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

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

Meeting Agenda for Wednesday, October 14, 2026 Convenes at 9:00 a.m.

Approve Agenda

Approve Minutes October 6, 2026

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

9:00 Kevin Kesterson - Interview
9:30 Captain Morris - JAG Grant
9:45 Jeremy Carr - Athens Co Fairgrounds Purchase Property
10:00 Michael Francis II- Interview
10:15 EMS - Chief Pyle
10:30 W&S Supt Oscar Carson - weekly updates
10:45 Zach Walker - Water Towers
11:00 Zach Walker - Water Towers
11:15 Zach Walker - Water Towers
11:30 BDSR - Treasurer Sappington - Budget
1:30 Log Jam - Currier St -Planner LaVelle
1:45 Candy Russell

Agenda Items
Utility Permits (2-AT&T, 1-Columbia Gas, 3-AEP Ohio, 1-Le-Ax Water)
W&S Extensions (Ratify Commissioner Adkins Signature)
Personnel Policy Manual
Guardian Dental 2027
2027 VOCA Award Letter - Sheriff
Surplus - Domestic Relations
Clean Energy Tax Return
Surplus - Comm L020010011300
Dearborn Life Insurance Renewal
Surplus - EMS
Purchase 1 Microsoft Surface Pro 9 - DD
Engineer Credit Card Purchase $1.06
W&S OWDA Disbursement Request #6 Stewart & Guysville Sanitary Sewer Improvements (Ratify Commissioner Eliason's Signature)
EODA Appointment
Resolution Accepting Amounts and Rates

~TRAVEL
Sheriff: Crystal Allen; VOCA Training, Columbus OH; 09/22/2026
DJFS: Tami Collins; 2027 OHPELRA Annual Training Conf, Columbus OH; 02/03 - 02/05/2027
Auditor: Jill Davidson, Marsha Few, Brandi Coey, Katherine Smith, & Leah Allen; CCAO Winter Conf 2026, Lewis Center OH; 11/17 - 11/20/26

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 October 6, 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 and approving the payment of the required County Bills, which are included in the Auditor's Office INVOICE TRACKING REPORT - From: 10/01/2026 To: 10/06/2026, INVOICE TRACKING REPORT - From: 10/06/2026 To: 10/08/2026, INVOICE TRACKING REPORT - From: 10/08/2026 To: 10/14/2026 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.

Executive Session - EMS Chief Position Interviews - Kevin Kesterson
A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to enter into executive session at 9:00 to discuss employment matters related to scheduled EMS Chief Position Interviews.

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

Regular Session - EMS
A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to return to regular session with EMS at 9:30 with No Action to be taken.

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

JAG Grant Quarterly Update - Captain Morris
Captain Morris of the Athens County Sheriff's Office presented the quarterly update on the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG). Captain Morris reported that authorization to use the grant funds had recently been received. The department recorded 205 ACE-eligible drug charges, exceeding the goal of 39, and 12 drug trafficking charges, compared to the year-end goal of 39. Performance goals may be adjusted without affecting grant funding. Captain Morris discussed challenges caused by delayed funding authorization, including the requirement to use approximately 94 grant-funded hours per participating officer before year-end. A request for an extension was denied, and an application for the next grant year has been submitted.

Executive Session - Jeremy Carr Athens Co Fairgrounds Property Purchase
A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to enter into executive session at 9:33 to discuss the purchase of real estate.

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

Regular Session - Jeremy Carr Athens Co Fairgrounds Property Purchase
A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to return to regular session with Jeremy Carr Athens Co Fairgrounds Property Purchase at 9:37 with No Action to be taken.

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 Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to approve the following Utility Permits:

Permit No.	26-748
From:	AT&T
	350 Industrial Ct
	St Augustine, FL 32092

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

Location of work:	Co Rd Name: Frost Rd
Description of Work:	Fiber Optic
Type of Installation:	Directional Boring Crossing Rd
Estimated Project Schedule:	08/10/2026 - 12/31/2026

Agreed to by: /s/Jeff Prosser, AT&T
Athens County Commissioners
/s/ Lenny Eliason
/s/ Charlie Adkins
/s/Chris Chmiel
/s/Jeff Maiden, Athens County Engineer

Permit No.	26-749
From:	AT&T 350 Industrial Ct St Augustine, FL 32092

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

Location of work:	Co Rd Name: Bethany Ridge Rd
Description of Work:	Fiber Optic
Type of Installation:	Directional Boring Crossing Rd
Estimated Project Schedule:	08/10/2026 - 12/31/2026

Agreed to by: /s/Jeff Prosser, AT&T
Athens County Commissioners
/s/ Lenny Eliason
/s/ Charlie Adkins
/s/Chris Chmiel
/s/Jeff Maiden, Athens County Engineer

Permit No.	26-750
From:	Columbia Gas of Ohio 290 W Nationwide Blvd Columbus, OH 43215

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

Location of work:	Co Rd # 49, Co Rd Name: Joy Rd
Description of Work:	Gas
Type of Installation:	Underground (buried) Line Crossing Rd
Estimated Project Schedule:	09/29/2026 - 10/29/2026

Agreed to by: /s/Jean Hartwell, Columbia Gas
Athens County Commissioners
/s/ Lenny Eliason
/s/ Charlie Adkins
/s/Chris Chmiel
/s/Jeff Maiden, Athens County Engineer

Permit No.	26-751
From:	AEP Ohio 700 Morrison Rd Gahanna, OH 43230

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

Location of work:	Co Rd # 79, Co Rd Name: Shelby Rd
Description of Work:	Electric
Type of Installation:	Overhead Line Parallel to Rd, Overhead Line Crossing Rd, & Utility Pole Installation
Estimated Project Schedule:	10/01/2026 - 03/01/2027

Agreed to by: /s/Chris Postle & Michelle Provandie, TRC Companies
Athens County Commissioners
/s/ Lenny Eliason
/s/ Charlie Adkins
/s/Chris Chmiel
/s/Jeff Maiden, Athens County Engineer

Permit No. 26-753
From: AEP Ohio
2550 Corporate Exchange Dr., Ste 250
Columbus, OH 43231
We hereby request permission to install utility lines within public right-of-way limits.
Location of work: Co Rd # 27, Co Rd Name: Millfield Rd
Description of Work: Electric
Type of Installation: Overhead Line Parallel to Rd, Overhead Line Crossing Rd, & Utility Pole Installation
Estimated Project Schedule: 10/01/2026 - 03/01/2027
Agreed to by: /s/Morgan Kociol, AEP Ohio
Athens County Commissioners
/s/ Lenny Eliason
/s/ Charlie Adkins
/s/Chris Chmiel
/s/Jeff Maiden, Athens County Engineer

Permit No. 26-754
From: AEP Ohio
2550 Corporate Exchange Dr., Ste 250
Columbus, OH 43231
We hereby request permission to install utility lines within public right-of-way limits.
Location of work: Co Rd # 17, Co Rd Name: Fisher Rd
Description of Work: Electric
Type of Installation: Overhead Line Parallel to Rd
Estimated Project Schedule: 10/14/2026 - 04/14/2027
Agreed to by: /s/Morgan Kociol, AEP Ohio
Athens County Commissioners
/s/ Lenny Eliason
/s/ Charlie Adkins
/s/Chris Chmiel
/s/Jeff Maiden, Athens County Engineer

Permit No. 26-755
From: Le-Ax Water District
6000 Industrial Dr
Athens, OH 45701
We hereby request permission to install utility lines within public right-of-way limits.
Location of work: Co Rd # 69, Co Rd Name: Chase Rd
Description of Work: Water
Type of Installation: Underground (buried) Line Crossing Rd
Estimated Project Schedule: ASAP - Same Day
Agreed to by: /s/Christina Richey, Le-Ax Water District
Athens County Commissioners
/s/ Lenny Eliason
/s/ Charlie Adkins
/s/Chris Chmiel
/s/Jeff Maiden, Athens County Engineer

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

W&S Extensions

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel ratifying Commissioner Adkins Signature authorizing an extension as requested by Steven Harlan for monies owed the Athens County Water and Sewer District for water and sewer service, the total amount due is $135.82 with $63.24 due on 10/20/26. 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, yea; Mr. Adkins, yea.

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel ratifying Commissioner Adkins Signature authorizing an extension as requested by Christopher Reeder/Destiny Tolliver for monies owed the Athens County Water and Sewer District for water and sewer service, the total amount due is $234.75 with $93.67 due on 10/09/26. 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, yea; Mr. Adkins, yea.

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel ratifying Commissioner Adkins Signature authorizing an extension as requested by Amy Withrow for monies owed the Athens County Water and Sewer District for water and sewer service, the total amount due is $336.59 with $238.28 due on 10/21/26. 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, yea; Mr. Adkins, yea.

Personnel Policy Manual
A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to approve the revised personnel policy manual as presented by Administrator JoAnn Rockhold.

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

Guardian Dental 2027
A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to accept the renewal for the 2027 Guardian Dental Insurance.

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

2027 VOCA Award Letter - Sheriff
A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to authorize Commissioner Eliason to sign the Sheriff's 2027 VOCA Award Letter in the amount of $28,933.14.

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

Surplus - Domestic Relations
A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to approve and declare the following Domestic Relations Surplus to destroy:

Property Description:	Model #	Serial #
HP Laser Jet Printer	B01SB-0602-00	CNBJN25894

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

Clean Energy Tax Return
Commissioner Chmiel reported that an email had been received requesting review and confirmation of several items, including entity-related information and financial details. Commissioner Chmiel and Administrator JoAnn Rockhold acknowledged that the documents had not yet been fully reviewed.
Commissioner Chmiel agreed that he would get the necessary information, including applicable banking and routing details, would be verified so the filing process could be completed.
Commissioner Chmiel received an update on a previously authorized clean energy tax-related filing. The draft will be reviewed by the County Prosecutor, Auditor, and Treasurer before submission.

Surplus - County Owned Property - EMS Station 52, Coolville
The Board revisited a previous discussion concerning the potential sale of County-owned property located behind EMS Station 52 in Coolville.
Planner LaVelle explained that the County owns four parcels in the area, with the two front parcels occupied by the EMS facility and two additional parcels located behind the station. Commissioner Chmiel informed the Board that individuals had previously expressed interest in purchasing one of the rear parcels for residential construction.
Earlier concerns raised by Planner Connor involved possible impacts on stormwater drainage, erosion, and debris management. Commissioner Chmiel indicated that selling only one of the rear parcels, while retaining the other, could address some of those concerns.
Commissioner Adkins discussed access to the proposed residential property, including an existing roadway or alley near the EMS station. Additional concerns were raised regarding the possibility that the property might be needed in the future for a

MARCS radio communications tower or related public safety infrastructure.
The Board agreed that further review was necessary before considering a sale. Commissioner Chmiel will provide a parcel map, consult with Planner LaVelle regarding the property and drainage concerns, and obtain additional information about potential future tower needs.
The matter was tabled pending further review. No property sale was authorized.

Dearborn Life Insurance Renewal
A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to accept the renewal for the 2027 Dearborn Life Insurance.

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

Surplus - EMS
A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to approve and declare the following EMS Surplus to destroy:

Property Description:	Model #	Serial #
Refrigerator - Whirlpool	WRF5605MY804	VS7254716

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

Purchase One (1) Microsoft Surface Pro 9 - DD
A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to approve the DD's purchase of One (1) Microsoft Surface Pro 9 in the amount of $1,503.49.

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

Engineer Credit Card Purchase $1.06
Administrator JoAnn Rockhold discussed a County Engineer's Office purchase made through a Microsoft account for which the original receipt could not be obtained.
Administrator Rockhold reported that the employee responsible for the purchase would reimburse $1.06 to the appropriate County fund to resolve the documentation issue.

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to approve the purposed recommendation for the Engineer Credit Card Purchase of $1.06.

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

W&S OWDA Disbursement Request #6 Stewart & Guysville Sanitary Sewer Improvements
A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to ratify Commissioner Eliason's Signature on the W&S OWDA Disbursement Request #6 Stewart & Guysville Sanitary Sewer Improvements.

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

EODA Re-Appointment
A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to Re-Appoint Mollie Fitzgerald to the EODA Board for 2027-2028 term.

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

Resolution Accepting Rates and Amounts
A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to approve the Resolution Accepting the Amounts and Rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor. See Resolution on back of page 354.

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

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR
(BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS)
Revised Code, Sec. 5705.34, - 35

The Board of County Commissioners of Athens County, Ohio met in regular
(Regular or Special) session on the 14th *day of* October, *2026, at the office of*
Board of Commissioners *with the following members present:*

Jeff Edwards
Chris Chmiel
Charlie Adkins

Mr. Adkins *moved the adoption of the following Resolution:*

WHEREAS, This Board of County Commissioners in accordance with the provisions of law has previously adopted a Tax Budget for the next succeeding fiscal year commencing January 1st, 2027; and

WHEREAS, The Budget Commission of Athens County, Ohio has certified its action thereon to this Board together with an estimate by the County Auditor of the rate of each tax necessary to be levied by this Board, and what part thereof is without, and what part is within, the ten mill limitation; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Board of County Commissioners, Athens County, Ohio, that the amounts and rates, as determined by the Budget Commission in its certification, be and the same are hereby accepted; and be it further

RESOLVED, That there be and is hereby levied on the tax duplicate of said County the rate of each tax necessary to be levied within and without the ten mill limitation as follows:

SCHEDULE A
SUMMARY OF AMOUNTS REQUIRED FROM GENERAL PROPERTY TAX APPROVED BY BUDGET COMMISSION, AND COUNTY AUDITOR'S ESTIMATED TAX RATES

FUND	Amount to Be Derived from Levies Outside 10 Mill Limitation	Amount Approved by Budget Commission Inside 10 Mill Limitation	County Auditor's Estimate of Tax Rate to Be Levied	
			Inside 10 Mill Limit	Outside 10 Mill Limit
	Column II	Column IV	V	VI
General Fund		3,424,032	2.30	
EMS	5,938,140			4.50
Health	1,230,029			1.00
Children Services	6,073,369			5.50
T B Clinic	147,092			0.20
Beacon School	8,166,161			7.95
Senior Citizens	1,318,009			1.25
TOTAL	22,868,800	3,424,032	2.30	20.40

SCHEDULE B
LEVIES OUTSIDE 10 MILL LIMITATION, EXCLUSIVE OF DEBT LEVIES

Fund	Maximum Rate Authorized to Be Levied	County Auditor's Estimate of Yield of Levy (Carry to Schedule A, Column II)
EMS: Levy authorized by the voters on 11/4/25 for not to exceed five years.	1.50	2,231,232
EMS: Levy authorized by the voters on 11/05/24 for not to exceed five years.	0.50	672,836
EMS: Levy authorized by the voters on 11/03/21 for not to exceed five years.	1.00	1,145,273
EMS: Levy authorized by the voters on 11/07/23 for not to exceed five years.	1.50	1,888,998
Health: Levy authorized by the voters on 11/8/16 for not to exceed ten years.	0.50	357,884
Health: Levy authorized by the voters on 11/4/14 for not to exceed ten years.	0.30	373,754
Health: Levy authorized by the voters on 11/8/19 for not to exceed ten years.	0.40	498,390
Children Services: Levy authorized by the voters on 11/8/18 for not to exceed ten years.	2.50	3,114,637
Children Services: Levy authorized by the voters on 11/8/24 for not to exceed ten years.	3.00	2,958,432
TB Clinic: Levy authorized by the voters on 11/5/24 for not to exceed five years.	0.20	147,092
Beacon School: Levy authorized by the voters on 11/8/01 for not to exceed continuing.	1.80	1,575,349
Beacon School: Levy authorized by the voters on 11/07/17 for not to exceed eight years.	1.60	2,081,493
Beacon School: Levy authorized by the voters on 11/8/05 for not to exceed continuing.	2.85	2,810,510
Beacon School: Levy authorized by the voters on 11/04/14 for not to exceed continuing.	1.80	1,717,910
Senior Citizens: Levy authorized by the voters on 03/19/24 for not to exceed five years.	0.25	288,518
Senior Citizens: Levy authorized by the voters on 11/05/24 for not to exceed five years.	0.25	371,709
Senior Citizens: Levy authorized by the voters on 11/03/21 for not to exceed five years.	0.75	652,924
	20.40	22,868,799

and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of this Board be, and is hereby directed to certify a copy of this Resolution to the County Auditor of Athens County.

Mr. Chmiel moved the Resolution and the roll being called upon its adoption the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Edwards yeah
Mr. Adkins yeah
Mr. Chmiel yeah

Adopted this 14 *day of* Oct *2026.*

Sharon M. Powers
Clerk of the Bd of County Commissioners
Athens County, Ohio

ATHENS COUNTY BUDGET COMMISSION
MEMORANDUM

To: Athens County Taxing Authorities
From: Athens County Budget Commission
Date: October 7, 2026
Subject: Tax Year 2026 Resolution Accepting Amounts and Rates

The Athens County Budget Commission has approved the tax levies reflected on the enclosed **Resolution Accepting Amounts and Rates.** Due to the timing of the Tax Year 2026 reappraisal and recent legislative changes affecting property tax calculations, the estimated levy revenues shown on the enclosed resolution were calculated using **Tax Year 2025 taxable values and the current tax rates.**

Athens County's Tax Year 2026 abstract was only recently approved. Given the timing of that approval, statutory deadlines, and the additional calculations required to implement recent legislative changes, sufficient time has not been available to calculate the applicable inflationary adjustments and make the related rate adjustments before providing these resolutions to taxing authorities for approval. Accordingly, the amounts shown should be considered **conservative estimates for planning purposes.** Because the applicable statutory changes allow for some inflationary growth with the Tax Year 2026 reappraisal, updated revenue estimates may be higher once the required calculations are completed.

The Ohio Tax Commissioner has extended the deadline for taxing authorities to authorize their necessary tax levies and certify them to the County Auditor to **October 31, 2026.** Extension (R_25-07-0487 (3) Extension (E_26-07-0487 (3). Please approve the enclosed Resolution Accepting Amounts and Rates and return the signed resolution to the Athens County Auditor's Office by that date.

Once the information necessary to complete the Tax Year 2026 calculations is available, the Auditor's Office will calculate the applicable inflationary adjustments and make the required rate adjustments. An amended **Resolution Accepting Amounts and Rates** will be prepared, as necessary, and provided to each affected taxing authority reflecting the updated rates and estimated levy revenues.

For taxing authorities with a levy expiring this year: An expiring levy has not been included for the upcoming tax year merely because a renewal, replacement, or other levy question may appear on the November ballot. Because the levy has not yet been approved by the electors, it cannot be included at this time. Following the election and certification of the results, the Budget Commission will reconsider and revise its action as applicable, and an amended Resolution Accepting Amounts and Rates will be provided to reflect any levy approved by the voters.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we work through these changes. If you have questions regarding your resolution, please contact the Athens County Auditor's Office.

Sincerely,

Jill Davidson
Athens County Auditor
Secretary, Athens County Budget Commission

CERTIFICATE OF COPY
ORIGINAL ON FILE

The State of Ohio, Athens County, ss.

I, Sharon Powers, *Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners within and for said County, and in whose custody the Files and Records of said Board are required by the Laws of the State of Ohio to be kept, do hereby certify that the foregoing is taken and copied from the original:*

now on file, that the foregoing has been compared by me with said original document, and that the same is a true and correct copy thereof.

Witness my signature, this 14th *day of* October, *2026.*

Sharon M. Powers
Clerk of the Bd of County Commissioners
Athens County, Ohio

A copy of this Resolution was transmitted to the County Auditor Within Six But Not Exceed Ten Days of Duration in such form as at such time may be approved by the Board of Tax Appeals.

No. _____

Board of County Commissioners
Athens County, Ohio
RESOLUTION
ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR.
(Board of County Commissioners)

Adopted _____, 2026

_____
Clerk

Filed _____, 2026

Jill A. Davidson
Athens County Auditor

By _____
Deputy

Travel
A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to approve the following travel:
Sheriff: Crystal Allen; VOCA Training, Columbus OH; 09/22/2026
DJFS: Tami Collins; 2027 OHPELRA Annual Training Conf, Columbus OH; 02/03 - 02/05/2027
Auditor: Jill Davidson, Marsha Few, Brandi Coey, Katherine Smith, & Leah Allen; CCAO Winter Conf 2026, Lewis Center OH; 11/17 - 11/20/26

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

Executive Session - EMS Chief Position Interviews - Michael Francis II
A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to enter into executive session at 9:50 to discuss employment matters related to scheduled EMS Chief Position Interviews.

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

Regular Session - EMS
A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to return to regular session with EMS at 10:14 with No Action to be taken.

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

EMS Rehire Paramedic Ron McWilliams
A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to approve the EMS Rehire of Paramedic Ron McWilliams with a rate of pay $21.42/hr. and a start date of October 17, 2026.

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

EMS Working Suspension - Jonathan Walters
A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to approve the recommended 16-hour working suspension for Jonathan Walter as presented 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.

Executive Session - EMS
A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to enter into executive session at 10:16 to discuss employee discipline. Commissioner Adkins stepped out for the executive session.

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

Regular Session - EMS
A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to return to regular session with EMS at 10:28 with No Action to be taken.

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 - Supt Oscar Carson
1. Supt. Carson provided the operating and testing requirements associated with the proposed Canaanville and Guysville-Stewart Wastewater Treatment Plants. Commissioners discussed the additional operational responsibilities and costs associated with maintaining both facilities. Commissioner Eliason emphasized the importance of evaluating whether existing sewer rates would adequately cover the anticipated expenses. See document on back of page 355.

2. Supt. Carson discussed a request from Aaron Dixon, property owner at 13 Carroll Lane, to use his own equipment and personnel to complete a sanitary sewer connection for a proposed residential lot under County supervision. Supt. Carson reported that Mr. Dixon is an approved contractor and that the standard connection charge is actual cost plus 10%. Commissioners discussed concerns regarding liability, insurance, potential damage to County infrastructure, and the importance of applying consistent requirements to future requests. Commissioner Eliason indicated that the arrangement could be considered provided a written agreement prepared by the County Prosecutor's Office establishes the contractor's responsibilities, insurance requirements, and liability protections. Supt. Carson will coordinate preparation of the agreement and contact Mr. Dixon once the documentation is available. No formal action was taken.

Future Employees

Currently The Athens County Water & Sewer has 4 employees in the field and 2 employees in the billing office. 1 employee Owen Arix mainly works at the sewer plant, we do float him around if additional help is needed elsewhere but his main priorities are:

- Running daily process control
- Daily spin tests
- Alkalinity tests
- Ammonia tests
- Checking sludge blanket
- Cleaning U.V. channel on Mondays and Wednesdays
- Spraying down weirs on the tanks
- Maintaining the fine screen

The other 2 employees Travis Taylor and Jared Ornellas their job duties include:

- Checking and maintaining 24 lift stations on The Plains and Rt 50 Corridor
- Sewer connections
- Sewer taps
- Water leaks
- Meter reading
- Delinquents
- Water & Sewer locates
- Installing water taps
- Meter rechecks
- Work Orders

The billing office currently has 2 employees but with the addition of the Rt 50 Corridor and the start of the New Marshfield Sewer I believe another employee will need hired. The reason for this is when one employee is off it is very hard for the other employee to keep up, this should be enough employees in the office to handle the addition of New Marshfield and if we proceed with Canaanville & Guysville/Stewart sewer projects in the future. Furthermore I feel the Athens County Water & Sewer will need 1 additional field employee once New Marshfield is completed, this then should be adequate to run and maintain the Water and sewer throughout Athens County keeping in compliance with the E.P.A.

For this to work we need to look at raising water and sewer rates. After looking back we have always made a rate adjustment when the City of Athens would raise their rates but we have never made a rate adjustment for our costs that continue to rise each year. Here is a list of some planned maintenance that we are planning to do:

- Replace a number of Fire Hydrants on The Plains
- Replace some Valves within the water system
- Tank Painting
- Sewer Plant upgrade
- Lift stations repair

Equipment Upgrades

- New Crane Truck
- New Bobcat
- New Sludge Truck "this is going to be figured into the cost of the Guysville/Stewart Sewer"

The Athens County Water & Sewer does have the opportunity to make some additional income with installing a septage receiving station at our plant, which is figured into the Plant upgrade. Once the Plant upgrade is completed Chauncey showed interest in us receiving their sludge for a monthly fee so the opportunity is there to help make additional money, thank you

Oscar Carson

Canaanville Plant

Plant
Class A

Time Requirements
2 days per week

1 hour weekly

Testing Requirements
Flows & Turbidity daily

Samples are done quarterly

Reports
Monthly Reports

Yearly Sludge reports

Operator Requirements
Operator of Record will have to visit the plant 2 days per week for a total of 1 hour per week. A non-operator can visit the plant on the remaining days to do testing .

Collection System
This is a very small collection system but will still require 1 visit per day

Sludge Removal
Sludge will be monitored on a regular schedule and hauled to the Plains Sewer Plant for further processing. When sludge is removed then we will have to record the gallons removed and the date of removal.

Guysville/Stewart Sewer

Plant
Class 1 Sewer Plant

Time Requirements
3 days per week

1.5 hours per week

Testing Requirements
Daily testing Ph, D.O., Temperature, Flow

MASI samples collected on Tuesdays & Thursdays

Reports
Monthly EDMR report

Yearly Sludge Report

Operator Requirements
Operator of Record will have to visit the plant 3 days per week, a non- operator can visit the plant the other 2 days. The Operator of Record will oversee the day to day operations of the plant as well as submitting the monthly reports and yearly sludge reports.

Collection System
Daily visits to the collection system will be required and recorded into the collection system log, along with checking the stations on Mondays and Fridays.

Sludge Removal
Sludge will be monitored on a regular schedule and hauled to the Plains Sewer Plant for further processing. When sludge is removed then we will have to record the gallons removed and the date of removal.

W&S - Water Towers - Zach Walker
Zach Walker of USG Water Solutions presented inspection findings and recommended maintenance for the County's two water storage towers in The Plains. Mr. Walker reported deterioration of exterior coatings, corrosion, and several safety and sanitary deficiencies requiring attention. He recommended complete exterior blasting and recoating of the smaller tower during the second year of a proposed maintenance program. For the larger tower, he recommended exterior overcoating as soon as possible, preferably in 2027, to prevent further deterioration and potentially avoid $300,000 to $400,000 in additional rehabilitation costs. Both towers' wet interiors were reported to be in generally good condition, with interior cleaning and future maintenance recommended. Discussion included required safety improvements, pending lead-testing results, water quality, and storage capacity, which staff indicated was sufficient to meet current needs. Mr. Walker outlined a proposed 10-year asset management program that would spread rehabilitation costs over multiple years. He will return with preliminary cost estimates and a proposed maintenance schedule within approximately two to three weeks for the Board's consideration. No formal action was taken.

BDSR Program - Treasurer Sappington
A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to authorize submission of the proposed properties for the BDSR Program. See back of page 356 for listed properties.

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

Treasurer - Budget
Treasurer Taylor Sappington presented the 2027 Treasurer Budget.

Surplus - Coolville Property - Proposed Sale of County-Owned Land L020010011300
Commissioner Chmiel discussed the potential sale of County-owned property near the EMS facility in Coolville. Planner LaVelle presented concerns regarding an existing drainage ditch, unimproved roadway access, future maintenance responsibilities, and the County's ability to impose conditions on a prospective purchaser. Commissioners also discussed the sealed-bid process, property valuation, and establishing a minimum bid based on the County Auditor's valuation.

A motion was made by Mr. Adkins and seconded by Mr. Chmiel to table the matter for two (2) weeks.

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

Log Jam - Currier St. - Planner LaVelle
Planner LaVelle received an update on proposed logjam removal, railroad embankment erosion, and flood mitigation assistance. Draft bid specifications, developed with Andy Stone, would require an insured contractor to remove accumulated logs, debris, and solid waste, preferably accessing the site through the northern well field rather than the bicycle path. The project would require appropriate authorization from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Potential cost sharing between Athens County and the City of Athens was discussed, with contributions to be determined after bids are received. Draft specifications will be distributed to Commissioners for review before advertising for bids.
Commissioners also discussed erosion threatening the nearby railroad embankment and expressed concerns regarding potential derailment and environmental hazards. The railroad and Emergency Management personnel had been contacted, and Commissioners recommended notifying the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for further assistance.
The Board was also advised of a FEMA flood mitigation property buyout program administered through Ohio EMA, with an October 24 response deadline. A meeting with Tom Pyle was scheduled to review eligibility, although existing flood insurance requirements may limit participation by County residents.

Courthouse Parking - Candy Russell
Candy Russell discussed the towing of two Title Office employees' vehicles from the courthouse parking lot during an evening event. Commissioners clarified that the County's established policy prohibits after-hours towing and that the recent incidents resulted from an unauthorized change in enforcement practices. The Board declined to reimburse the towing charges, and Candy Russell agreed to pay them personally.

Title Office Dedicated Fund
Commissioner Adkins also discussed the Title Office's dedicated fund balance of approximately $449,000 and the possibility of a voluntary transfer of excess funds to the County General Fund. Commissioner Eliason reviewed restrictions on transferring dedicated funds and expressed concerns about using one-time revenues for recurring employee salary increases and associated benefit costs. No transfer or compensation changes were approved.

Building Demolition and Site Revitalization Program
Community Authorization

The Athens County Commissioners recognize the residential structure listed below as vacant, blighted, unsafe and substandard and recommends, with the owner's consent, that the Building Demolition and Site Revitalization Program demolish the structure at the expense of the Building Demolition and Site Revitalization Program for the safety and health of the Community.

Owner's Name: Athens County Land Reutilization Corp

Parcel Number: [redacted]

Address: [redacted]

City: Athens

Zip Code: 45701

Commissioner

Date: 10/14/25

Building Demolition and Site Revitalization Program
Community Authorization

The Athens County Commissioners recognize the residential structure listed below as vacant, blighted, unsafe and substandard and recommends, with the owner's consent, that the Building Demolition and Site Revitalization Program demolish the structure at the expense of the Building Demolition and Site Revitalization Program for the safety and health of the Community.

Owner's Name: Trinity Methodist Women Assn

Parcel Number: [redacted]

Address: [redacted]

City: Athens

Zip Code: 45701

Commissioner

Date: 10/14/25

Building Demolition and Site Revitalization Program
Community Authorization

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Owner's Name: Ohio Eye Pers LLC

Parcel Number: [redacted]

Address: [redacted]

City: Athens

Zip Code: 45701

Commissioner

Date: 10/14/25

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Community Authorization

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Owner's Name: Brian Sherry

Parcel Number: [redacted]

Address: [redacted]

City: Athens

Zip Code: 45701

Commissioner

Date: 10/14/25

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Owner's Name: Athens County Land Reutilization Corp

Parcel Number: [redacted]

Address: [redacted]

City: Athens

Zip Code: 45701

Commissioner

Date: 10/14/25

Building Demolition and Site Revitalization Program
Community Authorization

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Owner's Name: Gary Eliz Wall

Parcel Number: [redacted]

Address: [redacted]

City: Nelsonville

Zip Code: 45764

Commissioner

Date: 10/14/25

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Community Authorization

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Owner's Name: Teresa L Pyle (Foreign)

Parcel Number: [redacted]

Address: [redacted]

City: Nelsonville

Zip Code: 45764

Commissioner

Date: 10/14/25

Building Demolition and Site Revitalization Program
Community Authorization

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Owner's Name: Jim Stevens, Kim Sargent

Parcel Number: [redacted]

Address: [redacted]

City: Sidonville

Zip Code: 45701

Commissioner

Date: 10/14/25

Building Demolition and Site Revitalization Program
Community Authorization

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Owner's Name: Vinton Lions Samuel

Parcel Number: [redacted]

Address: [redacted]

City: Athens

Zip Code: 45701

Commissioner

Date: 10/14/25

Building Demolition and Site Revitalization Program
Community Authorization

The Athens County Commissioners recognize the residential structure listed below as vacant, blighted, unsafe and substandard and recommends, with the owner's consent, that the Building Demolition and Site Revitalization Program demolish the structure at the expense of the Building Demolition and Site Revitalization Program for the safety and health of the Community.

Owner's Name: Richard Bunger

Parcel Number: [redacted]

Address: [redacted]

City: Athens

Zip Code: 45701

Commissioner

Date: 10/14/25

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