Ohio County Commission
August 6, 2024

The Ohio County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, August 6, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by President Donald A. Nickerson. The Pledge of Alliance was recited.

The minutes from the July 23, 2024, meeting were reviewed. Motion to approve the minutes made by Mr. Abraham, seconded by Mr. Wharton. Motion carried.

Community Grants:

- The Bluesfest has requested $3,000.00 in funding for their annual event. The proper information was provided. Motion to approve $3,000.00 made by Mr. Abraham, seconded by Mr. Wharton. Motion carried.
- Party on the Plaza – The Party on the Plaza has requested $500.00 for their annual event. Motion to approve $500.00 made by Mr. Abraham, seconded by Mr. Wharton. Motion carried.

Old Business:

- Barnes et al v. Ohio County Commission, Case #24-C-51 – This item will be moved to the end of the meeting.
- Wheeling-Ohio County Airport Partnership with Marshall and West Liberty Universities – The FAA visited the facility and provided full approval for the schools to start classes in late August.
- Sheriff's Department in Car Camera System – The system must be placed out to bid. The Commissioners have agreed to look at a bundled system since the current system is reaching its end of life.

New Business:

- Elections:
    - Action Items – Emergency Voting Policy for General Election – Policy approved by Mr. Abraham, seconded by Mr. Wharton. Motion carried.
    - Early Voting Location for General Elections – Early voting will be held at the City-County Building in the first floor courtroom from October 23 to November 2, 2024. Motion to approve the location made by Mr. Abraham, seconded by Mr. Wharton. Motion carried.
    - Notice of Number of Election Officials – Motion to approve made by Mr. Abraham, seconded by Mr. Wharton. Motion carried.
- Ohio County Animal Shelter 2024 Rabies Vaccination Clinics – Over the course of the clinics, 305 vaccinations were provided to Ohio County animals.
- Wheeling-Ohio County Airport Tractor Bids – The County Commission received three bids for the tractor with the lowest coming from Lashley Tractor Sales in St. Clairsville, Ohio. Motion to approve the bid made by Mr. Abraham, seconded by Mr. Wharton. Motion carried. This purchase will require a budget revision.

- Ohio County Sheriff's Office Equipment Bids – Tahoe Build Out – This build out will be for the four new patrol vehicles scheduled to arrive in October. Statewide, located in Van Wert, Ohio and Bearcom, in Wheeling, WV bid on the project. Although Statewide was the lower bid, by $5,533.00, shipping vehicles would cost $2,419.00. Radios, cameras, and radars would need shipped to their location in Van Wert, Ohio. If the office were to have an issue with the equipment, it would also be a four-hour drive to get to Statewide's headquarters. Motion to approve the bid from Bearcom made by Mr. Abraham, seconded by Mr. Wharton. Motion carried.
- Sheriff's Settlement Transfer Approval – According to West Virginia Code 11-A-1-17, a Tax Office that collects 85% in taxes will receive the funds. Motion to approve the funds made by Mr. Abraham, seconded by Mr. Wharton. Motion carried.
- Addressing – A tiny home and a pole barn has been erected on an unnamed road. The resident would like to call the road Glory Lane. Motion to approve the road name made by Mr. Abraham, seconded by Mr. Wharton. Motion carried.

Staff / Elected Official Reports:

- Administrator Report – Mr. Russell reported he will be attending the State Auditor's training in Canaan Valley next week.
- Facilities – Ms. Marco reported the work on the South Porch is progressing well. All of the stone has been removed. The Ohio County Animal Shelter reopened on Sunday. An isolation room has been measured and will start in the next two weeks. New paperwork has been created and the staff will be trained on the new surrender / intake process as well as the adoption process. The HVAC project is progressing, although we are waiting on the bus duct to arrive in October to officially begin moving offices. Commissioning was completed on the structural steel, the second-floor roof, the masonry and the windows. The Airshow at the Wheeling-Ohio County Airport will be held on August 24, 2024. Mr. Abraham has agreed to offer opening remarks. The scheduled power outage went well – we were only down for five hours. Cabela's will be holding a 20th anniversary celebration on August 10, 2024.
- Emergency Services – Mr. Vargo was on vacation.
- Sheriff's Office – Sheriff Howard was unable to attend the meeting.

Finance:

- Mrs. Coyne reported the bills are up to date. Motion to approve the bills made by Mr. Abraham, seconded by Mr. Wharton. Motion carried.
- Unpaid invoices – Some of the invoices were awaiting grant funding. No further action is required.
- Exonerations – Mr. Abraham made a motion to approve the exonerations, seconded by Mr. Wharton. Motion carried.

On a motion made by Mr. Abraham, seconded by Mr. Wharton, the Commission entered Executive Session according to West Virginia State Code §6-9A-4 at 7:15 p.m.

On a motion made by Mr. Abraham, seconded by Mr. Wharton, the Commission exited Executive Session and came back on the record at 8:00 p.m.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Donald A. Nickerson, President

Randel A. Russell, Administrator

*Executive Session for personnel matters or property transactions: West Virginia State Code §6-9A-4