

RESOLUTION OF THE ASHTABULA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO EMPLOY THE SERVICES OF HOLLAND & MUIRDEN IN ORDER TO ADVISE THE ASHTABULA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THROUGH ITS DOG WARDEN/HUMANE AGENTS OFFICE IN LEGAL MATTERS REGARDING ANIMAL CRUELTY AND NEGLECT

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code Section 309.09(C) allows the Board of County Commissioners to employ an attorney other than the prosecuting attorney of the county, without the authorization of the court of common pleas, for a particular matter or on an annual basis, to represent the board in its official capacity and to advise it on legal matters; and

WHEREAS, the Ashtabula County Board of Commissioners is employing outside counsel regarding particular matters, i.e. animal cruelty and neglect which have come before the Ashtabula County Dog Warden/Humane Agent, whose department is under the Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, DanaMarie K. Pannella and J. Jeffrey Holland of the law firm Holland and Muirden are uniquely qualified to prosecute cases relating to animal cruelty and neglect given their significant experience in: (a) prosecuting these types of offenses upon appointment by many County Humane Societies in the State of Ohio; (b) providing formal state-mandated and supplemental training to humane society agents on animal cruelty issues; (c) serving as adjunct professors of Animal Law; and (d) representing a variety of other animal welfare organizations within and outside of the State of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the Ashtabula County Board of Commissioners authorizes DanaMarie K. Pannella and J. Jeffrey Holland of Holland and Muirden as outside counsel in order to advise the Board, through its Dog Warden/Humane Agent Office, in matters relating to animal cruelty and neglect, at a cost not to exceed \$5,000.00; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the order of the Board of Commissioners of Ashtabula County, the services of DanaMarie K. Pannella and J. Jeffrey Holland of Holland and Muirden shall be retained for matters relating to animal cruelty and neglect in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00. The cost of same shall be borne by the Ashtabula County Board of Commissioners. Any costs exceeding the \$5,000 authorized amount will be the responsibility of the Ashtabula County Animal Protective League.

**ASHTABULA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CERTIFICATION PAGE**

Resolution No. 2023-544

October 31, 2023

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Upon the motion of J.P. Ducro IV, seconded by Kathryn L. Whittington.


VOTE:

Casey R. Kozlowski
Kathryn L. Whittington
J.P. Ducro IV

Absent
Aye
Aye

CERTIFICATE OF CLERK

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of a resolution acted upon and duly passed by the Board of County Commissioners of Ashtabula County, Ohio, on the date noted above.


Crystal Sturgill, Clerk of the Board *Acting*
Board of County Commissioners
Ashtabula County, Ohio