

## **MINUTES OF JANUARY 13, 2010 AGENDA MEETING**

Commissioner Bassitt opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. on the 13th day of January, 2010 with the following members present: Commissioner Greg Sneary, Commissioner Sam Bassitt, and Clerk of the Board Kelli Singhaus.

Jeff Sprague led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of the January 7, 2010 special meeting were removed from the agenda.

### **Action Items:**

#### **Resolution #19-10. *Approve travel expenses.***

Commissioner Bassitt moved to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Sneary seconded the motion. The roll was called and the Resolution was approved unanimously.

#### **Resolution #20-10. *Approval of a various temporary appropriation for the Veteran's Office.***

The Veteran's Office requested a temporary appropriation to the general fund in the amount of \$7,524.37 for housing assistance.

Commissioner Sneary moved to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Bassitt seconded the motion. The roll was called and the Resolution was approved unanimously.

#### **Resolution #21-10. *Approval of a temporary appropriation for the Commissioner's Office.***

Becky Saine, County Administrator, requested a temporary appropriation to the general fund in the amount of \$458,089.00 for the principal/interest payment for the HEAT Energy Project and the Eastown Road Fund.

Commissioner Bassitt moved to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Sneary seconded the motion. The roll was called and the Resolution was approved unanimously.

#### **Resolution #10-10. *Authorize a warrant of transfer from the General Fund 1001 to the Energy Project Fund 4020.***

Becky Saine, County Administrator, requested a transfer in the amount of \$300,000 for the principal and interest payment on the HEAT Energy Project.

Commissioner Sneary moved to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Bassitt seconded the motion. The roll was called and the Resolution was approved unanimously.

#### **Resolution #11-10. *Authorize a warrant of transfer from the General Fund 1001 to the Eastown Road fund 4708.***

Becky Saine, County Administrator, requested a transfer in the amount of \$158,089 to cover the 2010 principal and interest debt.

Commissioner Bassitt moved to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Sneary seconded the motion. The roll was called and the Resolution was approved unanimously.

**Resolution #22-10. *Appoint Brook Elrod to the Allen County Children Services Board.***

The Children Services Board submitted correspondence to this office requesting the appointment of Brook Elrod to fill the expired term of Greg Garlock. Ms. Elrod's term commences January 1, 2010 and expires December 31, 2013.

Commissioner Sneary moved to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Bassitt seconded the motion. The roll was called and the Resolution was approved unanimously.

**Resolution #23-10. *Renew an agreement with the Allen Economic Development Group for the provision of economic development services.***

Said agreement is in the amount of \$182,628.00 payable in installments of \$15,219.00 monthly commencing January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010.

Commissioner Bassitt moved to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Sneary seconded the motion. The roll was called and the Resolution was approved unanimously.

**Resolution #24-10. *Resolution for transfer of property to the Allen County Port Authority for economic development purposes.***

Commissioner Sneary moved to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Bassitt seconded the motion. The roll was called and the Resolution was approved unanimously.

**Resolution #25-10. *Approval of a temporary appropriation for the Commissioner's Office.***

Becky Saine, County Administrator, requested a temporary appropriation in the amount of \$4,020.00 for payment of the COBRA premium.

Commissioner Bassitt moved to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Sneary seconded the motion. The roll was called and the Resolution was approved unanimously.

**Discussion Items:**

**A. Scott Ferris, Children Services, presented the following:**

1. Request to adopt **Resolution #26-10**, declare it necessary to replace a tax levy in excess of the ten mill limitation for the purpose of the Children Services Program. Ferris stated that the current levy (0.075 mill) will expire the end of 2010. The levy was originally approved in 1985 and it will be the 25<sup>th</sup> year for the levy. Ohio ranks 49 out of 50 states when it comes to funding child welfare. When it comes to state funding, every dollar spent, Allen County only receives 6.5 cents, the rest is local or federal dollars. When it comes to child welfare, it is not only protective services but also daycare, Head Start, Help Me Grow, etc. The levy was last renewed in 2005 with 61% of the voters approving it. This is a replacement levy which is the first time this is being requested in 25 years. The Board is not asking for an increase in millage. The replacement will generate \$583,700 in additional revenue.

Commissioner Sneary moved to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Bassitt seconded the motion. The roll was called and the Resolution was approved unanimously.

**B. Jim Wingate, Adult Probation, presented the following:**

1. Request to adopt **Resolution #27-10**, authorize submission of a grant application to the Office of Criminal Justice Services for the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Grant. Wingate requested authorization to submit application for a federal grant which is a result of the stimulus monies available. The application is in the amount of \$427,062.00 which will cover costs of the sex offender program in addition to employing additional full time/part time personnel to enhance the services of the probation department, primarily after hour supervision, drug testing, etc. No match monies are required and the grant is for a 20 month period.

Commissioner Bassitt moved to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Sneary seconded the motion. The roll was called and the Resolution was approved unanimously.

**Announcements, Proclamations, Recognition and Commendations None**

Rhonda Eddy, Allen County Auditor, presented the year end financial review of 2009. Based on the financial crisis in the State of Ohio, the majority of the counties received a reduction in sales tax income, interest income, local government funds and increase in services when times are bad. Eddy presented a comparison between 2008 and 2009. In 2009, the county was down \$2 million dollars in revenue but expenses were cut by \$3 million dollars. Sales tax was down \$830,000 and interest income was down \$887,000 from 2008. Salaries and Benefits were cut \$1.6 million dollars and contract services were cut \$1.2 million dollars. The rainy day fund was budgeted at \$1.2 million dollars in 2009 but not used. One of the reasons it was not used was that interest income came in better than anticipated. Another reason was that sales tax came in better based on change of appropriation by the Commissioner's Office. On the expenditure side, \$25.3 million was budgeted for 2009. Only \$24 million was spent in 2009 resulting in a savings of \$1.3 million dollars. In 2009, the county started with a \$2.5 million dollar carry-over and ended the year with a \$3.3 million dollar carry-over. The county also has their rainy day fund. Interest income will definitely be down in 2010. Sales tax numbers are holding strong.

Jim Link, Allen County Treasurer, stated that when the budget was set for 2009, the drop dead day when he had to have the number is the day the feds reduced the rate from 0.0 to 0.25, the historically low ever. After conferring with all the financial advisors and they said on the bulk of the county's money, if you bet more than 1% that we would be a fool. The county budgeted \$775,000 for 2009 and came in at \$1.3 to \$1.4 million dollars. The rates didn't fall as fast as anticipated. The county is limited by the Ohio Revised Code on where monies can be invested. In February, 2009, a collection manager was hired. One of the items being addressed is delinquent properties.

With no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Sneary moved to adjourn. Commissioner Bassitt seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

Approved by:

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Kelli A. Singhaus  
Clerk of the Board

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Greg Sneary

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W. Dan Reiff

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Sam Bassitt