

OCTOBER 13 – MEETING 43
VOLUME 29

The Ross County Board of Commissioners met on this day, October 13, 2026, in regular session.

Commissioner Jack Everson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., with Commissioner James Lowe and Commissioner David Glass in attendance.

Commissioner Everson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES APPROVED

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Glass seconded, the minutes of the October 5, 2026 meeting, be approved as submitted.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

BILLS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Glass seconded, the following bills of the county be approved for payment:

DEPARTMENT	PAY TO NAME	TOTAL VALUE	DEPARTMENT	PAY TO NAME	TOTAL VALUE
Juvenile Court	Amazon Capital Services	318.2	Coroner	Interactive Data LLC	125
Commissioners	State Electric Supply, Inc.	16.42	Coroner	Thomas, Jodi L.	140
Commissioners	Integrated Protection Service	102	Law Library	West Group	1280.55
Juvenile Court	Pike Co. Recovery Council	46.78	Ross County Court System	Glo Fiber	1374
Juvenile Court	Amazon Capital Services	89.76	Ross County Court System	Westside Media	30
Juvenile Court	Amazon Capital Services	520.51	Law Library	Glo Fiber	55.94
Commissioners	K&K Carpet Care of Chillicothe	15700	Commissioners	DTB Distributors, Inc.	71.21
Automatic Data Processing	CDW Government, Inc.	542.27	Commissioners	Worly Plumbing Supply, Inc.	7.47
Planning Commission	Athens County Historical Society	3256.09	Commissioners	Cheryl DuBois, Fiscal Officer	1972.63
Planning Commission	Westside Media	30	Planning Commission	Bricker Graydon LLP	20803.75
Planning Commission	Ohio Regional Development	11250	Planning Commission	Holzer Health Systems	642938.21
Automatic Data Processing	Westside Media	279	Planning Commission	Village of Greenfield	1155134.11
Building Department	City of Chillicothe Building Department	15	Planning Commission	Village of Georgetown	367838.69
Commissioners	CCAO	295	Planning Commission	Choice One Engineering Corporation	31500
Commissioners	Berglund Construction Company	8000.2	Planning Commission	City of Logan	4552
Commissioners	Berglund Construction Company	106138.04	Planning Commission	Village of Georgetown	35572.5
Commissioners	Iron City Implement	21.33	Planning Commission	City of Logan	272153.67
Commissioners	Iron City Implement	5.17	Planning Commission	City of Chillicothe Auditor's Office	3853365.64
Commissioners	RJ Wright and Sons LTD	277.57	Planning Commission	Village of Chauncey	35500
Commissioners	RJ Wright and Sons LTD	1470.97	Planning Commission	Prime Civil, LLC	250088.77
Commissioners	Geoflight LLC	1740	Juvenile Court	Integrated Services of Appalachia	6250
Commissioners	Sports Plus	812	Juvenile Court	Peachtree Monitoring	2181
Planning Commission	Belmont County Port Authority	81195.29	Juvenile Court	King, Kristen	1865
Planning Commission	C.T. CONSULTANTS INC	81585.61	Juvenile Court	King, Kristen	1260
Commissioners	Sam's Club Direct	116.9	Juvenile Court	E.B. Evaluations, Inc	3700
Planning Commission	WALLACE & PANCHER INC	29500	Juvenile Court	JAMES SZORADY	72.5
Commissioners	The FoulkeBlock LTD	2700	Probate Court	J. JEFFREY BENSON	73.95
Board of Elections	The Water Express	28	Probate Court	MATTHEW SUTHERLAND	90.63
Common Pleas Court #1	Amazon Capital Services	12.66	Probate Court	Hirsch Law LLC	200
Auditor	LUKE FEENEY	125	Probate Court	Hill, Laura J.	750
Ross County Court System	Lexis-Nexis	450	Probate Court	Coleman Professional Services	14236.84
Adult Probation	Wex Bank	198.18	Juvenile Court	SHANNA HAYBRON	688.39
Planning Commission	JOHN W'HEMMINGS III	16806.58	Probate Court	Globe Furniture	65
Board of Elections	Go2ITGroup	1824.44	Planning Commission	Equity Construction Solutions	273695.49
Common Pleas Court #2	Clevenger, Leah	112	Clerk of Courts	JEFF LEHNER	245.36
Commissioners	Chillicothe Utilities Dept.	269.12	Clerk of Courts	Printex Printing	60
Commissioners	Ross Co. Water Company	156.46	Auditor	Fairfield Computer Services	165
Commissioners	Ross Co. Water Company	28.83	Auditor	Chillicothe Utilities Dept.	910.79
Commissioners	Sports Plus	233	Auditor	Glo Fiber	763.39
Commissioners	Child Protection Center of Franklin County	15000	Emergency Management	Joshua James Garrett	219.95
Automatic Data Processing	Amazon Capital Services	145	Auditor	Treasurer - State of Ohio	77.4
Commissioners	Integrated Protection Service	3894.87	Sheriff	Sunny Communications, Inc	551.97
Adult Probation	Thomson Reuters - West	381.59	Sheriff	Friends Service Co. Inc	43.4
Commissioners	Juvenile Detention Center	93425.21	Sheriff	Friends Service Co. Inc	46.29
Building Department	Treasurer, State of Ohio/BB	128.33	Sheriff	Friends Service Co. Inc	6.75
Building Department	Treasurer, State of Ohio/BB	6.2	Sheriff	Adena Medical Group, LLC	68.35
Building Department	Treasurer, State of Ohio/BB	17.75	Sheriff	Aramark Services, Inc	9471.98
Commissioners	Rumpke Of Ohio, Inc	596.85	Sheriff	Ross County Sheriff's Dept.	5000
Commissioners	American Electric Power	10840.22	Sheriff	Ross County Sheriff's Dept.	5000
Commissioners	Glo Fiber	60.75	Sheriff	Glo Fiber	263.51
Auditor	Fried, Claire R. Attorney At Law	90	Sheriff	Rumpke Of Ohio, Inc	71.51
Commissioners	Glacier Mountain Bottled Water	14	Sheriff	Glo Fiber	79.95
Auditor	Fried, Claire R. Attorney At Law	97.5	Sheriff	Wex Bank	2914.06
Commissioners	Waste Management of Ohio	448.8	Sheriff	Amazon Capital Services	967.96
Commissioners	Waste Management of Ohio	306.67	Sheriff	Amazon Capital Services	296.22
Commissioners	Waste Management of Ohio	229.01	Common Pleas Court #2	Office Depot Inc.	889.15
Commissioners	Waste Management of Ohio	1785.56	Common Pleas Court #2	Printex Printing	250
Auditor	Benson, Melinda J	262.5	Prosecuting Attorney	Gordon Flesch Co, Inc.	136
Auditor	Benson, Melinda J	307.5	Prosecuting Attorney	Gordon Flesch Co, Inc.	378.57
Auditor	Benson, Melinda J	487.5	Common Pleas Court #2	Speirs, Tammy	1002
Board of Elections	Printex Printing	72	Sheriff	DTB Distributors, Inc.	543.89
Engineer	Advance Auto Parts	112.57	Sheriff	DTB Distributors, Inc.	1171.35
Engineer	B & C Communications	500.68	Sheriff	DTB Distributors, Inc.	77.96
Engineer	Cintas Corporation # 530	390.18	Sheriff	Ratcliff, Roger	136.3
Engineer	Coppel Coal & Supply Co.	90.6	Sheriff	Columbus Radiology Corp	552.73
Engineer	Detillion Fence Co., Inc.	7229	Sheriff	Treasurer - State of Ohio	2574
Engineer	Fastenal Company	60.82	Sheriff	PAUL HAWK	90
Engineer	Friends Service Co. Inc	181.37	Sheriff	Charter Communications Holdings	377.77
Engineer	Happy to Help Cleaning Services	750	Sheriff	Fayette County Commissioner	1237.5
Engineer	Iron City Implement	396.57	Sheriff	Chillicothe Utilities Dept.	5920.37
Engineer	Kenworth Truck Co.	108.64	Sheriff	Wex Bank	20953.77
Engineer	Walter Laubensheimer	840	Sheriff	Hooking College	8025
Engineer	Lowe's	674.25	Sheriff	Hooking College	8025
Engineer	Ohio AFSCME Care Plan	450	Sheriff	AT&T	140
Building Department	Town & County Engineering & Surveying	4650	Sheriff	Davis Tire of Chillicothe	721.8
Building Department	JOSH HETTINGER	33.95	Auditor	Sparkle Cleaners	109.45
Commissioners	Detillion Landscape Materials	120	Sheriff	City of Chillicothe Auditor's Office	6329.67
Auditor	Benson, Melinda J	457.5	Sheriff	Sparkle Cleaners	19.9
Automatic Data Processing	VC3 INC	3549.84	Sheriff	Galls, LLC	206.5
Engineer	Riffle & Son Machine Works	50	Sheriff	HEIDI ROLFE	13.92
Engineer	Rush Truck Centers of Ohio	2275.67	Ross County Court System	Gordon Flesch Co., Inc.	1467.95
Commissioners	Davis Tire of Chillicothe	18	Auditor	Ross Co. Water Company	97.55
Adult Probation	The Garden Family Advocacy	535.47	Auditor	Benson, Melinda J	360
Engineer	US Postal Service	820	Auditor	Benson, Melinda J	412.5
Engineer	Tow Path Materials	580	Auditor	Benson, Melinda J	105
Engineer	Shelly & Sands, Inc	41979.32	Auditor	Benson, Melinda J	562.5
Commissioners	Jack's Equipment Repair LTD	72.38	Auditor	Benson, Melinda J	570
Engineer	Shelly & Sands, Inc	2791.9	Auditor	Benson, Melinda J	652.5
Treasurer	Amanda L Stewart	220	Auditor	Benson, Melinda J	112.5
Treasurer	ADVANTAGE LASER PRODUCTS	96.23	Auditor	Benson, Melinda J	135
Commissioners	Worly Plumbing Supply, Inc.	407.92	Auditor	ANTHONY M SKOWRONEK	150
Treasurer	Amazon Capital Services	31.15	Auditor	Rutherford, Chase Colin	75
Engineer	B & C Communications	224.62	Auditor	Rutherford, Chase Colin	75
Treasurer	Glacier Mountain Bottled Water	9	Auditor	Rutherford, Chase Colin	75
Auditor	Vision Government Solutions	4724	Auditor	Rutherford, Chase Colin	75
Auditor	Geoflight LLC	390	Auditor	Rutherford, Chase Colin	75
Auditor	Printex Printing	700	Auditor	Rutherford, Chase Colin	75
Auditor	USA TODAY MEDIA CORPORATION	102.59	Auditor	Rutherford, Chase Colin	75
Auditor	Printex Printing	1400	Auditor	Rutherford, Chase Colin	75
Building Department	OHIO BUILDING OFFICIALS	25	Auditor	Fried, Claire R. Attorney At Law	202.5
Engineer	Reese Tatman	500	Auditor	Benson, Melinda J	82.5
Engineer	Timothy Sams	500	Auditor	Benson, Melinda J	300
Engineer	Southeastern Equipment Company	1338.73	Auditor	Benson, Melinda J	390
Planning Commission	Treasurer, State of Ohio	400000	Auditor	Benson, Melinda J	187.5
Commissioners	Iron City Implement	12.23	Auditor	Benson, Melinda J	315
Commissioners	Accurate Heating & Cooling	2470	Auditor	Benson, Melinda J	60
Commissioners	Accurate Heating & Cooling	25	Auditor	Benson, Melinda J	202.5
Commissioners	THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY	75000	Auditor	Michael Lucas Benson	225
Commissioners	Fisher, Brent	170	Auditor	Glo Fiber	863.2
Commissioners	Worly Plumbing Supply, Inc.	322.83	Auditor	Glo Fiber	640
Commissioners	Speer Mechanical	1065.22	Auditor	American Electric Power	4631.47
Commissioners	First Communications, LLC	3.27	Sheriff	MOBILEXUSA	1685
Prosecuting Attorney	Microsystems Inc	428.66			
Prosecuting Attorney	Lexis-Nexis	863			
Prosecuting Attorney	Gordon Flesch Co, Inc.	14.4			

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

THEN & NOW CERTIFICATES APPROVED

Mr. Glass moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, the Ross County Board of Commissioners approve "Then & Now" Certificates, dated September 28, 2026 through October 12, 2026, in the amount of \$67,544.30 prepared by the Office of the Ross County Auditor and certified by the auditor as to the appropriation of funds for the purpose of encumbering the sum of the contract(s) or order(s) outlined therein, or the imminent collection of funds for credit to the appropriated fund(s) of the county, and as to the availability of funds for transfer within the appropriate department(s).

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Glass seconded, to transfer \$8,691.42 from account code 100-01-04-7012 PERS Maintenance, into account codes 100-01-04-7017 Medicare Maintenance (\$3,676.35) and account code 100-01-04-7014 Group Insurance (\$5,015.07), per a request of October 13, 2026 from the Ross County Commissioners.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes Motion carried.

Mr. Glass moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to transfer \$19,478.00 from account code 208-02-00-7001 Salaries Employees into account code 208-02-00-7104 Indirect Costs, per a request of October 13, 2026 from the Ross County Auditor.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Glass moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to transfer \$1,500.00 from account code 100-01-04-7103 Contract Services into account code 100-01-04-7550 Other Expenses, per a request of October 13, 2026, from the Ross County Commissioners.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Glass seconded, to transfer \$11,285.52 from account code 215-15-00-7001 Salaries Employees into account code 215-15-00-7014 Group Insurance (\$685.52) and account code 215-15-00-7103 Contract Services (\$10,600.00), per a request of October 13, 2026, from the Ross County EMA.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes, Motion carried.

Mr. Glass moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to transfer \$1,800.62 from account code 237-20-50-7013 Workers Comp into account code 237-20-50-7015 Unemployment, per a request of October 13, 2026, from the Ross County Title Department.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Glass seconded, to transfer \$500.00 from account code 100-33-00-7100 Travel into account code 100-33-00-7001 Salaries Employees, \$1,500.00 from 100-33-00-7200 Equipment and account code 215-15-00-7103 into account code 100-33-00-7001 Salaries Employees, and \$309.00 from 100-33-00-7200 Equipment into account code 100-33-00-7012 PERS, per a request of October 13, 2026, from the Ross County Probate Court Administrator.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes, Motion carried.

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Glass seconded, to transfer \$700,582.86 from account code 420-07-32-7474 Serpent into account code 420-07-32-7456 Georgetown (\$110,577.50), and from account code 420-07-32-7473 Ross Admin into account codes, 420-07-32-7459 Leesburg (\$7 823.27) account code 420-07-32-7460 Lynchburg (\$12,225.54), account code 420-07-32-7470 Blackhorse (\$11,509.04) and account code 420-07-31-7471 Theatre, per a request of October 13, 2026, from the Ross County Planning Commission.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes, Motion carried.

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Glass seconded, to transfer \$225.00 from account code 400-11-02-7717 Attorney Fees into account code 100-11-02-7121 Foreign Judges, per a request of October 13, 2026, from the Ross County Auditor.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes, Motion carried.

Mr. Glass moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to transfer \$69.80 from account code 100-00-00-7135 Claims & Judgements into account code 100-00-00-7108 Audit Expense, per a request of October 13, 2026, from the Ross County Auditor.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Glass seconded, to appropriate \$37,680.49 from General Fund into account code 100-01-04-7014 Group Insurance Maintenance and \$249,757.97 into account code 100-01-04-7001 Salaries Employees, per a request of October 13, 2026, from the Ross County Commissioners.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes, Motion carried.

Mr. Glass moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to appropriate \$.01 from State Grant ACGP Fund into account code 420-07-32-7475 Brow-Grant, per a request of October 13, 2026, from the Ross County Planning Commission.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Glass seconded, to appropriate \$31,637.77 from General Fund into account code 100-22-00-7108 County Share, per a request of October 13, 2026, from the Ross County Auditor.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes, Motion carried.

Mr. Glass moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to appropriate \$287,438.46 from General Fund into account codes 100-01-04-7014 Group Insurance Maintenance (\$37,680.49) and into account code 100-01-04-7001 Salaries Employees (\$249,757.97), per a request of October 13, 2026, from the Ross County Commissioners.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Glass seconded, to appropriate \$25.00 from CLE Fund into account code 212-29-01-7550 Other Expense, per a request of October 13, 2026, from the Ross County Sheriff.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes, Motion carried

Mr. Glass moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to appropriate \$8,742.34 from Specialized Docket Subsidy Grant Fund into account code 420-20-15-7801 Reimb. General Fund per a request of October 13, 2026, from the Ross County Court Administrator.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS VOCA/CASA

Mr. Glass moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to approve signing the Equal Employment Opportunity Plan Certifications for Ross County CASA. This funded entity, as a for-profit entity or a state or local government having 50 or more employees, was awarded, through this grant from the Office of Justice Programs more than \$25,000, but less than \$500,000 in federal U.S. Department of Justice funds.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

MASTER COMMERCIAL SERVICES AGREEMENT SHENTEL/GLOFIBER

Mr. Glass moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to approve the Master Commercial Services Agreement between Shentel Asset Entity I LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, doing business as Glo Fiber Business and Board of County Commissioners of Ross County, Ohio, a political subdivision of the State of Ohio. This agreement is for internet service and 3 dedicated lines in the Ross County Courts and Clerk’s office, for a monthly recurring cost of \$1,800.00 for 60 months.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH A TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT MONTROSE GROUP LLC

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Glass seconded, to establish a Transportation Improvement District to fund and manage projects in targeted areas in the County that are positioned to encourage private sector investment, encourage the movement of goods and services, and enhance public safety. The Ross County Commissioners would like to hire a consultant to take them through the process of establishing the TID and applying to the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) for an annual allocation of operating and project funds up to \$500,000. The county shall pay Montrose a set fee of \$25,000.00 to provide TID establishment services paid out over a 5-month period.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS PLEASANT VALLEY REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mr. Glass moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to approve the appointment from the Union Township Trustees, of Mr. Terry Thompson, to the Pleasant Valley Regional Sewer District Board of Directors. This appointment fills the recent vacancy created with the resignation of Mr. Tim Reichelderfer. The appointment is effective immediately for a three-year term ending October 31, 2029.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Glass seconded, to approve the reappointment from the Scioto Township Trustees, of Ms. Betty Doles, to the Pleasant Valley Regional Sewer District Board of Directors for a three-year term expiring on October 31, 2029.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE 2027 APPROVED

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Glass seconded, to approve the 2027 Holiday Schedule, which follows the Federal Holiday Schedule.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

DRAWINGS FOR PROPOSED BUILDING FOR BUCK FIFTY 1738 ANDERSON STATION ROAD

Mr. Glass moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to approve the preliminary plans for the construction of a pole barn for storage of Buck 50 items, located 1738 Anderson Station Road. Plans will be sent to the building department for the proper permitting and inspections.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

BID OPENING ROSS COUNTY JAIL SECURITY UPGRADES PROJECT

Bids were opened at 11:00 a.m., as advertised, in the Commissioners’ Conference Room for the Ross County Jail Security Upgrades Project. One bid was received from IP Systems of Valley View, Ohio, in the amount of \$450,350.00. The bid will be reviewed by the security team for evaluation and recommendation prior to the consideration of a bid award.

SECURETECH SYSTEMS INC QUOTE

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Glass seconded, to approve a quote from SecureTech Systems, Inc. for service, battery replacement and warranty extension on the emergency alert buttons throughout the courthouse. Total cost is \$2,782.50.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

CHANGE ORDERS 7,8,9 TAM CONSTRUCTION 104 SEWER PROJECT

Mr. Glass moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to approve Change Order 7, location adjustment for Pump Station 2, for \$33,455.00, Change Order 8, addition of a lateral connection at 1629 Stone Road, for \$1,100.00 and Change Order 9, installation of 18” culvert and limestone, for \$3,500.00.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

AMENDMENT 4 ACGP DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Glass seconded, to approve Amendment No. 4 to the ACGP grant agreement between Ross County and the Department of Development. The Department of Development decreased the grant award to \$154,675,958.00 due to projects not using the full project award.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

AMENDMENT GEORGETOWN STREETSCAPE

Mr. Glass moved, Mr. Lowe seconded, to approve the amendment to the ACGP grant agreement between Ross County and the Village of Georgetown. The Department of Development increased the project award by \$75,000.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

AMENDMENT BLACK HORSE INN

Mr. Lowe moved, Mr. Glass seconded, to approve an amendment to the ACGP grant agreement between Ross County and the Belmont County Port Authority. The Department of Development increased the project award by \$11,509.01.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

The following resolution was passed at the regular meeting of the Ross County Board of Commissioners on October 13, 2026, with Jack A. Everson, James E. Lowe, and David Glass, in attendance:

**ROSS COUNTY SERVICE CENTER ROOM RESERVATION POLICY
RESOLUTION 035-26**

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish consistent procedures for the scheduling and use of conference rooms and meeting spaces located within Ross County Government buildings.County facilities are primarily intended to support the efficient operation of county government. Conference rooms may also be made available for appropriate governmental agency renters, civic, and organizational meetings when such use does not interfere with county operations, public access, safety, or previously scheduled county renter.

PRIORITY OF USE

- Conference rooms shall generally be scheduled according to the following priority:
- Official meetings of the Ross County Board of Commissioners.
- Agencies within the building
- Meetings, boards, commissions, committees, and other county bodies.
- Official county department and employee meetings.

Meetings involving other governmental agencies or public entities conducting official business with Ross County. Other appropriate uses approved by the County. County business and official public meetings shall take priority over previously approved secondary uses when necessary. The County reserves the right to relocate, modify, or cancel a reservation when the room is required for official county business, an emergency, or another legitimate governmental purpose.

RESERVATION TIME

Users shall reserve the room for the entire period reasonably necessary for setup, the meeting, and cleanup. Meetings should begin and end at the times stated on the reservation. Users shall not occupy a conference room before the beginning of their reservation unless the room is available and permission has been granted.

RESERVATION REQUIREMENT

All conference rooms must be reserved in advance through the Ross County reservation process, Ross Pike Educational Services.

Reservations should include, at a minimum:

Name of person requesting the room; Department or organization;

Telephone number and/or email address;

Date of meeting;

Beginning and ending time;

Estimated number of attendees;

Purpose of the meeting;

Room requested;

Any audiovisual or technology requirements and microphones; (microphones must be picked at the front entrance to the SCOJFS office during normal business hours 8:00am -4:30pm. At the end of the event place the microphone in the lock box) All set up, with the exception of the movable walls, is the responsibility of the user. (Requests for the portion of the movable walls to be used must be made at time of reservation)

A reservation is not considered confirmed until approval has been provided by the person or office responsible for scheduling the room.

COUNTY EMPLOYEES AND DEPARTMENTS

County employees and departments may reserve conference rooms for legitimate county business.

County departments should make reasonable efforts to use their own available meeting space before requesting rooms maintained for general county use.

Departments are responsible for ensuring that their meetings do not interfere with public access, county operations, or other approved reservations.

PUBLIC BODIES AND OFFICIAL PUBLIC MEETINGS

Meetings of county boards, commissions, committees, and other public bodies must comply with all applicable provisions of Ohio law, including the Ohio Open Meetings Act. The Ohio Open Meetings Act generally requires public bodies to conduct official business in meetings open to the public and requires reasonable advance notice of meeting times and locations. The reservation of a conference room does not, by itself, constitute compliance with any required meeting notice, agenda, posting, minutes, accessibility, or other legal requirement. The public body conducting the meeting is responsible for ensuring compliance with applicable law.

ROOM CAPACITY AND SAFETY

The posted occupancy limit of a conference room shall not be exceeded. Users shall maintain clear entrances, exits, aisles, hallways, and emergency access routes. Tables, chairs, equipment, or other items shall not be arranged in a manner that creates a safety hazard or blocks emergency exits. County staff may require a meeting to be relocated or discontinued if occupancy, fire, safety, security, or accessibility requirements are not being met.

ROOM SETUP

Unless otherwise approved, the person or organization reserving the room is responsible for:

Arranging tables and chairs;

Setting up presentation materials;

Operating personal equipment;

Cleaning the room following use; and

Returning furniture and equipment to its original location.

Folding Walls are **NOT** to be moved - **ONLY COUNTY MAINTENANCE STAFF CAN MOVE THE WALLS**

County employees are not required to provide setup or cleanup services for outside organizations.

FOOD AND BEVERAGES

Food and drink may be permitted when approved by the responsible County office. Users are responsible for cleaning all food and beverage areas and removing leftover food, containers, and trash. Food or beverages shall not be placed near County computers, audiovisual equipment, files, or other equipment where damage could occur. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited in County conference rooms.

AUDIOVISUAL EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

Use of County-owned audiovisual equipment, computers, projectors, displays, microphones, teleconferencing equipment, or other technology require prior approval. Users are responsible for providing compatible personal equipment, cables, adapters, and other materials. County staff may provide reasonable assistance when available but are not responsible for operating personal equipment belonging to an outside organization.

BUILDING ACCESS AND SECURITY

Outside organizations and individuals may be required to enter and leave the building through designated entrances. After-hours meetings require prior approval and may be subject to additional fees and security requirements. The person reserving the room is responsible for ensuring that attendees follow building access and security procedures. Doors to restricted areas, offices, records areas, and other spaces not included in the reservation shall remain closed and shall not be accessed by meeting participants.

DECORUM AND CONDUCT

All users and attendees are expected to conduct themselves in a professional and respectful manner. The following are prohibited:

Threatening, abusive, or disruptive conduct;

Illegal activity;

Damage or misuse of County property;

Blocking entrances or exits;

Activities that interfere with County employees or operations;

Unauthorized access to restricted areas; and

Any activity prohibited by law or County policy.

The County may require an individual or group to leave the premises if their conduct creates a safety concern, substantially interferes with County operations, or violates this policy or applicable law. Violation of any of the above may prohibit future use of the conference rooms.

POLITICAL AND CAMPAIGN-RELATED USE

County conference rooms are governmental facilities and shall not be used in a manner that improperly implies County endorsement or sponsorship of a candidate, political campaign, political party, or ballot issue. Any request involving political or campaign-related activity shall be reviewed by the appropriate County official or County Prosecutor, as necessary, before approval. Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to restrict lawful public meetings or otherwise interfere with rights protected by federal or state law.

COMMERCIAL USE

Conference rooms shall not be used for private commercial sales, solicitation, fundraising, or business promotion. Governmental, nonprofit, civic, educational, or community organizations may be permitted to use County meeting space when the purpose is consistent with this policy.

NONDISCRIMINATION AND CONTENT-NEUTRAL ADMINISTRATION

Reservations shall be administered in a fair and consistent manner. The County shall not deny or approve a reservation based solely on disagreement with the viewpoint or subject matter of a lawful meeting. Restrictions on use shall be based on legitimate considerations such as room availability, governmental priority, capacity, safety, security, facility protection, legal requirements, and the terms of this policy.

CANCELLATION

Users shall notify the designated reservation contact as soon as possible when a meeting is cancelled. Repeated failure to cancel reservations or repeated failure to appear for reserved meetings may result in restrictions on future reservations. The County may cancel or modify a reservation when necessary to accommodate official County business, an emergency, maintenance, security concerns, or other legitimate governmental needs.

DAMAGE AND LIABILITY

The person or organization reserving a conference room is responsible for the conduct of its participants and for reasonable care of the room and County property. Any damage, loss, or unusual maintenance resulting from the use of the facility may be referred to the responsible person or organization and may require monetary restitution. The County may require additional conditions, including proof of insurance or a written agreement, for particular uses when deemed necessary.

ACCESSIBILITY

County conference rooms shall be used in a manner consistent with applicable accessibility requirements. When a meeting requires reasonable accommodation, the person or organization responsible for the meeting should notify the appropriate County office as early as possible so that reasonable arrangements can be considered.

DENIAL OR REVOCATION OF RESERVATION

A reservation may be denied, cancelled, or revoked if:
The room is required for higher-priority County business;
The requested use violates this policy;
The anticipated attendance exceeds room capacity;
The proposed activity presents a safety or security concern;
The requester has previously violated facility-use requirements;
The information provided in the reservation request is materially inaccurate;
The use would interfere with the normal operation of County government; or
The event is after hours or on a weekend.

When practical, the County should provide the requester with an explanation for a denial or cancellation.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR ADMINISTRATION

The Ross County Board of Commissioners, or its designated representative, shall be responsible for administering this policy for conference rooms under its control. The designated reservation administrator may establish reasonable administrative procedures, including reservation forms, calendars, confirmation procedures, cancellation procedures, and room-specific rules.

EXCEPTIONS

Exceptions to this policy may be granted by the Ross County Board of Commissioners when circumstances warrant. Any exception should be documented and should not conflict with applicable federal or Ohio law.

POLICY REVIEW

This policy shall be reviewed periodically to ensure that it remains consistent with County operations, facility needs, and applicable federal and Ohio law. Questions regarding interpretation of this policy may be referred to the Ross County Board of Commissioners and, when appropriate, the Ross County Prosecuting Attorney.

On call of the roll, the vote was: Mr. Lowe, yes; Mr. Glass, yes; Mr. Everson, yes. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

Stumpage revenue payment State Forest Timber Sales – Brian Kelly ODNR presented a check in the amount of \$256,340.12 from State Timber Sales. Ross County receives, \$64,085.03, Franklin Township, \$23,203.70, Harrison Township, \$40,881.33, Southeastern LSD, \$128,170.06.

ADAMH – Melanie Brice, Executive Director discussed the relationship between ADAMH and The SPVMH facility.

Nick Rose, Program Representative Public Works Commission – discussed flood-related infrastructure damage in Ross County. County Engineer Charlie Ortman, compiled information regarding the nature and extent of the damage and any impacts to public health or safety, along with details and cost of repairs that were completed, to get roadways back open after the flooding. He will forward this information to OPWC to see if any of the repairs qualify for reimbursement.

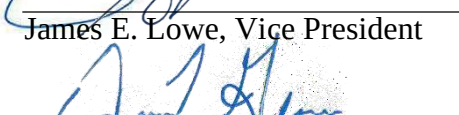
Budget Review Sessions – Engineer, IT, Commissioners

ADJOURN

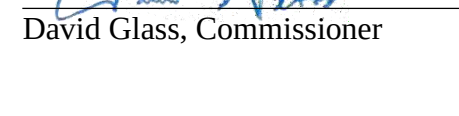
Mr. Jack A. Everson, President, adjourned the regular meeting of October 13, 2026, at 11:23 pm, Board of Commissioners of Ross County, Ohio



Jack A. Everson, President



James E. Lowe, Vice President



David Glass, Commissioner