

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

**Agenda**

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Eliason to approve the following agenda:  
Athens County Board of County Commissioners

Meeting Agenda for Tuesday, May 05, 2026 Convenes at 9:30 a.m.

Approve Agenda

Approve Minutes April 28, 2026

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

Fund to Fund: 911 \$809,295.98 from 591.3591.570100 Debt Principal to 042.2042.422101 Transfers In  
Fund to Fund: 911 \$276,312.40 from 591.3591.571100 Debt Interest to 042.2042.422101 Transfers In  
Fund to Fund: Board of DD \$1,000,000.00 from 401.3401.580100 Transfers Out to 404.2404.422101 Transfers In  
New Line Item: Expenditures  
Credit Card (Engineer) 491.1300.560010  
Credit Card (DD) 401.3401.560010  
Credit Card (Children Services) 421.1430.560010

- 9:30 W&S Supt Oscar Carson - weekly updates
- 9:45 DJFS - Weekly Updates
- 10:00 Treasurer Reports
- 10:15 John Morris, Captain - Justice Assistance Grant
- 10:30 Jack Pepper
- 10:45 Connor LaVelle, County Planner- Update Floodplain G010010045500
- 11:30 LUNCH

**Agenda Items**

- Amended Certificate
- W&S Extensions/Payment Agreements (Ratify Commissioner Eliason's Signature)
- DJFS- Inter County Transfers Resolution
- Guardian Ad Litem Agreements (7)
- USDA Designee
- OWDA Payment Request #21 US50 New Marshfield Sanitary Sewer (Ratify Commissioner Adkins Signature)
- Athens County on the Southeast Child Abuse Prevention Council
- Fee Waiver - Credit Card
- Career Connections
- New Marshfield Phase II - DEFA, Resolution 0505-123
- HB 96 - Filament
- Prosecutor - VAWA Grant Awards

**~TRAVEL**

- Recorder: Jessica Markins; ORA Spring CE, Dublin OH; 04/23 - 04/24/26
- COC: Candy Russell; OCCA Meeting, The Ohioan Hotel & Event Center; 05/19 - 05/20/26
- COC: Candy Russell; OCCA Summer Conf, Newark OH; 06/02 - 06/05/26
- Auditor: Lee Raines; Twp/Village/Outreach Meeting, Various Locations; 05/01/26
- DJFS: Keith Wiens; OJFSDA Annual Training, Columbus OH; 05/11 - 05/13/26
- DJFS: Keith Wiens; WFD Area 14 Meeting, New Lexington; 05/06/26

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

**Minutes**

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Eliason to approve the minutes of April 28, 2026.

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

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

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Eliason approving the Appropriations, Transfers, New Line Items Requests/Changes, including Fund to Fund: 911 \$809,295.98 from 591.3591.570100 Debt Principal to 042.2042.422101 Transfers In, Fund to Fund: 911 \$276,312.40 from 591.3591.571100 Debt Interest to 042.2042.422101 Transfers In, Fund to Fund: Board of DD \$1,000,000.00 from 401.3401.580100 Transfers Out to 404.2404.422101 Transfers In New Line Item: Expenditures: Credit Card (Engineer) 491.1300.560010, Credit Card (DD) 401.3401.560010, Credit Card (Children Services) 421.1430.560010 and approving the payment of the required County Bills, which are included in the Auditor's Office INVOICE TRACKING REPORT - From: 04/23/2026 To: 04/28/2026, INVOICE TRACKING REPORT - From: 04/28/2026 To: 04/30/2026 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, absent; Mr. Adkins, yea.

**W&S Supt Oscar Carson - Weekly Updates**

Supt Carson provided the following W&S Weekly Updates:

1. Heatherstone Subdivision – Sewer Tap Dispute:
  - \* Issue raised regarding Lot 18 (David Funk) in Heatherstone subdivision.
  - \* Property owner questioned ongoing monthly sewer charge (\$52.50) for a tap that is not connected to a residence.
  - \* Staff findings:
    - \* A sewer tap was installed and is actively connected to the main line.
    - \* Camera inspection confirmed the connection.
    - \* The tap was installed during prior system work when multiple connections were made in the area.
  - \* Although no structure will be built due to site constraints (mailbox placement and layout), the tap remains active.
  - \* Supt Carson recommendation:
    - \* Charges should continue unless the tap is formally disconnected.
  - \* Commissioners concurred with staff's assessment.
2. Additional Property Concern – Sewer Tap Requirement New Marshfield:
  - \* A separate property owner (Bridget Moore) expressed concern about future sewer tap requirements if a structure remains on-site.
  - \* Supt Carson reiterated:
    - \* If a structure is present when sewer work reaches the area, a tap will be required per policy.
    - \* Property owner indicated potential delay (up to one year) in removing the structure.
  - \* No further action taken; Supt Carson to monitor.
3. New Marshfield Sewer Project:
  - \* Project expected to begin but had not started as scheduled.
  - \* Initial work location:
    - \* Intersection near Old Route 56 and New Marshfield (community center area).
    - \* Focus on installing deep manholes, then progressing along planned route.
  - \* Status to be verified; possible start delay noted.
4. EPA Violation Response & Equipment Needs:
  - \* Discussion regarding response to EPA violation letter.
  - \* Supt Carson prepared draft responses for review by commissioners.
  - \* Key equipment issue:
    - \* Gearbox replacement needed, estimated cost: \$74,893.
    - \* Lead time: 4–6 weeks.
  - \* Alternatives (rebuild vs. replacement) considered but deemed less practical due to time constraints.
  - \* Commissioners agreed replacement is necessary.

**W&S - Gearbox Replacement**

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Eliason to approve proceeding with the purchase of Replacement Gearbox in the amount of \$74,893.00.

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

**Surplus - DJFS**

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Eliason to approve and declare the DJFS Surplus and redistribute to the Sheriff's Office K9 Unit:

Description:

5 Expired Boxes of Kloxxado (naloxone nasal spray 8 mg)  
(Sheriff Dept will take expired boxes of Narcan for K9 unit)

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

**DJFS - Legal Secretary Position**

Interim Executive Dir Wiens & Dir Jason Terry provided the following Legal Secretary Position:

**1. Operational Impact:**

- \* Transition to using the Prosecutor's Office for child support hearings has increased administrative workload.
- \* Legal secretary responsibilities include:
  - \* Preparing case documentation and financial data for hearings.
  - \* Creating "prep packets" for prosecutors (who currently have limited system access).
  - \* Drafting magistrate decisions and judgment entries post-hearing.
- \* With only one legal secretary:
  - \* Majority of time is spent supporting prosecutors.
  - \* Backlog of unworked referrals has significantly increased (from 118 in January to 271 in April).
  - \* Fewer hearings are being scheduled, with a notable decline in upcoming months.

**2. Financial Considerations:**

- \* CSEA contracts include:
  - \* Juvenile Court: 500 hearings/year at \$239 per hearing.
  - \* Domestic Relations Court: 500 hearings/year at \$584 per hearing.
  - \* Prosecutor: 960 hours of services.
- \* Reduced hearings result in loss of 4D federal reimbursement revenue.
- \* Request:
  - \* \$33,000 county contribution (34% of salary and benefits).
  - \* Remaining ~66% funded through federal 4D funds.
- \* Justification:
  - \* Increased staffing expected to restore hearing volume and revenue.
  - \* Estimated that lost revenue over a two-month period nearly equals requested county contribution.
- \* CSEA agreed to provide ongoing performance updates and data reports to track impact.

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Eliason to approve \$33,000.00 transfer for reinstatement of legal secretary.

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

**Executive Session - DJFS**

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Eliason to enter into executive session at 9:50 with Interim Executive Dir. Wiens and Dir Jason Terry to discuss a personnel matter involving a public employee. Commissioner Adkins ended up stepping out and excusing himself from the executive session. Administrator JoAnn Rockhold was asked to join the executive session.

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

**Regular Session**

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Eliason to return to regular session at 9:56 with No Action to be taken.

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

**DJFS - Inter County Transfers Resolution**

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Eliason to approve the following DJFS Inter County Transfers Resolution:

**RESOLUTION APPROVING KEITH WIENS, INTERIM DIRECTOR OF ATHENS COUNTY JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES TO ACT ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSIONERS DURING INTER-COUNTY TRANSFER OF ALLOCATED FUNDS**

**WHEREAS**, changes in Ohio Administrative Code Section 5101:9-6-82 in which permits a County Department of Job and Family Services Director to accept and release funds between counties; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with the current changes in the Ohio Administrative Code Section 5101:9-6-82 has now granted the Board of Commissioners the authority to assign to the "Director of the County Family Services agency (CFSA) to serve as their designee, hereby granting the Director the authority to sign the inter-county adjustment agreement on behalf of the county, and;

**WHEREAS**, with the changing of the allocated funding this authority will allow the Director to act on opportunities to utilize other funding, while releasing funding to other counties that our county is not able to utilize to ensure that each CDJFS will be able to serve the people of their county to the fullest extent possible, and;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Athens County Commissioners do hereby resolve that: Pursuant to 5101:9-6-82 (inter-County Adjustment of Allocations) of the Administrative Code publicized by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services; the Interim Director (Keith Wiens) of the Athens County Department of Job and Family Services, [aka the County Family Service Agency, (CFSA)], is the authorized designee to sign the inter-county adjustment of allocations form for, all funds handled through said agency, on behalf of the county. Keith Wiens is required to provide written notification to the President of the Board, each time this specific designated authority is utilized. Said designation is in effect until January 1, 2029. Furthermore, this designation amends/clarifies the designation resolution dated October 3, 2013 to include a "specific period of time" for said designation and said designation shall automatically renew, in five year increments, unless specific notification of cancellation is submitted to Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.

The foregoing resolution was introduced upon a motion by Commissioner Charlie Adkins and seconded by Commissioner Lenny Eliason.

Signed this 5<sup>th</sup> of May, 2026.

/s/Lenny Eliason, President

/s/Charlie Adkins, Commissioner

/s/Chris Chmiel, Commissioner (Absent)

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

**Amended Certificate**

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Eliason acknowledging receipt of the Amended Certificate for Athens County Commissioners, dated May 5, 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, absent; Mr. Adkins, yea.

**W&S Extensions/Payment Agreements**

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Eliason ratifying Commissioner Eliason's Signature authorizing a payment agreement as requested by Johnathon Lewis for monies owed the Athens County Water and Sewer District for water and sewer service, the total amount due is \$678.97 with \$100.00 plus current bill to be paid 05/31/26, 06/30/26, 07/31/26, 08/31/26, 09/30/26, & 10/31/26. 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, absent; Mr. Adkins, yea.

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Eliason ratifying Commissioner Eliason's Signature authorizing a payment agreement as requested by Angel Martin for monies owed the Athens County Water and Sewer District for water and sewer service, the total amount due is \$716.35 with \$100.00 plus current bill to be paid 05/31/26, 06/30/26, 07/31/26, 08/31/26, 09/30/26, & 10/31/26. 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, absent; Mr. Adkins, yea.

**Treasurer's Report**

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Eliason to authorize Commissioner Eliason to sign the March 2026 Treasurer Report..

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

**Treasurer Investment and Interest Rate Update**

Treasurer Sappington provided the following Investment and Interest Rate Update:

- \* Overview of current market conditions:
  - \* Interest rates remain volatile, particularly tied to the 10-year Treasury.
  - \* Rates have fluctuated from the mid-3% range to mid-4% range recently.
  - \* Overall rates are lower than two years ago due to Federal Reserve reductions.
- \* County investment strategy:
  - \* Strong partnership with Hocking Valley Bank, currently offering 4% return, above market rates.
  - \* Funds have been shifted from STAR Ohio to local accounts to capitalize on better returns.

**Guardian Ad Litem Agreements**

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Eliason to authorize Commissioner Eliason to sign the Guardian Ad Litem Agreements. See documents on back of page 160.

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

**USDA Designee**

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Eliason to appoint Administrator JoAnn Rockhold as Designee to handle USDA -related documentation and forms for the County.

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

**OWDA Payment Request #21 US50 New Marshfield Sanitary Sewer**

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Eliason to ratify Commissioner Adkins signature on the OWDA Payment Request #21 US50 New Marshfield Sanitary Sewer.

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

**GUARDIAN AD LITEM AGREEMENT**

DEBRA ARSINO hereby agrees to accept appointment by the Adams County Common Pleas Court, Juvenile Division, to serve as a Guardian Ad Litem for the court when available to do so.

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

  
Robert L. Sanderson, Judge  
President, Board of Commissioners

**GUARDIAN AD LITEM AGREEMENT**

CHRIS LADYBORN hereby agrees to accept appointment by the Adams County Common Pleas Court, Juvenile Division, to serve as a Guardian Ad Litem for the court when available to do so.

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

  
Robert L. Sanderson, Judge  
President, Board of Commissioners

**GUARDIAN AD LITEM AGREEMENT**

ROBERT COLVIN hereby agrees to accept appointment by the Adams County Common Pleas Court, Juvenile Division, to serve as a Guardian Ad Litem for the court when available to do so.

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

  
Robert L. Sanderson, Judge  
President, Board of Commissioners

**GUARDIAN AD LITEM AGREEMENT**

NICKIE MERRILL hereby agrees to accept appointment by the Adams County Common Pleas Court, Juvenile Division, to serve as a Guardian Ad Litem for the court when available to do so.

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

  
Robert L. Sanderson, Judge  
President, Board of Commissioners

**GUARDIAN AD LITEM AGREEMENT**

DANIEL HADWIGER hereby agrees to accept appointment by the Adams County Common Pleas Court, Juvenile Division, to serve as a Guardian Ad Litem for the court when available to do so.

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

  
Robert L. Sanderson, Judge  
President, Board of Commissioners

**GUARDIAN AD LITEM AGREEMENT**

ALBERT JONES hereby agrees to accept appointment by the Adams County Common Pleas Court, Juvenile Division, to serve as a Guardian Ad Litem for the court when available to do so.

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

  
Robert L. Sanderson, Judge  
President, Board of Commissioners

**GUARDIAN AD LITEM AGREEMENT**

ANGELA SIMMONS hereby agrees to accept appointment by the Adams County Common Pleas Court, Juvenile Division, to serve as a Guardian Ad Litem for the court when available to do so.


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

  
Robert L. Sanderson, Judge  
President, Board of Commissioners

**GUARDIAN AD LITEM AGREEMENT**

NICKIE MERRILL hereby agrees to accept appointment by the Adams County Common Pleas Court, Juvenile Division, to serve as a Guardian Ad Litem for the court when available to do so.

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

  
Robert L. Sanderson, Judge  
President, Board of Commissioners

**Athens County on the Southeast Child Abuse Prevention Council**

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Eliason to approve the Athens County on the Southeast Child Abuse Prevention Council:  
May 5, 2026

TO: The Ohio Children's Trust Fund  
P.O. Box 183204  
Columbus, Ohio 43218-3204

FROM: Athens County Commissioners  
15 S. Court Street  
Athens, Ohio 45701

RE: Child Abuse and Child Neglect Regional Prevention Council Appointments

This letter serves as notification to the Ohio Children's Trust Fund (OCTF) that the Athens County Board of County Commissioners is appointing/reappointing the following county prevention specialist(s) to our child abuse and child neglect regional prevention council pursuant to Ohio Revised Code (ORC) section 3109.172:

**New Appointment**

Full name: Arissa Roe  
Business Address: 18 Stoneybrook Drive  
City: Athens  
State: Ohio  
Zip code: 45701  
Phone number: 740-707-2077  
Email address: [Arissa.Roe@jfs.ohio.gov](mailto:Arissa.Roe@jfs.ohio.gov)

**Resume/curriculum vitae/short biography below.**

I have worked in the human services field beginning when I was a teenager. I was a job coach and day care provider while I was in high school and college. After I completed my bachelor's at Kent State, I became an ongoing caseworker for Athens Co. Children Services for about 3 years. I decided it was time to pursue a master's degree in child life and left child welfare. While gaining my master's degree, I worked at Head Start, Akron Children's Hospital for acute psychiatric care as well as floating to other medical floors as a behavioral tech, and I completed a practicum in Chicago for a children's advocacy center in the city. After wrapping up my master's degree, I returned to the area, working in Early Intervention as a Developmental Specialist briefly, and then felt called back to child welfare where I started. So, I began learning the art of FCFC and love the mix of preventative and intervention work that I get to do with multi-systemic families! Outside of work, I love to garden, cook, workout, spend time with my pets and husband, and volunteer when I can.

**Reappointment**

Full name: Wendy Shields  
Business Address: 18 Stoneybrook Drive  
City: Athens  
State: Ohio  
Zip code: 45701  
Phone number: 740-707-2077  
Email address: [wendy.shields@jfs.ohio.gov](mailto:wendy.shields@jfs.ohio.gov)

We, the Athens County Board of County Commissioners, respectfully request that you send us written confirmation of our appointment.

Please feel free to contact our office with any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/Lenny Eliason  
Athens County Commissioner

/s/Charlie Adkins  
Athens County Commissioner

/s/Chris Chmiel  
Athens County Commissioner

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

**Fee Waiver - Credit Card**

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Eliason to approve the \$200.00 credit card-related fee (not a late payment penalty, but due to delayed reimbursement timing).

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

**Career Connections Agreement**

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Eliason to approve the Career Connections Agreement for a temporary laborer (groundskeeping and related duties).

- \* Duration: 21 Weeks
- \* Hours: Up to 32 hours/week
- \* Total not-to-exceed cost: \$15,590

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

**New Marshfield Phase II - DEFA, Resolution 0505-123**

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Eliason to ratify the commissioners signatures on the New Marshfield Phase II - DEFA, Resolution 0505-123. See back of page 162 for documents.

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

**HB96 - Filament**

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Eliason to approve agreement with Filament in the amount of \$3,500.00 for cybersecurity scans and issue a Resolution:

A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE NIST CYBERSECURITY FRAMEWORK VERSION 2.0 AS THE OFFICIAL CYBERSECURITY PROGRAM FRAMEWORK FOR THE COUNTY OF ATHENS AND TO AUTHORIZE IMPLEMENTATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH OHIO HOUSE BILL 96

WHEREAS, the Ohio General Assembly enacted House Bill 96, requiring all political subdivisions, including municipalities, to establish and maintain a cybersecurity program; and

WHEREAS, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework Version 2.0 provides a recognized, flexible, and risk-based model for managing cybersecurity risks across municipal operations, technology systems, and information assets; and

WHEREAS, adoption of the NIST Cybersecurity Framework Version 2.0 will strengthen protection for sensitive data, improve resilience against cybersecurity incidents, and support continuity of public services; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners recognizes that implementation of the framework requires ongoing governance, policy development, and risk-based prioritization of cybersecurity activities;

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

1. The NIST Cybersecurity Framework Version 2.0 is hereby adopted as the official cybersecurity framework guiding the County's cybersecurity program.
2. The County's Information Technology Agent shall manage and oversee implementation of cybersecurity activities aligned with the framework.

# Athens County Commissioners



15 South Court St.  
Athens, Ohio 45701  
(740) 592-3219  
Visit us at our website:  
co.athensoh.org

Charlie Adkins  
cadkins@athensoh.org  
Chris Chmiel  
cehmiel@athensoh.org  
Lenny Eliason, MPA  
leliason@athensoh.org

JoAnn Rockhold  
Administrator  
jsikorski@athensoh.org  
Telephone (740) 592-3292

Alison Pierson  
Clerk  
apierson@athensoh.org  
Telephone (740) 592-3202

Resolution No 0505-123

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LENNY ELIASON THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND ENTER INTO A **WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND (WPCLF)** AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE **COUNTY** OF ATHENS, OHIO\_ FOR PLANNING, DESIGN AND/OR CONSTRUCTION OF **WASTEWATER** FACILITIES; AND DESIGNATING A DEDICATED REPAYMENT SOURCE FOR THE LOAN:

Whereas, the **County** of Athens seeks to upgrade its existing wastewater facilities; and

Whereas, the **County** of Athens intends to apply for **Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF)** for the planning, design and or construction of the *New Marshfield Forcemain Sewer* facilities; and

Whereas, the Ohio **Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF)** requires the government authority to pass legislation for application of a loan and the execution of an agreement as well as designating a dedicated repayment source; now therefore,


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


SECTION 1. That Lenny Eliason, President, be and is hereby authorized to apply for a **WPCLF** loan, sign all documents for and enter into a **Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF)** the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency and the Ohio Water Development Authority for planning, design and/or construction of **wastewater** facilities on behalf of the **County** of Athens, Ohio in the area of New Marshfield.

SECTION 2. That the dedicated source of repayment will be user fees.

SECTION 3. That is resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Signed this 5<sup>th</sup> day of May 2026

  
Lenny Eliason, President

  
Charlie Adkins

Absent  
Chris Chmiel

3. The Board is authorized to approve policies, procedures, and operational controls developed in support of this framework prior to County wide implementation.
4. An annual report summarizing implementation progress, identified risks, and recommended resource needs shall be provided to the Board of Commissioners.
5. This Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its adoption.

Signed this 5<sup>th</sup> day of May 2026

/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, absent; Mr. Adkins, yea.

**Prosecutor - VAWA Grant Awards**

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Eliason to authorize Commissioner Eliason to sign the Prosecutor's VAWA Grant Awards:

2024-WF-VA5-44125: Project Period Jan. 1, 2026 to May 31, 2026 Award \$4,359.74

2025-WF-VA5-46252: Project Period Jan. 1, 2026 to Dec. 31, 2026 Award \$47,996.76

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

**Travel**

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Eliason to approve the following travel:

Recorder: Jessica Markins; ORA Spring CE, Dublin OH; 04/23 - 04/24/26

COC: Candy Russell; OCCA Meeting, The Ohioan Hotel & Event Center; 05/19 - 05/20/26

COC: Candy Russell; OCCA Summer Conf, Newark OH; 06/02 - 06/05/26

Auditor: Lee Raines; Twp/Village/Outreach Meeting, Various Locations; 05/01/26

DJFS: Keith Wiens; OJFSDA Annual Training, Columbus OH; 05/11 - 05/13/26

DJFS: Keith Wiens; WFD Area 14 Meeting, New Lexington; 05/06/26

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

**Health Dept - Jack Pepper**

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Eliason to authorize Administrator JoAnn Rockhold to prepare and submit the Resolution to the Board of Elections. See documents on back of page 163.

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

**Update Floodplain G010010045500 - Planner Connor LaVelle**

Planner LaVelle provided the following Floodplain Violation Update - Waltz Bar Property

\* Planner LaVelle provided an update regarding the ongoing floodplain violations associated with the former Waltz Bar property.

\* It was reported that ownership of the property has recently changed. The county had previously pursued legal action against the former owner related to unresolved floodplain violations.

\* Planner LaVelle explained that communication has been ongoing with the new owners, identified as two individuals who acquired the property through a lien-holder process after the prior loan defaulted.

\* Although the work causing the violations occurred under the previous ownership, Planner LaVelle clarified that floodplain permitting requirements remain with the property and therefore continue to apply to the new owners.

\* Planner LaVelle indicated that extensive correspondence had occurred with the new owners explaining:

- \* Why a floodplain permit is still required,
- \* The nature of the violations,
- \* The county's compliance expectations moving forward.

\* The new owners have reportedly begun addressing issues on the property by removing solid waste and debris from the site for

**RESOLUTION TO PROCEED  
OF THE TAXING AUTHORITY**

(Revised Code, Sec. 5705.19, 191, 192, 194, 21, 26)

The Board of Commissioners of \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_  
Governing body (e.g., village council, board of trustees, etc.) Political subdivision

met in regular session on May 05, 2026 at the office of \_\_\_\_\_  
Regular or Special Month and Day Year

Board of Commissioners with the following members present:  
Governing body

\_\_\_\_\_ Lenny Eliason  
\_\_\_\_\_ Charlie Adkins  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Adkins moved the adoption of the following Resolution:  
Member name

**WHEREAS**, the amount of taxes which may be raised within the ten-mill limitation will be insufficient to provide an adequate amount for the necessary requirements of the said \_\_\_\_\_ County  
Political subdivision  
Athens County; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, by the Board of Commissioners, Athens County, two-thirds of all members elected thereto concurring, that it is necessary to levy a tax in excess of the ten mill limitation for the benefit of the \_\_\_\_\_ County  
Governing body Political subdivision for the purpose of maintenance and operation of Athens City County Health Department.  
Purpose (use additional lines if needed)

that the county auditor estimates will collect \$ 1,520,051.00 annually, at a rate not exceeding \_\_\_\_\_ mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$ \$35,000 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for ten commencing in 2026 first due in calendar year 2027  
Amount of revenue from auditor's certificate Millage Rate expressed in dollars Length of time in years First year tax to be levied First calendar year tax due

- Said levy is (choose one of the following):
- An additional levy of 1.0000 mills
  - A renewal of an existing levy of \_\_\_\_\_ mills
  - A renewal of an existing levy of \_\_\_\_\_ mills and an increase of \_\_\_\_\_ mills to constitute a tax of \_\_\_\_\_ mills
  - A renewal of part of an existing levy, being a reduction of \_\_\_\_\_ mills to constitute a tax of \_\_\_\_\_ mills
  - A replacement of an existing levy of \_\_\_\_\_ mills
  - A replacement of an existing levy of \_\_\_\_\_ mills and an increase of \_\_\_\_\_ mills to constitute a tax of \_\_\_\_\_ mills
  - A replacement of part of an existing levy, being a reduction of \_\_\_\_\_ mills, to constitute a tax of \_\_\_\_\_ mills

**RESOLVED**, that the question of levying additional taxes be submitted to the electors of said \_\_\_\_\_ County at the General election to be held at the usual voting places within said \_\_\_\_\_ County on the 3rd day of November, 2026; and be it further  
Political subdivision General, Primary, Special Day Month Year

**RESOLVED**, that said levy be placed upon the tax list of the current year after the February settlement next succeeding the election, if a majority of the electors voting thereon vote in favor thereof; and be it further **Attached is a copy of the Certificate of Estimated Property Tax Revenue.**

**RESOLVED**, that the Clerk or Fiscal Officer of Athens County be and is hereby directed to certify a copy of this Resolution to the Board of Elections of Athens County, Ohio and notify said Board of Elections to cause notice of election on the question of levying said tax to be given as required by law.

Mr. Eliason seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption the vote resulted as follows:

_____ <u>Mr. Eliason</u>	voted	<u>yea</u>
_____ <u>Mr. Adkins</u>	voted	<u>yea</u>
_____ <u>Mr. Chmiel</u>	voted	<u>absent</u>
_____	voted	_____
_____	voted	_____
_____	voted	_____

Having received the required two-thirds majority, the Resolution was adopted.

Adopted May 05, 2026  
Month and Day Year

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Auditor, Clerk, Fiscal Officer  
Athens County  
Political subdivision  
**ATHENS COUNTY, OHIO**

**FISCAL OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

I, JoAnn Rockhold of Athens County, Athens County, Ohio, certify this Resolution to be a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 0505-123, as adopted by the Board of Commissioners of Athens County, Athens County, Ohio, and recorded in the official record of proceedings of the meeting held on May 05, 2026  
Name of fiscal officer or clerk Political Subdivision Resolution Number Governing Body Political subdivision Month and Day Year

proper disposal.

\* Planner LaVelle advised that the permitting issue remains unresolved but progress has been made toward mutual understanding and cooperation.

\* A 14-day deadline, beginning the previous Thursday, was given to the new owners to submit the required floodplain permit application.

\* Planner LaVelle stated he would return with an additional update after the deadline period expires.

**JAG Grant Update - Captain John Morris**

Captain Morris provided the following JAG Grant Update:

\* An update was provided regarding the status of the JAG (Justice Assistance Grant) funding application.

\* Capt. Morris reported that the grant has not yet received final approval and remains listed as "in review."

\* Additional inquiry was made through a state contact in an effort to obtain more information about the delay.

\* According to the information received:

\* The application has already been forwarded for federal approval,

\* However, the state has not yet received a response or final determination from the federal level.

\* It was also noted that no information or documentation has yet been received regarding next year's JAG grant cycle.

\* Capt. Morris referenced the prior year's timeline, stating that final approval was received around mid-May, and expressed hope that approval would still be forthcoming on a similar schedule this year.

\* Potential Financial Impact

\* Commissioner Adkins asked what impact the denial or non-approval of the grant would have on operations.

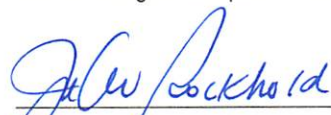
\* Capt. Morris explained that failure to receive the grant would result in the loss of several thousand dollars in funding, estimated at approximately \$16,000 based on the previous year's award.

\* The grant funds are currently used to support investigative activities and related operational expenses.

**Adjourn**

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

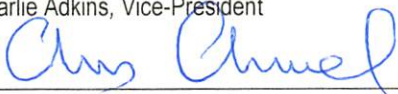
The roll being called upon for adoption, the vote resulted as follows: Mr. Eliason, yea; Mr. Chmiel, absent; Mr. Adkins, yea.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JoAnn Rockhold, Administrator

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Alison Pierson, Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lenny Eliason, President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Charlie Adkins, Vice-President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chris Chmiel