

Work Session held on December 17, 2024 9:00 a.m. Topic: Work Sessions/Agenda Items

In Attendance: Kathryn Whittington, J. P Ducro IV, Casey Kozlowski, Janet Discher, Lisa Hawkins, Crystal Sturgill, Matt Hebebrand, Warren Dillaway, Alissa Drees, Julie Carlo, William Niemi

The following members of the public and offices presented the following:

Julie Carlo/Alissa Drees spoke regarding the ACTS annual application for Rural Operating Grant, Capital Maintenance and Replacement Vehicle Grant with ODOT for the FY 2026 application.

Operating Grant: requesting \$494,616 in Federal Funds, \$108,000 in State GRF Funds, local match of \$386,616. Elderly & Disabled \$11,000 and Farebox \$45,000- total operating expense of \$1,034,232.

Capital Maintenance Grant: \$487,336 in Federal funds, 20% local match of \$121,824. Total Vehicle Maintenance expense of \$609,170.

Replacement Vehicle Grant: \$103,955 in Federal funds, \$25,989 in State Funding

They also discussed the Sunset 2025 renewal contract with ACTS, goes into effect January 1, 2025. They asked for more funding from ODOT, if received the local match would go up.

William Niemi spoke regarding changes to union contracts for his divisions. Deputies, Dispatcher 5%, 3% and 2% increase, changes in longevity across the board were accepted by every section. Correction Officer increase \$2 per hour, longevity, 5%, 3% and 2% increase, Sergeants agreed to 1% base spread to 15% which is state average, plus whatever the deputies wage increase is, once the deputy agreements are finalized. The Deputies and jail nurse are going to fact finding, scheduled in April. Secretaries, Clerks, Maintenance and Cooks agreed to 1% extra- 11% over 3 years, waiting for union to return the contract. Dispatchers, corporals, correction officers and Sergeants agreement is ready for next week's agenda.

The following schedule items were discussed:

Christmas Eve hours- closing at noon on 12/24/24. County Administrator to put the message out.

Ohio Aviation briefing on aviation issues on Thursday, 1/23 9:30 a.m. to 1pm at Youngstown/Warren Regional Airport-Vienna Ohio. Decision: Commissioner Ducro, Whittington, Kozlowski to attend.

Rock Creek Chamber of Commerce- annual 2025 kickoff/community discussion on Friday or Monday in January on Friday, 1/17 at noon.

NACo- Commissioner Kozlowski is attending, Commissioner Whittington and Ducro will not be attending.

12/19 at 11/15 Country Neighbor Christmas for the Halo event at the 4H building. Commissioner Kozlowski to attend. Commissioner Whittington cannot attend. Put JP's calendar. Lights on the Lake this Saturday 5:30 pm to 9:00pm. for Commissioner Ducro and Kozlowski.

The following miscellaneous items were discussed:

Letter of Resignation received from County Auditor eff. 12/31/24.

Heritage Trees program – already participating and committed to the tree planting. The Clerk to check with organization and Troy Bailey to clarify if this has been done already.

Local Subcontractors preference within contracted projects. Local supplier shared concerns that one of the general contractors for a building project did use a local supplier for building materials. The Clerk to put in Matrix for a legal opinion to see if the county can give preference to local sources and/or award bids based on local contractors meeting the "best" definition.

Nopec Community Event Sponsorship – \$1,750 divided by 3 for each Commissioner. To provide financial support to deserving entities in the community that provide local events. Submit as early as possible.

❖ **Proclamations:**

❖ Edgewood OIAAA awards for Edgewood- Steven Kray and Geneva Jen Crossley were both recipients- Asst. Clerk to reach out.

❖ **Legal Review:**

- Court Computer funding (file opened in 2022)
- Lodging Tax- Anchor Motel and Governor Cottages
- Health Dept. agreement to pay indirect cost- New World
- New Escrow proposed procedure thru the Treasurer's office
- Broadband RFP

❖ **Old Business:**

NOPEC grants

Assumption of Lease – Ashtabula City/Key Bank

Main Avenue- in process

Schedule solar discussion- when parties are ready

❖ **Outstanding/Upcoming Board Appointments-**

- ACTS terms expire 12/31 for German Womack (no app received yet) and Chris McCain (Chris McCain not seeking reapppt)
- CSB 1 opening 12/31. Applications received from Beth Hockran, Daniel Adams, Kenneth Vanyo and Martha Gillespie (Martha's not legible)
- Senior Levy one opening from resignation recvd application from Paula Pristov
- Board of DD – one opening -term expires 1/19/2026 parent category- Amber Babic has submitted an application and fits the criteria. Don Cosner's term has not expired, will need to let Ms. Babic know there is currently no opening, but will retain her application until such time an opening arises.
- Public Defender- received board app from Phil Cordova. Ok to appoint at the next meeting eff. January 1, 2025. Chris Marinko resignation is eff. 12/31.

Work Session held on December 19, 2024 9:30 a.m. Topic: OneOhio

In Attendance: Kathryn Whittington, J. P Ducro IV, Casey Kozlowski, Janet Discher, Lisa Hawkins, Miriam Walton

The purpose of the meeting was for the Board to hear an update regarding OneOhio Region 13. The grant process includes: the applicant applies to Region 13 who reviews and determines whether the grant application should be funded, the grant application is then referred to the expert panel who can ask questions, but cannot deny, then the application is referred back to Region 13.

There were 42 grant requests, \$22 million in requests and \$2.4 million in available funds to award. Funding methodology was not equal amount of funds per county, Factors include how many applications are received per county, quality of applications, etc. Some are fully funded. Those that did not get funded are referred to OneOhio Foundation for the reason. Region 13 submitted grants applications/agreements for the entire \$2.4 million. Ashtabula County has some grants that were submitted. The results are available on the OneOhio Foundation website. The OneOhio Foundation may have grant opportunities separate from the Region opportunities. Discussion ensued regarding grants submitted.

Work Session held on December 19, 2024 1:00 p.m. Topic: ACDES

In Attendance: Kathryn Whittington, J. P Ducro IV, Casey Kozlowski, Janet Discher, Doug Starkey, Angie Gruber, Robert Church, Ed Spoor, Mike Peskar, Noah Pierce, Shawn Aiken

DEPARTMENT PRIORITY DISCUSSION AND UPDATES

- 1) Lenox New Lyme-easement
- 2) Jefferson Booster-easement appraisal appears to be moving forward for both
- 3) AMI-2140 meters/pucks installed as of 11/12/2024-494 appointments pending for installations will have a report every morning and real time once it's running.
- 4) Bulk Water Station in Rome Township lease options
- 5) Palmer awaiting CT recommendation from bids
- 6) Haystack Lift Station upgrade preventative maintenance project
- 7) Kingsville update public meeting held. Meeting went fairly well. One resident was concerned about the benefits. Seems to have buy in on easements. Project timeline discussed. Putting out to bid by June.
- 8) Maple Drive in Saybrook back-up videos seen. Noah went in on day off to check it out. Service Master and Roto roter called in and ACDES paid. Looking at engineering standpoint if there is something more to do. 30plus inches of snow melt and rain. Lowest point on street. Infiltration study in Saybrook recommendation but will work together to find different solutions. Thought it might be an insurance issue. Email will go out today to address homeowner concern. County would like to work with CT to see if there are other issues. Resident needs to contact homeowners insurance. CORSA not covering due to weather event. CORSA did contact homeowner. County can't be held liable for backup due to weather event. Smoke test will be helpful. Discussed issues that cause backups on private properties. Dye test can be helpful for homeowners to see if it's going into sewers.
- 9) Plant C agreement discussion working on numbers per their request. Review at 6 months, year and see if things need adjusted. Real time tracking in Sept. Suggestion for 3 year agreement with review to adjust as needed.

- 10) State Route 45 waterline replacement Rt 20 North to tracks and now past Gore. Been replacing.
- 11) Have costs from snow storm and will be turning into EMA.

Department Updates and Discussion - (begun order rotation)

1) Maintenance

- a. Been dealing with different issues regarding repairs.
- b. Replace pump at Holiday
- c. Pulled three lift stations recently for repair
- d. Repaired blower at Ashcraft
- e. Been training on lift station at plant C
- f. Keeping up with plowing through recent storms. Some homeowners upset. Trucks not meant to plow deep snow.
- g. General maintenance update

2) Water projects

- a. Tank rehab project should be closed out soon
- b. Lenox waterline beginning pipe work soon and getting appraisal for booster station easement after first of year
- c. Waterline to Whispering Willow Mobile Home Park to begin at some point April
- d. AMI-working through some issues with being able to read meters started today for billing
- e. OPWC Round 38-Jefferson Booster-getting appraisal on easement location. Carter Lumber location is moving.
- f. Met with trustee and property owner regarding Pelton waterline extension.
- g. Bishop Road change order to go to Van pelt is moving forward.
- h. Harpersfield Water Tower-waiting for Federal Environmental to go to bid, expected in January 2025.
- i. South River Phase II is just waiting on Federal Environmental to go out to bid, expected in January 2025.
- j. Working with Rome Township on bulk water location and getting pricing on building
- k. Projects in design stage
 - i. State Route 531 from Geneva State Park Beach to County Line Road is about ready to go to PTI
 - ii. 307 Emergency Interconnect-design starting
 - iii. NE Regional Phase I waterline-design beginning soon
 - iv. Miscellaneous other projects that Ed is working on;
 1. Palmetto-GOTL
 2. Fairfax-GOTL
 3. Broxton-GOTL
 4. Almraz-GOTL
 5. Bartlett-GOTL
 6. Pangburn-Harpersfield
 7. Padanarum-Geneva Twp.
 8. Depot-Saybrook
 9. Wiemer Dr.-Saybrook
 10. Garrett and State Route 167 part of future Northeast Regional loop, communication with Atech to see if they want to be included

- l. General distribution system update

3) Office update

- a. Geneva agreement awaiting their approval potentially on December 23rd. Resolution is ready once signed. Board ok once signed.

- b. Four of our five new trucks have arrived. We are working on putting together the list of what will become surplus, to be put on Gov Deals. No service vehicles purchased on sewer side since 2019.
 - c. ARC full application submitted for Jefferson Booster-OPWC did allow us to extend our project for this funding opportunity of \$300,000.00
 - d. AMI and billing
 - e. Plant C agreement
 - f. General update
- 4) Ashtabula County Port Authority Plant C
- a. Average daily flows 26.32 MGD
 - b. Continue to do monthly maintenance at the plant
 - c. Fire Extinguishers updated and installed by North East Fire Protection
 - d. New sump pumps replaced in basement
 - e. Can move forward on head tank room cleaning after sample came back good
 - f. Plowing snow
 - g. Monthly updating Status Report of projects for Port Authority
 - h. UIC installed VFD Room and fifth pump being installed when coordinated shut down of Plant C can happen.
 - i. Working with Vector for activating key fob's and camera access
 - j. General Plant C update 3 sink holes are forming. Have cones up for now.
- 5) Sewer projects
- a. Coffee Creek-Contractor on site and we are doing bi-weekly meetings change order will be coming through.
 - b. Palmer Retention-ARC approved for \$250,000.00 awaiting bid recommendation
 - c. OPWC Round 38-Carpenter Road overflow elimination is being closed out
 - d. Kingsville-public meeting December 9th
 - e. OPWC Round 39 approved to do full application for Ashcraft
 - f. Working toward eliminating two lateral issues that flow the wrong way
 - g. Generators are getting ready to set for County Line lift station and Red Brook lift station ARPA funding will help with this
 - h. Roaming Shores have licensed person on water side.
 - i. Haystack Lift Station upgrade
 - j. Maple in Saybrook back up is being looked into
 - k. General plant operations and collection system update

Noah and staff working well together. Team building went well.

Awarded 1.5 mil for homeless project. Will be working with water/sewer. Include Bob Church with Noah. Noah to put list of items that would need addressed. Discussion with Aqua at some point.