


Present: President Robert E. Wirkner and Commissioner Jeffrey L. Ohler.

Absent: Vice President Lewis A. Mickley


Also present to observe: Peggie Conner, Court Administrator.

**IN THE MATTER OF
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

 9:20 AM


Commissioner Wirkner asked that everyone join in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**IN THE MATTER OF
BOARD MEETING ATTENDANCE**

 9:20 AM

Commissioner Wirkner questioned if everyone on the Board would be in attendance today. Commissioner Mickley was absent.


**IN THE MATTER OF
2020 BUDGET**

 9:20 AM

Commissioner Ohler advised that there will be adjustments because the insurance was paid yesterday but the adjustments should not affect how much the Board approves for the 2020 budget. When the adjustments are made for the non-general fund accounts, hopefully they have enough money in the non-general fund accounts to not be in the red or the budget will need to be adjusted down. Commissioner Ohler advised that the Commissioners budget reflects an increase of \$235,000.00 for computer imaging due to the Auditor's new software. Commissioner Wirkner asked about funding the internet upgrade. Commissioner Wirkner advised that the contract expires in August and we will need to upgrade from 50 megabits per second (Mbps) to 75 Mbps, possibly more. Commissioner Wirkner advised he will be drawing up the bid specs in the first quarter of 2020. Commissioner Ohler advised since the price is unknown at this point, we will take the funds from unappropriated. Commissioner Ohler advised that Commissioners Various Offices on page two has \$475,000.00 in transfer out line which includes monies for the bond payment, monies for the error on Medicare and insurance withholding which is about \$28,000.00. Commissioner Ohler advised that the amount set aside will cover two years of the reimbursement. Originally, the plan was to pay back over three years, but the County will pay back two-thirds of what is owed in 2020 and only have one-third left to pay back in 2021. \$25,000.00 was allocated to the landfill, \$54,000.00 to be paid to the County Home for their 25% of the oil and gas royalties received and \$250,000.00 for the anticipated expense to house prisoners in Tuscarawas County during the jail repairs project. Commissioner Ohler advised that they plan to save costs by utilizing video arraignment. Judge Willen is set up for video arraignment and will work with Judge Repella for any arraignments that he may need to do. Commissioner Ohler spoke with Byron Fairclough, Chief Probation Officer who advised that there is a grant for the ankle bracelets. Once we get closer to the start date of the project, Commissioner Ohler will speak to the Sheriff's office, judges and adult probation about utilizing the bracelets. Mr. Fairclough also advised Commissioner Ohler that Adult Probation may also be able to help with transportation. Commissioner Wirkner questioned the employee salaries line on page one. Commissioner Ohler advised that half of Christopher R. Modranski's salary is paid by Economic Development and that has been factored into the employee salaries line. Commissioner Wirkner advised that they need to keep an eye on other salaries lines as the increase will be more than 3% for elected officials due to the state mandated raise and cost of living increase. Commissioner Wirkner advised that he thinks the Commissioner's office may need to add as much as \$19,000.00. Commissioner Wirkner advised that the Board will need to find out exactly how much the increase will be. Commissioner Wirkner advised that he and Commissioner Mickley have not gotten an increase, but they will get an increase in 2021 if they are re-elected. Commissioner Wirkner advised that this needs to be kept in mind because the changes will be significant. Commissioner Ohler advised that he will talk to Stacy Taylor about this matter. Moving on to Grants on page three: Commissioner Ohler advised that Victims Assistance is in a negative position finishing out the year. There are three pays in 2018 - 2019 that were not submitted to the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant for reimbursement. Commissioner Ohler advised that he is waiting to hear if VOCA will reimburse or if the window has closed. If the money is received, the grant will be dropped from \$41,000.00 to \$21,000.00. Once that has been identified, the \$21,000.00 will be transferred out of the grant line and move the other \$20,000.00 back to unappropriated in the general fund unless they decide to use the money for something else. Regarding the Park District, Commissioner Ohler advised that the Board heard about the Park District's financial shortfalls on Monday, December 23, 2019. Commissioner Wirkner advised that \$36,000.00 was granted for 2019. Commissioner Ohler advised that he would be comfortable providing \$30,000.00 at this point and the Board can revisit the matter later in 2020. Commissioner Ohler advised that the Regional Planning Commissioner (RPC) grant was less because he is currently working less hours. Commissioner Ohler advised that budget is allowing for an additional 8 hours per week contingent on the RPC Board's approval of an increase in hours. If an increase is not approved, the excess will be moved to unappropriated. Regarding the Airport Authority grant, the Airport Authority wants the Board to pay the salary of a part time airport manager. Commissioner Ohler advised that Christopher R. Modranski was going to check and see what the cost would be. Commissioner Ohler advised leaving the grant amount as is and revisit the subject later in the year, if needed. Commissioner Ohler did not see any items to discuss in the Auditor and Treasurer budgets. Commissioner Wirkner advised that Common Pleas Court turned in a budget adjustment that is less than what was originally requested. Commissioner Wirkner advised that it was refreshing to see a budget amendment that was less than what was originally anticipated. Commissioner Ohler advised that in November there was money provided by Job and Family Services to Child Support Enforcement Agency (CSEA), which reduced the amount of money to come out of the grant to her. Some of that money went to the Prosecutor to hire an investigator. Commissioner Ohler advised that approximately \$38,000.00 was moved to the Prosecutor's salary line in anticipation of that person being hired before the end of the year. Commissioner Ohler advised that interviews have been done and he believes a person has been selected. The only issue is the money that wasn't used is now in general fund in a carryover position. Kate Offenberger anticipated providing money to the CSEA midyear in 2020. The agreement for the investigator is that DJFS will cover half of salary and the Prosecutor will cover the other half of salary. Commissioner Ohler is not sure how that will all pan out, but he believes that the Board may have to use monies in unappropriated because that is where the money is that was given to the Prosecutor. Then when Kate gives money to CSEA midyear, there will be enough that the Board can put the money back in unappropriated and it will be a wash. Commissioner Ohler advised that he will keep an eye on the situation, but he feels the only way it wouldn't work is if Kate is unable to provide funds in midyear to CSEA. Commissioner Wirkner asked if

the departments are aware that if the alternate funding falls through, the Board of Commissioners will not be responsible for the shortfall. Commissioner Ohler advised that it could end up on our expense line of future budgets, but he feels that the CSEA grant line could be reduced by the amount of the investigator's salary cost. Commissioner Ohler advised that he didn't want to raise the general fund budget by the cost of the investigator's salary. When Kate makes the contribution to CSEA, the Board will reduce the grant line by half of the investigator's salary. Commissioner Ohler advised that the investigator position cannot report to the Prosecutor, it reports to the Commissioners. Commissioner Wirkner asked if the investigator will be a certified police officer. Commissioner Ohler advised that it will be. Commissioner Wirkner advised that is why the investigator will need to report to the Commissioners. Commissioner Ohler advised that Probate Court, Juvenile Court and Clerk of Courts are fine. Commissioner Wirkner advised that the actual expenses for the Coroner were more than what was budgeted. Commissioner Ohler advised that the appropriation is the same, but he will talk to Stacy Taylor and see how the expenses were covered. Commissioner Ohler wondered if the extra cost was due to the young man that had to be sent to Cleveland. Commissioner Wirkner advised that further investigation needs to be done because there is nothing in the budget for toxicology, but the Coroner did in fact have toxicology costs. Commissioner Ohler advised that Municipal Court and Municipal Court Probation are fine. Regarding the Public Defender, Commissioner Wirkner advised that we are supposed to receive a 70% reimbursement for indigent defense and asked if we know the exact percentage of reimbursement that we will be receiving. Commissioner Ohler does not know how much has been allocated for the 2020 reimbursement, but if the reimbursement is higher than the usual 40%, there would be additional revenue for the county general fund. Commissioner Wirkner advised that the Board of Elections (BOE) turned in a request for additional funds in the last day or so. Commissioner Wirkner advised that the increase is due to the new director plus a deputy director being paid a full wage and the budgeted amount will not cover the expense. Regarding Apiary, Ronald M. Nuzzolillo, Jr., Assistant Clerk I advised that John Cooper, Apiary Inspector has asked for an additional \$1,000.00 for the budget. Mr. Cooper had advised that he sees a 10% increase in inspections coming up, just based on his sales. Commissioner Wirkner advised that the County has typically had trouble keeping an inspector. Commissioner Ohler recommended increasing travel to \$1,000.00 and it can be revisited later in the year if need be. Commissioner Ohler said that the Sheriff's Department is fine, and Sheriff Williams has advised that he will cover the cost of the tasers and cameras out of his budget. Commissioner Wirkner advised that the Dorothy Long Memorial has inflated the Sheriff's budget. Commissioner Ohler advised that there is no money left in the fund and the line needs to be deleted. Commissioner Wirkner advised that there is a line for a \$30,000.00 which inflates the final number. Commissioner Ohler advised that he will not appropriate the \$30,000.00 and the bottom line will be corrected when Stacy updates the changes. Commissioner Wirkner advised that part of Emergency Management Agency (EMA) wages, car, fuel and any supplies are covered by private companies when EMA is called out to an event such as a spill. Commissioner Wirkner advised that the reimbursement funds are put into general fund. Commissioner Ohler asked if overtime happens during these events as well. Commissioner Wirkner advised that yes there can be overtime which the County pays but the reimbursement is put into County General. Commissioner Wirkner advised that the State sets the reimbursement rate. Commissioner Wirkner advised that EMA budget is fine. Fire Department is not applicable anymore. Commissioner Wirkner recommended granting \$30,000.00 to the Agricultural Society and discuss later if further needs come up and the Board has money available. Child Welfare dropped by \$100,000.00. Commissioner Wirkner advised that Veteran Services is fine. Commissioner Ohler asked what the county grant is. Melissa N. Schaar, Assistant Clerk I checked with Stacy Taylor, Deputy Auditor and advised that it is the mandated share from the County to Job and Family Services. Commissioner Ohler advised that County Engineer and Soil and Water Conservation District are fine. Ohio State University (OSU) Extension request is down from 2019. Going back to the EMA discussion, Commissioner Wirkner advised that if EMA goes to an incident during the day and it is not overtime wages, the company is still billed. Commissioner Wirkner advised that he needs to get an understanding of how much is coming into the general fund for these reimbursements. Commissioner Ohler advised that his next step is to fill in numbers for the appropriations approval amounts. Commissioner Ohler advised that he is raising the Memorial Day Grant line to \$1,100.00. Commissioner Wirkner advised that Roger Barto is the Post Commander for the American Legion and Jim Newbold is the Post Commander for the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and they work together to make sure that the graves get decorated. Commissioner Wirkner advised that the Fox Township Trustees used to decorate the Fox Township graves, then it was passed to the Fox Township Fire Department and then the Fox Township Fire Department turned it over to the Veterans. Commissioner Ohler advised that Ms. Taylor told him the Fire Department had extra money and turned the funds back into the general fund. Peggie Conner, Court Administrator asked if the Targeted Community Alternatives to Prison (T-CAP) Grant funds have been included. Ms. Conner advised that Ms. Taylor just got the fund set up. Commissioner Wirkner advised that the T-CAP Grant pays for alternate placement instead of sending drug-related, non-violent offenders to prison. Ms. Conner advised the T-CAP Grant account is T239. Commissioner Ohler advised that falls under non-general fund. Ms. Conner advised that the T-CAP funds helps reduce operating costs. Commissioner Wirkner advised that this is a savings for the Sheriff's Department, Common Pleas and Probation Department. Commissioner Ohler confirmed that this is the grant for the ankle bracelets that Mr. Fairclough had discussed. Commissioner Wirkner advised that it is. Going back to the Memorial Day Grant discussion, Commissioner Wirkner advised that since the Fire Department gave the grave decorating money back to the general fund, the funds are there to give to the VFW and the American Legion to decorate the graves. Commissioner Ohler advised that the VFW and American Legion receives money from Veteran's Services. Commissioner Wirkner advised that they do receive money from Veteran's Services for transportation and services of that nature. The VFW and American Legion pass the hat to decorate the graves. Commissioner Wirkner advised that Veteran's Services had \$5,000.00 for grave markers and they spent \$4,100.00. Commissioner Wirkner advised that they have always been good about turning in the unused money.

**IN THE MATTER OF
ADJOURN**

 10:48 AM

Motion: to adjourn, **Action:** Vote was recorded as follows: YEA: President Robert E. Wirkner and Commissioner Jeffrey L. Ohler; NEY: None; ABSENT: Vice President Lewis A. Mickley; ABSTAIN: None, **Moved by** Commissioner Jeffrey L. Ohler, **Seconded by** President Robert E. Wirkner.

Motion carried on unanimous vote.

PREPARED BY:

/s/ Melissa N. Schaar
Melissa N. Schaar, Assistant Clerk I

We hereby certify the foregoing to be true and correct.

/s/ Christopher R. Modranski
Christopher R. Modranski, Clerk Supervisor
/s/ Robert E. Wirkner
Robert E. Wirkner, President

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CARROLL COUNTY

/s/ Robert E. Wirkner
Robert E. Wirkner, President
Absent
Lewis A. Mickley, Vice President
/s/ Jeffrey L. Ohler
Jeffrey L. Ohler, Commissioner