

February 7, 2022

Agenda

Lord's Prayer
Pledge of Allegiance

9:15 a.m. Dog Pound Personnel Accomplishments

Suspend Minutes

Approve Before/After Expenditures

Approve Supplemental Appropriation (1)

Approve Appointment – Public Defender Commission – Darrow

Authorize OMEGA RTPO Capital Allocation Program Application- Engineer

Pay Bills

Other Business

Adjourn

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF TUSCARAWAS COUNTY MET IN REGULAR SESSION, MONDAY, THE 7th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2022 WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chris Abbuhl
Kerry Metzger
Al Landis

Commissioner Chris Abbuhl Presiding.

The Lord's Prayer was said.
The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

RESOLUTION (107-2022) SUSPEND THE READING OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Metzger, seconded by Commissioner Landis, to suspend the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting.

VOTE: Chris Abbuhl, yes;
Kerry Metzger, yes;
Al Landis, yes;

RESOLUTION (108-2022) BEFORE/AFTER EXPENDITURES

It was moved by Commissioner Landis, seconded by Commissioner Metzger, to approve the following before/after expenditures:

VENDOR	OFFICE	AMOUNT
AEP	Water & Sewer	\$880.06
Tuscarawas Utilities	Water & Sewer	\$1,688.27

VOTE: Chris Abbuhl, yes;
Kerry Metzger, yes;
Al Landis, yes;

RESOLUTION (109-2022) SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS

It was moved by Commissioner Metzger, seconded by Commissioner Landis, to approve the following supplemental appropriations:

DEPARTMENT	FROM	TO	AMOUNT	REASON
Auditor's Office	Y018-Y05	Y018-000	\$50,000.00	To provide for general claims of unclaimed monies
Auditor's Office	Y018-Y05	Y018-Y02	\$14,000.00	To provide for transfer of unclaimed funds held in excess of five years to County General Fund per ORC 9.39
Auditor's Office	Y018-Y05	Y018-Y21	\$36,000.00	To provide for transfer of unclaimed funds from foreclosures held in excess of three years to DETAC Funds per ORC 5721.20
Auditor's Office	Y018-Y05	Y018-Y22	\$300,000.00	To provide for payment of excess funds from foreclosures to property owners

VOTE: Chris Abbuhl, yes;
Kerry Metzger, yes;
Al Landis, yes;

RESOLUTION (110-2022) PUBLIC DEFENDER COMMISSION - DARROW

It was moved by Commissioner Metzger, seconded by Commissioner Landis, to appoint Atty Laura Darrow to the Public Defender Commission for a four-year term, effective February 5, 2022 and terminating February 5, 2026. This vacancy is due to Greg Dorris' desire to not be reappointed.

Discussion: Commissioner Landis wanted to thank Attorney Laura Darrow for stepping forward and volunteering to serve on the Public Defender Commission Board. Commissioner Abbuhl thank Greg Dorris for his service on the Public Defender Commission Board.

VOTE: Chris Abbuhl, yes;
Kerry Metzger, yes;
Al Landis, yes;

Discussion: Joe Bachman, County Engineer was present and stated this is a new program by the Ohio Mid-Eastern Government Association (OMEGA). This program has grants for up to \$250,000. The Tuscarawas County Engineer's Office has applied for the maximum amount.

Commissioner Abbuhl stated there is a lot of opportunities to apply for grants. Most of the department heads and elected officials have been very aggressive in applying for these grants to be able to help alleviate some of the costs.

RESOLUTION (111-2022) AUTHORIZE - APPLY FOR THE OHIO MID-EASTERN GOVERNMENTS ASSOCIATION (OMEGA) REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (RTPO) CAPITAL ALLOCATION PROGRAM.

It was moved by Commissioner Landis, seconded by Commissioner Metzger, to authorize Joe Bachman, Tuscarawas County Engineer to apply for the Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association (OMEGA) Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) Capital Allocation Program.

WHEREAS, House Bill 74 of the 134th Ohio General Assembly created the Regional Transportation Planning Grant Program;

WHEREAS, OMEGA will receive an allocation of Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funding for state fiscal years 2022 and 2023 for this program;

WHEREAS, Local Public Agencies (LPA) are eligible to apply to OMEGA for funding through OMEGA RTPO Capital Allocation Program;

WHEREAS, THE Bridge Replacement #TUS-CR 62-00.70 Design Phase, hereinafter referred to as the Project, is a transportation activity eligible to receive this federal funding;

WHEREAS, the LPA is requesting a grant from the OMEGA RTPO Capital Allocation Program in the amount of up to \$250,000 for said Project;

WHEREAS, the LPA has matching funds in the amount of \$265,790 from other grants, loans, and/or local funds for said project.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Tuscarawas County, State of Ohio, that:

Section 1: Tuscarawas County Engineer Joe Bachman is hereby authorized to apply to the OMEGA RTPO Capital Allocation Program for funds as described above.

Section 2: Tuscarawas County Engineer Joe Bachman of Tuscarawas County is authorized to enter into any agreements as may be necessary and appropriate for obtaining this financial assistance.

VOTE: Chris Abbuhl, yes;
Kerry Metzger, yes;
Al Landis, yes;

RESOLUTION (112-2022)

PAY BILLS

It was moved by Commissioner Metzger, seconded by Commissioner Landis, to approve payment for the following bills:

Meeting Date 02/07/2022

Auditor			
Treasurer State of OH	LGS Audit	\$649.90	
			\$649.90
Clerk of Courts			
Graphic Enterprises	Service	\$373.50	
Graphic Enterprises	Service	\$370.22	
First Federal	Service	\$45.82	
			\$789.54
Commissioners			
Brandywine Valley Development	Royalty Sharing	\$166.25	
Sherwin Williams	Supplies	\$117.51	
The Distillata Co	Supplies	\$176.00	
Blasenhauer Plumbing	Repairs	\$171.00	
Menards	Supplies	\$16.55	
Dominion Energy	Service	\$1,830.60	
Go Shred	Shredding Services	\$165.00	
PERC	Property & Liability Insurance	\$21,862.00	
			\$24,504.91
Common Pleas			
Cathy Ditto	Reimb/Notary Renewal	\$92.00	
			\$92.00
Coroner			
Smith Ambulance	Body Removal	\$2,214.00	
Axis Forensic Toxicology	Tox Screens	\$2,450.00	
Catherine Clarke	Travel	\$187.51	
Todd Stanley	Travel	\$43.45	
Cleveland Clinic Union Hospital	Testing	\$25.80	
Smith Livery Service	Body Removals	\$1,284.00	
			\$6,204.76
Law Library			
Independence Business Supply	Supplies	\$55.09	
Best Copier Technologies	Service Agreement	\$222.97	

Dan Loibl	Date Stamp	\$39.00	
Prosecutor			\$317.06
OH Victim Witness Association	Annual Membership	\$100.00	
Recorder			\$100.00
OH Recorder's Association	Membership	\$2,527.08	
Veterans			\$2,527.08
Verizon Wireless	Service	\$88.87	
			\$88.87
	GRAND TOTAL		\$35,274.12

VOTE: Chris Abbuhl, yes;
Kerry Metzger, yes;
Al Landis, yes;

OTHER BUSINESS:

Commissioner Abbuhl read the following announcement:

I would like to take a moment to thank everyone for their patience and understanding as we navigated through a very severe weather event. The Board of Commissioners were informed by the Tuscarawas County Emergency Management Director, Alex McCarthy of the severe weather conditions at 3:44 p.m. on Wednesday, February 2nd. Mr. McCarthy stated the National Weather Service has placed Tuscarawas County under a Winter Storm Warning from Thursday at 1:00 a.m. until Friday at 10:00 a.m. These conditions include freezing rain and heavy snow.

Out of the abundance of caution and after contacting the offices, we closed the county buildings for Thursday, the 3rd day of February, 2022. We re-evaluated the weather conditions on Thursday afternoon for Friday, the 4th day of February, 2022 with Mr. McCarthy and upon his recommendation, we closed the offices for Friday, the 4th day of February, 2022.

These decisions must be made in a timely manner and these are not decisions made lightly. We realize this may have caused some inconvenience but strive to ensure the safety of, not only our employees, but for our constituents as well.

Thank you to the news media for informing the public that the offices were closed as that is an immense help so they do not try to traverse the roads. Thank you also, to the many, many workers that spent countless hours treating the roads to make them as safe as possible. I also want to mention the many health care workers that provided 24 care for those in need.

Discussion: *Ken Griffith, Tuscarawas County Dog Warden, Hayden Keffer, Tuscarawas County Assistant Dog Warden, Beth Lewis, Facility and Adoption Specialist and Crystal DiGenova, Tuscarawas County Dog Pound Manager, were present for today's meeting. The Commissioner's wanted to recognize the accomplishments of the employees of the dog pound.*

Crystal DiGenova, Dog Pound Manager, pulled the history of the dog pound over the last 5-years for the number of dogs that have been adopted, redeemed and rescued. During the last five years; 432 dogs have been adopted, 1,183 dogs were owner redeemed, and 1,528 dogs have been released to rescue facilities. This is 3,143 dogs that have been adopted, redeemed or sent to rescue facilities. That averages out to about 629 dogs a year that have been saved. To achieve these kinds of numbers, the dog pound employees have gone above and beyond. Sometimes these dogs come in with no collars, no tags or they are not chipped and it is very hard to track down the owner. This is a big passion of Ms. Lewis'. Mrs. DiGenova has been an advocate for the dog pound as well. There have been tremendous improvements made to the dog pound, and there are some other projects being worked on for the future.

Commissioner Landis stated the employees at the dog pound do not have an easy job. Mr. Landis mentioned he would have a very difficult time doing the dog pound employee's job, and to do it in such a professional, courteous and humane manner that they do, speaks volumes for the team. The numbers that Commissioner Abbuhl read are just amazing. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for everything you do.

Commissioner Metzger wants to thank everyone at the dog pound for all of the work they do. Mr. Metzger is impressed in the change of attitude towards the animals in respect that when he first started, there was a lot of euthanization going on at the dog pound. These numbers represent a whole culture change towards the animals. Mr. Metzger really appreciates all of the work being done at the dog pound and getting the dogs adopted or redeemed instead of euthanizing them.

Commissioner Abbuhl turned the meeting over to the employees of the dog pound to add anything they wanted to talk about. Beth Lewis, Facility and Adoption Specialist, stated the dog pound employees try very hard to work with the rescue community. Ms. Lewis stated she could not do her job without the support of Mr. Griffith and Mr. Keffer, they all look to each other for help and advise on how to do their jobs even better. They do their best to make the right decision for every dog that comes through the door. Each dog is a case by case decision. They try to save any and all dogs. If an owner would like their dog to be euthanized, the owner must sign the dog over to the dog pound and the dog pound employees then evaluate the dog and will do everything they can to save that dog. Tuscarawas Dog Pound is one of the few pounds that still take in owner surrender dogs. Most dog pounds only take in stray dogs. Public safety has to be number one. The dog pound will not adopt out a dog that they would not feel safe living next door too. There are just some dogs that will never be able to live safely among us. For some of the dogs that end up at the dog pound, this is the best life they have ever had! The dogs are very spoiled at the dog pound.

Crystal DiGenova, Dog Pound Manager, talked about the improvements at the dog pound and what is to come in the future. During the last few years, the interior kennels have been renovated, the interior of the dog pound has been painted, a storage shed has been added. The dog pound received a donation from a local gentleman who passed and this is going to be used to add outside kennel runs for the dogs.

Ms. Lewis stated that moving forward, she would like to get a spay/neuter program implemented if at all possible. It is unclear if any of the vets could even help with this type of program. More dogs would be able to be adopted out locally. Unaltered dogs usually have to go to rescues because adopting out an unaltered pet is just not very responsible. The dog pound does get to send a few dogs to Kent State during the fall semester when the students are doing their surgery semester.


Thank you for all you do and keep up the amazing work being done.

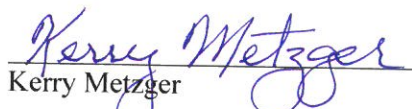
RESOLUTION (113-2022) ADJOURN


It was moved by Commissioner Metzger, seconded by Commissioner Landis, to adjourn at 9:33 a.m. to meet in Regular session Wednesday, the 9th day of February, 2022

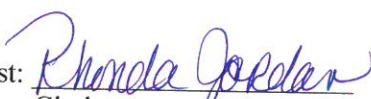
VOTE: Chris Abbuhl, yes;
Kerry Metzger, yes;
Al Landis, yes;

We hereby certify the above and foregoing to be a true and correct account of the proceedings as had by and before us on the day and year first written above.


Chris Abbuhl


Kerry Metzger


Al Landis

Attest: 
Clerk