

The Board of Commissioners met this date with all members present.

Mr. Timmons moved the minutes of the meeting held December 28, 2023, be approved as read. Mr. Morelli seconded. Roll call - Mr. Morelli, Yes; Mr. Timmons, Yes; Mr. Maple, Abstain.

IN THE MATTER OF RECEIPT OF CHECK FROM JEFFERSON GAS GATHERING CO., LLC-BONUS PAYMENT-RIGHT-OF-WAY AGREEMENT

Mr. Timmons moved the check in the amount of \$173,860.00 be accepted from Jefferson Gas Gathering Co., LLC, 19100 Ridgewood Parkway, San Antonio, TX 78259, as Bonus Payment for the Right-of-Way Agreement, and that same be deposited in the proper account 173-300-1-Gas & Oil Revenue. Mr. Morelli seconded.

Roll call - Mr. Morelli, Yes; Mr. Timmons, Yes; Mr. Maple, Yes.

IN THE MATTER OF SIGNING THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION ANNUAL COUNTY HIGHWAY SYSTEM MILEAGE CERTIFICATION (2023)-JEFFERSON COUNTY ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

Upon recommendation of Jefferson County Engineer, Mr. James F. Branagan, Mr. Morelli moved the Board of Commissioners, County of Jefferson, State of Ohio, approve and sign the 2023 Ohio Department of Transportation Annual County Highway System Mileage Certification Form, and as of December 31, 2023 ODOT has certified the county mileage to be 257.948 miles, which is less than the 261.436 for 2022, a change of minus 3.488 miles. Mr. Timmons seconded.

Roll call - Mr. Morelli, Yes; Mr. Timmons, Yes; Mr. Maple, Yes.

IN THE MATTER OF ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING FORCE ACCOUNT-YEAR 2024-JEFFERSON COUNTY ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

Upon recommendation of Jefferson County Engineer, Mr. James F. Branagan, Mr. Morelli moved the Board of Commissioners, County of Jefferson, State of Ohio, Adopt the following:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING FORCE ACCOUNT

WHEREAS, It is being determined by the Jefferson County Board of Commissioners that the health, welfare and safety of the people of Jefferson County can best and most efficiently be served by force account in matters pertaining to maintenance, repair, construction and reconstruction of Jefferson County Roads.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

1. That James F. Branagan, Engineer of Jefferson County is hereby authorized to employ labor and proceed by force account in maintenance, repair and construction of roads, bridges and culverts in Jefferson County during the year of 2024.

2. That the Jefferson County Board of Commissioners reserve unto themselves the right and authority to make all purchases of materials and equipment required in the maintenance, repair or construction of roads, bridges and culverts in Jefferson County During the year of 2024, except that as the Board may from time to time, by resolution, delegate such purchase authority to Mr. James F. Branagan, Engineer of Jefferson County.

/s/ David C. Maple, Jr.
/s/ Tony Morelli
/s/ Eric Timmons

Mr. Timmons seconded.

Roll call - Mr. Morelli, Yes; Mr. Timmons, Yes; Mr. Maple, Yes.

IN THE MATTER OF CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE JEFFERSON COUNTY ENGINEER, MR. JAMES F. BRANAGAN-25% LOAD LIMIT REDUCTION ON VARIOUS JEFFERSON COUNTY HIGHWAYS-FEBRUARY 1, 2024 TO APRIL 30, 2024

The Board of Commissioners, County of Jefferson, State of Ohio, received the following:

Gentlemen:

In accordance with Section 5577.07 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Board of County Commissioners may reduce the maximum weight of a vehicle on roads susceptible of damage during times of thawing and/or excessive moisture.

We are requesting the Board grant permission to post 25% load reduction from February 1, 2024 to April 30, 2024 on the following County Highways:

County Highway #1	Glen Robbins-Mt. Pleasant Road
County Highway #2	Yorkville-Glen Robbins Road
County Highway #4	Hopewell Road
County Highway #5	Pleasant Grove Road
County Highway #6	Mt. Pleasant-Adena Road
County Highway #7	Dillonvale Road
County Highway #8	Dry Fork Road
County Highway #9	Old State Route 22 (Woodvue Lane)
County Highway #10	Smithfield-Adena Road
County Highway #11	Piney Fork Road
County Highway #12	Pine Valley Road
County Highway #14	Connerville Road
County Highway #15	Warren Ridge-Smithfield-Rayland Road
County Highway #16	Hopewell Road
County Highway #17	Rush Run Road
County Highway #18	Graham Road
County Highway #19	Brilliant-New Alexandria Road
County Highway #20	Bradley Road
County Highway #21	Santucci Road
County Highway #22	Steubenville Street
County Highway #22A	Reeds Mill-Bloomingtondale Road
County Highway #23	Bloomingtondale-Smithfield-Chandler Road
County Highway #24	Cow Path Road
County Highway #25	Smithfield Station-Weems Road

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County Highway #26	Fernwood-Bloomingtondale Road
County Highway #28	Goulds Road-Devils Den-Rinker Road
County Highway #29	Wilson Ave Ext.-Mingo Jct. Rd.
County Highway #30	Hills School Road-Kimberly Way
County Highway #33	Wintersville-Airport Road
County Highway #34	Bantam Ridge Road
County Highway #34	Two Ridge Road
County Highway #36	Seminary Road
County Highway #38	Beacon Ridge Road
County Highway #39	Unionport Road
County Highway #40	Kragel Road
County Highway #41	Sunset Lake Road
County Highway #42	Sunset Drive
County Highway #43	Ross Ridge-Alikanna Road
County Highway #45	Pleasant Hill Road
County Highway #46	Island Creek Church Road
County Highway #47	JFK Highway
County Highway #49	Elkhorn Road
County Highway #50	Hammondsville-Irondale Road
County Highway #50A	Main Street
County Highway #51	Hollow Rock Road
County Highway #53	Bergholz-New Somerset Road
County Highway #54	State Park-Mooretown Road
County Highway #55	Monroeville-Irondale Road
County Highway #56	Costonia-Mt. Tabor Road
County Highway #57	Mt. Zion Road
County Highway #58	Timothy Ridge Road
County Highway #60	Circle Green Road
County Highway #61	Amsterdam-Wolf Run Road
County Highway #65	Sunshine Park Road
County Highway #68	Sugar Grove Road
County Highway #74	Mingo Junction-Goulds Road
County Highway #75	Wolf Run Road
County Highway #77	Permars Run Road
County Highway #78	Apex-Amsterdam Road

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,
/s/ James F. Branagan, P.E., P.S.
Jefferson County Engineer

Upon request and recommendation of Jefferson County Engineer, Mr. James F. Branagan, Mr. Morelli moved authorization be granted to said Jefferson County Engineering Department to Post 25% Load Reduction signs on various County Roads between February 1, 2024 through April 30, 2024. Mr. Timmons seconded.

Roll call - Mr. Morelli, Yes; Mr. Timmons, Yes; Mr. Maple, Yes.

IN THE MATTER OF AWARD OF CONTRACT-DOUBLE B EXCAVATING, LLC-FY2022 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)-B-F-22-1BL-1-DILLONVALE 5TH STREET STORM SEWER REPLACEMENT PROJECT-JEFFERSON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Upon request and recommendation of Jefferson County Regional Planning Commission Director, Mrs. Betty Lou Tarr, Mr. Timmons moved a CONTRACT be Awarded to Double B Excavating, LLC, 31326 Weavers Run Road, Tipppecanoe, Ohio 44699, for the JEFFERSON COUNTY FY2022 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)-B-F-22-1BL-1-DILLONVALE 5TH STREET STORM SEWER REPLACEMENT PROJECT, in an amount not to exceed \$70,500.00. Mr. Morelli seconded.

Roll call - Mr. Morelli, Yes; Mr. Timmons, Yes; Mr. Maple, Yes.

IN THE MATTER OF RE-APPOINTMENT OF MS ALLISON BOSTON-CITIZENS REPRESENTATIVE-JEFFERSON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Mr. Timmons moved that Ms Allison Boston, 866 County Road #19, Mingo Junction, Ohio 43938, be Re-Appointed to a one (1) year term commencing January 1, 2024, as a Citizens Representative on the Jefferson County Regional Planning Commission Board. Mr. Morelli seconded.

Roll call - Mr. Morelli, Yes; Mr. Timmons, Yes; Mr. Maple, Yes.

IN THE MATTER OF RE-APPOINTMENT OF MR. MIKE PAPROCKI-CITIZENS REPRESENTATIVE-JEFFERSON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Mr. Timmons moved that Mr. Mike Paprocki, 216 S.R. 151, Mingo Junction, Ohio 43938, be Re-Appointed to a one (1) year term commencing January 1, 2024, as a Citizens Representative on the Jefferson County Regional Planning Commission Board. Mr. Morelli seconded.

Roll call - Mr. Morelli, Yes; Mr. Timmons, Yes; Mr. Maple, Yes.

IN THE MATTER OF RE-APPOINTMENT OF MR. ERIC HILTY-CITIZENS REPRESENTATIVE-JEFFERSON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Mr. Timmons moved that Mr. Eric Hilty, 1811 State Route 152, Bloomingdale, Ohio 43910, be Re-Appointed to a one (1) year term commencing on January 1, 2024, as a Citizens Representative on the Jefferson County Regional Planning Board. Mr. Morelli seconded.

Roll call - Mr. Morelli, Yes; Mr. Timmons, Yes; Mr. Maple, Yes.

IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN-LETTER OF ENGAGEMENT-ARGUS GROWTH CONSULTANTS, LTD., A SUBSIDIARY OF BRICKER & GRAYDON, LLP-DEVELOPMENT OF PROPOSED SPECULATIVE BUILDING PROJECT-JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS-MR. MIKE JACOBY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT

Mr. Timmons moved to grant authorization to the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners, David C. Maple, Jr., to sign the LETTER OF ENGAGEMENT with Argus Growth Consultants, LTD, a Subsidiary of Bricker & Graydon, LLP, to provide consulting services for the development of an Industrial Park Speculative (spec) Building-Amount \$260.00 per hour. Mr. Morelli seconded.

Roll call - Mr. Morelli, Yes; Mr. Timmons, Yes; Mr. Maple, Yes.

IN THE MATTER OF RE-APPOINTMENT OF MR. FREDERICK J. ABDALLA, JR.-BOARD MEMBER-FRIENDSHIP PARK DISTRICT-JEFFERSON COUNTY PROBATE COURT

The Board of Commissioners, County of Jefferson, State of Ohio, received the following:

In the Court of Common Pleas of Jefferson County, Ohio
Probate Division

IN THE MATTER OF:
The Re-Appointment of
A Commissioner of the
Friendship Park District

ORDER
Case No. 24-MI-1
Date: January 3, 2024

The term of office of Frederick J. Abdalla, Jr., having expired December 31, 2023, this Court re-appoints Frederick J. Abdalla, Jr., as Friendship Park District for a period of three (3) years for the term beginning January 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2026.

/s/ Frank W. Noble, Jr.
Judge

IN THE MATTER OF ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 2024-1-OHIO RESIDENTIAL BROADBAND EXPANSION GRANT (ORBEG) PROGRAM-COMCAST

Mr. Morelli moved the Board of Commissioners, County of Jefferson, State of Ohio, approve and Adopt the following:

RESOLUTION 2024-1

WHEREAS, the Ohio Residential Broadband Expansion Grant (ORBEG) Program is accepting applications for a second round of funding for last-mile broadband infrastructure projects in rural areas currently lacking access to reliable, high-speed internet.

WHEREAS, ORBEG has been approved by the Broadband Expansion Grant Authority and is a competitive grant program to use Capital Projects Funds (CPF) to expand the current state-funded program to serve additional locations.

WHEREAS, the second round of the ORBEG program is designed to provide Ohio households with internet service at speeds of 100/100 Mbps upon project completion.

WHEREAS, Comcast plans to submit an application to extend broadband service in Jefferson County.

WHEREAS, Comcast's proposed project will improve the quality of life in our community which is impacted by the lack of highspeed internet access; our potential to spur business development, attract new visitors and residents, and provide effective services and communications to our residents is undermined by the lack of reliable, highspeed broadband; highspeed broadband access will facilitate remote work, access to telemedicine, and improved resiliency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Board of Commissioners, County of Jefferson, State of Ohio, supports Comcast's application and commits to working with Broadband Ohio and Comcast to expand broadband to unserved and underserved locations in Jefferson County.

ADOPTED THIS 4TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2024

/s/ Tony Morelli
/s/ Eric Timmons
/s/ David C. Maple, Jr.

Mr. Timmons seconded.

Roll call - Mr. Morelli, Yes; Mr. Timmons, Yes; Mr. Maple, Yes.

IN THE MATTER OF RE-APPOINTMENT OF MS BETH RUPERT-WARREN-COMMUNITY-AT-LARGE MEMBER ON THE BROOKE-HANCOCK-JEFFERSON METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION-JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMISSIONER TONY MORELLI

That Mrs. Beth Rupert-Warren, 153 Susan Drive Wintersville, Ohio, 43953, be Appointed as a Community-At-Large Member on the Brooke-Hancock-Jefferson Metropolitan Planning Commission Board, as Commissioner Tony Morelli's Representative, said term to begin on January, 2024 and to end on January, 2026.

IN THE MATTER OF ACCEPTANCE OF PROJECT DESCRIPTION REPORT FROM BRICKER & GRAYDON, LLP-REQUESTING FUNDING FROM AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) FUNDS-JEFFERSON COUNTY AUDITOR-JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS-KAYAK LAUNCH-JEFFERSON COUNTY FRIENDSHIP PARK

Mr. Timmons moved the Board of Commissioners, County of Jefferson, State of Ohio, accept the following Project Description Report from Bricker & Graydon, LLP, requesting funding from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds, and to be placed on file in the Office of the Board of Commissioners:

Project Description: Kayak Launch-Jefferson County Friendship Park

A copy of the description is on file in the Office of the Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Morelli seconded.

Roll call - Mr. Morelli, Yes; Mr. Timmons, Yes; Mr. Maple, Yes.

IN THE MATTER OF ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 2024-2-A RESOLUTION DIRECTING A PORTION OF THE COUNTY'S CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUND PAYMENT TO THE PROVISION OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES TO THE EXTENT OF THE COUNTY'S REDUCTION IN REVENUE RESULTING FROM THE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY BY AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF NECESSARY CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS FOR THE PURCHASE OF A KAYAK LAUNCH FOR USE AT THE COUNTY-OWNED FRIENDSHIP PARK, WITH FUNDS TO BE ENCUMBERED MARCH 3, 2021, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024-JEFFERSON COUNTY AUDITOR'S OFFICE-JEFFERSON COUNTY FRIENDSHIP PARK BOARD-AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) FUNDS-REVENUE REPLACEMENT-BRICKER & GRAYDON, LLP

Upon request and recommendation of Jefferson County Auditor, Mr. E.J. Conn, Mr. Timmons moved the Board of Commissioners, County of Jefferson, State of Ohio, approve and sign RESOLUTION 2024-2-A RESOLUTION DIRECTING A PORTION OF THE COUNTY'S CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUND PAYMENT TO THE PROVISION OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES TO THE EXTENT OF THE COUNTY'S REDUCTION IN REVENUE RESULTING FROM THE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY BY AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF NECESSARY AND AGREEMENTS FOR THE PURCHASE OF A KAYAK LAUNCH FOR USE AT THE COUNTY-OWNED FRIENDSHIP PARK, WITH FUNDS TO BE ENCUMBERED MARCH 3, 2021, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024-JEFFERSON COUNTY AUDITOR'S OFFICE-Jefferson County Commissioners-American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds, 3rd Bucket Revenue Replacement-Bricker & Graydon-Amount \$74,465.00. Mr. Morelli seconded.

Roll call - Mr. Morelli, Yes; Mr. Timmons, Yes; Mr. Maple, Yes.

IN THE MATTER OF ESTABLISHING APPROPRIATION LINE ITEM ACCOUNT-APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS-JEFFERSON COUNTY AUDITOR'S OFFICE-AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS (ARPA)-PURCHASE OF A KAYAK LAUNCH FOR USE AT THE COUNTY-OWNED FRIENDSHIP PARK-JEFFERSON COUNTY AUDITOR'S OFFICE

Upon request and recommendation of Jefferson County Auditor, Mr. E.J. Conn, Mr. Timmons moved the Board of Commissioners, County of Jefferson, State of Ohio, approve and establish the following appropriation line item account:

FDI-166-1-27-REVENUE REPLACEMENT-KAYAK LAUNCH-\$74,465.00

Mr. Morelli seconded.

Roll call - Mr. Morelli, Yes; Mr. Timmons, Yes; Mr. Maple, Yes.

IN THE MATTER OF SIGNING SERVICE AGREEMENT-JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND MAXIMUS CONSULTING SERVICES, INC.-PROFESSIONAL SERVICES-COUNTY-WIDE COST ALLOCATION PLAN-FOR A THREE (3) YEAR PERIOD (2023 TO 2025)

Mr. Morelli moved the Board of Commissioners, County of Jefferson, State of Ohio, grant authorization to the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners, David C. Maple, Jr., to sign the SERVICE AGREEMENT for PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING SERVICES-INDIRECT COST ALLOCATION PLAN for a three (3) year period (2023 to 2025), between the County of Jefferson and MAXIMUS CONSULTING SERVICES, INC., 808 Moorefield Park Drive, Suit 205, Richmond, VA 23236, in an amount not to exceed \$13,250.00 per year. Mr. Timmons seconded.

Roll call - Mr. Morelli, Yes; Mr. Timmons, Yes; Mr. Maple, Yes.

IN THE MATTER OF EXECUTIVE SESSION-JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS-JEFFERSON COUNTY WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS SUPERVISOR, MR. JONATHAN SGALLA-ISAAC WILES ATTORNEY JEFFREY STANKUNAS, VIA ZOOM-UNION CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

Mr. Morelli moved the Board of Commissioners, County of Jefferson, State of Ohio and Jefferson County Water and Sewer Department Operations Supervisor, Mr. Jonathan Sgalla, and Isaac Wiles Attorney Jeffrey Stankunas, Via ZOOM, enter into Executive Session at 10:02 A.M., to discuss Union Contract Negotiations. Mr. Timmons seconded.

Roll call - Mr. Morelli, Yes; Mr. Timmons, Yes; Mr. Maple, Yes.

IN THE MATTER OF RETURNING TO REGULAR SESSION-JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS-JEFFERSON COUNTY WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS SUPERVISOR, MR. JONATHAN SGALLA-ISAAC WILES ATTORNEY JEFFREY STANKUNAS, VIA ZOOM-UNION CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

Mr. Morelli moved the Board of Commissioners, County of Jefferson, State of Ohio, return to Regular Session at 10:22 A.M. Mr. Timmons seconded.

Roll call - Mr. Morelli, Yes; Mr. Timmons, Yes; Mr. Maple, Yes.

IN THE MATTER OF ACCEPTANCE OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN AFSCME, OHIO COUNCIL 8 LOCAL 763-JEFFERSON COUNTY WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES-ISAAC WILES, ATTORNEY JEFFREY STANKUNAS

Mr. Morelli moved the Board of Commissioners, County of Jefferson, State of Ohio, accept and Sign AGREEMENT-AFSCME, OHIO COUNCIL 8, LOCAL 673-JEFFERSON COUNTY WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES-October 1, 2023 through September 20, 2026-SERB Case # 2023-MED-07-0520-Isaac Wiles, Attorney Jeffrey Stankunas. Mr. Timmons seconded.

Roll call - Mr. Morelli, Yes; Mr. Timmons, Yes; Mr. Maple, Yes.

IN THE MATTER OF APPEARANCE OF JEFFERSON SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR, MRS. IRENE MOORE AND AARON DODDS-APPALACHIAN GRANT UPDATE

Jefferson Soil & Water Conservation District Administrator, Mrs. Irene Moore, and employee Mr. Aaron Dodds, addressed the Board of Commissioners this date of Thursday, January 4, 2024 regarding the Appalachian Grant.

A lengthy discussion took place and is on tape in the Office of the Board of Commissioners.

IN THE MATTER OF EXECUTIVE SESSION-JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS-PERSONNEL MATTERS/COMPENSATION & BENEFITS

Mr. Morelli moved the Board of Commissioners, County of Jefferson, State of Ohio, enter into Executive Session at 10:27 A.M., to discuss Personnel Matters/Compensation & Benefits. Mr. Timmons seconded.

Roll call - Mr. Morelli, Yes; Mr. Timmons, Yes; Mr. Maple, Yes.

IN THE MATTER OF RETURNING TO REGULAR SESSION-JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS-PERSONNEL MATTERS/COMPENSATION & BENEFITS

Mr. Morelli moved the Board of Commissioners, County of Jefferson, State of Ohio, return to Regular Session at 10:38 A.M. Mr. Timmons seconded.

Roll call - Mr. Morelli, Yes; Mr. Timmons, Yes; Mr. Maple, Yes.

IN THE MATTER OF GRANTING AUTHORIZATION TO HIRE LEGAL COUNSEL-TAFT LAW PARTNER, ATTORNEY SUE A. ROUDEBUSH-LARRY R. MURRAY VS JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND THE OHIO BUREAU OF WORKERS COMPENSATION

Mr. Morelli moved the Board of Commissioners, County of Jefferson, State of Ohio, to hire Legal Counsel for Professional Services from Taft Law Partner, Attorney Sue A. Roudebush, 41 South High Street, Suite 1800, Columbus, Ohio 43215, for the Larry R. Murray vs Jefferson County and the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation Case No: 23CV00526-Amount \$350.00 an hour for attorneys and \$295.00 an hour for paralegals. Mr. Timmons seconded.

Roll call - Mr. Morelli, Yes; Mr. Timmons, Yes; Mr. Maple, Yes.

There being no further discussion, Mr. Morelli moved the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Timmons Seconded. Roll call - Mr. Morelli, Yes; Mr. Timmons, Yes; Mr. Maple, Yes.
