



Board of County Commissioners  
Butler County, Ohio

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

22-04-00534

**Donald L. Dixon**  
President

**T.C. Rogers**  
Vice President

**Cindy Carpenter**  
Member

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**Water and Sewer Rate Adjustments**

**Water and Sewer  
An Inter-Departmental Review**

**Target Meeting: 4/4/22**

**Summary**

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Approve water and sanitary sewer rate adjustments and authorize the Director of the Butler County Water and Sewer Department, with consensus from the County Administrator, to take any and all steps and actions necessary with Prosecutor approval as to form, to increase the current water rate 3.0% and the current sanitary sewer rate 3.0% effective June 1, 2022 and to adjust the water rate an additional 2.0% and the sanitary sewer rate an additional 3.0% effective January 1, 2023.

**Justification**

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Rate adjustments are needed to adequately cover projected costs of providing public water and sewer service.

**Recommendation**

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Staff recommends approval.

**Approved by:**

**Martha Shelby**  
Martha Shelby

3/18/2022

**Judi Boyko**  
Judi Boyko, County Administrator

3/23/2022



Board of County Commissioners  
Butler County, Ohio

**RESOLUTION**

22-04-00534

**Cindy Carpenter**  
President

**Donald L. Dixon**  
Vice President

**T.C. Rogers**  
Member

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**Water and Sewer Rate Adjustments**

The Board of County Commissioners of Butler County, Ohio met in Regular Meeting on the 4th day of April, 2022 in the Commission Chambers of the Butler County Government Services Center, 315 High Street, 2nd Floor, Hamilton, Ohio 45011.

**Whereas** the last treatment of water and sewer rates for Butler County was last considered in April 2009 through Resolution 09-04-0722 where rates were lowered;

**Whereas** the water and sewer rates in Butler County have remained unchanged for 13 years since their lowering in 2009;

**Whereas** since 2015, other local government utilities have implemented average increases of 3.4% annually. This results in a 27.0% cumulative rate increase for other jurisdictions with Butler County Board of Commissioners holding rates constant with 0.0% rate increases;

**Whereas** out of over 60 jurisdictions polled in the region, participating in a study conducted in 2022 and prepared by the City of Piqua (the "Study") (fka the City of Oakwood Study), Butler County water and sanitary sewer rates are the 5<sup>th</sup> least expensive;

**Whereas** the proposed rate increases are less than the average rate increases experienced by the water and sewer utilities participating in the Study;

**Whereas** funds collected from Butler County water and sewer rates are used for operations and investment into the County system;

**Whereas** 2022 will be the first year in over five years water purchase costs will

increase based on the current City of Hamilton water supply contract;

**Whereas** the City of Hamilton is the County's largest water supplier and the purchased water cost is currently 56.0% of the water operating budget;

**Whereas** a sewer master plan was recently completed indicating an increase in capital expenditures is necessary for sewer infrastructure improvements;

**Whereas** based on calculations from a cost of services study, the Butler County Financial Analysis Model indicates water and sewer rates need to increase to sufficiently cover projected costs of providing water services to the nearly 42,000 water customers and sanitary sewer service to the over 47,000 sewer users;

**Whereas** it is important to maintain the water and sewer infrastructure with continued capital improvements and to continue to deliver exceptional service and efficient operations;

**Whereas** the proposed water and sewer rate increases, starting with all meter readings taking place on or after the effective dates, will commence as illustrated:

<i><b>Effective</b></i>	<i><b>June 1, 2022</b></i>	<i><b>January 1, 2023</b></i>
Water	3.0%	2.0%
Sewer	3.0%	3.0%

**Whereas** the adjusted water and sewer rates as recommended are attached hereto as Exhibit A and B for water and sewer respectively; now, therefore, be it

**Resolved** the Board of Butler County Commissioners does hereby adopt the water rates shown on Exhibit A, attached hereto, and that the revised water rates shall be effective as proposed on Exhibit A; be it further

**Resolved** the Board of Butler County Commissioners does hereby adopt the sewer rates shown on Exhibit B, attached hereto, and that the revised sewer rates shall be effective as proposed on Exhibit B; be it further

**Resolved** the Board of Butler County Commissioners authorizes the Director of the Butler County Water and Sewer Department, with consensus from the County Administrator, to take any and all steps and actions necessary with Prosecutor approval as to form, to increase the current water rate 3.0% and the current sanitary sewer rate 3.0% effective June 1, 2022 and to adjust the water rate an additional 2.0% and the sanitary sewer rate an additional 3.0% effective January 1, 2023, be it further

**Resolved** the Board of County Commissioners hereby finds and determines that all formal actions relative to the adoption of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board and of its committees, which resulted in those formal actions, were in meetings open to the public in compliance with the law.

Commissioner Carpenter moved for the adoption of the foregoing resolution, Commissioner Rogers seconded the motion and upon call of the roll, the vote resulted as follows:

**RESULT:** Adopted

**AYES:** Donald Dixon, T.C. Rogers, Cindy Carpenter

**State of Ohio, County of Butler,** on this 4th day of April, 2022, the Clerk of the Board does hereby certify that 22-04-00534 is a true, exact, complete and unaltered electronic record of the Butler County Board of Commissioners.

[Flora Butler](#)

Flora Butler, Clerk of the Board

