The Clerk will work with the Auditor's office to issue a check for their funds.

The roll being called upon for adoption, the vote resulted as follows: Mr. Eliason, yea; Mr. Chmiel, yea; Mr. Adkins, yea.

**Travel**

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Adkins approving the following travel:  
Auditor Jill Davidson; CAAO District Meeting, Waverly OH; January 12  
WIA Joe Frazier; OhioMeans Jobs Meeting, Perry Co; January 10  
WIA Joe Frazier; Meigs Co JFS Meeting, Meigs Co; January 18

The roll being called upon for adoption, the vote resulted as follows: Mr. Eliason, yea; Mr. Chmiel, yea; Mr. Adkins, yea.

**EMS Chief Amber Pyle - Compliance Officer**

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Adkins to hire Captain Gerald Carter as the part time ems compliance manager with a start date of January 4, 2024 at and overtime rate of \$29.50/hr.

The roll being called upon for adoption, the vote resulted as follows: Mr. Eliason, yea; Mr. Chmiel, yea; Mr. Adkins, yea.

**EMS - Executive Session**

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Adkins to enter into executive session at 9:54 with Chief Pyle, Assistant Chief Crossen Jr., and Jeff Stankunus concerning Union Negotiations.

The roll being called upon for adoption, the vote resulted as follows: Mr. Eliason, yea; Mr. Chmiel, yea; Mr. Adkins, yea.

**EMS - Regular Session**

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Adkins to return to regular session at 10:08 with No Action.

The roll being called upon for adoption, the vote resulted as follows: Mr. Eliason, yea; Mr. Chmiel, yea; Mr. Adkins, yea.

**EMS updates**

Chief Pyle stated that they are starting the interview process for the Captains Position for the Nelsonville Station, Wednesday January 3 rd, Thursday January 4 th, & Friday January 5 th.

Chief Pyle stated that they are going through applications to look for 5 new hires for part time work.

**W&S Supt Rich Kasler - weekly updates**

Supt Rich Kasler stated that they are finishing Country Club Lane, still need to put services in. Tie In work on the force main on SR56 by the school going on while school was out. Update on AEP by Elliottsville - setting poles soon so that should be moving forward. Discussed the public meeting in New Marshfield on January 9 th. The clerk questioned the email received from DLZ regarding the New Marshfield sewer project. The email indicated that it was a loan and not a grant. The commissioners were concerned since they indicated it needed to be a grant. Supt Rich Kasler will reach out to Gary Silcott to discuss the email. Supt Kasler discussed getting a survey of the area to provide LMI information. Commissioner Chmiel indicated that he would work with Supt Kasler on obtaining the LMI information.

**911 New Hires McCollister Stevens**

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Adkins to approve the following new hires as recommended by Dir. Fouts-Imler:  
Layla McCollister as Intermittent dispatcher with the pay rate of \$20.57 per hour.  
Adelynn Stevens as Intermittent dispatcher with the pay rate of \$20.57 per hour.

The roll being called upon for adoption, the vote resulted as follows: Mr. Eliason, yea; Mr. Chmiel, yea; Mr. Adkins, yea.

**EMA Acting Director Teresa Fouts-Imler....**

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Adkins to approve the Emergency Operations Plan for Athens County and sign the Promulgation Statement and Approval and Implementation form. The 4 year plan has been approved by the State and ready to be distributed to all county employees. Teresa requested the plan be on the County Website to be available to the community.

The roll being called upon for adoption, the vote resulted as follows: Mr. Eliason, yea; Mr. Chmiel, yea; Mr. Adkins, yea.

**EMA Hazard Mitigation Plan**

The Hazard Mitigation Plan is due in 2025 and on a 5 year cycle. Don Gossel requested proposals to prepare the plan. Don recommended the plan be prepared by Burton, their proposal came in at \$39,912.00, the federal share is \$29,934.00 with a local match of \$9,978.00. However, if a list of stakeholders is put together and for each hour they are involved in the plan, that's minus from the match. It's a 75/25 match, but they do all the work.

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Adkins to award the contract to Burton in the amount of \$39,912.00.

The roll being called upon for adoption, the vote resulted as follows: Mr. Eliason, yea; Mr. Chmiel, yea; Mr. Adkins, yea.

Commissioner Chmiel asked if any other training was needed from the Commissioners, Elected Officials or Department Heads. Teresa indicated that NIMS for FEMA needs completed 100 and 200. She would get a list together to distribute to the various offices.

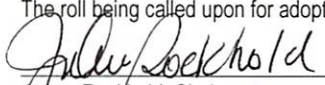
**Visit to Rising Suns Pharmacy**

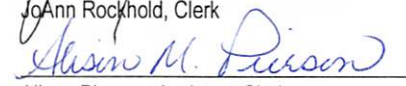
All 3 commissioners visited the Rising Suns Pharmacy

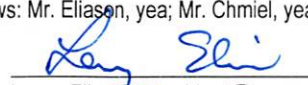
**Adjourn**

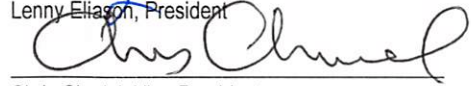
A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Adkins to adjourn the above meeting.

The roll being called upon for adoption, the vote resulted as follows: Mr. Eliason, yea; Mr. Chmiel, yea; Mr. Adkins, yea.

  
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JoAnn Rockhold, Clerk

  
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Alison Pierson, Assistant Clerk

  
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Lenny Eliason, President

  
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Chris Chmiel, Vice-President

  
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Charlie Adkins