



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
WARREN COUNTY, OHIO**

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TOM ARISS

PAT ARNOLD SOUTH

DAVID G. YOUNG

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
WARREN COUNTY, OHIO**

MINUTES: Regular Session – December 18, 2012

The Board met in regular session pursuant to adjournment of the December 13, 2012, meeting.

David G. Young - present

Pat Arnold South - present

Tom Ariss - present

Tina Davis, Clerk - present

Minutes of the December 13, 2012 meetings were read and approved.

- 12-1770 A resolution was adopted to authorize President of the Board to sign a Bill of Sale Agreement for structures/improvements in connection with the compensation paid to the Hudson Gilbert, LLC. on the Bethany Road Improvement Project. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1771 A resolution was adopted to appoint David G. Young to the Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments Board of Trustees and Martin Russell as Alternate. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1772 A resolution was adopted to declare various items within Parks Department, Sheriff's Office, and Records Center as surplus and authorize the disposal of said items. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1773 A resolution was adopted to approve various Refunds. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1774 A resolution was adopted to affirm "Then and Now" requests pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 5705.41(D) (1). Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1775 A resolution was adopted to approve a Street and Appurtenances Bond Reduction for Welsh Development Co. Inc. for completion of improvements for Trails of Shaker Run, Section Five "A" situated in Turtlecreek Township. Vote: Unanimous

- 12-1776 A resolution was adopted to approve Appropriation Decreases within various Funds. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1777 A resolution was adopted to approve a Cash Advance from County Motor Vehicle Fund #202 into Bethany Road Widening Project Fund 490. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1778 A resolution was adopted to accept Amended Certificate for Funds 101, 206, 207, 228, 237, 243, 245, 249, 253, 256, 259, 267, 270, 271, 284, 297, 299 and 327. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1779 A resolution was adopted to approve Appropriation Adjustment from Commissioners Grants Fund #101-1112 into Mason Municipal Fund #101-1273. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1780 A resolution was adopted to approve Appropriation Adjustments within Juvenile Probation Fund #101-2500 and within Title IV-E Fund #243. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1781 A resolution was adopted to approve Appropriation adjustment with Juvenile Detention Fund #101-2600. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1782 A resolution was adopted to approve Appropriation Adjustment within Coroner's Fund #101-2100. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1783 A resolution was adopted to approve Appropriation Adjustment within the Clerk of Courts General Fund #101-1260. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1784 A resolution was adopted to approve Appropriation Adjustment within Facilities Management Fund #101-1600. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1785 A resolution was adopted to approve Appropriation Adjustments within the Auditor Fund #101-1120. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1786 A resolution was adopted to approve Appropriation Adjustments within Prosecutor Fund #101-1150. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1787 A resolution was adopted to approve Appropriation Adjustments within Telecommunications Funds #101-2810 and #101-2812. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1788 A resolution was adopted to approve Appropriation Adjustment within Law Library Fund #207-1291. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1789 A resolution was adopted to approve Appropriation Adjustments within Veterans Funds #101-5220 and #101-5210, and Board of Elections Fund #101-1300 and Appropriation Decrease within CDEA Fund #263. Vote: Unanimous

- 12-1790 A resolution was adopted to authorize payment of Bills. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1791 A resolution was adopted to approve list of three qualified Design-Build Firms and to transmit Request for Proposals to said firms for Preliminary Design Work and Pricing Proposals for the design and construction of the proposed Justice Drive Office Building. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1792 A resolution was adopted to approve Appropriation Adjustment within Franklin Municipal Court Fund #101-1271. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1793 A resolution was adopted to approve Supplemental Appropriation into #101 and Operating Transfers into Common Pleas Court Construction Fund #494, Telecommunication Construction Fund #492, Facilities Management Construction Fund #467 and ARMCO Park Fund #944. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1794 A resolution was adopted to approve Appropriation Adjustment within County Court Fund #253. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1795 A resolution was adopted to approve Appropriation Adjustment within Law Library Fund #207-1291. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1796 A resolution was adopted to approve 2013 Annual Appropriations. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1797 A resolution was adopted to approve the Transfer of Lucy Gambrel to the position of Cashier Receptionist within the Department of Building and Zoning from Administrative Support within the Department of OMB. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1798 A resolution was adopted to authorize the Posting of the "Administrative Clerk" position, within the Office of Management and Budget, in accordance with Warren County Personnel Policy Manual, Section 2.02(A). Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1799 A resolution was adopted to amend Pay Schedule relative to the Warren County Job and Family Services, Children Services Compensation Plan. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1800 A resolution was adopted to amend Pay Schedule relative to the Warren County Job and Family Services, Human Services Compensation Plan. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1801 A resolution was adopted to amend Pay Schedule relative to the Warren County Commissioners Compensation Plan. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1802 A resolution was adopted to amend Pay Schedule relative to the Warren County Emergency Services Compensation Plan for Emergency Communications Operators/Supervisors. Vote: Unanimous

- 12-1803 A resolution was adopted to approve Reclassification of Cathy Oeder from the position of Clerical Specialist II to Unit Support Worker II within the Warren County Job and Family Services, Human Services Division. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1804 A resolution was adopted to approve Permanent Employment for Creston Schmidt as Part-Time Eligibility Referral Specialist II within the Job and Family Services, Human Services Division. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1805 A resolution was adopted to amend Resolution #12-1710, approving the hire of Jaime DeMaris, as Temporary Eligibility Referral Specialist II within the Warren County Job and Family Services, Human Services Division. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1806 A resolution was adopted to approve Reclassification of Kaitlyn Reno from the position of Protective Services Caseworker I to Protective Services Caseworker I – Spanish Interpreter within the Warren County Job and Family Services, Children Services Division. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1807 A resolution was adopted to approve Reclassification of Chelsea Nichols from the position of Clerical Specialist I to Clerical Specialist II within the Warren County Job and Family Services, Children Services Division. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1808 A resolution was adopted to approve end of 240-day Probationary Period and approve a Pay Increase for Susan Ernst, Investigative Caseworker III, within the Department of Job and Family Services, Children Services Division. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1809 A resolution was adopted to approve a Lateral Transfer of Maryann E. Hess to the position of Protective Services Caseworker I within the Department of Job and Family Services, Children Services Division. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1810 A resolution was adopted to approve Salary Increases relative to Commissioners' Employees. Vote: Unanimous
- 12-1811 A resolution was adopted to approve Salary Increases relative to Emergency Communications Operators, within the Warren County Emergency Services Department. Vote: Unanimous

DISCUSSIONS

On motion, upon unanimous call of the roll, the Board accepted and approved the consent agenda.

The Commissioners conducted a work session to discuss the concept of a consolidation of services between County Court, Lebanon Municipal Court, and Franklin Municipal Court.

Judge Ruppert, Franklin Municipal Court, gave a brief history on the discussion of County Court consolidation and reviewed his plan to eliminate County Court through attrition of judges. He stated that in his plan, Franklin and Lebanon Court judges would become full-time. He then stated that Franklin Court staff can handle the additional case load with a minor increase in staff.

Judge Oda, County Court Judge, stated his fundamental disagreement that the operation in County Court can be divided between the two municipal courts without a significant cost increase to the Municipalities or that County Court could absorb the cases of the Municipal Courts without the same significant increase in cost to the County. He stated that the only courts that operate at a profit are Mayor's Courts because anything that costs money to prosecute gets sent to County Court. He then informed those present that Montgomery County just completed a 17 year plan to centralize into one court. He then stated his opinion that if any plan was to be considered it should be the elimination of Franklin and Lebanon Municipal Court. He stated that County Court has invested in a "state of the art" records system which lends itself to more flexibility.

Judge Kirby, County Court, stated that he has not seen the numbers to justify which would be the better option for the taxpayers. He then stated that he enjoys being a judge and has just been re-elected and stated he does not want that taken away.

Jim Spaeth, Clerk of Courts, stated his agreement that staff counts need to be evaluated due to caseloads being down. He then stated that personalities need to be eliminated from the equations and a study needs to be completed to see what the best plan is financially for the taxpayers' of Warren County. He also stated the need to compare how cases are counted so there is an "apples to apples" comparison.

David Fornshell, County Prosecutor, stated his opinion that nay proposal being considered needs to have a formal analysis completed in order to accurately determine which option is best for the taxpayers of Warren County. He then stated the need for all entities involved to know exactly what costs to consider, including the "soft" costs.

John Newson, Chief Deputy Sheriff, stated the desire of the police agencies within the County to see a model that would include what the additional costs will be due to transporting prisoners as well as the additional risk in transportation.

Carl Bray, Franklin City Council, stated his personal opinion that they are working with a very tight budget in Franklin. He stated that they currently subsidize the court between \$400,000 and \$500,000 per year. He stated he had requested three years ago that the court be eliminated due to costs but had not considered the convenience of the residents. He then stated the need to look at this matter like a business. He stated his opinion that the "fixed" costs will remain the same and that the additional caseloads will come with fees that will help subsidize the court. He then stated his desire for Warren County to subsidize the court \$200,000 per year.

Sonny Lewis, Franklin City Manager, stated that Franklin City Council has not discussed this topic at any great length. He then stated his agreement with David Fornshell that a study/task force needs to thoroughly discuss the finances of all options being considered.

Pat Clements, Lebanon City Manager, stated that Lebanon City Council will be responsive to any plan that does not add any additional budget to their General Fund. He stated their desire for a study to be completed and suggested that University of Cincinnati's Economic Center could do a financial analysis.

Bill Duning, representing the Warren County Bar Association, stated his opinion that there should be a study completed and that the Warren County Bar Association should be represented. He also stated his opinion that all judges and prosecutors should be full time positions.

Dave Gully, County Administrator, stated that the Supreme Court of Ohio is willing to provide advice and legislative help but is not willing to provide any funding. He then suggested that a Request for Qualifications or a Request for Proposals be issued and questioned who should issue the request, review the submittals, make the selection and fund the study.

Judge Ruppert agreed that unless it makes economical sense, no plan should be implemented. He stated his agreement to a study being completed and that Franklin Municipal Court would fund their share of the study through their special projects fund. He then suggested that Judge Kirby, if he is willing, could handle the caseload of County Court upon vacation of Judge Oda's seat until such time as the study is complete.

Upon further discussion, the Board stated the consensus that something needs to be done. They also stated their agreement that timing is important and confirmed with the three courts involved their willingness to share in the cost of the study.

Tiffany Zindel, Deputy County Administrator, presented the 2013 annual appropriations for approval.

Mrs. Zindel reviewed the following:

Criminal Justice/Public Safety 55.82% or \$36,036,286

§ 33,649,984.00 includes Courts, Sheriff, Prosecutor & Emergency Services
§ 175,000.00 Appeals Court
§ 141,769.00 Drug Task Force
§ 914,300.00 Mary Haven
§ 34,881,053.00

General Operating 38.58% or \$24,904,172

Social Services 4.17% or \$2,660,120

This number represents General Fund contributions ONLY to Human Services, Children Services & CSEA. They do not represent the entire spending for social service agencies. Those numbers can be found in the 200 series Funds

Miscellaneous Items 1.48% or \$958,072

§ 78,500.00 Historical Society
§ 129,300.00 Airport Authority
§ 276,389.00 Agricultural Extension
§ 189,733.00 Soil & Water Conservation
§ 250,000.00 Park Board
§ 26,425.00 Agri Society (Fair Board)
§ 7,725.00 Humane Association

§ 958,072.00

Capital Project Transfers 0%

Debt Service 0%

TOTAL GENERAL FUND 2013 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION \$64,558,650

Mrs. Zindel stated that the anticipated revenue for 2013 has been established by the County Auditor at \$57,198,270.59. She stated that the State of Ohio has provided estimated revenue to Warren County at \$4,000,000 from the casinos; however, Warren County is estimating \$2,000,000. She then stated that she will start transferring money into the Common Pleas Court Project fund in order to pay cash for the proposed new office building.

Dave Gully, County Administrator, thanked Mrs. Zindel for her hard work of number crunching in putting together the budget.

Commissioner South stated that the budget is lean but the Board is moving forward towards paying cash for capital construction projects. She stated she is pleased with the ability to maintain the current levels of service and increases in criminal justice in these tough economic times.

Commissioner Ariss stated that this conservative budget includes a pay raise for employees that have not received one for many years. He stated that he is pleased Warren County is able to maintain operations without any General fund borrowing.

Commissioner Young thanked the elected officials for their conservative philosophy including the calculation of reduced revenue from the casino. He then thanked the employees for providing more services without a pay increase over the last few years and reiterated that Warren County has no general obligation debt and had no layoffs during the tough economic times.

It was stated that Warren County was the last county to be hit by the economic crisis and they are the first county out of economic crisis.

Upon discussion, the Board resolved (Resolution #12-1796) to approve the 2013 annual appropriations.

On motion, upon unanimous call of the roll, the Board entered into executive session at 11:08 a.m. to discuss personnel matters relative to pay increases for specific Commissioner employees pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 (G)(1) and exited at 12:03 p.m.

Upon motion the meeting was adjourned.

David G. Young, President

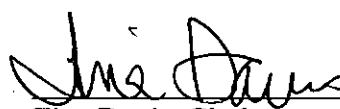


Tom Ariss



Pat Arnold South

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of County Commissioners held on December 13, 2012, in compliance with Section 121.22 O.R.C.



Tina Davis, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners
Warren County, Ohio