

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

Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to approve the following agenda:
Athens County Board of County Commissioners
Meeting Agenda for Tuesday, April 29, 2025 Convenes at 9:30 a.m.

Approve Agenda

Approve Minutes April 8, 2025 / April 15, 2025 / April 22, 2025

Approve Appropriations, Transfers, New Line Items Requests/Changes, Then & Nows, & Bills

- 9:30 Jeremy Carr - Athens Fair Board
- 9:45 DJFS Dir Jean Demosky - weekly updates
- 10:00 Keith Robinson - Gallery Pears
- 10:15 Jeff Jenkins and Nate Simons- Lin Hall HVAC project
- 10:30 W&S Supt Oscar Carson and Frank Lavelle - weekly updates
- 10:45 Maintenance Bids
- 11:00 Brian Blair -Athens Conservancy-Clean Ohio project
- 11:15 Teresa Imler- 9-1-1
- 11:30 LUNCH

Agenda Items

- Amended Certificate
- W&S Extensions
- Assigned Counsel Report from Auditors Office
- (CHIP) Administration and Fair Housing Services - rating
- Amendment to ARC Funding for Amesville Broadband
- B-D-22-1AE-4 (Ratify Commissioner Eliason's Signature)
- Frontier -PPP Agreement ARC
- Motorola Invoice \$26,256.00 for Sheriff's Body Cam's to be paid with ARPA Funds

~TRAVEL

Judge Patrick Lang; OCPJA Summer Conf, Lewis Center OH; 06/27- 06/27/25

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 Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to approve the minutes of April 8, April 15, & April 22, 2025.

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

Appropriations, Transfers, New Line Items Requests/Changes, Then & Nows, & Bill

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel approving the Appropriations, Transfers, New Line Items Requests/Changes and approving the payment of the required County Bills, which are included in the Auditor's Office INVOICE TRACKING REPORT - From: 04/22/2025 To: 04/24/2025 and the bills are hereby the same and authorize the County Auditor to issue warrants on the County Treasurer for payment in the same. Complete list of bills maintained in the Auditor's office.

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

Jeremy Carr - Athens Fair Board

Extension Office Project Proposal

Attendees: Jeremy Carr (Fair Board), County Commissioners, John Stevinson (Architect, RVC), OSU Extension Staff

Presentation and Proposal Overview

- * Jeremy Carr, President of the Athens County Fair Board, introduced a proposal to build new office space for the Athens County OSU Extension at the Fairgrounds.
- * He has been working with Chris and architect John Stevinson (RVC Architects) on the design and budgeting for the project.
- * The proposed addition will be a 20x56 ft. expansion on the existing Junior Fair building and will include:
 - * Three offices
 - * A reception area

- * A remodeled bathroom
- * A mechanical room and storage area
- * The building will be constructed with metal siding and a metal roof to match the existing structure, keeping costs lower than using block materials.

Budget and Funding

- * The total estimated cost is \$250,000, including HVAC, plumbing, and renovations.
- * Funding includes:
 - * \$235,000 in grant funds (to be applied for via a Target of Opportunity grant)
 - * \$15,000 from OSU Extension
- * A separate ARC grant application for \$105,000 has also been submitted to renovate the existing Junior Fair building. This includes HVAC upgrades, new windows, kitchen remodel, and general usability improvements.
- * The Fair Board will provide the required 30% match for the ARC grant.

Usage and Long-Term Planning

- * The renovated and expanded facilities would continue to serve 4-H clubs, Soil & Water, and other nonprofits.
- * A long-term lease (potentially 100 years) is proposed to secure space for the extension office.
- * Utility costs would be managed based on space occupancy, with details to be finalized.
- * The existing conference space will not be replaced in this project but is still considered critical. It may be used by both extension programming and community groups.

Application and Administrative Process

- * The group discussed who should officially apply for the grant — the Fair Board or the County. Final determination to be based on clarification from Glenn.

Next Steps

- * Await response from Glenn regarding the grant application process.
- * Once clarified, the County will pass a formal resolution to support the grant application.
- * The construction project will go through a formal bidding process, per funding requirements.
- * Timeline is open-ended pending grant approval, but the funding cycle is rolling and can move quickly once submitted.
- * OSU Extension has been given an extended move-out date by the Health Department (originally August 31st), though the length of the extension remains unclear.

Acknowledgments

- * OSU Extension staff expressed gratitude to the Fair Board and commissioners for their cooperation and quick action in finding a new office solution.

A motion was made by Mr. Chmiel and seconded by Mr. Adkins to move forward with the proposal pending confirmation of the grant applicant and development of a formal lease agreement outlining responsibilities and costs.

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

Dir. Jean Demosky provided the following Weekly Updates:

1. Back to School Bash Planning

- * Event Date: July 23
- * Registrations: Over 1,400 students already signed up, expecting attendance to exceed 1,500 with unregistered walk-ins.
- * Comment: Strong community interest; event planning is progressing well.

2. Gen Z Virtual Career Fair

- * Scope: Statewide event.
- * Encouragement: Attendees were encouraged to participate or log in if possible.

3. Nelsonville Building Activities (March Highlights)

- * Internal Meetings: Multiple.
- * External/Agency Events Hosted:
 - * ODJFS Veterans Services meeting
 - * CCMEP career coach training
 - * Tech Cred seminar (Lt. Governor's office)
 - * Digital Connection Café with FCAP
 - * HCOM mobile clinic
 - * Solid Waste District Board Meeting
 - * Recreation/Seasonal Job Fair
 - * ACE Net business workshop
 - * Age-Friendly Athens Coalition meeting

- * Responding to Addiction training (317 Board)
- * Ongoing Services:
 - * Unemployment Office every Thursday
 - * Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) every Tuesday
 - * Another unspecified visitor every Wednesday
- 4. Upcoming Events (May)
 - * Activities Scheduled:
 - * Local elections (May 6)
 - * Digital Connection Café continuation
 - * In-Demand Jobs Week Open House
 - * Disability Etiquette in the Workplace workshop (with OOD)
 - * ACE Net Canva workshop
 - * Weekly Health Recovery Services sessions
- 5. Remodel Update
 - * Status: Recently reviewed with architect and SAOP; slight adjustments made to plans.
 - * Challenges: Small space limits flexibility; moving large equipment will be difficult.
 - * Projected Timeline: Possibly one month until completion, but tentative.
- 6. 510 Building Sale Update
 - * Bid Status: Recent bid fell through; disappointment expressed.
 - * Discussion:
 - * Creative alternatives suggested (e.g., "balloon buildings" like those used by OU).
 - * Possibility of renting space rather than posting again for \$1.5 million.
 - * State agencies might be ideal tenants/buyers if funding is approved.
 - * Concerns over state interest and role as landlord were raised.
 - * Decision: Postponed further discussion until next week.
- 7. Senior Food Bag Donation
 - * Source: County officers' collection.
 - * Use: Items will be used to prepare senior bags with a mix of donated staples and preferred items.
 - * Thanks Extended: Gratitude expressed for contributions.
 - * Suggestion for Future: Have a prepared wishlist for more targeted donations.
- 8. Staffing Updates
 - * Open Positions:
 - * Public Relations (PR) Specialist
 - * Human Resources Officer
 - * Personnel Change: One staff member accepted a new position at Ohio University and will be leaving.

Keith Robinson - Callery Pears

- * Keith Robinson was invited to discuss the growing threat of the Bradford Pear tree, a non-native, invasive species that spreads rapidly from city areas to surrounding natural ecosystems.
- * Keith emphasized the critical stage Athens is at, where mitigation is still possible before the issue becomes unmanageable, as seen in larger cities like Columbus.

A motion was made by Mr. Chmiel and seconded by Mr. Adkins to authorize the maintenance staff to cut down and chemically treat stumps of Bradford Pears Trees on county property (e.g., bike path, Ferndale Park) and send a letter to ODNR and ODOT to request support for mitigation programs and raise awareness.

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

Jeff Jenkins - Lin Hall HVAC Project

Jeff Jenkins provided the following update:

- * Project Updates
 - * Lin Hall
 - * Progress continues smoothly with minor setbacks.
 - * Upcoming Change Order:
 - * Related to sagging plaster in areas where old equipment is being removed.
 - * Electrical updates also included.
 - * Cost covered entirely by Ohio University (OU), not the county.
 - * Despite the county being the official owner, the change order will still require signatures from:
 - * OU
 - * County engineer

- * Contractor
 - * Most duct holes are cut, and ductwork is staged for installation.
 - * A progress meeting is scheduled for later today.
- * Jacksonville NRG Facility
 - * RFQ responses for engineering services are being scored today.
 - * This will enable further project development and design planning.
- * Luckoff Building – Glouster
 - * Project nearing 90% plan review stage.
 - * Targeting late spring/early summer to go out to bid.
 - * Completion expected before fall, as the construction duration is relatively short.
- * 93 High Street Renovation
 - * Structural updates:
 - * All three floors replaced.
 - * Room framing in progress.
 - * New roof installation completed.
 - * Electricians are on-site, running new systems.
 - * Next progress meeting scheduled for Thursday.

Amended Certificate

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel acknowledging receipt of the Amended Certificate for 317 Board, dated April 29, 2025 prepared by Jill Davidson, Athens County Auditor.

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

W&S Extension

A motion was made by Mr Adkins and seconded by Mr Chmiel to ratify Mr Adkins signature authorizing an extension as requested by Tommy Warren for monies owed the Athens County Water and Sewer District for water and sewer service, the total amount due is \$103.01 with \$103.01 to be paid by 05/09/25. 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.

Assigned Counsel Report from Auditors Office

A motion was made by Mr Adkins and seconded by Mr Chmiel to acknowledge receipt of the Assigned Counsel Report from the Auditors Office and submit for payment:

April 2025

Total Juvenile Certifications	1
Amount submitted in Juvenile Certifications	\$2,560.00
All (Non-Capital) Appellate Court Certifications	1
Amount submitted in Appellate Court Certifications	\$1,246.75
All (Non-Capital) Transcript Certifications	2
Amount submitted for Transcript Certifications	\$2,736.00
Total Number of Certifications (All Courts - All Expenses)	4
Total Amount submitted	\$6,542.75

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

(CHIP) Administration & Fair Housing Services - Rating

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to award the sole bid contract to HAPCAP. Full RFP from HAPCAP available on file at the Commissioner's Office.

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

Amendment to ARC Funding for Amesville Broadband

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to accepted the recommendation to the ARC Amendment for Amesville Broadband Expansion adding 78 eligible households along Harmony and South Canaan Road.

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

B-D-22-1AE-4 (Ratify Commissioner Eliason's Signature)

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to ratify Mr. Eliason's Signature on the Office of Community Development 2022 Target of Opportunity Program Amended Scope of Work and Budget. Full document available on file in the Commissioners Office.

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

Frontier - PPP Agreement ARC

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to approve the Frontier - Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Agreement. See back of page 148 for full agreement.

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

Motorola Invoice \$26,256.00 for Sheriff's Body Cam's to be paid with ARPA Funds

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to approve the Motorola Invoice in the amount of \$26,256.00 for the Sheriff's Body Camera's to be paid with ARPA 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 Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to approve the following travel:
Judge Patrick Lang; OCPJA Summer Conf, Lewis Center OH; 06/27- 06/27/25

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

Executive Session - EMS

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to enter into executive session at 10:13 a.m. to discuss Discipline of a Public Employee.

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

Regular Session

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to return to regular session at 10:24 a.m. with No Action to be taken this week, will discuss with EMS next week.

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

W&S - New Marshfield Sewer (Frank LaVelle)

Frank LaVelle provided the following updates on the New Marshfield Sewer Project:

1. Project Overview & Status
 - * Frank provided an update on the easement acquisition process for the New Marshfield area.
 - * The goal is to acquire eight easements. All property owners have been contacted, ownership interests verified, and easements prepared.
 - * As of the meeting:
 - * Two easements have been signed and returned.
 - * A third property owner has requested modifications involving a utility pole relocation, which is being addressed by Gary Silcott and his design team.
 - * The remaining five easements have been mailed with return instructions. Follow-up calls will be made in a week or two if there's no response.
2. Communication & Outreach
 - * DLZ prepared clear, one-page fact sheets to help property owners understand the project.
 - * Emphasis was placed on keeping costs low, which correlates to keeping residents' monthly utility bills down.
3. Contract & Resolution
 - * Frank submitted a proposed resolution and contract for the commissioners to approve, which includes a discounted hourly rate.
 - * The board voted unanimously to enter into the contract with Frank for this work.
4. Comparison with US 50 Project
 - * This New Marshfield effort is described as significantly smaller and more manageable compared to the US 50 project, which involved around 250 easements.
 - * No door-to-door visits are planned due to smaller scope and staffing limitations.
 - * Frank has several file cabinets of easement and project data from US 50, and he offered to transfer those records to the Sewer District for archival.
5. Grant & Public Hearing Discussions
 - * There was brief discussion about scheduling another public meeting, pending confirmation of grant funding.
 - * Some references were made to a hearing that DLZ held previously, where materials were distributed to attendees.
6. Concerns Regarding Engineering Responsibility
 - * Concerns were raised by Commissioner Adkins about engineers not being held accountable for mistakes in prior projects (e.g.,

incorrect road widths, missing drainage elements).

- * The group discussed how contract language often shields engineers from liability.
- * Frank suggested that all crucial responsibilities and verifications should be explicitly stated in the bid documents, including any required soil tests or utility conflict checks.
- * Emphasis was placed on the importance of coordination with the county engineer's office for accurate data, especially when working in county road rights-of-way.

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to approve the Resolution and enter into a Contract with Frank LaVelle on the New Marshfield Sewer Project.

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

Easement - Rardin & Adams

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to record the easement with John W. Rardin & Carol J. Adams for the New Marshfield Sewer Project.

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

Easement - McClain

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to record the easement with David R. McClain & Nancy F. McClain for the New Marshfield Sewer Project.

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

W&S Supt Oscar Carson - Weekly Updates

Supt Oscar Carson provided the following updates:

1. Sewer Tap Design and Clean out Proposal for Marshfield
 - * Supt Carson discussed the design of sewer tap installations in Marshfield, particularly concerning homes with no basements (e.g., trailers and single-story homes).
 - * He proposed adding a Y-joint with a plug and a Clean out at the end of each sewer tap.
 - * Purpose: To allow future homeowners to connect to the system at a shallower depth (~3 feet) instead of digging down 8-10 feet, thereby significantly reducing installation costs.
 - * Benefit: While not applicable to homes with basements, this change would benefit many in Marshfield given the housing composition.
 - * Supt Carson has not yet presented the proposal to Gary (the engineer) but sought initial feedback from the group.
 - * All Commissioners voiced support, acknowledging the cost-saving potential and added homeowner convenience.
 - * Additional idea: Label each Clean out with the corresponding address due to the high density and irregular arrangement of homes (e.g., trailers behind trailers).
2. Health Department Compliance
 - * Supt Carson reported that Stephanie Morris is finalizing the list of residents not yet connected to the sewer system, in collaboration with the health department.
3. Generator Issue
 - * The vendor originally set to supply the generator has backed out due to the manufacturer of the enclosures going out of business.
 - * Implication: The current vendor cannot fulfill the order, and the previously discussed generator is no longer available.
 - * Alternative options are being explored, though another vendor would likely require a new bid process.
 - * Commissioner Eliason suggested that if the generator becomes a sole-source procurement, rebidding might be avoidable, pending a new quote and legal review.
4. Road Repair and Settlement Issues
 - * Commissioner Adkins raised concerns about a road settlement issue along Route 56 in front of some residences (Salem area).
 - * Supt Carson had not heard of any scheduled repairs but agreed to check with Gary and follow up.

Bid Openings - Maintenance Surplus

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to acknowledge the bids for the maintenance surplus. See back of page 149 for the bids.

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

Pole Saw Bid Award

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to award the Pole Saw Bid to Jeff Gabriel for \$57.00.

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

		Jacob W	Jack Pepper	Ric Wasserman	Melissa Conket	Jeff Gabriel	Whitney Fetty	Jerry Welch	Gerald Carter	Mike Biggins	Mitchell Roush
1	Pole Saw	\$25.00		\$ 30.00		\$ 25.00				\$ 51.00	\$ 30.00
2	Leaf Blower	\$15.00	\$ 16.50			\$ 22.00			\$ 50.00		
3	Chain Saw	\$50.00	\$ 55.50	\$ 51.00		\$ 76.50	\$ 50.00			\$ 50.50	
4	Sander	\$5.00									
5	Weed Eater #1 / Weed Eater #2	\$50.00 each		\$ 76.00		\$ 62.50		\$ 101.00			
	#2	\$ 50.00		\$ 76.00		\$ 62.50			\$ 60.00		
6	Drill 3/8	\$2.00	\$ 2.50								
7	Solder Iron	\$1.00									
8	Belt Sander	\$10.00									
9	Chain Saw EGO	\$125.00	\$ 130.50	\$ 30.00				\$ 152.00			
10	Wizard	\$5.00									
11	Sawzall	\$10.00	\$ 15.50								
12	Compact Circular Saw	\$25.00	\$ 30.50	\$ 36.50		\$ 31.00	\$ 25.00				
13	Bostitch	\$50.00		\$ 65.00	\$ 50.00						
14	Acid Moisture Test Tubes	\$1.00									
15	Dewalt	\$10.00		\$ 10.00							
16	Drill	\$2.00	\$ 5.50								
17	Vacuum Gauge	\$10.00							\$ 25.00		
18	Black and Decker Saw	\$5.00									

\$ 23.50 \$ 86.00 \$ 101.50 \$ - \$ 133.50 \$ - \$ 253.00 \$ 75.00 \$ - \$ -

Leaf Blower Bid Award

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to award the Leaf Blower Bid to Gerald Carter for \$50.00.

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

Chain Saw Bid Award

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to award the Chain Saw Bid to Jeff Gabriel for \$76.50.

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

Weed Eater Bid Award

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to award the 1st Weed Eater Bid to Jerry Welch for \$101.00 and the 2nd Weed Eater Bid to Jack Pepper for \$76.00.

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

Drill 3/8 Bid Award

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to award the Drill 3/8 to Jacob Wirick for \$2.50.

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

Chain Saw EGO

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to award the Chain Saw EGO to Jerry Welch for \$152.00.

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

Sawzall Bid Award

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to award the Sawzall Bid to Jacob Wirick for \$15.50.

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

Compact Circular Saw Bid Award

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to award the Compact Circular Saw to Ric Wasserman for \$36.50.

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

Bostitch Bid Award

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to award the Bostitch Bid to Ric Wasserman for \$65.00.

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

Dewalt Bid Award

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to award the Dewalt to Jack Pepper for \$10.00.

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

Drill Bid Award

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to award the Drill to Jacob Wirick for \$5.50.

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

Vacuum Gauge Bid Award

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to award the Vacuum Gauge to Gerald Carter for \$25.00.

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

Brian Blair - Athens Conservancy - Clean Ohio Project

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to set a Resolution to support the Athens Conservancy's Clean Ohio Grant Application for purchase of the property:

Whereas, the Athens Conservancy is applying for a grant from the Clean Ohio Green Space Conservation Program to use Clean Ohio funds for purchase of the 82 acre property in Athens Township owned by the estate of Rosemary Cooper-Huntsman, and;

Whereas, If funded, the property will consolidate the existing Mary Beth Lohse Preserve and the Hawk Woods (aka Riddle) nature preserve near Strouds Run State Park. The new Preserve area will be open to the public for hiking, nature enjoyment, educational pursuits, and bow hunting of deer by permit, and;

Therefore, Be it Resolved, the Athens County Commissioners, support the Athens Conservancy's Clean Ohio grant application for purchase of the property and land management activities for the property.

Signed this 29th day of April 2025

/s/Lenny Eliason, President

/s/Chartie Adkins

/s/Chris Chmiel

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

Executive Session

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to enter into executive session at 11:07 a.m. with Teresa Imler -911 to discuss discipline of a public employee.

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

Regular Session

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to return to regular session at 11:40 a.m. with No discipline to be taken.

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

Suspend Rules

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Eliason to suspend the rules and declare an emergency and add the following to the agenda:

Travel; W&S Owen Arix, Water Distribution 1 exam, Columbus OH; 05/13/25

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

911 Solar

Funding Breakdown and Sources

- * \$135,000 has already been received.
- * An additional \$15,000 is expected soon.
- * Another \$30,000 is anticipated from SOPEC as part of a second year of funding.
- * Total expected before tax credit: \$180,000.

Timeline & Invoicing Concerns

- * The final invoice of \$96,000 is expected to be issued in 2026.
- * The solar system is expected to be operational by October 2025.
- * The tax credit refund is anticipated by April 2026, assuming tax filing and processing proceed normally.

Concerns Raised by Others

- * Commissioner Eliason is skeptical about the timing and guarantee of the federal tax credit:
- * Wants confirmation it will arrive before the invoice is due.
- * Warns that waiting until May 2026 may leave the county liable if reimbursement is delayed.
- * Commissioner Adkins and others share the concern that they cannot afford to be responsible for the \$96K if the rebate fails or is delayed.
- * Commissioner Chmiel to get answers before moving forward.

Travel

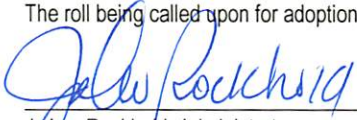
A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to approve the travel:
W&S Owen Arix, Water Distribution 1 exam, Columbus OH; 05/13/25

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

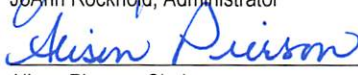
Adjourn

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

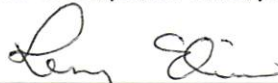
The roll being called upon for adoption, the vote resulted as follows: Mr. Eliason, yea; Mr. Chmiel, yea; Mr. Adkins, yea.



JoAnn Rockhold, Administrator




Alison Pierson, Clerk



Lenny Eliason, President



Charlie Adkins, Vice-President



Chris Chmiel