

**Minutes, Thursday July 22, 2021**

Mr. Lammers moved the adoption of the following Resolution:  
that to provide for the unanticipated revenues for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2021, the following sums be and the same are hereby appropriated for the purpose for which expenditures are to be made during the fiscal year as follows:

Fund 001 County General

15 A 15A, Advances Out....\$ 100,000.00

and also

BE IT RESOLVED, That per the request of The Board of County Commissioners for the purpose of the Airport Construction Grant Fund the following advance of funds is authorized by the Board of County Commissioners:

<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
15 A 15A, Advances Out	57AI, Advance In	\$ 68,000.00

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Schlumbohm yes      Mr. Schroeder yes      Mr. Lammers yes  
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Mr. Lammers moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of County Commissioners of Putnam County, Ohio, that the following appropriation modification be made for the year ending December 31, 2021.

For Office of Public Safety

From....120 CA, Cost Allocation ...to....120 EQ2, HR Equip.....\$ 1,000.00

Mr. Schlumbohm seconded the motion

Vote: Mr. Schlumbohm yes      Mr. Schroeder yes      Mr. Lammers yes  
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**Now and Then Purchase orders**

**Muni Court.....Purchase order 42973**

Mr. Schlumbohm moved to approve the then and now purchase orders.  
Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Schlumbohm yes                      Mr. Schroeder yes                      Mr. Lammers yes  
Exceptions: Mr. Schlumbohm                      Mr. Schroeder                      Mr. Lammers  
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### **Purchase orders and travel requests**

**Recorder.....**Travel request for Lori Rayle and Sherri Britsch to view software program at Van Wert County Recorder on July 26, 2021 no expenses listed. Travel request to attend the ORA Fall CE in Columbus, OH on Sept 15-16, 2021 with expenses for lodging, meals and misc totaling \$ 229.00.

**Veteran Service Commission.....**Travel request for Bob Kroeger to attend the OSACVSO Fall Conference in Columbus, OH Sept 15-17, 2021with expenses for mileage, lodging, meals. Registration and parking for \$ 786.60.

**Children Services.....**Purchase order to Putnam Co Board of Developmental Disabilities for \$ 10,000.00.

Mr. Lammers moved to approve the purchase orders and travel requests.

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Schlumbohm yes                      Mr. Schroeder yes                      Mr. Lammers yes  
Exceptions: Mr. Schlumbohm none                      Mr. Schroeder none                      Mr. Lammers none  
Mr. Lammers called the meeting to order with Mr. Schroeder, and Mr. Schlumbohm by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Tim Schnipke met with Commissioners Schroeder, Schlumbohm and Lammers to present quotes for parking lots,

Parking lots -Morelock Paving for paving & sealcoating at Sheriff \$ 8,000 & O-G \$7,660. Tim Ruhe is more. He is adding the courthouse and EMS lots. The lot at the records building may be added also. The Engineer may chip and seal the records building. Morelock will do all the lots for \$ 25,000.00. The lot at the records building needs to be cleaned before it can the sealed. A pressure washer will be used by maintenance to clean it prior to sealing.

Roofs-Records building needs a new roof it is 20 years old on a 15-year roof. \$76,000. Health Dept roof could be done in 3 years but in worst shape due to being flat and water pooling. The finishing going over to the masonry was explained. \$57,000-64,000. Roof over OSU Extension and offices is standing seam with the seams every 30 feet and with leaks at every seam. The insulation would need to be replaced. 38,000 square feet for \$240,000 for this year or \$265,000 for next year. These prices are through the TIPS program.

The Commissioners are in agreement that all this work needs to be done.

Health Dept A/C roof top unit-Knueve & Son \$16,334 Wagner P & H and Schroeder have not submitted prices yet.

Courthouse Chiller- The current chiller is from 1997, a new one is \$114,000. The wall units inside the building are from the late 1980's. One unit does heat and a/c with actuated valves which they want to get rid of. Replacement parts are not easily available. The plumbing and electric service will need to be figured for new units. Tim showed the units and the process how they work by viewing the unit in the Commissioners office. The prices for the new units are not available yet. The cabinet style are the best options with our system. It is estimated to be \$350,000 for the whole system chiller and units.

Jail Chiller-\$158,500 new, is it 20 years old. Tim would like to get the 5-year warranties that go with the equipment.

The generators were discussed the Health department got new controls a few years ago. The Sheriff office will need a new generator.

Jail Air Handler-it is a roof top unit. Tim had to modify it so snow did not get sucked in. All the controls are wired separately. This unit controls the dehumidification in the building also. The exhaust hood in the kitchen will stay but would be a whole new roof top unit. All-Temp would be the supplier.

These expenses would come out of Capital Improvements totaling approx. \$1.3 million.

Cameras and intercoms will also be needed for the jail. No quotes have been received yet.

The Commissioners are in favor to do all the improvements and to get it done with these prices before they go up again.

Dawn Coleman and Patrick Loper of Bowser-Morner met with Commissioners Schroeder, Schlumbohm and Lammers and Tim Schnipke via Zoom to discuss landfill permits. The renewal of the NPDES permit is in question. What are the long-term plans for the landfill? The Commissioners do not know what their options are. A wildlife habitat is an obvious choice. The term would be 30 years which would make it 2032. The option of turning it in to a commercial property and expanding the golf course was questioned. An approval from EPA would be needed to conserve the integrity to the cap. The leachate would have to be pumped. The habitat is the best options at this point the leachate cannot be use to irrigate the habitat. A wet lands could be put in to process the leachate rather than pumping. A wet lands would be more expensive to install than the \$20,000 that is paid annually to process the leachate. The longer the water is in contact with vegetation the cleaner it will become. A dike system was proposed. The surface water from the cap can be diverted. It could be a research project for a local university for researching the treating of leachate. The Commissioners did try to go that route a couple years ago and the EPA was not in favor of it. A soil liner would not be needed due to the clay soil that is there. A chance to prove to the EPA that this would work is needed. If a large 3-4 inch rain comes the runoff would need to be diverted. If only pumping in Jan, Feb and Mar that would cut down in the storage area needed. There are no other leachate storage projects within Ohio. They would like to show the EPA that there would not be leachate discharge for the wetlands. What would be the odds of discussing this with the EPA again? Mr. Loper said it would be worth asking the EPA again. The Commissioners will share the contact info for Bockrath & Assoc so Bowser-Morner can see how far Bockrath have gotten on their research. The Commissioners would like to be released of the post care of the landfill by the EPA by the 10 years when the 30 years are up. The Commissioners will need to keep mowing and maintaining and monitoring to meet the 30 years. The solids in the discharge are the only issue

now. Keeping the ground water clean is the main priority. There is no recycling or composting being done at the landfill site currently. The main purpose for the landfill will be a wildlife habitat. Bowser-Morner will contact Bockrath & Assoc.

The business agenda was held with Commissioners Schroeder, Schlumbohm and Lammers and Cindy Landwehr, Clerk.

The minutes from Tuesday July 20, 2021 were reviewed and approved.

Commissioners Schroeder, Schlumbohm and Lammers joined by Bob Benroth and Jeremy Maag held discussions regarding:

The payment of overtime or comp time to unclassified or exempt employees- A letter will be sent to all department heads and elected officials to follow the policy in the handbook that is in place on what should be done and how it should be handled. The employees need to be informed at the time of employment whether they will be eligible to earn comp time or overtime. The Commissioners will have to determine who under their supervision the people who are considered to be exempt. All supervisory/fiduciary responsibilities would be considered for classification.

ARP-American Rescue Plan funding and the allowable expenses, There is a list of tentative expenses compiled. Including the EMA/EMS Tahoe and meeting room upgrades, SCBA test equipment, Digitizing documents from Engineer, Recorder and Commissioners, distribution to fire departments, and fairgrounds buildings and maintenance. The distribution amount to the fire departments will be given to the entity that receives their funding the village or township.

Lowering the sales tax -To make any changes to the sales tax 65 days prior notice is needed by the Department of Taxation. The Commissioners would like to have a resolutions drawn up to rescind the sales tax as soon as October 1 and also one to rescind on Apr 1 for voting to see who will vote.

This email was submitted by Commissioner Lammers "In June the commissioners passed a resolution to renew a quarter percent sales tax that brings about one million dollars a year into the general fund. After some discussion it was decided, this was needed to balance the 2021-22 budget. The possibility to remove this quarter percent was agreed to be looked at again next year after analysis of the 2021 end of year totals. The addition of 3.2 million from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) into the general fund this week has created a unique opportunity for bold action by the commissioners. We can revisit this vote on next Tuesday's agenda and reduce the sales tax for one year using the ARP funds to back fill the budget with no adverse effects to operations. Not only does this provide direct relief to the taxpayers of Putnam County, but the direct injection of a million dollars into the local economy statistically multiplies seven times over, yielding even more tax revenue. Capitalism works when capital moves thru the system. "This action has been made possible by the continued hard work, fugal management, and efficiency of the elected officials and employees of Putnam County. The county government has no debt, a balanced budget, and 3.6 million set aside for capital improvements and maintenance of facilities. Using some of the ARP funds for other targeted uses is still possible, but giving a break to the tax payers, even for one year is certainly something to consider." Also submitted was an AG opinion regarding upholding Ohio's Sovereignty.

Greg Bockrath, Troy Recker or Bockrath & Assoc; Mike Lenhart Put Co Engineer; Dean Meyer Village of Ottawa; Don Croy, and Jim Leopold of Ottawa Township met with Commissioners Schroeder, Schlumbohm and Lammers and Tim Schnipke to discuss possible drainage solutions for a portion of sewer district #1 area and fairgrounds. Greg said the surveys are done they still need easements signed. The work will go from east to west for drain to be completed first. It can be done as a ditch petition project. If the township or Village petition no bond is needed. If the Commissioners petition it would go through Common Pleas courts not the Engineer. The township petition would not need to go through the courts. If the village would petition how would the project be funded? The landowners would be assessed through the petition process. If the Village or township file then the Commissioners would hear rather than the courts and waiting to be on their schedule. The Village do not want to assess nor pay the village parcels. The assessments would come from the Engineer. OPWC money could be used for a portion of this if funded. The project would be covered by different funding sources. Example, Eastown could be \$200,000 the village could be awarded \$100,000 by OPWC. Can the assessments be adjusted according to the funding received? OPWC will pay the contractor directly. If each street is done as a separate project or done in phases. If the Village is applying for funding they should be listed as a party in the project on the petition. The ditch assessments could be done in phases also. Greg wants to make sure everyone is on the same page and understands how OPWC funding works so Ottawa doesn't lose out on a year of OPWC monies. The need for the project is there no matter who is funding it and how. The Village is interested but cannot say that they are willing to use their OPWC funds right now. Is the township willing to petition? The landowners could be the petitioner but the bonds for the project would be larger than a normal ditch project. The bond is only needed if the petition fails. The area covered by this project was discussed. Greg will approach some of the landowners to file the petition. There are some landowners that are interested in moving forward to resolve their drainage issues. All present are in agreement to have Greg approach the landowners. Don asked about using the ARP funds for this project. The County will not use their portion of ARP money for this, the township could. The Village and township will be assessed for roads and right of ways for this project. Greg said there are few homes along 224 on the north side, not within village limits, that have drainage issues in their backyards. The estimate for the costs to the residents was discussed. There are 69 homes involved. Fairview 23, Sunset 20 and the average cost would be \$10,000 per household. Once the storm sewer is complete will the Village take over the sewer district? That is not known yet. There is a section of houses who took care of their own drainage at their own costs within the past year. The homeowners will still have to have their downspouts tapped in to the new lines once they are done. The sewer rates are high during heavy rain events. Once this area is turned over to the Village the sewer rates could be lowered for the homeowners. There has been significant different in the costs of the usage in Sewer district #2 after the improvements have been made. The \$10,000 cost could be spread over a period of time and could create a long-term savings on sewer rates for the district. The timeframe for this project could be years. The drainage for the churches along 224 was also discussed. The churches need better tiles leading to the outlet that goes under 224. If someone does not agree to the project it must be filed with the courts within the appeal period. The benefits of this project will exceed the cost. The Prosecutor would be preparing the easement documents. Proposed plans for the project were viewed. Copies will be given to the township and Village also. Greg will write the legal descriptions and give them to the Prosecutor to draw up the easements. The contract was only for preliminary design and the project is past that amount. Will the Village be paying their portion of the fees. Once the easements are signed there will be

another meeting. Bockrath will revise their contract for the Commissioners. If the sewer district is not turned over to the Village additional fees will be incurred by the sewer district to pay for an operator of record. The county is not equipped to be in the water and sewer business and they want to fix the issue for the homeowners so the sewer lines can be turned over to the Village to save some of those expenses. The fairgrounds drainage will be addressed later. The cost benefit will be crucial for the landowners. The accumulated engineering costs incurred so far are being fronted and may not be added to the project. This was all done prior to the petition being filed and these expenses may not be forwarded on to the landowners. The Commissioners put the cart before the horse. A mutual agreement could be done. The petition should have been filed a long time ago. The Commissioners may have to pay those expenses incurred thus far.

Mr. Schroeder moved to adjourn.

Mr. Schlumbohm seconded the motion.

Vote: Schlumbohm yes Schroeder yes Lammers yes

Commissioner Lammers attended the Board of Revision meeting.

Mr. Schlumbohm moved to approve the minutes as read from Thursday, July 22, 2021.

Mr. Schroeder seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Schlumbohm yes Mr. Schroeder yes Mr. Lammers absent