

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 Commissioner Adkins and seconded by Commissioner Chmiel to approve the following agenda:

Athens County Board of County Commissioners

Meeting Agenda for Tuesday, March 25, 2025 Convenes at 9:30 a.m.

Approve Agenda

Approve Minutes March 20, 2025

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

- Fund to Fund: AHSWD \$75,000.00 from 739.2739.580100 Transfer to 734.2734.417100 Other
- Fund to Fund: Comm \$60,000.00 from 001.1236.589000 Transfer Out to 571.2571.417100 Other Rev-Pub Assist
- Fund to Fund: 911 \$150,168.17 from 593.3593.580100 Transfer Out to 591.2591.422101 Transfers In
- Fund to Fund: Comm \$229,000.00 from 001.1236.589000 Transfer Out to 572.2572.422101 CSEA Transfer In

- 8:00 Public Road Viewing Rome Twp Third Street Alley
- 9:30 Public Road Hearing Rome Twp Third Street Alley
- 9:45 DJFS Dir Jean Demosky - weekly updates
- 10:00 BOE-
- 10:15 Mike Biggins- Maintenance
- 10:30 W&S Supt Oscar Carson - weekly updates
- 10:45 911 Solar Project
- 11:30 LUNCH

Agenda Items

- Resolution for Jeanne Haseley
- Utility Permits
- Assigned Counsel Report from Auditors Office
- Engineer Request for Approval Finance Charge
- Lease Agreement Commissioners/Health Dept
- SOPEC Resolution
- TB Board Appointments
- Engineer Escrow Agreement
- EMS Rescind Brandon Turley
- Fee Waiver- PERS
- ARPA Village of Buchtel Final

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 Adkins and seconded by Commissioner Chmiel to approve the minutes of March 20, 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, & Bills

A motion was made by Commissioner Adkins and seconded by Commissioner Chmiel approving the Appropriations, Transfers, New Line Items Requests/Changes including Fund to Fund: AHSWD \$75,000.00 from 739.2739.580100 Transfer to 734.2734.417100 Other, Fund to Fund: Comm \$60,000.00 from 001.1236.589000 Transfer Out to 571.2571.417100 Other Rev-Pub Assist, Fund to Fund: 911 \$150,168.17 from 593.3593.580100 Transfer Out to 591.2591.422101 Transfers In, Fund to Fund: Comm \$229,000.00 from 001.1236.589000 Transfer Out to 572.2572.422101 CSEA Transfer In and approving the payment of the required County Bills, which are included in the Auditor's Office INVOICE TRACKING REPORT - From: 03/18/25 To: 03/20/25 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, yea.

TRANSFERRED NO. _____
SEC. 319.202 R.C. COMPLIED
WITHIN AMT. 0

Public Road Viewing Rome Twp Third Street Alley

The Commissioners conducted a public viewing at Rome Twp Third Street Alley.

APR 10 2025

JILL A. DAVIDSON
AUDITOR ATHENS COUNTY, OHIO
TRANS FEE 1.00

Public Road Hearing Rome Twp Third Street Alley

A Public Hearing was conducted for the purpose is to vacate Third Street alley in Stewart Ohio, Fairfax Addition. The alley starts at the edge of Nelsonville Avenue due North approximately 170 feet and from the center of Second Street alley approximately 270 feet due East to the center of Third Street alley. Rome Township has not maintained Third Street alley in the past 21 years. Those present for the hearing: Commissioner Lenny Eliason, Commissioner Chris Chmiel, Commissioner Charlie Adkins, Administrator JoAnn Rockhold, Clerk Alison Pierson, Helen King LWVAC, & DJFS Director Jean Demosky, John Haseley, and Gabriel Scott.

The Athens County Commissioners held a public viewing at 8:00 a.m. on March 25, 2025, in Rome Township. The public hearing followed at 9:30 a.m. in the Athens County Board of Commissioners meeting room, located on the 2nd floor of the Courthouse Annex, 15 South Court Street, Athens, Ohio. No testimony was given.

Road Vacation Granted Rome Twp Third Street Alley

A motion was made by Commissioner Adkins and seconded by Commissioner Chmiel to approve the road vacation in Rome Twp, Third Street alley in Stewart Ohio, Fairfax Addition. The alley starts at the edge of Nelsonville Avenue due North approximately 170 feet and from the center of Second Street alley approximately 270 feet due East to the center of Third Street alley. See letter on back of page 97.

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

Resolution for Jeanne Haseley

A motion was made by Commissioner Adkins and seconded by Commissioner Chmiel to approve the Resolution for Jeanne Haseley: Whereas, Jeanne Haseley celebrates her 90th birthday on March 28, 2025, with family and friends in Athens, Ohio; and

Whereas, Jeanne Haseley has dedicated her life to making a positive impact on others, both in Athens County and around the world; and

Whereas, Jeanne Haseley was born in Marion County, Ohio, in 1935 and was raised on a farm, where she spent her youth engaging in agricultural and homemaking activities such as milking cows, collecting eggs, tending animals, gardening, and canning; and

Whereas, Jeanne Haseley graduated from Cardington High School in 1953 in a class of 45 students before attending Capital University and later transferring to Ohio State University; and

Whereas, Jeanne Haseley graduated from Ohio State University in 1956 with a degree in Social Work and married Luther Haseley, whom she met at Capital University; and

Whereas, Jeanne and Luther moved to Athens, Ohio, where they resided in Bush Hall while Luther served as a Resident Assistant and Jeanne worked as a Social Worker with a demanding caseload, earning \$2,500 per year; and

Whereas, throughout their careers, Jeanne and Luther lived and worked in multiple locations, including West Virginia, Toledo, Nigeria, and Japan, always returning to Athens as their home base; and

Whereas, Jeanne Haseley earned a Master's Degree in Education from Ohio University in 1970 and went on to serve as a teacher in Athens County, at Shade Elementary and Albany Elementary, as well as at military bases in Japan, where she taught Special Education for the U.S. Department of Defense; and

Whereas, Jeanne dedicated nearly ten years to working in Botswana on a USAID project, assisting educators in identifying and teaching students with learning disabilities at Tlokweg Teacher's Training College; and

Whereas, Jeanne has spent her life embracing travel and adventure, with her passport in hand, exploring cultures and contributing to communities across the globe; and

Whereas, in her retirement, Jeanne has continued her lifelong commitment to service by volunteering her time and energy to environmental, conservation, and social justice causes; and

Whereas, Jeanne Haseley has profoundly impacted countless lives through her work as a teacher, advocate, and community leader in Athens County;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Athens County Board of Commissioners hereby recognizes and honors Jeanne Haseley's outstanding contributions and designates March 28, 2025, as Jeanne Haseley Day in Athens County, Ohio, in recognition of her dedication, service, and



202500001473
FILED FOR RECORD IN
ATHENS COUNTY, OHIO
JESSICA MARKINS, RECORDER
04/14/2025 09:44:50 AM
OR BOOK: 623 PAGE: 1268
VAC NO FEE 0.00 PG: 10

202500001473
ATHENS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

commitment to making the world a better place.

Adopted this 25th day of March, 2025.

/s/Lenny Eliason, President

/s/Charlie 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.

Utility Permits

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

Permit No. 25-595
From: AEP
9135 SR 682
Athens, Ohio 45701

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

Location of work: CR10, CO Name: Baker Rd
Description of Work: Electric
Type of Installation: Overhead Line Parallel to Rd, Overhead Line Crossing Rd, & Utility Pole Installation
Estimated Project Schedule: 04/01/25 - 10/01/25
Agreed to by: /s/James Graham, AEP
Athens County Commissioners

/s/ Lenny Eliason
/s/ Chris Chmiel
/s/ Charlie Adkins
/s/Jeff Maiden, Athens County Engineer

Permit No. 25-596
From: AEP
9135 SR 682
Athens, Ohio 45701

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

Location of work: CR80, CO Name: Enlow Rd
Description of Work: Electric
Type of Installation: Overhead Line Parallel to Rd, Overhead Line Crossing Rd, & Utility Pole Installation
Estimated Project Schedule: 04/01/25 - 10/01/25
Agreed to by: /s/James Graham, AEP
Athens County Commissioners

/s/ Lenny Eliason
/s/ Chris Chmiel
/s/ Charlie Adkins
/s/Jeff Maiden, Athens County Engineer

Permit No. 25-597
From: AEP
88 North Plains Rd, Ste 101
The Plains, OH 45780

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

Location of work: CR24/CR57, CO Name: S Canaan Rd/ N Rodenhaver Rd
Description of Work: Electric
Type of Installation: Overhead Line Crossing Rd
Estimated Project Schedule: 07/14/25 - 02/14/26
Agreed to by: /s/James Graham, AEP
Athens County Commissioners

/s/ Lenny Eliason
/s/ Chris Chmiel
/s/ Charlie Adkins
/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, yea.

DJFS Dir Jean Demosky - Weekly Updates

Dir Jean Demosky provided the following weekly updates:

- 1. Program Updates
 - * BTSB Application in by 04/07/25 - Event 07/23/25
 - I. 520 applications so far
 - * Work Requirements for Benefits and Erroneous Info
 - * Family Services Planning Advisory Committee Meets Today
- 2. Contracts/Business/Grants
 - * HAPCAP Summer Youth
 - * BSN Sports, LLC
 - * Thin Grey Line Detailing
 - * Fishel Downey
- 3. Facilities
 - * 510
 - I. We will keep 5 people there temporarily 2 Aspire, 1 ESC, APS, Disabled Veterans
 - * OMJ Nelsonville
 - I. Move this Thursday
 - ii. Prep at 510
 - iii. Contractors Starting Café and Resource Room Wall
 - * Disaster Preparedness, Emergency Operations, Business Continuity Review of Responsibilities for Facilities Staff (when Jerry M returns)
- 4. Human Resources
 - * Off Wednesday

DJFS Contract - HAPCAP Summer Youth

A motion was made by Commissioner Adkins and seconded by Commissioner Chmiel to approve the DJFS contract with Hocking-Athens-Perry Community Action as recommended by Dir. Demosky:

Name of Contract Org: Hocking-Athens-Perry Community Action
 Total \$ Value: \$100,000.00
 Contract Period: 05/01/2025-12/31/2025
 Program Acct & Code: TANF Summer Youth Employment Program
 Coding: 128/510050 and TANF Admin 120/510050
 Billing Procedure: Monthly invoices to be paid within 30 days

Full Contract 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.

DJFS Contract - BSN Sports, LLC

A motion was made by Commissioner Adkins and seconded by Commissioner Chmiel to approve the DJFS Amendment #1 contract with BSN Sports, LLC as recommended by Dir. Demosky:

Name of Contract Org: BSN Sports, LLC
 Total \$ Value: \$150,000.00 (additional \$75,000.00)
 Contract Period: 04/15/2024-12/31/2025 (additional year)
 Program Acct & Code: TANF and Local
 257/510050
 899/510050
 Billing Procedure: Invoices on or before 12/01/2025, Payment made within 30 days.

Full Contract 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.

DJFS Contract - Thin Grey Line Detailing

A motion was made by Commissioner Adkins and seconded by Commissioner Chmiel to approve the DJFS contract with Thin Grey Line Detailing as recommended by Dir. Demosky:

Name of Contract Org: Thin Grey Line Detailing
 Total \$ Value: \$27,500.00
 Contract Period: 04/01/2025-03/31/2026
 Program Acct & Code: Various/510050
 Billing Procedure: Payments shall be made after services are rendered and after receipt of the invoice.

Full Contract 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.

DJFS Contract - Fishel Downey Albrecht & Riepenhoff

A motion was made by Commissioner Adkins and seconded by Commissioner Chmiel to approve the DJFS contract with Fishel Downey Albrecht & Riepenhoff as recommended by Dir. Demosky:

Name of Contract Org: Fishel Downey Albrecht & Riepenhoff
 Total \$ Value: \$46,000.00
 Contract Period: 03/15/2025-03/14/2027
 Program Acct & Code: Appropriate cost pool will be charged pending need of service
 Billing Procedure: Submits monthly invoices, Payment made within 30 days.

Full Contract 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.

Assigned Counsel Report from Auditors Office

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

March 2025

Total Felony Certifications	22
Amount submitted in Felony Certifications	\$25,802.45
Total Misdemeanor Certifications	6
All Other Misdemeanor Certifications	\$3,500.00
Total Juvenile Certifications	55
Amount submitted in Juvenile Certifications	\$36,630.00
All (Non-Capital) Appellate Court Certifications	2
Amount submitted in Appellate Court Certifications	\$3,063.29
Total Number of Certifications (All Courts - All Expenses)	79
Total Amount submitted	\$68,995.74

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

Engineer Request for Approval Finance Charge

A motion was made by Commissioner Adkins and seconded by Commissioner Chmiel to approve the Engineer request for Approval Finance Charge with Elan Financial.

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

Lease Agreement Commissioners/Health Dept

A motion was made by Commissioner Adkins and seconded by Commissioner Chmiel to approve the Lease Agreement between the Commissioners and the Health Department. See back of page 100 for full document.

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

TB Board Appointments

A motion was made by Commissioner Adkins and seconded by Commissioner Chmiel to approve the following TB Board Appointments:

- Re-Appointments- Traci Kachenko & Sarah Adkins
- New Appointment- Dawn Graham
- Resigned- Rob Frey (effective 12/31/24)

March 28, 2025

Traci Kachenko
 10838 Peach Ridge Rd.
 Athens, Ohio 45701

Dear Ms. Kachenko:

The Board of Athens County Commissioners, in its regular session on March 25, 2025, appointed you to the Athens County Tuberculosis Board. Your term runs from January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2027.

Thank you for your willingness to serve the citizens of Athens County.

Sincerely,

/s/Lenny Eliason, President

LEASER AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT, made and entered into by J.E. Jay of March 2, 1987 by and between the Adams County Board of Commissioners, hereinafter called the "Board", and the Board of Adams County Commissioners, Adams County, Ohio, hereinafter called the "Leaser".

WHEREAS, the Board and the Leaser have entered into a lease agreement for the use of the Adams County Courthouse, Adams County, Ohio, hereinafter called the "Leasehold"; and

1. The Board and the Leaser have entered into a lease agreement for the use of the Adams County Courthouse, Adams County, Ohio, hereinafter called the "Leasehold"; and

PAGE 2 - LEASER AGREEMENT

2. THE Board, the Leaser and the Leasing Company, and the Leasing Company, do hereby certify that the Board, the Leaser and the Leasing Company are duly qualified to execute this Agreement, and that the Leasing Company is duly qualified to execute this Agreement.

3. THE Board, the Leaser and the Leasing Company, do hereby certify that the Board, the Leaser and the Leasing Company are duly qualified to execute this Agreement, and that the Leasing Company is duly qualified to execute this Agreement.

4. THE Board, the Leaser and the Leasing Company, do hereby certify that the Board, the Leaser and the Leasing Company are duly qualified to execute this Agreement, and that the Leasing Company is duly qualified to execute this Agreement.

PAGE 3 - LEASER AGREEMENT

5. EXPENSES: The Leasing Company shall be responsible for the payment of all expenses incurred by the Leasing Company in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

6. INSURANCE: The Leasing Company shall be responsible for the payment of all expenses incurred by the Leasing Company in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

7. ASSIGNMENT: The Leasing Company shall be responsible for the payment of all expenses incurred by the Leasing Company in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

8. TERMINATION: The Leasing Company shall be responsible for the payment of all expenses incurred by the Leasing Company in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

9. ENTIRE AGREEMENT: This Agreement shall constitute the entire agreement between the Board, the Leasing Company and the Leasing Company.

10. GOVERNING LAW: This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Ohio.

11. WAIVER: The Leasing Company shall be responsible for the payment of all expenses incurred by the Leasing Company in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

PAGE 4 - LEASER AGREEMENT

12. WAIVER: The Leasing Company shall be responsible for the payment of all expenses incurred by the Leasing Company in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

13. WAIVER: The Leasing Company shall be responsible for the payment of all expenses incurred by the Leasing Company in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

14. WAIVER: The Leasing Company shall be responsible for the payment of all expenses incurred by the Leasing Company in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

15. WAIVER: The Leasing Company shall be responsible for the payment of all expenses incurred by the Leasing Company in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

16. WAIVER: The Leasing Company shall be responsible for the payment of all expenses incurred by the Leasing Company in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

17. WAIVER: The Leasing Company shall be responsible for the payment of all expenses incurred by the Leasing Company in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

18. WAIVER: The Leasing Company shall be responsible for the payment of all expenses incurred by the Leasing Company in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

PAGE 5 - LEASER AGREEMENT

19. WAIVER: The Leasing Company shall be responsible for the payment of all expenses incurred by the Leasing Company in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

20. WAIVER: The Leasing Company shall be responsible for the payment of all expenses incurred by the Leasing Company in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

21. WAIVER: The Leasing Company shall be responsible for the payment of all expenses incurred by the Leasing Company in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

22. WAIVER: The Leasing Company shall be responsible for the payment of all expenses incurred by the Leasing Company in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

23. WAIVER: The Leasing Company shall be responsible for the payment of all expenses incurred by the Leasing Company in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

24. WAIVER: The Leasing Company shall be responsible for the payment of all expenses incurred by the Leasing Company in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

25. WAIVER: The Leasing Company shall be responsible for the payment of all expenses incurred by the Leasing Company in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

PAGE 6 - LEASER AGREEMENT

26. WAIVER: The Leasing Company shall be responsible for the payment of all expenses incurred by the Leasing Company in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

27. WAIVER: The Leasing Company shall be responsible for the payment of all expenses incurred by the Leasing Company in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

28. WAIVER: The Leasing Company shall be responsible for the payment of all expenses incurred by the Leasing Company in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

29. WAIVER: The Leasing Company shall be responsible for the payment of all expenses incurred by the Leasing Company in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

30. WAIVER: The Leasing Company shall be responsible for the payment of all expenses incurred by the Leasing Company in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

31. WAIVER: The Leasing Company shall be responsible for the payment of all expenses incurred by the Leasing Company in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

32. WAIVER: The Leasing Company shall be responsible for the payment of all expenses incurred by the Leasing Company in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.

/s/Charlie Adkins, Vice-President

/s/Chris Chmiel

ACC:js

March 28, 2025

Dr. Sarah Adkins
100 Cherry Ridge Rd.
Albany, Ohio 45710

Dear Dr. Adkins:

The Board of Athens County Commissioners, in its regular session on March 25, 2025, appointed you to the Athens County Tuberculosis Board. Your term runs from January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2027.

Thank you for your willingness to serve the citizens of Athens County.

Sincerely,

/s/Lenny Eliason, President

/s/Charlie Adkins, Vice-President

/s/Chris Chmiel

ACC:js

March 28, 2025

Dawn Graham
8733 Mine Road
Athens, Ohio 45701

Dear Ms. Graham:

The Board of Athens County Commissioners, in its regular session on March 25, 2025, appointed you to the Athens County Tuberculosis Board. Your term runs from January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2027.

Thank you for your willingness to serve the citizens of Athens County.

Sincerely,

/s/Lenny Eliason, President

/s/Charlie Adkins, Vice-President

/s/Chris Chmiel

ACC:js

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

W&S - Purchase Handhelds

A motion was made by Commissioner Adkins and seconded by Commissioner Chmiel to approve the purchase of the handheld devices in the amount of \$3,900.00 for W&S as requested by W&S Supt. Oscar Carson.

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

W&S - Weekly Updates

W&S Supt Oscar Carson provided the following updates:

1. High School Water Line Installation:
 - * A new 10-inch water line is being installed from Johnson Road past the new high school.
 - * It will connect to an existing 6-inch line on Oak Street for fire suppression.
 - * The school inquired about responsibility, and Oscar clarified that the city would maintain the 10-inch line up to the valve, after which it becomes the school's responsibility.
 - * Easement requirements will need to be addressed.
2. Fire Suppression System Update:
 - * State regulations now require 8- or 10-inch lines instead of the previously acceptable 6-inch.
 - * Hydrant testing in the area showed lower-than-expected flow, prompting the need for a 10-inch line.
 - * Boring under Route 682 at the roundabout was successful without any issues.
3. Easement Relinquishment Request:
 - * A resident on Edgewood inquired about the process to relinquish a 20-foot right-of-way back to his name.
 - * It was advised that Frank should draft a relinquishment.
 - * There is uncertainty about whether money was originally paid for the easement; if so, reimbursement may be required.
4. Sewer Connection & Billing Issue:
 - * A resident in Whitland with foundation issues and a pending lawsuit inquired about delaying sewer hookup.
 - * Oscar informed him that after 90 days, he would start receiving sewer and water bills.
 - * After 90 days, the case would be referred to the Health Department, which would determine enforcement.

Engineer Escrow Agreement

A motion was made by Commissioner Adkins and seconded by Commissioner Chmiel to approve the Engineer's Escrow Agreement for Highway Improvement in the amount of \$40,300.00. See back of page 102 for agreement.

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

BOE

Budget Discussion

1. Budget Reports Distribution:
 - * Commissioner Adkins requested budget reports for salary employees (both part-time and full-time).
 - * Copies of the reports were provided to all attendees, with an extra available.
 - * Some requested reports could not be generated by the auditor's office.
2. Questions on Budget Increases:
 - * Commissioner Adkins raised concerns about significant increases in certain budget areas and requested explanations at a later time.
 - * Specific areas of concern included:
 - * Line Item 15: Related to equipment purchases.
 - * Line Item 14: Budgeted at \$30,000 this year, compared to \$9,000 last year.
 - * Travel Expenses: Increased by approximately \$3,500.
 - * Contracted Services: Increased from \$104,000 last year to \$150,000 this year.
3. Equipment & Software Mandate:
 - * Aundrea Carpenter-Colvin explained that an unfunded mandate requires all hardware and software to be replaced by June.
 - * Current computers run on Windows 10, which will no longer be supported.
 - * New computers are necessary to support Windows 11, as existing systems cannot handle the upgrade.
 - * Commissioner Adkins initially believed there was a longer transition period but was informed that the mandate is effective this year.
4. Increased Travel Expenses:
 - * The increase is attributed to full attendance at the Ohio Association of Election Officials Winter Conference in January.
 - * Attendance allowed most members to fulfill continuing education requirements.
 - * A new board member, Lauren, did not attend as she was not yet in position.
5. Contracted Services Increase:
 - * Commissioner Adkins noted a \$45,000 increase in contract services (from \$104,000 to \$150,000).
 - * Sky Pettey was unsure of the reason and committed to reviewing the details and providing an explanation later.
6. Request for Follow-Up Information:
 - * Aundrea Carpenter-Colvin asked whether responses should be provided via email or in a follow-up meeting.
 - * Commissioner Adkins suggested sending responses to Administrator JoAnn Rockhold, who could distribute them to the board.

EMS Rescind Brandon Turley

A motion was made by Commissioner Adkins and seconded by Commissioner Chmiel to Rescind the employment offer to Brandon Turley as requested by EMS Chief Amber Pyle.

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

ESCROW AGREEMENT FOR HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT

This agreement made and entered at Athens, Ohio, this 25 day of March, 2025, by and between the Board of County Commissioners, Athens County, Ohio, The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and Hocking Valley Bank (FINANCIAL INSTITUTION) 7 W. Stimson Avenue Athens, Ohio, (address) (city) 45701-2649 (zip code) 740-592-4441 (telephone no.)

WITNESSETH

That for and in consideration of the covenants and agreements of the parties herein contained. The ODOT hereby expressly authorizes the County to deposit the pre-bid estimate (or some larger amount) of said County's participation share of project cost in the amount of Forty Thousand Three Hundred and 00/100 Dollars, (\$40,300.00), as required by the ODOT's Invoice No. 11869, on project described as: Athens County - C.R. Various - Federal Project No. E250326, in an interest bearing account, repurchase agreement or certificate of deposit with the FINANCIAL INSTITUTION. The County hereby agrees to deposit into the aforementioned account funds in the amount of \$40,300. The Financial Institution shall e-mail confirmation of this act (ex: deposit slip - not escrow agreement) to the Office of Contract Sales & Estimating at DOT-CEN.Funding@dot.ohio.gov, within twenty-four (24) hours of deposit. Such funds shall thereupon remain on deposit for the credit of the ODOT and said County, until such time as payment of the County's estimated participation share, as determined after receipt of bids, is ordered to be paid by the Administrator of the Office of Contract Sales & Estimating or the Director of ODOT. Upon receipt of such order for payment, IN THE FORM OF A REVISED INVOICE, the FINANCIAL INSTITUTION hereby agrees to deliver and pay over to the ODOT, by return mail within twenty-four (24) hours, the funds so requested (but in no event more than the amount of the pre-bid estimate), and to deliver and pay over to the County the accrued interest thereon and any balance that may remain. (The County's ultimate share of the cost shall be determined in accordance with the FINAL RESOLUTION and the CONTRACT).

It is understood and agreed that funds on deposit pursuant to this agreement may be invested by the FINANCIAL INSTITUTION as provided herein and in accordance with applicable law and regulations. It is also expressly understood that the Local Public Agency shall not withdraw any funds.

Board of County Commissioners, Athens County, Ohio

Attest [Signature]

[Signature] Clerk of County Commissioners [Signature] President [Signature] Presiding Officer of Legislative Authority

Attest [Signature] Date 3/25/25

The Ohio Department of Transportation

E-SIGNED by Nathan Fling on 2025-03-07 16:31:28 GMT

Director of Transportation Pamela Boratyn as signed by Max JN Fling

Hocking Valley Bank Financial Institution [Signature] Financial Institution Officer (Signed) President & CEO Title March 11, 2025 Date

Tammy J. Bobo Financial Institution Officer (Printed)

Custodian Hire

A motion was made by Commissioner Adkins and seconded by Commissioner Chmiel to approve Custodian Hire as recommended by Maintenance Superintendent Mike Biggins:

Benjamin Robinette Sawyer with a start date of April 7, 2025 and a pay rate of \$15.50 an hour.

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

Maintenance Supt. Mike Biggins - Updates

Supt. Biggins provided the following updates:

1. Removal of Balusters on the Bike Path

- * Request: Mr. Welch suggested removing the small white pipe balusters on the bike path.
- * Discussion Points:
 - * The balusters were originally installed to prevent unauthorized vehicle access.
 - * They can currently be driven over, making them less effective.
 - * Removing them would make it easier to clean and maintain the bike path.
 - * Concerns were raised about potential vehicle traffic if they were removed.
- * Proposed Solution:
 - * Remove select balusters, especially those in less necessary locations.
 - * Keep balusters at major intersections or high-traffic areas.
 - * Install "No Motorized Vehicles" signs where balusters are removed.
 - * Connor will be consulted and possibly taken on-site to review the locations.
 - * Mike will determine which balusters should be removed and patch the remaining holes with materials available in storage.

2. Upcoming Bike Path Cleanup

- * Scheduled for Friday.
- * Scope of Work: Removing brush and overhanging tree limbs.
- * Resources:
 - * Four participants from the Diversion Program will assist.
 - * Ted is checking with the township for access to a wood chipper.
 - * A decision on the chipper's availability will be made after the township meeting.

Bikepath Balusters Removal

A motion was made by Commissioner Adkins and seconded by Commissioner Chmiel to approve the removal of balusters on the bikepath with Supt. Biggins, Jerry Welch, & Planner LaVelle determining which balusters can be removed.

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

Fee Waiver - OPERS

A motion was made by Commissioner Adkins and seconded by Commissioner Chmiel to approve the Auditor Fee Waiver for OPERS on Melissa Maccabee's unreported service for July 2020.

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

ARPA Village of Buchtel Final

A motion was made by Commissioner Adkins and seconded by Commissioner Chmiel to approve the Final ARPA Village of Buchtel:
RESOLUTION NO. 0325-121

**AUTHORIZING THE ALLOCATION OF ARPA REVENUE
REPLACEMENT FUNDING FOR POLE BARN FOR YORK TWP FIRE DEPARTMENT
AND STREET IMPROVEMENTS
WITH CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS
AS ESTABLISHED UNDER THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN**

WHEREAS, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 was signed into law on March 11, 2021, to provide additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses; and

WHEREAS, Section 9901 of ARPA amended Title VI of the Social Security Act to add section 603, which establishes the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (CLFRF); and

WHEREAS, the Athens County Board of Commissioners (Board) created a separate Local Fiscal Recovery Fund per Resolution 608-113 for the purpose of receiving ARPA monies and to track allocations and expenditures consistent with the requirements of ARPA. The Board adopted Resolution 126-115 Electing to take the Standard Allowance of \$10,000,000.00 as the amount of revenue loss for use for the provision of governmental services under section 603(c)(1)©, and;

WHEREAS, supporting documentation has been received and reviewed, and this Board now finds that it is in the best interest and necessary to authorize up to \$97,350.00 to HAPCAP as the administrator for the Village of Buchtel for the construction of a Pole Barn to store York Township's Fire Truck and for Buchtel Street Improvements, including Wilson Ave (approximately 1,739 square yards), S Akron Ave (approximately 915 square yards), and Watering Trough (approximately 288 square yards); and \$8,850.00 for HAPCAP Administrative Services; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Athens County, Ohio, that the Board approves up to \$97,350.00 for the above-mentioned projects.

Signed this 25th day of March 2025

/s/Lenny Eliason, President

/s/Charlie Adkins

/s/Chris Chmiel

/s/Keller J. Blackburn, Prosecuting Attorney

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

911 Solar Project

Teresa Fouts-Imler provided the following update:

1. 911 Solar Project Discussion

Project Funding Status:

- * The contract for the 911 Solar Project was signed and completed for \$182,000.
- * However, only \$135,000 of funding was secured through a resolution.
- * Initially, the project was expected to be fully funded, but the shortfall now requires alternative solutions.

Possible Funding Options Discussed:

1. Reduce Project Scope – Teresa suggested scaling the project back to fit within the available funding.
2. Use Carbon Account Funds – About \$15,000 is available in a carbon-related account.
3. Direct Pay Option –
 - * This would require 40% of the project cost (\$72,800) to be paid upfront, with reimbursement later.
 - * Concerns were raised about the uncertainty of reimbursement, which could take 2-3 years.
4. Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) –
 - * Commissioner Chmiel mentioned Kokosing has used PPAs to monetize tax credits and depreciation.
 - * This could allow for project expansion without upfront costs.
5. SOPEC Revolving Loan Fund –
 - * Commissioner Chmiel stated another funding option but would require loan repayment.
 - * Teresa and Commissioner Eliason were not in favor of taking on debt for this project.

Decision and Next Steps:

- * Motion passed to scale back to the original project scope (estimated at \$155,000).
- * Expansion can be done later when additional funds accumulate.
- * Teresa will obtain an updated cost-benefit analysis of the scaled-down system.
- * \$135,000 grant approved, and plans for transferring funds will be determined.

2. Financial and Administrative Details

- * Discussion on how funds will be transferred (e.g., through a general fund or direct check).
- * Jill may need to be involved in the financial process.
- * \$15,000 from the carbon account may be used later for the final payment.

3. Hazardous Mitigation Meeting

- * First meeting was successful, with around 22 attendees.
- * Next meeting is scheduled for April (exact date to be sent out).
- * Officials were asked to complete surveys, as in-kind time contributes to funding the mitigation plan.

4. 911 Facility Updates

- * Move-in scheduled for Monday after ensuring all 911 calls are being recorded properly.
- * Audio vendor is currently working on recording setup.

911 Solar Project - Original Scope

A motion was made by Commissioner Adkins and seconded by Commissioner Chmiel to approve the 911 Solar Project and to scale back to the original project scope (estimated at \$155,000).

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

SOPEC Resolution

A motion was made by Commissioner Adkins and seconded by Commissioner Chmiel to approve the SOPEC Resolution. See back of page 105 for SOPEC Resolution.

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 Commissioner Adkins and seconded by Commissioner 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

**County of Athens, OHIO
RESOLUTION NO. 0325-121**

**ACCEPTANCE OF COMMUNITY GRANT FROM THE
SUSTAINABLE OHIO PUBLIC ENERGY COUNCIL**

WHEREAS, the County of Athens, Ohio (the "County") is a member of the Southeast Ohio Public Energy Council (DBA Sustainable Ohio Public Energy Council) ("SOPEC"), a regional council of governments under Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code; and

WHEREAS, SOPEC exists to serve its members and has conserved funds for grants; and

WHEREAS, on September 19, 2024, the SOPEC General Assembly approved a community grant in an amount of \$135,000.00 for the County of Athens for a solar project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County of Athens hereby approves the acceptance of the SOPEC community grant in an amount of \$135,000.00 for a solar project.

Signed this 25th day of March 2025

Lenny Eliason, President

Charlie Adkins

Chris Chmiel