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**REGULAR SESSION DECEMBER 27, 2023**

This day the Board of Morrow County Commissioners met in their office at 80 North Walnut St., Ste. A, Mt. Gilead, Ohio with the following members present: Mr. Abraham, Mr. Mason and Mr. Siegfried

County Staff: Jamie Brucker, Director of Operations and Dixie Shinaberry, Recorder

Appropriations hearing:

Public in attendance:

The meeting was opened with prayer and pledge of allegiance to the flag, and then called to order by Mr. Abraham who then proceeded with the business at hand. The following matters came before the Board for their consideration and approval.

**IN THE MATTER OF  
APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES  
OF REGULAR SESSION OF DECEMBER 20, 2023: 23-R-976**

Mr. Siegfried made a motion to approve the minutes of regular session of December 20, 2023, as recorded in the Commissioners Journal # 50.

Mr. Mason duly seconded this motion.

Roll Call Vote: .., Mr. Siegfried..., "yea" .., Mr. Mason..., "yea".., Mr. Abraham..., "yea"

**IN THE MATTER OF  
APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR PAYMENT: 23-R-977**

Mr. Abraham made a motion to approve payment of bills numbered 1 through 13 submitted by the Morrow County Auditor's office.

Mr. Siegfried duly seconded this motion.

Roll Call Vote: .., Mr. Siegfried..., "yea" .., Mr. Mason..., "yea".., Mr. Abraham..., "yea"

**IN THE MATTER OF  
PAY-INS: 23-R-978**

The following pay-ins were made to Conni McChesney, Morrow County Auditor:

Receipt Batch #3972 Payments received from Chesterville customers for sewer fund 5159 \$508.49  
Payments received from Ketterman customers for sewer fund 5121 \$168.00  
Payments received from Somoco customers for sewer fund 5110 \$261.08

Receipt # 233590 Payment from Canaan, South Bloomfield, and Washington Townships, Village of Edison, and Village of Marengo for EMA Services 2012-1050-450525 \$3384.75

Receipt Batch #3973 Payments received from Chesterville customers for sewer fund 5159 \$986.92  
Payments received from Johnsville customers for sewer fund 5100 \$362.50  
Payments received from Ketterman customers for sewer fund 5121 \$218.40  
Payments received from Somoco customers for sewer fund 5110 \$171.54

Receipt Batch #3978 Payments received from Chesterville customers for sewer fund 5159 \$4,332.86  
Payments received from Johnsville customers for sewer fund 5100 \$360.00  
Payments received from Ketterman customers for sewer fund 5121 \$112.00  
Payments received from Somoco customers for sewer fund 5110 \$3,310.23

Receipt Batch #3981 Payments received from Chesterville customers for sewer fund 5159 \$378.00  
Payments received from Johnsville customers for sewer fund 5100 \$540.00  
Payments received from Ketterman customers for sewer fund 5121 \$112.00

Receipt # 233631 Payment from Dollar Tree for Community Reinvestment Area Agreement Annual Fees 2043-1050-450530 \$2,500.00

Receipt # 233635 Payment from The State of Ohio for Brownfield Remediation Grant 2043-1050-450521 \$325,602.86

**IN THE MATTER OF  
APPROVAL TO UNAPPROPRIATE FROM THE FOLLOWING FUNDS: 23-A-196**

Mr. Abraham made a motion for the Morrow County Auditor to unappropriate as follows:

FUND	AMOUNT
2006	\$ (25,318.64)
2152	\$ (41,786.42)
2135	\$ (9,578.10)

Mr. Siegfried duly seconded this motion.

Roll Call Vote: .., Mr. Siegfried..., “yea’ .., Mr. Mason..., “yea”.., Mr. Abraham..., “yea”

**IN THE MATTER OF  
TRANSFER OF FUNDS – DOG & KENNEL FUND 2005: 23-T-221**

Mr. Mason made a motion to approve the following transfer of funds:

\*\*Reason – to cover negatives for last pay of 2023

From 2005-0105-530310 Professional Services to 2005-0105-510130 Employee Wages in the amount of \$93.60

From 2005-0105-530310 Professional Services to 2005-0105-510211 PERS in the amount of \$1,020.56

Mr. Abraham duly seconded this motion.

Roll Call Vote: .., Mr. Siegfried..., “yea’ .., Mr. Mason..., “yea”.., Mr. Abraham..., “yea”

**IN THE MATTER OF  
TRANSFER OF FUNDS – GENERAL FUND, CORONER: 23-T-222**

Mr. Mason made a motion to approve the following transfer of funds:

\*\*Reason – to cover negatives for last pay of 2023

From 1000-0014-510213 Medicare to 1000-0014-510110 Coroner Wages in the amount of \$.30

Mr. Siegfried duly seconded this motion.

Roll Call Vote: .., Mr. Siegfried..., “yea’ .., Mr. Mason..., “yea”.., Mr. Abraham..., “yea”

**IN THE MATTER OF  
TRANSFER OF FUNDS – SOCIAL SERVICES FUND 2072: 23-T-223**

Mr. Siegfried made a motion to approve the following transfer of funds:

\*\*Reason – to cover negatives for last pay of 2023

From 2072-0172-510130 Employee Wages to 2072-0172-510211 PERS in the amount of \$63.26

Mr. Abraham duly seconded this motion.

Roll Call Vote: .., Mr. Siegfried..., “yea’ .., Mr. Mason..., “yea”.., Mr. Abraham..., “yea”

**IN THE MATTER OF  
TRANSFER OF FUNDS – SOMOCO FUND 5110: 23-T-224**

Mr. Mason made a motion to approve the following transfer of funds:

\*\*Reason – to cover negatives for last pay of 2023

From 5110-5101-510211 PERS to 5110-5101-510213 Medicare in the amount of \$5.91

Mr. Siegfried duly seconded this motion.

Roll Call Vote: .., Mr. Siegfried..., “yea’ .., Mr. Mason..., “yea”.., Mr. Abraham..., “yea”

**IN THE MATTER OF  
TRANSFER OF FUNDS – ENGINEER’S FUND 2202: 23-T-225**

At the request of Toni Ridge, Engineer’s office, a motion was made by Mr. Abraham to approve the following transfer of funds:

\*\*Reason – for year-end payroll shortage

From 2202-2002-510121 Tax Map Wages to 2202-2002-510120 Admin Support Wages in the amount of \$445.64

Mr. Mason duly seconded this motion.

Roll Call Vote: .., Mr. Siegfried..., "yea" .., Mr. Mason..., "yea" .., Mr. Abraham..., "yea"

**IN THE MATTER OF**

**TRANSFER OF FUNDS – GENERAL FUND, BOARD OF ELECTIONS: 23-T-226**

At the request of April Baker, Deputy Director, a motion was made by Mr. Mason to approve the following transfer of funds:

\*\*Reason – to cover negatives for last pay of 2023

From 1000-0016-530346 Copier Lease to 1000-0016-510211 OPERS in the amount of \$695.15

From 1000-0016-530346 Copier Lease to 1000-0016-510150 BOE Members Wages in the amount of \$.16

Mr. Siegfried duly seconded this motion.

Roll Call Vote: .., Mr. Siegfried..., "yea" .., Mr. Mason..., "yea" .., Mr. Abraham..., "yea"

**IN THE MATTER OF**

**TRANSFER OF FUNDS – AUDITOR'S FUND 2706 REAL ESTATE ASSESSMENT: 23-T-227**

At the request of Conni McChesney, Auditor, a motion was made by Mr. Abraham to approve the following transfer of funds:

\*\*Reason – to cover negatives for last pay of 2023

From 2706-7006-510220 Health Insurance to 2706-7006-510211 OPERS in the amount of \$28.00

From 2706-7006-510220 Health Insurance to 2706-7006-510130 Employee Wages in the amount of \$1,819.00

Mr. Mason duly seconded this motion.

Roll Call Vote: .., Mr. Siegfried..., "yea" .., Mr. Mason..., "yea" .., Mr. Abraham..., "yea"

**IN THE MATTER OF**

**TRANSFER OF FUNDS – GENERAL FUND, RECORDER: 23-T-228**

At the request of Dixie Shinaberry, Recorder, a motion was made by Mr. Siegfried to approve the following transfer of funds:

\*\*Reason – to cover negatives for last pay of 2023

From 1000-4220-510120 Employee Wages to 1000-4220-510211 PERS in the amount of \$724.77

Mr. Mason duly seconded this motion.

Roll Call Vote: .., Mr. Siegfried..., "yea" .., Mr. Mason..., "yea" .., Mr. Abraham..., "yea"

**IN THE MATTER OF**

**TRANSFER OF FUNDS – GENERAL FUND, PROSECUTOR: 23-T-229**

At the request of Thomas J. Smith, Prosecutor, a motion was made by Mr. Abraham to approve the following transfer of funds:

\*\*Reason – to cover negatives for last pay of 2023

From 1000-4404-510213 Medicare to 1000-4447-510211 OPERS in the amount of \$277.53

Mr. Mason duly seconded this motion.

Roll Call Vote: .., Mr. Siegfried..., "yea" .., Mr. Mason..., "yea" .., Mr. Abraham..., "yea"

**IN THE MATTER OF**

**TRANSFER OF FUNDS – PROSECUTOR'S FUND 2448, VICTIM WITNESS VOCA GRANT: 23-T-230**

At the request of Thomas J. Smith, Prosecutor, a motion was made by Mr. Abraham to approve the following transfer of funds:

\*\*Reason – to cover negatives for last pay of 2023

From 2448-4447-510220 Health Insurance to 2448-4447-510211 OPERS in the amount of \$270.72

Mr. Mason duly seconded this motion.

Roll Call Vote: .., Mr. Siegfried..., “yea’ .., Mr. Mason..., “yea”.., Mr. Abraham.., “yea”

**IN THE MATTER OF  
TRANSFER OF FUNDS – GENERAL FUND, TREASURER: 23-T-231**

At the request of Jim Jahn, Treasurer, a motion was made by Mr. Siegfried to approve the following transfer of funds:

\*\*Reason – to cover negative in OPERS

From 1000-3003-530379 Reimbursement to 1000-3003-510211 OPERS in the amount of \$500.00

Mr. Abraham duly seconded this motion.

Roll Call Vote: .., Mr. Siegfried..., “yea’ .., Mr. Mason..., “yea”.., Mr. Abraham.., “yea”

**IN THE MATTER OF  
APPROVAL TO AUTHORIZE THE SUBMISSION OF PRE-APPLICATION TO FAA FOR MORROW COUNTY AIRPORT – FUEL FARM INSTALL AND APPROVAL FOR COMMISSIONER SIEGFRIED TO SIGN: 23-R-979**

Mr. Mason made a motion to authorize the submission of Pre-Application to FAA for Morrow County Airport – Fuel Farm install and approval for Commissioner Tim Siegfried to sign application.

Mr. Abraham duly seconded this motion.

Roll Call Vote: .., Mr. Siegfried..., “yea’ .., Mr. Mason..., “yea”.., Mr. Abraham.., “yea”

**IN THE MATTER OF  
APPROVAL TO AUTHORIZE THE SUBMISSION OF PRE-APPLICATION TO FAA FOR MORROW COUNTY AIRPORT – RELOCATE WINDSOCK AND APPROVAL FOR COMMISSIONER SIEGFRIED TO SIGN: 23-R-980**

Mr. Abraham made a motion to authorize the submission of Pre-Application to FAA for Morrow County Airport – Relocate Windsock and approval for Commissioner Tim Siegfried to sign application.

Mr. Mason duly seconded this motion.

Roll Call Vote: .., Mr. Siegfried..., “yea’ .., Mr. Mason..., “yea”.., Mr. Abraham.., “yea”

**IN THE MATTER OF  
APPROVAL OF PAY APPLICATION #6, SIMONSON CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, INC., SOMOCO WWTP & OUTFALL SEWER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT: 23-R-981**

Mr. Siegfried made a motion to approve Pay Application #6, Simonson Construction Services, Inc.:

CONTRACTOR’S ESTIMATE

APPLICATION #6

To (Owner): Morrow Co Commissioners

Period to: 11/30/2023

From (Contractor): Simonson Construction Services, Inc.  
2112 Troy Road  
Ashland, Ohio 44805

Original Contract Sum:	\$3,839,000.00
Change orders	\$ 0.00
Current Contract Price	\$3,839,000.00
Total completed and Stored to Date	\$1,293,063.80

Total retainage	\$ 53,090.94
Total Earned less retainage	\$1,239,972.86
Less previous payments	\$1,123,365.06
<b>Current payment due</b>	<b>\$ 116,607.80</b>

s/Contractor – Simonson Construction 12/11/2023

s/Engineer – Steven Wonderly, Kleinfelder 12/20/2023

s/Jamie Brucker, Director of Operations/Morrow County 12/20/2023

Mr. Mason duly seconded this motion.

Roll Call Vote: .., Mr. Siegfried..., “yea’ .., Mr. Mason..., “yea”.., Mr. Abraham.., “yea”

**IN THE MATTER OF  
APPROVAL OF SUPPLEMENTAL MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN  
JUVENILE COURT OF RICHLAND COUNTY, OHIO AND THE JUVENILE COURT OF  
MORROW COUNTY, OHIO: 23-R-982**

Mr. Abraham made a motion to approve the Supplemental Memorandum of Understanding between Juvenile Court of Richland County, Ohio and the Juvenile Court of Morrow County, Ohio:

**SUPPLEMENTAL MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

THIS SUPPLEMENTAL MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING entered into this 1<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2024, by and between the JUVENILE COURT OF RICHLAND COUNTY, OHIO, and the JUVENILE COURT OF MORROW COUNTY, OHIO for the sole purpose of establishing the DETENTION FACILITY per diem rate:

WITNESSETH that;

WHEREAS, the BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF RICHLAND COUNTY, OHIO, and the BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MORROW COUNTY, OHIO, have entered into an agreement for the purchase of detention services, and

WHEREAS, MORROW COUNTY JUVEILE COURT is desirous of purchasing detention services for the secure detainment of alleged or adjudicated delinquent youth by the MORROW COUNTY JUVENILE COURT at the RICHLAND COUNTY JUVENILE DETENTION FACILITY, 411 South Diamond Street, Mansfield, Ohio 44902, at a fixed per diem rate of \$100.00 per day during calendar year 2024 for each youth committed and

WHEREAS, RICHLAND COUNTY is willing to receive youth committed to the aforesaid facility from MORROW COUNTY, subject to bed space availability, at a fixed per diem rate of \$100.00 during calendar year 2024 and

NOW, THEREFORE, the JUVENILE COURT OF RICHLAND COUNTY, OHIO, and the JUVENILE COURT OF MORROW COUNTY, OHIO agree as follows:

THE CALENDAR YEAR 2024 PER DIEM FOR EACH YOUTH COMMITTED SHALL BE FIXED AT \$100.00.

THE TRANSPORTATION COSTS FOR THE OCCASIONAL TRANSPORT OF JUVENILES TO AND FROM THE FACILITY, WHILE THE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY OF MORROW COUNTY, SHALL BE AT THE RATE OF 65 ¢ PER MILE AND \$19.50 PER HOUR, PER TRIP, PER COURT EMPLOYEE.

s/Steve McKinley 12/14/23  
Judge, Richland County Juvenile Court  
Court

s/Robert C. Hickson Jr., 12/21/23  
Judge, Morrow County Common Pleas  
Court

Mr. Mason duly seconded this motion.

Roll Call Vote: .., Mr. Siegfried..., “yea’ .., Mr. Mason..., “yea”.., Mr. Abraham.., “yea”

**IN THE MATTER OF  
ACCEPT RESIGNATION OF D. WHITNEY SMITH, ASSISTANT CLERK: 23-R-983**

Mr. Abraham made a motion to approve accepting the resignation of D. Whitney Smith, with regrets as Assistant Clerk effective January 12, 2024.

Mr. Siegfried duly seconded this motion.

Roll Call Vote: .., Mr. Siegfried..., "yea" .., Mr. Mason..., "yea"..., Mr. Abraham..., "yea"

**IN THE MATTER OF  
APPROVAL TO RECESS SESSION: 23-R-984**

Mr. Abraham made a motion to recess session at 9:11 a.m.

Mr. Mason duly seconded this motion.

Roll Call Vote: .., Mr. Siegfried..., "yea" .., Mr. Mason..., "yea"..., Mr. Abraham..., "yea"

**IN THE MATTER OF  
APPROVAL TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION: 23-R-985**

Mr. Abraham made a motion to return to regular session at 11:00 a.m.

Mr. Mason duly seconded this motion.

Roll Call Vote: .., Mr. Siegfried..., "yea" .., Mr. Mason..., "yea"..., Mr. Abraham..., "yea"

**11:00 Appropriations Hearing**

**IN THE MATTER OF  
APPROVAL OF FINAL GENERAL FUND AND ALL FUNDS OUTSIDE GENERAL FUND  
BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS FOR 2024: 20-A-197**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Morrow County Commissioners must approve budget appropriations each year pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 5705.38; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners held a public hearing this day, December 27, 2023 to discuss the final general fund budget appropriations;

**THEREFORE**, Mr. Siegfried made a motion to approve the Final General Fund Appropriations in the amount of \$16,185,287.17 for fiscal year 2024 and the 2024 Budget Appropriations for all funds outside the general fund.

Mr. Abraham duly seconded this motion.

Roll Call Vote: .., Mr. Siegfried..., "yea" .., Mr. Mason..., "yea"..., Mr. Abraham..., "yea"

**IN THE MATTER OF  
APPROVAL TO RECESS SESSION: 23-R-986**

Mr. Abraham made a motion to recess session at 11:06 a.m.

Mr. Mason duly seconded this motion.

Roll Call Vote: .., Mr. Siegfried..., "yea" .., Mr. Mason..., "yea"..., Mr. Abraham..., "yea"

**IN THE MATTER OF  
APPROVAL TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION: 23-R-987**

Mr. Abraham made a motion to return to regular session at 11:06 a.m.

Mr. Mason duly seconded this motion.

Roll Call Vote: .., Mr. Siegfried..., "yea" .., Mr. Mason..., "yea"..., Mr. Abraham..., "yea"

**IN THE MATTER OF  
RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF MERCURY BROADBAND PROJECT IN  
MORROW COUNTY: 23-R-988**

Mr. Abraham made a motion that the Morrow County Board of Commissioners approve this resolution that communicates Morrow County's support for a broadband fiber optic network project that Mercury Broadband is proposing for Morrow County.

Mercury Broadband is already investing their capital to build a fiber optic network in Morrow County, in cooperation with an FCC Rural Digital Opportunity Fund grant. This board resolution states that we

welcome Mercury’s plans to expand their fiber network design to provide high speed, reliable, unlimited, and easy to use broadband service by approximately 32 miles to an estimated 228 additional unserved and underserved Marrow County residents. This would be accomplished through Mercury Broadband’s incremental investment, tied to participation and success in the upcoming Ohio Residential Broadband Expansion Grant Program (ORBEG). This resolution does not obligate in any way the use of Morrow County financial resources, nor does it obligate Mercury Broadband’s participation in the ORBEG program.

If Mercury Broadband were to invest and receive an ORBEG grant award, it would benefit our county and community in numerous material ways that enrich personal and professional lives. Examples include remote education, remote work, Telehealth, business commerce, personal communications/connections, recruitment and retention of residents and businesses, neighborhood residential developments, and so much more.

Mercury Broadband has been in business for more than sixteen years and builds broadband networks that offer fast, reliable, unlimited, and easy to use internet and digital phone services, in rural communities across six midwestern states.

Mr. Mason duly seconded this motion.

Roll Call Vote: .., Mr. Siegfried..., “yea’ .., Mr. Mason..., “yea”.., Mr. Abraham.., “yea”

There being no further matters to bring before the board, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Abraham and duly seconded by Mr. Siegfried.

Roll Call Vote: .., Mr. Siegfried..., “yea’ .., Mr. Mason..., “yea”.., Mr. Abraham.., “yea”

We hereby certify the foregoing to be true and correct.

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRMAN

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\_\_\_\_\_  
CLERK

\_\_\_\_\_

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ASSISTANT CLERK

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MORROW COUNTY COMMISSIONERS