Madison County Board of Commissioners
1 North Main Street, London Ohio

December 10, 2024

Minutes

President Tony Xenikis called the meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order at 8:38am.

Commissioners present: Dr. Tony Xenikis, Mr. Mark Forrest and Mr. Chris Wallace

County representatives present: Rob Slane, County Administrator; David Kell, Assistant County Administrator; Nick Adkins, County Prosecutor; John Swaney, County Sheriff; Bryan Dhume, County Engineer; Ronda Maynard, Assistant County Clerk and Amy Rees, County Clerk

The minutes of the December 3, 2024, regular meeting were approved as written.

Madison County Sheriff, John Swaney

- Expressed his gratitude upon receiving a recognition award from the Madison County Township Association during their annual holiday party on December 9th.
- Reported that he facilitated the trade of a new vehicle for the one used at the airport for transporting passengers. Additionally, he retired an old truck, handing over both vehicle titles to the Commissioners for sale on GovDeals.
- Requested the Commissioners' approval for two resolutions: one to increase the Sheriff Salary Employees budget and another to allocate funds for travel expenses.

Madison County Prosecutor, Nick Adkins

- Reported that he followed up on December 5th regarding his request for an opinion from the Ohio Attorney General about fiber optic lines in public rights-of-way. He was informed that the issue is complex and that work on the opinion is still ongoing.

Madison County Assistant Administrator, David Kell

- Announced that Jefferson Industries, located in West Jefferson, is exploring an expansion of their facility to manufacture casings for electric vehicle batteries. The project would utilize 100 existing employees of the company. As part of this expansion, the company is seeking a tax abatement. Discussions are ongoing to determine whether the abatement will be administered through the county or the village, with considerations for the appropriate jurisdiction and potential terms of the agreement.

Rob Slane, Madison County Engineer

- Reported that he attended the County Commissioners Association of Ohio's annual winter conference last week and provided the Commissioners with an overview of the topics discussed. One key topic was the Huntington Bank Commercial Card Program, which is designed to help manage expenditures efficiently. He reminded the Commissioners that the program had previously been discussed with the County

Auditor, Jennifer Hunter, and recommended its implementation. In response, the Commissioners requested that Mrs. Hunter be invited to the next meeting to provide an update on her progress toward implementing the program.

- Reported receiving two quotes for mold removal and basement cleaning at the Sheriff's office: one for $30,000 and another for $12,000. He noted that efforts are ongoing to identify a more cost-effective solution, given that the building is expected to be vacated or demolished within the next two years.
- Announced that the final meeting of the Commissioners for 2024 was originally scheduled for Christmas Eve. The Commissioners unanimously voted to reschedule the meeting to December 23, 2024, at 1:00 PM.

Bryan Dhume, Madison County Engineer

- Requested the Commissioners' approval of a resolution to waive the timeline outlined in Madison County's Section 125 Plan for a new employee's insurance coverage, allowing the Engineer's Office to cover the January premium. The Commissioners unanimously approved the waiver and recommended that the policy be reviewed for potential updates.
- Requested the Commissioners' approval for adjustments to the 2024 Gas Tax Budget. The Commissioners unanimously approved the request.

Open Session/Public Comments

Jennifer Hunter, Madison County Auditor

- Announced that a Budget Commission meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 16, 2024, in the Commissioners' conference room. She requested that a representative from the Commissioners attend, as the discussion will include matters related to the Local Government Fund.
- Commissioner Wallace inquired with Mrs. Hunter about the progress of implementing the Huntington Bank Commercial Card Program. She explained that, due to the onboarding of new employees and uncertainty about how the program might affect financial oversight, further research is still underway. Mr. Wallace requested a timeline for providing an update to the Commissioners. It was agreed that significant progress could be made by February 2025, at which time the Auditor's Office will provide an update.

2025 Budget Review

- Mr. Slane provided an overview of current economic conditions and key considerations for 2025. He outlined essential county needs and requests, reviewed the ending financial figures for 2024, and presented the proposed 2025 budget, offering insights into anticipated challenges and priorities for the upcoming year.
- The Commissioners provided suggestions for revisions to the budget, which will be incorporated and reviewed at the next meeting. A key decision made during the discussion was to implement a 3.5% Cost-of-Living Adjustment for wages in 2025.

Resolution 552-24 – Presented on behalf of Jennifer Hunter, Madison County Auditor - A Resolution Approving the Payment of Invoices for the Madison County Auditor (attachment)

Mr. Wallace moved to approve the payment of invoices for the Madison County Auditor. Dr. Xenikis seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Resolution 553-24 - Presented on behalf of Deetra Huntington, Madison County Family & Children First Council – A Resolution Approving an Agreement Between the Madison County Family & Children First Council, the Madison County Bridges Community Action Partners, and the Madison County Board of Commissioners

Mr. Wallace moved to approve an agreement between the Madison County Family & Children First Council, the Madison County Bridges Community Action Partners, and the Madison County Board of Commissioners. Mr. Forrest seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Resolution 554-24 – Presented by Amy Rees, Commission Clerk - A Resolution Approving the Request for Release of Funds for the Madison County PY 2024 CDBG Critical Infrastructure Program

Mr. Wallace moved to approve the request for release of funds for the Madison County PY 2024 CDBG Critical Infrastructure Program. Mr. Forrest seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Resolution 555-24 - Presented by Amy Rees, Commission Clerk - A Resolution Approving the Final Wage Compliance Report for the Madison 2022 CDBG Program: London NRG Sewer & Drainage Project

Mr. Wallace moved to approve the Final Wage Compliance Report for the Madison 2022 CDBG Program: London NRG Sewer & Drainage Project. Mr. Forrest seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Resolution 556-24 - Presented on behalf of David Kell, Assistant Madison County Administrator – A Resolution Delineating an Overlay in Relation to the Proposed Madison County Gateway Incentive District #1 Within the Unincorporated Territory of Darby Township, Madison County, Ohio; Adopting a Written Economic Development Plan as to Same; Authorizing and Ratifying the Giving of Notice to the Jonathan Alder Local School District, the Tolles Career and Technical Center, and the Board of Township Trustees of Darby Township, All Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 5709.78(B) and Its Related Rules and Laws

Mr. Wallace moved to delineate an overlay in relation to the proposed Madison County Gateway Incentive District #1 within the unincorporated territory of Darby Township, Madison County, Ohio; adopting a written economic development plan as to same; authorizing and ratifying the Giving of Notice to the Jonathan Alder Local School District, the Tolles Career and Technical Center, and the Board of Township Trustees of Darby Township, all pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 5709.78(B) and its related rules and laws. Mr. Forrest seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Resolution 557-24 - Presented on behalf of the Honorable Eric Schooley, Madison County Municipal Court Judge - A Resolution Increasing Appropriations to the Municipal Court Witness Interpreter Budget Line

Mr. Wallace moved to increase appropriations to the Municipal Court Witness Interpreter Budget Line. Mr. Forrest seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Resolution 558-24 - Presented on behalf of Bryan Dhume, Madison County Park District - A Resolution Increasing Appropriations to the 2024 Park Board Budget

Mr. Wallace moved to increase appropriations to the 2024 Park Board Budget. Mr. Forrest seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Resolution 559-24 - Presented on behalf of Thomas Wilson, Madison County Commons Pleas Court - A Resolution Adjusting the Budget of the Common Pleas Court

Mr. Wallace moved to adjust the Budget of the Common Pleas Court. Mr. Forrest seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Resolution 560-24 - Presented on behalf of John Swaney, Madison County Sheriff – A Resolution Approving a Transfer of Funds for the Madison County Sheriff's Office

Mr. Wallace moved to approve a transfer of funds for the Madison County Sheriff's Office. Mr. Forrest seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Resolution 561-24 - Presented on behalf of John Swaney, Madison County Sheriff - A Resolution Approving Travel Expenses for the Madison County Sheriff's Office

Mr. Wallace moved to approve travel expenses for the Madison County Sheriff's Office. Mr. Forrest seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Resolution 562-24 - Presented on behalf of Melissa Howard, Madison County Department of Jobs and Family Services - A Resolution Approving a Contract Between the Madison County Department of Job and Family Services and Capital Fire Protection Co.

Mr. Wallace moved to approve a contract between the Madison County Department of Job and Family Services and Capital Fire Protection Co. Mr. Forrest seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Resolution 563-24 - Presented on behalf of Bryan Dhume, Madison County Engineer - A Resolution Approving a Waiver to the Madison County Section 125 Plan Timeline for a New Employee's Insurance Coverage

Mr. Wallace moved to approve a waiver to the Madison County Section 125 Plan timeline for a new employee's insurance coverage. Mr. Forrest seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Resolution 564-24 - Presented on behalf of Bryan Dhume, Madison County Engineer - A Resolution Approving Adjustments to the 2024 Gas Tax Budget

Mr. Wallace moved to approve adjustments to the 2024 Gas Tax budget. Mr. Forrest seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Resolution 565-24 - Presented by Amy Rees, Commission Clerk - A Resolution Amending the Madison County Commissioners' Meeting Schedule to Reschedule the December 24, 2024, Meeting at 8:30 AM to December 23, 2024, at 1:00 PM

Mr. Wallace moved to amend the Madison County Commissioners' meeting schedule to reschedule the December 24, 2024, meeting at 8:30 AM to December 23, 2024, at 1:00 PM. Mr. Forrest seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Dr. Xenikis moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:22am. Mr. Wallace seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Dr. Tony Xenikis Commission President	Mr. Mark Forrest Commissioner	Mr. Chris Wallace Commissioner

Attest:

Amy Rees, Clerk
Board of Madison County Commissioners