OHIO COUNT COMMISSION
03-08-2022

The Ohio County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Wheeling Legion Post 1 presented the Commission with a new American Flag and Flagpole. Keith Brown was the presenter.

Commissioner Nickerson made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2022, Commission meeting. Second by Commissioner Zach Abraham. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Grants

Administrator Russell reported that the Commissioners have before them a copy of the Stop violence Against Women grant application. The Commission has administered this grant for twenty-three years. The request is for $71,967.00 with a match of $17,333.00 for a total of $89,300.00. Last year the Sheriff received $25,332.00, with a match of $8,444,00, the Prosecuting Attorney received $18,505.00 with a match of $6,169.00, and the Sexual Assault Help Center received $20,671 for a total of $79,121.00. Commissioner Abraham made a motion to approve the SVAW grant application. Second by Commissioner Nickerson. Motion carried with all voting in person.

Hotel Tax Requests

Administrator Russell reported there is a request for the 2022 Ohio County Country Fair that will be held on October 7, 8 & 9th, 2022. The request is for $20,000.00. Commissioner Abraham made a motion to approve $20,000.00 for the Ohio County Country Fair. Second by Commissioner Nickerson. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Community Grants

Administrator Russell reported that the next request is for the 6th Annual Dragon Boat Race that will be held at the Heritage Port on August 27, 2022. The Commission has supported this event for a few years. Commissioner Abraham made a motion to approve $1,000.00 for the King's Daughters Dragon Boat Race. Second by Commissioner Nickerson. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Administrator Russell reported that the next request is for the 83rd Annual Boys State program at Jackson's Mill in June. The Commissioners decided to table this until more information is requested and obtained.

Administrator Russell reported that the last request for this meeting is from Harmony House for their Spring Fling. Harmony House has not had an in-person Spring Fling for the past two years. Commissioner Abraham made a motion to approve $500.00 for the Spring Fling on April 23, 2022. Second by Commissioner Nickerson. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

Administrator Russell reported that there is nothing under old business tonight.

NEW BUSINESS

No Zoning Letter-T Mobile Tower

Administrator Russell reported that there is a request from SBA Communications asking for a no zoning letter for a tower located at 25 High Point Lane. They are looking to add to the existing tower. They are not building any additional buildings. Finance Director Archey asked to have John Powell make sure that they do not owe any delinquent fire fees on the tower and then the letter could be sent. Commissioner Abraham made a motion to approve the no zoning letter once it has been checked to see if any fire fees are owed. Second by Commissioner Nickerson. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Wheeling Creek Watershed-Operation, Maintenance Funding Agreement

Administrator Russell reported that a few weeks back we had signed the Wheeling Creek Watershed Operation, Maintenance Funding Agreement. He just wanted to make sure it was on record that the Commission had approved this. Commissioner Abraham made a motion to approve the Wheeling Creek Watershed Commission Operation, Maintenance Funding Agreement. Second by Commissioner Nickerson. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Appalachian Midstream Right of Way Request

Administrator Russell reported that he has four right of way requests from Appalachian Midstream. President Wharton stated that we will go into executive session at the end of the meeting to discuss the issue.

Wheeling Creek Watershed Commission Appointment

Administrator Russell reported that Commissioner Nickerson is resigning from the Wheeling Creek Watershed Commission, and he has spoken with John G. Schmitt who is interested in filling that position on the board. Don Nickerson made a motion to appoint Mr. Schmitt to the Wheeling Creek Watershed Commission. Second by Commissioner Abraham. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Courthouse-HVAC Project Temporary Chiller

Administrator Russell reported that next he has the PO for the Courthouse HVAC Project Temporary Chiller for the upcoming summer months. Commissioner Abraham reported that he feels that Administrator Russell should speak with City Manager Bob Herron to possibly share the cost of this equipment.

EMS-Crew Quarters Donation

Administrator Russell reported on the EMS Crew Quarters Donation.

The Wetzel County Commission received a single wide trailer from AIRVAC. The Wetzel County Commission has no use for it, so they asked if Ohio County EMS wanted it for their crew quarters to be placed next to the Ohio County Development Authority offices up at the Highlands.

Wheeling Ohio County Health Department Contract

Administrator Russell reported that the Commission has a copy of the Wheeling Ohio County Health Department contract to look over. Commissioner Abraham made a motion to approve the contract. Second by Commissioner Nickerson. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

STAFF/ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORTS

Administrator Russell reported that he has the ARPA Community Input Committee put together and will schedule a meeting for the week of March 14-18.

Administrator Russell reported on the projects that are ongoing in the Courthouse. First is the HVAC project, and Stone Column Repair on the porch of the Courthouse. Next is the Courthouse Annex. He is

still waiting on the parts for the Elevator which needs to be repaired and he is getting quotes on some plumbing repairs in the building. He next reported that at the Animal Shelter they are working with Garland for the roof repair. He stated that at the Airport there are two runway projects coming up and a tower rehab project, and some Airport Development opportunities. He gave a list to the Commissioners with some Ohio County Development Authority projects to look over also. He reported on the pipeline rights of way and finally the Public Service District projects which include three water storage tank rehabs, a Vacuum System upgrade, and some grant funding opportunities.
Emergency Management Director Vargo reported on COVID-19. He reported that there were less than fifty cases reported in the last two weeks. Assistant Emergency Management Director Tony Campbell gave a report on the EMS calls for February. Ohio County EMS responded to one hundred twenty-two calls, with twenty-eight going to local hospitals. The County squads transported thirty-seven patients to local hospitals and the Ohio County EMS provided paramedic assist thirteen times. He stated that the EMS has increased responses 10% during the day, 26% at night compared to last year and 40% more than since inception.

FINANCE DIVISION-BILLS
Finance Director Archey reported that the Commissioners have a copy of all bills as they are up to date. Commissioner Abraham made a motion to approve to pay the bills. Second by Commissioner Nickerson. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

ASSESSOR-EXONERATIONS
Finance Director Archey reported that there are sixteen exonerations before the Commissioners tonight. All are recommended by the Assessor, and all are credits. Commissioner Abraham made a motion to approve the exonerations. Second by Commissioner Nickerson. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

ELECTION-Election calendar
Finance Director Archey reported that before the Commission is an election calendar which is up to date.

President Wharton asked to go into executive session under WV Code 6-9A-4(9) to discuss the rights of way requests from Appalachian Midstream. Commissioner Nickerson made a motion to go into executive session. Second by Commissioner Abraham. Motion carried with all voting in favor. Commissioner Nickerson made a motion to go back into regular session of the commission meeting. Second by Commissioner Abraham. Motion carried with all voting in favor. Don Nickerson made a motion to approve the rights of way offers from Appalachian Midstream. Second by President Wharton. Commissioner Abraham recused himself. Motion carried with all voting in favor

COMMISSION BOARD REPORTS
Nothing from the board.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS
Nothing from the board.

President Wharton reported that the next meetings will be as follows. Tuesday, March 22, 2022, and Tuesday, April 5, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

President, Randy Wharton

Administrator, Randel Russell