

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

Agenda

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Eliason to approve the following agenda:
Athens County Board of County Commissioners

Meeting Agenda for Tuesday, January 28, 2025 Convenes at 9:30 a.m.

Approve Agenda

Approve Minutes January 21, 2025

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

Fund to Fund: Comm from 001.1194.580540 Capital Improvements to 017.2017.422101 Transfers In

Fund to Fund: Eng from 491.1300.580102 Bond Transfer to 017.2017.422101 Transfers In

9:30 EMS - Information from Auditor's Office

9:45 DJFS Dir Jean Demosky - weekly updates

10:00 HAPCAP - Jeff Jenkins & Glen Crippen - 93 High St & Amesville Broadband

10:30 W&S Supt Oscar Carson - weekly updates

11:00 Judge McCarthy

11:30 LUNCH

Agenda Items

Utility Permits (4)

Assigned Counsel Report from Auditors Office

691 Proposal for 2025

W&S Late Fee Request for Approval (3)

DYS Amendment

University Heights Resolution

Resolution ATH CR VAR PM FY2025

Guardian Ad Litem Agreements (6)

CCAO Designation of Official Representative

HAPCAP 5 Year Programmatic Agreement with Ohio's State Historic Preservation Office

~TRAVEL

Travis Taylor, PWS- 2-17-2025 through 2/20- Niskayuna, NY - Eone Service Training

Commissioner Chris Chmiel; CCAO Southeast District Meeting, Cambridge, OH; 04/14/25

911 Teresa Fouts-Imler; Capstone Course for 911 CPL, Daytona Beach, FL; 07/06-07/18/25

DJFS Jean Demosky; OJFSDA Executive Board Meeting, Columbus, OH; 02/12-02/14/25

ADJOURNMENT

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

Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Eliason to approve the minutes of January 21, 2025.

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

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Adkins approving the Appropriations, Transfers, New Line Items Requests/Changes including Fund to Fund: Comm from 001.1194.580540 Capital Improvements to 017.2017.422101 Transfers In, Fund to Fund: Eng from 491.1300.580102 Bond Transfer to 017.2017.422101 Transfers In and approving the payment of the required County Bills, which are included in the Auditor's Office INVOICE TRACKING REPORT - From: 01/16/25 To: 01/21/25 & INVOICE TRACKING REPORT - From: 01/21/25 To: 01/23/25 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, absent.

EMS - New Hire

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Eliason to approve the EMS Part-Time New Hire as requested by Chief Pyle:

Paramedic Verda T Becker with a pay rate of \$18.85 per hour.

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

EMS - Levy Discussion

Assist Chief Crossen presented financial projections for the upcoming levy renewal, working with EMS Administrative Assistant Staci Giles, Administrator JoAnn Rockhold, and Auditor Jill Davidson to assess EMS's financial needs over the next several years. The discussion focused on various levy renewal and replacement options to maintain financial stability.

Levy Scenarios:

Renewal Only:

If the levy is simply renewed without changes, projections indicate a deficit of approximately \$530,000 by 2028, with financials trending downward each year.

Replacement:

A full replacement (adjusting to current tax brackets) would create a \$384,000 surplus by 2028, but by 2029, the county would face a \$686,000 deficit.

Replacement + 0.5 Mills:

This option would keep financials stable until 2030-31, though a decline would begin in 2029.

Replacement + 1 Mill:

This plan would ensure financial growth from 2026 through 2029 and sustain long-term financial health beyond 2031.

Replacement + 1.5 Mills:

Considered excessive but modeled for reference. This would create continuous financial growth.

Renewal + 0.5 Mills:

While initially beneficial, financials would begin declining in 2029.

Renewal + 1 Mill:

Offers moderate growth without decline through 2031.

Renewal + 1.5 Mills:

Also modeled but not recommended. Would provide consistent financial growth.

Commissioner Chmiel questioned the new Medicaid Revenue Consideration:

Assist Chief Crossen stated the Medicaid program, if approved, could bring in an estimated \$585,000 annually starting in 2026.

This revenue was not included in projections due to its uncertain status at the federal level.

13 other states and some Ohio hospitals already participate in similar programs.

Await federal approval of Medicaid funding (expected 2026).

Assist Chief Crossen to send information on the Medicaid approval process to Commissioner Chmiel.

DJFS Dir Jean Demosky - Weekly Updates

Dir Jean Demosky presented the following Weekly Updates:

1. Medicaid & Executive Orders Impact

78 executive actions recently went into effect, potentially affecting Job & Family Services (JFS) operations.

The Directors Association is reviewing these changes to assess their impact.

Medicaid and staffing continue to be under scrutiny as areas for potential policy changes.

Dir. Demosky will provide updates as more information becomes available.

2. Food Rescue Program & Weekend Food Backpacks

Robin Burrow introduced a food rescue program in partnership with Hocking College.

Restaurants and grocery stores donate food.

Hocking College culinary students prepare frozen meals from rescued food.

Program initially started in Louisiana, now expanding locally.

Operation Full Belly is expected to benefit once the program is fully operational.

Weekend Food Backpack Initiative:

Goal: Ensure all schools offer weekend food support to students.

Plan: Establish a centralized distribution point for schools.

Dir. Demosky agreed to collaborate on this effort.

3. Property Appraisal & Adjacent Land Opportunity

The appraisal for 510 was completed.

Open house for the property scheduled.

Adjacent vacant property also became available for sale, offering potential new entrance access.

4. Nelsonville OMJ (One-Stop Job Center) Building Updates

Renovation work continues, but heating & cooling issues remain in back rooms (boot room, server room, other spaces).

Discussion on HVAC options:

Existing vents present but ineffective.

Dir. Demosky asked if Twin Oaks could be called directly or if three quotes were needed.

Commissioner Eliason confirmed that a direct call to Twin Oaks is acceptable.

5. Storage Building Issue

A storage building at 510 is too large to move easily.

Cost to replace with a new storage shed: under \$7,500.

Commissioner Chmiel & Commissioner Eliason suggested moving the existing structure would be cheaper.

Suggested contacting Brent Hayes (or similar equipment haulers) for transport.

- City approved relocation of the shed to the new site.
- 6. Office Cleanup & Maintenance
 - Two double offices need to be cleared, painted, and carpeted.
 - Staff is short-handed, so Dir. Demosky asked if an external contractor could be hired.
 - Commissioner Eliason approved bringing in a contractor for this small job.
- 7. Workforce Development & Union Negotiations
 - Union negotiations were postponed but are now rescheduled for the next day (01/29/25).
 - Workforce Development Board director search remains challenging.
 - CSEA Attorney application was strong, offering potential good news for the legal team.

HAPCAP - Jeff Jenkins - 93 High St & Amesville Broadband

Jeff Jenkins presented the following updates:

- 1. Architectural Change Order & Contract Amendment
 - Jeff Jenkins presented a change order for an architectural amendment to Don Dispenza's (BDT) contract.
 - The architectural team is still reviewing another change order for accuracy before submission.
 - The amendment cost is \$51,065.
 - Jeff Jenkins confirmed that Don signed the amendment proposal last week.
 - Approval of the change order is expected next week after final verification.
- 2. Amesville Broadband Project Update
 - Jeff Jenkins reached out to Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) regarding Amesville's broadband project.
 - A new project manager, Beth Sanner, replaced Chad Parker (who remains part-time).
 - ARC requested the grant number before moving forward.
 - Jay Bennett, a state consultant, offered to join discussions to ensure clarity on the project.
 - No major updates yet; awaiting approval to proceed with Agile.
- 3. Infrastructure & Construction Projects
 - Pre-construction meeting at The Ridges for Lynn Hall HVAC project is underway.
 - Jacksonville NRG & Albany Playground Project:
 - Environmental Review (ER) completed and published.
 - Request for Release of Funds expected in two weeks.
 - Lookoff Building:
 - Meeting scheduled with Eric (BDT) to assess the roof and finalize plans.
 - Plans will be presented to the Land Bank for approval.
 - History Connection Approval:
 - Fire-rated windows (2-hour rated glass block) required for Lookoff Building due to proximity to the Brass Thimble Building.
 - The History Connection approved the window modification, even though they differ slightly from the originals.

Utility Permits

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Eliason to approve the following Utility Permits:

Permit No. 25-574
 From: AEP
 369 E. O'Connor Ave.
 Lima, OH 45801

We hereby request permission to install utility lines within public right-of-way limits.
 Location of work: Co Rd # 35, Co Rd Name: Fleming Rd
 Beginning & Ending Points: 37, 39, & 43 (all Lat/Long shown on attached print)
 Description of Work: Electric, Phone, & Cable
 Type of Installation: Overhead Line Parallel to Rd, Overhead Line Crossing Rd, & Utility Pole Installation
 Estimated Project Schedule: 01/10/2025 through 12/30/2025
 Agreed to by: /s/Charles Hurt, AEP
 Athens County Commissioners
 /s/ Lenny Eliason
 /s/ Chris Chmiel

/s/Jeff Maiden, Athens County Engineer

Permit No. 25-575
 From: AEP
 369 E. O'Connor Ave.
 Lima, OH 45801

We hereby request permission to install utility lines within public right-of-way limits.
 Location of work: Co Rd # 35, Co Rd Name: Fleming Rd
 Beginning & Ending Points: 35 (Lat/Long shown on attached print)

Description of Work: Electric, Phone, & Cable
Type of Installation: Overhead Line Parallel to Rd, Overhead Line Crossing Rd, & Utility Pole Installation
Estimated Project Schedule: 01/10/2025 through 12/30/2025
Agreed to by: /s/Charles Hurt, AEP
Athens County Commissioners
/s/ Lenny Eliason
/s/ Chris Chmiel

/s/Jeff Maiden, Athens County Engineer

Permit No. 25-576
From: AEP
369 E. O'Connor Ave.
Lima, OH 45801

We hereby request permission to install utility lines within public right-of-way limits.

Location of work: Co Rd # 39, Co Rd Name: Wrightstown Rd
Beginning & Ending Points: 7, 8, 11, 14, 16.5, & 18 (all Lat/Long shown on attached print)
Description of Work: Electric, Phone, & Cable
Type of Installation: Overhead Line Parallel to Rd, Overhead Line Crossing Rd, & Utility Pole Installation
Estimated Project Schedule: 01/10/2025 through 12/30/2025
Agreed to by: /s/Charles Hurt, AEP
Athens County Commissioners
/s/ Lenny Eliason
/s/ Chris Chmiel

/s/Jeff Maiden, Athens County Engineer

Permit No. 25-577
From: AEP
369 E. O'Connor Ave.
Lima, OH 45801

We hereby request permission to install utility lines within public right-of-way limits.

Location of work: Co Rd # 53, Co Rd Name: Lottridge Rd
Beginning & Ending Points: 1 & 2 (Lat/Long shown on attached print)
Description of Work: Electric, Phone, & Cable
Type of Installation: Overhead Line Crossing Rd, & Utility Pole Installation
Estimated Project Schedule: 01/13/2025 through 12/31/2025
Agreed to by: /s/Charles Hurt, AEP
Athens County Commissioners
/s/ Lenny Eliason
/s/ Chris Chmiel

/s/Jeff Maiden, Athens County Engineer

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

Assigned Counsel Report from Auditors Office

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

January 2025	
Total Felony Certifications	14
Amount submitted in Felony Certifications	\$17,988.03
Total Misdemeanor Certifications	8
All Other Misdemeanor Certifications	\$8,440.00
Total Juvenile Certifications	25
Amount submitted in Juvenile Certifications	\$22,510.00
All (Non-Capital) Transcript Certifications	1
Amount submitted for Transcript Certifications	\$146.40
Total Number of Certifications (All Courts - All Expenses)	48
Total Amount submitted	\$49,084.43

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

691 Proposal for 2025

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Eliason to accept the 691 Landfill Proposal for 2025 from Eagon.

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

W&S Late Fee Request for Approval (3)

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Eliason to approve W&S Late Fee Request for 3 different AEP accounts. See back of page 31 for documents.

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

DYS Amendment

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Eliason to approve the DYS Amendment in the amount of \$3,925.40. Full document available in the Commissioners Office.

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

University Heights Resolution

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Eliason to approve the following 5801 University Heights Resolution ordering them to connect to the Local Sewerage System within Ninety (90) days or Face Civil/Criminal Court Penalties:
Resolution No.121-0128

A RESOLUTION ORDERING THE RESIDENCE OF 5801 UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS DRIVE, ATHENS, OHIO, TO CONNECT TO THE LOCAL SEWERAGE SYSTEM WITHIN NINETY (90) DAYS OR FACE CIVIL/CRIMINAL COURT PENALTIES:

Whereas, the residence of 5801 University Heights Drive, Athens, Ohio, has a failing septic system as evidence by the Athens City-County Health Department's investigation; and

Whereas, the Athens City-County Health Department has determined that said failing system is a hazard to the general health and safety of the community; and

Whereas, multiple notices were left by the Athens City-County Health Department at the residence to abate the failing system and have received no response; and

Whereas, Athens County water and Sewer District maintains the sewerage system on University Heights Drive as part of the Route 50 Corridor Sewage Expansion Project; and

Whereas, a hookup to the sewerage system was installed near 5801 University Heights, Athens, Ohio, that the resident or owner failed to connect to; and

Whereas, Ohio Administrative Code section 3701-29-06(I) states that "a STS shall not be sited, permitted, or installed where a sanitary sewerage system is accessible, unless otherwise excepted by law. Whenever a sanitary sewerage system becomes accessible to a dwelling or structure served by a STS, the dwelling and/or structures shall be connected to the sanitary sewerage system and the STS abandoned in accordance with rule 3701-29-21 of the Administrative Code."

Whereas, Ohio Revised Code section 6117.51 states that, "If the board of health of the health district within which a new public sewer construction project is proposed or located passes a resolution stating that the reason for the project is to reduce or eliminate an existing health problem or a hazard of water pollution, the board of county commissioners of the county, by resolution, may order the owner of any premises located in a sewer district in the county, the owner's agent, lessee, or tenant, or any other occupant of the premises to connect the premises to the sewer for the purpose of discharging sewage or other waste that the board determines is originating on the premises, to make use of the connection, and to cease the discharge of the sewage or other waste into a cesspool, ditch, private sewer, privy, septic tank, semipublic disposal system as defined in division (B)(1)(a) of section 3709.085 of the Revised Code, or other outlet if the board finds that the sewer is available for use and is accessible to the premises following a determination and certification to the board by a registered professional engineer designated by it as to the availability and accessibility of the sewer."

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Athens, Ohio:

SECTION 1. The resident of 5801 University Heights Drive, Athens, Ohio has ninety (90) days after receiving notice to cease use of the failing septic system and are ordered to connect to the local sewerage system.

SECTION 2. The clerk, or the clerk's designee, is to serve its order upon the owner, agent, lessee, tenant, or occupant. Service of the order shall be made personally, by leaving the order at the usual place of residence with a person of suitable age and discretion then residing therein, or by certified mail addressed to the owner, agent, lessee, tenant, or occupant at that person's last known address or to the address to which tax bills are sent. If it appears by the return of service or the return of the order forwarded by certified mail that the owner, agent, lessee, tenant, or occupant cannot be found, that person shall be served by publication of the order once in a newspaper of general circulation within the county, or if that person refuses service, that person shall be served by ordinary mail addressed to that person's last known address or to the address to which tax bills are sent. The return of the person serving the order or a certified copy of the return, or a returned receipt for the order forwarded by certified mail accepted by the addressee or anyone purporting to act for the addressee, is prima-facie evidence of the service of the order under this section. The return of the person attempting to serve the order, or the return to the sender of the order forwarded by certified mail with an indication on the return of the refusal of the addressee to accept delivery, is prima-facie evidence of the refusal of service.

Request for Approval

Department:

Department: Water & Sewer

Type of Request: Late Fee Penalty Finance Charge Other

Vendor: AEP Purchase Order: 20250152

Date of the invoice: 1/14/25 Acct 10130310013

Date invoice was received by the department: 1/21/2025

Date invoice was due: 2/5/2025

Date Vendor was contacted: 1/22/2025

Vendor Contact Information: Ariel @ AEP 888-710-4237

Reason for the Charge:

This current invoice has a late fee from the previous invoice which AEP received the payment yesterday due to the Auditor's Office year end closure. I called the vendor regarding 4 different accounts with late fees and she was only able to remove 1 late fee.

The Athens County Commissioner does not support taxpayers paying for fees that could reasonably be avoided.

The department head is ultimately personally responsible for any fees not approved by the Board of Commissioners. Approval of this expenditure by the Board of Commissioners does not necessarily mean that there will not be a finding for recovering in an upcoming audit.

Department Head Signature: 

Approved: Disapproved:

Request for Approval

Department:

Department: Water & Sewer

Type of Request: Late Fee Penalty Finance Charge Other

Vendor: AEP Purchase Order: 20250152

Date of the invoice: 1/14/25 Acct 10668633048

Date invoice was received by the department: 1/21/2025

Date invoice was due: 2/5/2025

Date Vendor was contacted: 1/22/2025


Vendor Contact Information: Ariel @ AEP 888-710-4237

Reason for the Charge:

This current invoice has a late fee from the previous invoice which AEP received the payment yesterday due to the Auditor's Office year end closure. I called the vendor regarding 4 different accounts with late fees and she was only able to remove 1 late fee.

The Athens County Commissioner does not support taxpayers paying for fees that could reasonably be avoided.

The department head is ultimately personally responsible for any fees not approved by the Board of Commissioners. Approval of this expenditure by the Board of Commissioners does not necessarily mean that there will not be a finding for recovering in an upcoming audit.

Department Head Signature: 

Approved: Disapproved:

Request for Approval

Department:

Department: Water & Sewer

Type of Request: Late Fee Penalty Finance Charge Other

Vendor: AEP Purchase Order: 20250152

Date of the invoice: 1/14/25 Acct 10947851803

Date invoice was received by the department: 1/21/2025

Date invoice was due: 2/5/2025

Date Vendor was contacted: 1/22/2025

Vendor Contact Information: Ariel @ AEP 888-710-4237

Reason for the Charge:

This current invoice has a late fee from the previous invoice which AEP received the payment yesterday due to the Auditor's Office year end closure. I called the vendor regarding 4 different accounts with late fees and she was only able to remove 1 late fee.

The Athens County Commissioner does not support taxpayers paying for fees that could reasonably be avoided.

The department head is ultimately personally responsible for any fees not approved by the Board of Commissioners. Approval of this expenditure by the Board of Commissioners does not necessarily mean that there will not be a finding for recovering in an upcoming audit.

Department Head Signature: 

Approved: Disapproved:

SECTION 3. If the resident fails to connect within ninety (90) days, the Board shall refer to the Athens County Prosecuting Attorney's Office for criminal prosecution and for civil injunctions in keeping with the Board's ability to enforce Ohio Revised Code section 6117.51 and to promote the general safety and health of Athens County.

Signed the 28th day of January 2025
/s/Lenny Eliason, President
/s/Charlie Adkins (absent)
/s/Chris Chmiel

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

Resolution ATH CR VAR PM FY2025

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Eliason to approve the Preliminary Legislation for the LPA project agreement for various county roads for fiscal year 2025, that's for the pavement markings (Resolution ATH CR VAR PM FY2025). Full document on fill in the commissioners office.

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

W&S Surplus

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Eliason to approve and declare the W&S Surplus and authorize it to be disposed of as requested by Supt Oscar Carson:

Property Description:

- 2-15hp US motors
- 1-10hp Barnes motor
- 1-Suterbuilt blower
- 1-7.5hp Barnes motor
- 2-45hp Champion motors
- 1-10hp motor
- 1-3" Multiquip trash pump
- 1-3" Wacker trash pump
- 100-3/4" meters

**The above surplus-scrap to McKee's

**The below surplus-take to Landfill

- Old used pipe
- Pallets
- Old Hydrant

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

W&S Supt Oscar Carson - Weekly Updates

Supt. Carson provides updates on various construction and utility projects. He mentions ongoing electrical work on Radford, Whitland, and Edgewood. He inspected a property for Russell and confirmed an existing tap at one house, but an additional tap will be needed for a vacant lot Russell plans to split. Supt Carson will inform Russell that the work is feasible, though it may need to be contracted out due to the depth of the water line (14 feet). However, they might avoid work on Radford Road since key infrastructure elements are off the road's edge.

Commissioner Eliason acknowledges the update. Supt. Carson adds that everything else is proceeding smoothly, though there have been no updates from ODOT. Commissioner Eliason speculates that weather may be causing delays. Supt. Carson notes that ODOT was supposed to coordinate with Scott Sanders regarding guardrail removal for access, but he has received no communication. Commissioner Eliason advises Supt. Carson to follow up with an email if no update comes within a week.

Guardian Ad Litem Agreements (6)

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Eliason to authorize Commissioner Eliason to sign the following Guardian Ad Litem agreements:

Guardian Ad Litem Agreement

Paige Fox, hereby agrees to accept appointments by the Athens County Common Pleas Court, Juvenile Division, to serve as a Guardian Ad Litem for the Court when available to do so.

The Athens County Board of Commissioners hereby agrees to extend the General Liability and Public Officials Liability coverage provided by CORSA to Athens County to cover Paige Fox, while performing services for, and while acting within the scope of authority granted by the Athens County Common Pleas Court, Juvenile Division.

/s/Paige Fox, Guardian Ad Litem
/s/Zachary L. Saunders, Judge
/s/Lenny Eliason, President, Board of Commissioners

Guardian Ad Litem Agreement

Jenny Seymour, hereby agrees to accept appointments by the Athens County Common Pleas Court, Juvenile Division, to serve as a Guardian Ad Litem for the Court when available to do so.

The Athens County Board of Commissioners hereby agrees to extend the General Liability and Public Officials Liability coverage provided by CORSA to Athens County to cover Jenny Seymour, while performing services for, and while acting within the scope of authority granted by the Athens County Common Pleas Court, Juvenile Division.

/s/Jenny Seymour, Guardian Ad Litem
/s/Zachary L. Saunders, Judge
/s/Lenny Eliason, President, Board of Commissioners

Guardian Ad Litem Agreement

Avery Suhay, hereby agrees to accept appointments by the Athens County Common Pleas Court, Juvenile Division, to serve as a Guardian Ad Litem for the Court when available to do so.

The Athens County Board of Commissioners hereby agrees to extend the General Liability and Public Officials Liability coverage provided by CORSA to Athens County to cover Avery Suhay, while performing services for, and while acting within the scope of authority granted by the Athens County Common Pleas Court, Juvenile Division.

/s/Avery Suhay, Guardian Ad Litem
/s/Zachary L. Saunders, Judge
/s/Lenny Eliason, President, Board of Commissioners

Guardian Ad Litem Agreement

Ryan Collins, hereby agrees to accept appointments by the Athens County Common Pleas Court, Juvenile Division, to serve as a Guardian Ad Litem for the Court when available to do so.

The Athens County Board of Commissioners hereby agrees to extend the General Liability and Public Officials Liability coverage provided by CORSA to Athens County to cover Ryan Collins, while performing services for, and while acting within the scope of authority granted by the Athens County Common Pleas Court, Juvenile Division.

/s/Ryan Collins, Guardian Ad Litem
/s/Zachary L. Saunders, Judge
/s/Lenny Eliason, President, Board of Commissioners

Guardian Ad Litem Agreement

Alivia Rohn, hereby agrees to accept appointments by the Athens County Common Pleas Court, Juvenile Division, to serve as a Guardian Ad Litem for the Court when available to do so.

The Athens County Board of Commissioners hereby agrees to extend the General Liability and Public Officials Liability coverage provided by CORSA to Athens County to cover Alivia Rohn, while performing services for, and while acting within the scope of authority granted by the Athens County Common Pleas Court, Juvenile Division.

/s/Alivia Rohn, Guardian Ad Litem
/s/Zachary L. Saunders, Judge
/s/Lenny Eliason, President, Board of Commissioners

Guardian Ad Litem Agreement

Tisha Springer, hereby agrees to accept appointments by the Athens County Common Pleas Court, Juvenile Division, to serve as a Guardian Ad Litem for the Court when available to do so.

The Athens County Board of Commissioners hereby agrees to extend the General Liability and Public Officials Liability coverage provided by CORSA to Athens County to cover Tisha Springer, while performing services for, and while acting within the scope of authority granted by the Athens County Common Pleas Court, Juvenile Division.

/s/Tisha Springer, Guardian Ad Litem
/s/Zachary L. Saunders, Judge
/s/Lenny Eliason, President, Board of Commissioners

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

CCAO Designation of Official Representative

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Eliason to rescind the Appointment of the Alternate CCAO Designation on January 14, 2025 and to approve the following CCAO Designation Resolution:

RESOLUTION # 121-128

RESOLUTION TO DESIGNATE THE OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE AND ALTERNATE FOR THE PURPOSE OF VOTING AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION OF OHIO IN 2025.

Commissioner Chmiel moved the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Article IV, Section 6, of the Code of Regulations of the County Commissioners' Association of Ohio requires each member county to, for the purpose of voting at any annual or special meeting of the Association, designate an Official Representative and Alternate; and

WHEREAS, the designation of the Official Representative and Alternate for a county organized under the statutory form of county government shall be by resolution of the board of county commissioners; and

WHEREAS, in designating the Official Representative and Alternate only a member of the board of county commissioners is eligible to be designated as the Official Representative and Alternate;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Lenny Eliason, President is designated as of Athens County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Chris Chmiel, County Commissioner is designated as the Alternate Voting Representative of Athens County.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Eliason.

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

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of County Commissioners of Athens County.

Signed this 28th day of January 2025

/s/Lenny Eliason, President

/s/Charlie Adkins (Absent)

/s/Chris Chmiel

I, JoAnn Rockhold, Administrator for the Board of County Commissioners of Athens County, Ohio, certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by said Board January 28, 2025, and appears in the Commissioners' Journal 121.

/s/JoAnn Rockhold

Administrator, Board of Commissioners

Athens County, Ohio

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

HAPCAP 5 Year Programmatic Agreement with Ohio's State Historic Preservation Office

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Eliason to authorize Commissioner Eliason to sign the HAPCAP 5 Year Programmatic Agreement with Ohio's State Historic Preservation Office:

February 3, 2025

Kristen Koehlinger, Department Head

Resource Protection and Review

State Historic Preservation Office

800 East 17th Avenue

Columbus, Ohio 43211

Dear Kristen Koehlinger:

Re: Execution of Amendment to Programmatic Agreement for HUD-funded programs

Please find enclosed an Amendment to the Programmatic Agreement between Ohio's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and the **County of Athens** for programs that use funds originating from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for which HUD has delegated compliance responsibility pursuant to 24 CFR Part 58.

The **County** has prepared the amendment following the instructions provided by SHPO, signed the amendment, and is forwarding it for your signature.

Please sign the amendment, keep a copy for your files, and return the original to us. We will email a copy of the executed amendment to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Thank you.

Sincerely,

/s/Lenny Eliason
President
Athens County Commissioners

Enclosures:

Amendment to the Programmatic Agreement for HUD-funded programs signed by authorized community official

Copy:

For non-entitlement communities, copy:

Jennifer Griffin, ODOD, via email

JoLayne Morneau (non-entitlement communities), SHPO, via email: section106@ohiohistory.org

For entitlement communities, copy:

KieuLan Pham, HUD, via email: kieulan.pham@hud.gov

Rachel Krause (entitlement communities) SHPO, via email: section106@ohiohistory.org

Full Document available on file in the Commissioner's Office.

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

Travel

A motion was made by Commissioner Chmiel and seconded by Commissioner Eliason to approve the following travel:

Travis Taylor, PWS- 2-17-2025 through 2/20- Niskayuna, NY - Eone Service Training
Commissioner Chris Chmiel; CCAO Southeast District Meeting, Cambridge, OH; 04/14/25
911 Teresa Fouts-Imler; Capstone Course for 911 CPL, Daytona Beach, FL; 07/06-07/18/25
DJFS Jean Demosky; OJFSDA Executive Board Meeting, Columbus, OH; 02/12-02/14/25

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

Judge McCarthy

Judge McCarthy and Judge Lang raised concerns about Magistrate Mindy Bradford's salary compared to Magistrate John Perrin's, who is retiring in May. They noted that Bradford has been with the court system since 2008, handling significant responsibilities, including writing-intensive decisions and additional duties from Juvenile Court. However, her compensation is significantly lower than Perrin's, despite their comparable work hours.

Key points from the discussion:

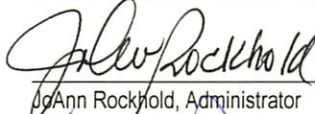
- *Salary Disparity: Perrin earns approximately \$117,000, while Bradford earns \$102,000. Perrin receives additional compensation from Juvenile Court and mental health hearings, while Bradford has taken on extra duties without equivalent compensation.
- *Workload & Duties: Bradford has handled 470 cases and 686 hearings, many requiring extensive writing. She has also taken on additional custody proceedings from Juvenile Court.
- *Proposed Salary Adjustment: Judges McCarthy and Lang suggest raising Bradford's salary to \$67.90 per hour to match Perrin's rate, addressing fairness and retention concerns.
- *Full-Time Magistrate Position: With Perrin's departure, they propose converting his part-time role into a full-time magistrate/law clerk/staff attorney position to handle workload overflow, including protection order hearings.
- *Budget Considerations: The proposal would require additional general fund support, potentially around \$65,000, but the judges are willing to identify internal budget adjustments.
- *Employee Compensation Challenges: The discussion also touched on broader issues, including the 3% wage pool, difficulties in retaining employees due to non-competitive salaries, and increased responsibilities in the court system.

Commissioner Eliason acknowledged the concerns, emphasizing the need for department heads to advocate for salary adjustments beyond the standard 3% pool. He also noted the county's budget constraints and ongoing efforts to finalize the permanent budget. The judges will follow up with additional budget details to support their request.

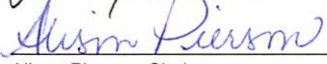
Adjourn

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

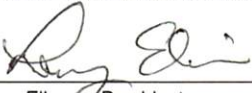
The roll being called upon for adoption, the vote resulted as follows: Mr. Eliason, yea; Mr. Chmiel, yea; Mr. Adkins, absent.



Ann Rockhold, Administrator



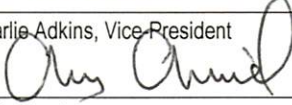
Alison Pierson, Clerk



Lenny Eliason, President

ABSENT

Charlie Adkins, Vice President



Chris Chmiel