

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

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 Wednesday, May 27, 2026 Convenes at 9:30 a.m.

Approve Agenda

Approve Minutes May 19, 2026

Approve Appropriations, Transfers, New Line Items Requests/Changes, Then & Nows, & Bills
Fund to Fund: ACCS \$770,000.00 from 421.143580100 Transfers Out to 049.2049.422101 Transfers In

9:30 Veteran's Budget Request 2027
11:30 LUNCH

Agenda Items

- Amended Certificate
- Assigned Counsel Report from Auditors Office
- 911 Request to Hire
- EMS Full Time Resignation Tyler West to Part Time
- EMS Part Time Resignation Laura Westfall
- Children Services Reserve Account
- Buckeye457
- Sheriff Request Juvenile Holding
- LOS Port authority
- Sunday Creek- final Pay App TAM
- Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
- Building Safety Month
- W&S Owen Arix pay increase

~TRAVEL

Auditor: Samantha Sinisgalli; Amesville Cemetery Project, Amesville OH; 05/22/26
Sheriff: Stefan Hornbeck & Isaac Coey; Advanced Criminal Investigations Training, Strongsville OH; 07/12 - 07/15/26

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 May 19, 2026.

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 Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel approving the Appropriations, Transfers, New Line Items Requests/Changes, including Fund to Fund: ACCS \$770,000.00 from 421.143580100 Transfers Out to 049.2049.422101 Transfers In and approving the payment of the required County Bills, which are included in the Auditor's Office INVOICE TRACKING REPORT - From: 05/19/2026 To: 05/22/2026, INVOICE TRACKING REPORT - From: 05/21/2026 To: 05/26/2026 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.

Veteran's Budget Request 2027

Kim Spencer from the Veterans Service Office presented the office's preliminary 2027 budget request.

Kim explained that:

- * The proposed budget was based upon levy estimates received from the Auditor's Office
- * Several adjustments had been made compared to prior years
- * Lease and Rent Reduction

Kim reported that:

- * The office recently renewed its lease
- * Certain initial five-year costs had expired
- * As a result, rent expenses decreased

The reduced lease costs contributed to:

- * A lower capital improvements estimate of approximately \$36,000
- * Medical Expense Reimbursement Increase

The Veterans Service Office also proposed increasing the medical expense reimbursement line item.

Kim explained:

- * Requests for medical expense reimbursements have increased
- * The proposed reimbursement allocation was increased to \$25,000
- * Relief Allowance Reduction

Kim further noted:

- * Relief allowance requests had decreased
- * The associated line item was reduced to approximately \$45,000

Kim advised that:

- * Additional adjustments may still occur throughout the budget process as circumstances evolve

Amended Certificate

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel acknowledging receipt of the Amended Certificate for Athens County Commissioners, dated May 26, 2026 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.

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:

May 2026

All (Non-Capital) Appellate Court Certifications	2
Amount submitted in Appellate Court Certifications	\$2,033.31
Total Number of Certifications (All Courts - All Expenses)	2
Total Amount submitted	\$2,033.31

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

911 Request to Hire

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to approve the request to hire for Intermittent Dispatcher:
Jacob Roach: Rate of Pay \$21.20/hr. and start date of June 1, 2026.

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

EMS Full Time Resignation Tyler West to Part Time

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to accept the Resignation of EMS Full Time Tyler West and approve the transfer to part-time status effective 05/28/2026.

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

EMS Part Time Resignation Laura Westfall

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to accept the Resignation of EMS Part Time Laura Westfall effective 06/03/2026.

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

Children Services Reserve Account

Financial discussion, Brandi Coey (Auditor's Office) reported that:

- * Approximately \$1,728,541.36 remained in the Children Services Reserve Building account associated with bond obligations
- * No funds had been moved out of the account during the current year

Discussion included plans to:

- * Ask Brandi to place a notification or "red flag" on the account
- * Ensure the commissioners are notified if funds are moved

Commissioners clarified that the account relates to the Children Services reserve building bond account.

Buckeye457

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to approve the Buckeye457 (PacificLife) withdrawal request for Deanna Bragg.

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

Sheriff Request Juvenile Holding

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to approve the Sheriff's request for Sabre Molded Lounge Chair in the amount of \$584.90 for the new juvenile holding room.

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

LOS Port Authority

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to approve and send a letter of support:
May 21, 2026

To whom it may concern,

We are writing on behalf of the Athens County Commissioners, to express our support for the Brownfield grant application submitted by Athens County Port Authority to conduct an environmental assessment and investigation of the property located at 5885 Industrial Drive, Athens County, Athens, Ohio 45701.

Athens County is committed to fostering sustainable development and revitalizing our community. The proposed brownfield project aligns perfectly with our goals of environmental stewardship and economic revitalization. By assessing and ultimately cleaning this site, we will be able to address potential environmental concerns associated with the property. This will allow this property to eventually be transformed into a vibrant, safe, and productive area that will benefit our residents and businesses alike.

The Athens County Port Authority and their environmental consultant have demonstrated a thorough understanding of the potential environmental challenges posed at the property and have proposed a comprehensive plan for an assessment that meets or exceeds all regulatory standards. Their expertise and commitment to environmental responsibility give us confidence that the project will be executed efficiently and effectively.

We believe that supporting this grant application is a strategic investment in the future of Athens County. Therefore, we strongly support and encourage you to submit the grant application to ensure the successful completion of the Brownfield

project.

Project name: 5885 Industrial Drive Site
Property address: 5885 Industrial Drive, Athens, Ohio 45701
Parcel#: P010010000119
Application Name: 5885 Industrial Drive Assessment

Thank you for considering our letter of support. If you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Respectfully,

/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.

Sunday Creek- final Pay App TAM

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to approve and authorize Commissioner Eliason to sign the Sunday Creek - Final Pay App - TAM in the amount of \$43,245.60.

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

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to approve the additional request of \$50.00 in supplemental funding related to Memorial Day activities conducted by the Sons of Union Veterans fo the Civil War Organization.

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

Building Safety Month

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to approve the Proclamation for Building Safety Month: Whereas our Jurisdiction is committed to recognizing that our growth and strength depends on the safety and essential role our homes, buildings and infrastructure play, both in everyday life and when disasters strike, and;

Whereas our confidence in the resilience of these buildings that make up our community is achieved through the devotion of vigilant guardians--building safety and fire prevention officials, architects, engineers, builders, tradespeople, design professionals, laborers, plumbers and others in the construction industry-who work year-round to ensure the safe construction of buildings, and;

Whereas these guardians are dedicated members of the International Code Council (ICC), a nonprofit that brings together local, state, territorial, tribal and federal officials who are experts in the built environment to create and implement the highest-quality codes and standards to protect us in the buildings where we live, learn, work and play, and;

Whereas these modern building codes and standards include safeguards to protect the public from hazards such as hurricanes, snowstorms, tornadoes, wildland fires, floods and earthquakes, and;

Whereas Building Safety Month is sponsored by ICC to remind the public about the critical role of our communities' largely unknown protectors of public safety-our code officials-who assure us of safe, sustainable and affordable buildings that are essential to our prosperity, and;

Whereas "Built to Last" the theme for Building Safety Month 2026, encourages us all to get involved and raise awareness about building safety on a personal, local and global scale, and;

Whereas each year, in observance of Building Safety Month, people all over the world are asked to consider the commitment to improve building safety, resilience and economic investment at home and in the community, and to acknowledge the essential service provided to all of us by local, state, tribal, territorial, and federal building safety and fire prevention departments, in protecting lives and property.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick L Dostal, Chief Building Official of Southeast Ohio Building Department, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2026 as Building Safety Month. Accordingly, I encourage our citizens to join us as we participate in Building Safety Month activities.

Rick L Dostal

Sign this 27th day of May by the Athens County Commissioners

/s/Lenny Eliason, President /s/Charlie Adkins, Vice President /s/Chris Chmiel, Commissioner

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

W&S Owen Arix pay increase

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to approve the W&S Owen Arix pay increase to \$23.25/hr. effective June 4, 2026 for completing the Water Reclamation 1 class and exam.

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:

- Auditor: Samantha Sinisgalli; Amesville Cemetery Project, Amesville OH; 05/22/26
- Sheriff: Stefan Hornbeck & Isaac Coey; Advanced Criminal Investigations Training, Strongsville OH; 07/12 - 07/15/26

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