

St. Clairsville, Ohio

November 15, 2023

The Board of Commissioners of Belmont County, Ohio, met this day in regular session. Present: J. P. Dutton, Jerry Echemann and Josh Meyer, Commissioners and Bonnie Zuzak, Clerk of the Board.

MEETINGS ARE NOW BEING RECORDED
ALL DISCUSSIONS ARE SUMMARIZED. FOR COMPLETE PROCEEDINGS
PLEASE SEE CORRESPONDING CD FOR THIS MEETING DAY.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING RECAPITULATION
OF VOUCHERS FOR THE VARIOUS FUNDS

Motion made by Mr. Dutton, seconded by Mr. Echemann to approve and sign all bills that have been certified in the Auditor's office and considered by the Board. It is hereby ordered that the County Auditor issue her warrant on the County Treasurer in payment of the bills allowed:

IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$1,668,478.01

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Dutton	Yes
Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Meyer	Yes

IN THE MATTER OF TRANSFERS WITHIN FUND

Motion made by Mr. Dutton, seconded by Mr. Echemann to approve the following transfers within fund for the following funds:

A00 GENERAL FUND

FROM	TO	AMOUNT
E-0048-A002-K05.000 Other Expenses	E-0048-A002-K02.010 Supplies	\$1,013.25
E-0081-A002-D02.002 Probate Salaries	E-0082-A002-C28.000 Advertising & Printing	\$3,000.00
E-0082-A002-C31.002 Juvenile Salaries	E-0082-A002-C32.010 Supplies (Fuel)	\$3,500.00

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Dutton	Yes
Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Meyer	Yes

IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

Motion made by Mr. Dutton, seconded by Mr. Echemann to make the following additional appropriations, in accordance with the Official Certificate of Estimated Resources as approved by the Budget Commission, under the following dates:

****JANUARY 10, 2023****

E-0181-A003-A02.000	Poll Workers	\$18,440.38
<u>A00 GENERAL FUND</u>		
E-0051-A001-A28.000	Other Expenses	\$36,888.50
E-0181-A003-A03.000	Supplies	\$194.77
<u>S12 PORT AUTHORITY</u>		
E-9799-S012-S07.000	Professional Services	\$301,203.24
<u>W20 LAW LIBRARY</u>		
E-9720-W020-W02.002	Salary	\$4,050.00
E-9720-W020-W05.005	Medicare	\$88.00
E-9720-W020-W07.010	Supplies	\$14,718.00

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Dutton	Yes
Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Meyer	Yes

IN THE MATTER OF Y-95 EMPLOYERS SHARE PERS/

HOLDING ACCOUNT CHARGEBACKS FOR OCTOBER 2023

Motion made by Mr. Dutton, seconded by Mr. Echemann to make the following transfer of funds for the

Y-95 Employer's Share PERS/Holding Account Chargebacks for the month of October 2023.

General fund			
AUDITOR	E-0011-A001-B09.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	5,106.82
AUD EMPL-PERS PROP	E-0012-A001-B14.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	358.40
AUD EMPL-REAL PROP	E-0013-A001-B18.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	571.20
CLERK OF COURTS	E-0021-A002-E09.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	4,382.98
CO. CT. EMPL	E-0040-A002-G08.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	6,612.12
CO CT. APPT EMP-JUDGES	E-0042-A002-J02.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	476.00
COMMISSIONERS	E-0051-A001-A25.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	6,845.99
NURSES-JAIL	E-0052-A001-A91.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	3,509.80
COMM-DIS SERV	E-0054-A006-F05.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	1,628.50
COMM-MAINT & OP	E-0055-A004-B16.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	7,753.32
9-1-1 DEPT	E-0056-A006-E08.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	11,564.48
ANIMAL SHELTER	E-0057-A006-F05.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	1,278.14
LEPC	E-0058-A006-F02.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	116.46
COMM PLEAS CT EMPL	E-0061-A002-B14.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	3,612.96

MAGISTRATE	E-0063-A002-B28.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	1,432.31
ENGINEERS EMPL	E-0070-A012-A08.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	1,519.63
PROBATE CT EMPL	E-0081-A002-D10.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	1,971.82
PROBATE CT JUV EMPL	E-0082-A002-C36.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	6,873.21
PROSECUTING ATTN	E-0111-A001-E09.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	9,343.34
RECORDER	E-0121-A006-B09.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	3,691.98
SHERIFF'S (PERS)	E-0131-A006-A13.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	28,142.42
TREASURER	E-0141-A001-C09.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	3,286.71
CORONER	E-0151-A002-F07.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	1,269.12
SOLDIER'S RELIEF	E-0160-A009-D07.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	4,402.03
PUBLIC DEFENDER	E-0170-A006-G09.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	4,762.95
BD OF ELECT/EMPLY	E-0181-A003-A09.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	3,346.98
BUDGET COMM	E-0210-A001-F02.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	42.00
T. B. SAN	E-0300-A008-B10.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	100.82
			124,002.49
DOG & KENNEL	E-1600-B000-B08.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	3,144.48
COUNTY HEALTH	E-2210-E001-E10.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	2,825.65
Trailer Parks	E-2211-F069-F04.000	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	7.05
Home Sewage Treatment Sys	E-2227-F074-F06.000	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	987.34
Vital Statistics	E-2213-F075-F02.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	387.97
Family Planning	E-2215-F077-F01.002	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	591.05
PHEP	E-2231-F083-F01.002	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	432.07
NURSING PROGRAM	E-2232-F084-F02.008	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	950.61
Child & Family Health Serv	E-2233-F085-F01.002	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	204.45
Get Vaccinated Program	E-2236-F088-F01.002	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	280.33
Integrated Naloxone Grant (IN)	E-2237-F089-F01.002	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	577.14
Public Health Workforce (WF)	E-2238-F090-F01.002	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	1,462.58
Adolescent Health Resiliency	E-2241-F093-F08.000	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	136.89
Food Service	E-2218-G000-G06.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	1,209.57
Water System	E-2219-N050-N05.000	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	135.47
Pools/Spas	E-2220-P070-P01.002	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	3.28
HUMAN SERVICES	E-2510-H000-H12.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	52,989.19
C.S.E.A.	E-2760-H010-H07.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	8,320.16
R.E. ASSESSMENT	E-1310-J000-J04.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	1,325.80
ENGINEER K-1 & K-2	E-2811-K000-K08.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	4,501.36
ENG EMP-MVGT K-11	E-2812-K000-K21.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	14,801.16
ENG EMP-BRIDGE K-25	E-2813-K000-K34.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	4,985.56
SOIL CONSERVATION	E-1810-L001-L11.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	1,786.40
Watershed Coordinator	E-1815-L005-L11.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	380.80
Care and Custody-C-Cap	E-0400-M060-M26.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	1,338.29
Alternative School	E-0400-M067-M02.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	1,418.54
Title IV-E	E-0400-M078-M02.008	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	1,260.95
WW#3	E-3702-P005-P29.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	17,975.43
SSD#2	E-3705-P053-P13.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	4,553.19
Bel Co Port Authority	E-9799-S012-S08.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	1,626.14
OAKVIEW-JUVENILE	E-8010-S030-S66.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	10,412.22
DIST DET HOME	E-0910-S033-S44.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	13,695.18
MENTAL HEALTH	E-2310-S049-S60.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	5,629.46
COMM PLEAS/MEDIATION SRV	E-1544-S054-S02.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	16.16

TARGETED COMM ALT PRISON	E-1545-S055-S02.002	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	572.64
PROBATION SERV GRNT-COMM	E-1546-S056-S04.001	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	1,166.30
BCBDD-MAIN FUND	E-2410-S066-S76.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	42,822.18
Bel Co Senior Programs	E-5005-S070-S02.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	23,275.09
MHAS SUBSIDY GRANT	E-1518-S075-S03.002	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	656.92
CORRECTIONS ACT GRNT	E-1520-S077-S03.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	669.34
CLRK CRTS-TITLE DEPT	E-6010-S079-S06.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	2,811.20
NORTHERN CRT-SPECIAL	E-1561-S086-S02.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	632.00
EASTERN CRT-SPECIAL	E-1571-S087-S02.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	538.46
WEST CRT-SPECIAL	E-1551-S088-S02.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	538.64
WIC PROGRAM	E-4110-T075-T52.008	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	2,028.96
LAW LIBRARY	E-9720-W020-W03.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	282.70
DRETAC-PROSECUTOR	E-1510-W081-P05.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	495.56
DRETAC-TREASURER	E-1410-W082-T05.003	R-9895-Y095-Y01.500	434.77
			361,279.17

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Dutton	Yes
Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Meyer	Yes

**IN THE MATTER OF REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATION
OF MONIES BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION**

Motion made by Mr. Dutton, seconded by Mr. Echemann to request the Belmont County Budget Commission certify the following monies. **GENERAL FUND/AUCTION PROCEEDS-\$36,888.50** deposited into R-0050-A000-B000.500 on 11/6/2023. *(This amount is above the 2023 estimated revenue for R-0050-A000-B00.500)*

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Dutton	Yes
Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Meyer	Yes

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING MINUTES OF REGULAR
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

Motion made by Mr. Dutton, seconded by Mr. Echemann to approve the minutes of the Belmont County Board of Commissioners regular meeting of November 8, 2023.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Dutton	Yes
Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Meyer	Yes

Mr. Dutton made the following announcement: The Belmont County Commissioners regular meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 21, 2023, instead of Wednesday, November 22, 2023, due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

**IN THE MATTER OF AMENDING MOTION OF NOVEMBER 8, 2023,
FOR THE CORRECTED HIRE INFORMATION OF WILLIAM TOOTHMAN/SSOBC**

Motion made by Mr. Dutton, seconded by Mr. Echemann to amend the motion made on November 8, 2023, approving the hire of William Toothman as a full-time Unit Support Worker Floater for Belmont County Water and Sewer District, effective November 13, 2023 to instead state full-time Unit Support Worker Floater at Senior Services of Belmont County, effective November 20, 2023

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Dutton	Yes
Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Meyer	Yes

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT TO THE
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD AREA 16**

Motion made by Mr. Dutton, seconded by Mr. Echemann to approve the following appointment to the Workforce Development Board Area 16, effective November 15, 2023 to June 30, 2025.

Appointment:

Representation:

Jacob Hershberger

Business

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Dutton	Yes
Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Meyer	Yes

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING DISCARD AND/OR SALVAGE
OF UNNEEDED, OBSOLETE OR UNFIT PERSONAL PROPERTY**

Motion made by Mr. Dutton, seconded by Mr. Echemann to approve the discard and/or salvage of unneeded, obsolete or unfit personal property per Ohio Revised Code 307.12(I) for the following:

- 1998 Fire Safety Trailer, VIN# 1SSTT1PT1W11SS370
- 1986 Ford Ambulance, VIN# 1FDKE30L5GHB07414
- 1990 GMC Bus, VIN# 1GDG6P1A2LV507479

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Dutton	Yes
Mr. Echemann	Yes

Mr. Meyer Yes

Mr. Dutton said the vehicles are not suitable for the county auction.

IN THE MATTER OF LIQUOR LICENSE TRANSFER FROM PAUL MARTIN & IRENE T HORVATH, DBA COUNTRY CARRY OUT TO SHREEHARI CARRY OUT LLC, DBA COUNTRY CARRYOUT

Motion made by Mr. Dutton, seconded by Mr. Echemann to advise the Ohio Division of Liquor Control, the Board of Belmont County Commissioners does not request a hearing on the matter of a request for the transfer of a C2 and C2X liquor license, Permit No. 8112872 from Paul Martin & Irene T Horvath, DBA Country Carry Out, 72890 Uniontown Flushing Rd W/S, Wheeling Township, Flushing, Ohio 43977 to Shreehari Carry Out LLC, DBA Country Carryout at above address. There have been no objections received and the Board of County Commissioners has no objections to the permit.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Dutton Yes
Mr. Echemann Yes
Mr. Meyer Yes

IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL REVENUE FUND FOR ACCUMULATION OF RESOURCES FOR PAYMENT OF ACCUMULATED SICK LEAVE, VACATION LEAVE, PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAKING COMPENSATORY TIME OFF AND PAYMENT OF SALARIES DURING ANY FISCAL YEAR WHEN THE NUMBER OF PAY PERIODS EXCEEDS THE USUAL AND CUSTOMARY NUMBER OF PAY PERIODS

Motion made by Mr. Dutton, seconded by Mr. Echemann to adopt the following Resolution:

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.13(B), the Board of Belmont County Commissioners has deemed it necessary to establish a Special Revenue Fund to accumulate resources for the payment of accumulated sick leave and vacation leave, and for payments in lieu of taking compensatory time off, upon the termination of employment or retirement of officers and employees. The Special Revenue Fund may also accumulate resources for payment of salaries during any fiscal year when the number of pay periods exceeds the usual and customary number of pay periods.

WHEREAS, this fund shall accumulate revenue from the General Fund, the amount of which to be determined by the Board of Belmont County Commissioners, for the purpose of accumulation of General Fund reserves for the payment of certain employee separation pay liabilities, and;

WHEREAS, this fund can only be used for the purposes described pursuant to all other laws and regulations related to expenditures, normally the Ohio Revised Code, and;

WHEREAS, this fund may be rescinded at any time by resolution and money that has accumulated in the fund shall be transferred to the fund from which the money was originally transferred.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Dutton Yes
Mr. Echemann Yes
Mr. Meyer Yes

Mr. Dutton said they worked with the county and state auditor’s office on this. These funds will be used instead of payouts coming out of the department’s annual budget.

IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION TO ASSIGN AUTHORITY TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE BELMONT COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES TO SERVE AS THE BOARD’S DESIGNEE WITH AUTHORITY TO REQUEST AND SIGN INTER-COUNTY ADJUSTMENTS OF ALLOCATIONS ON BEHALF OF BELMONT COUNTY

Motion by Mr. Dutton, seconded by Mr. Echemann to adopt the following:

RESOLUTION TO ASSIGN AUTHORITY TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE BELMONT COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES TO SERVE AS THE BOARD’S DESIGNEE WITH AUTHORITY TO REQUEST AND SIGN INTER-COUNTY ADJUSTMENTS OF ALLOCATIONS ON BEHALF OF BELMONT COUNTY

WHEREAS, Ohio Administrative Code Section 5101:9-6-82 provides for the inter-county adjustment of any state or federal county family services agency allocation; and

WHEREAS, counties have requested such adjustments to best meet the need of their constituents due to the limited allowable uses of each fund and the nuances of the random moment sampling process on a county’s funding stream; and

WHEREAS, any unspent allocations within a county at the end of a fiscal year revert back to the state for use by the State Department of Job and Family Services; and

WHEREAS, a county job and family services agency must make such inter-county adjustment requests to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services and include with such requests a resolution authorizing such from that county’s Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Ohio Administrative Code Section 5101:9-6-82(F)(2)(a), a Board of County Commissioners may pass a resolution assigning authority to the Director of the county job and family services agency to serve as their designee and therefore grant that party authority to sign the inter-county adjustment agreement on behalf of the county for a specific period of time.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Belmont County Board of Commissioners hereby assigns authority to Jeffery Felton BCDJFS Director, to serve as the Belmont County Board of Commissioners’ designee and hereby grants Jeffery Felton the authority to sign the inter-county adjustment agreements on behalf of Belmont County for the period January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, with the understanding that a summary of such adjustments shall be provided to the Board of Commissioners as they are made with other County Departments of Job and Family Services.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Dutton Yes
Mr. Echemann Yes
Mr. Meyer Yes

Mr. Dutton said Job and Family Services receives allocations and if not expended other counties can request the funds.

IN THE MATTER OF ENTERING INTO THE VEHICLE MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BELMONT COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND THE BELMONT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS DBA SENIOR SERVICES OF BELMONT COUNTY

Motion made by Mr. Dutton, seconded by Mr. Echemann to enter into the Vehicle Maintenance Agreement between the Belmont County Board of Developmental Disabilities and the Belmont County Board of Commissioners, dba Senior Services of Belmont County, effective January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024.

**VEHICLE MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT
*Between the***

BELMONT COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
and the
BELMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS dba
SENIOR SERVICES OF BELMONT COUNTY

I. PURPOSE

This Agreement is made this 1st day of January 2024, by and between the Belmont County Board of Developmental Disabilities (*hereinafter County Board*) and the Belmont County Commissioners doing business as Senior Services Of Belmont County (*hereinafter Senior Services*) for the purpose of the County Board providing maintenance for vehicles owned by the Belmont County Commissioners and used by Senior Services Of Belmont County.

II. TERM

This Agreement shall be in effect from January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024.

III. TERMINATION

This Agreement may be terminated by either party, with or without cause, by giving thirty (30) days advance written notice.

IV. COUNTY BOARD RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. The County Board shall provide routine maintenance on Senior Services' vehicles (based on a schedule developed by Senior Services and the County Board Mechanic Supervisor) at the rate of \$40.00 per hour plus cost of any necessary parts.
- B. The County Board shall provide other than routine maintenance on Senior Services' vehicles (based on Senior Services' need) at the rate of \$55.00 per hour plus cost of any necessary parts.
- C. The County Board reserves the right to refuse to provide services depending on the nature of the repair.

V. SENIOR SERVICES' RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. Senior Services shall adhere to the routine maintenance schedule developed by the parties and deliver the vehicles scheduled for maintenance to the County Board Transportation grounds.
- B. Senior Services shall schedule other than routine maintenance with the County Board Mechanic Supervisor.

VI. BILLING AND PAYMENT

- A. The County Board shall bill Senior Services for vehicle maintenance services at the end of each month, if services have been provided during that month.
- B. Senior Services shall submit payment to the County Board for vehicle maintenance services provided within thirty (30) days of receipt of the bill.
- C. Any missed scheduled appointment that is not canceled in advance may result in a charge amounting to one hour of the applicable labor rate.

VII. ROUTINE MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

- A. The County Board Mechanic and Senior Services Executive Director or designee shall develop a routine maintenance schedule that will include dates on which maintenance will be performed and a list of those procedures that will be considered "routine maintenance" for the purpose of this Agreement.
- B. A copy of the routine maintenance schedule shall be attached and become part of this Agreement.
- C. Any maintenance procedures not included on the routine maintenance schedule shall be considered "other than routine maintenance" and shall be billed at the higher rate.
- D. Procedures that are other than routine maintenance shall not be performed by the County Board without prior written instruction from the Senior Services' Executive Director.

VIII. NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

Both parties agree that they shall prohibit discrimination in the execution of this Agreement on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, or marital status.

IX. SIGNATURES

Belmont County Board of Developmental Disabilities	
<i>Stephen L. Williams /s/</i>	11-13-23
Stephen L. Williams, Superintendent	Date
Belmont County Board of Commissioners	
<i>Jerry Echemann /s/</i>	11-15-23
Jerry Echemann	Date
<i>J. P. Dutton /s/</i>	11/15/23
J.P. Dutton	Date
<i>Josh Meyer /s/</i>	11/15/23
Josh Meyer	Date
Approved as to form:	
<i>Jacob Manning /s/ Assistant Prosecutor</i>	11/17/23
Kevin Flanagan, Prosecuting Attorney	Date

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Dutton	Yes
Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Meyer	Yes

OPEN PUBLIC FORUM-Sandy Lewis, Shadyside, voiced her concern about two dogs at the Animal Shelter. She said she heard five applications were filled out to adopt Wilson, but they were told Wilson was not adoptable. He was recently pet of the week. Mrs. Lewis said she got the information from Facebook. She is also concerned about Phantom. Vince Lewis, Shadyside, said their group got seventeen dogs adopted out from the shelter in the last three weeks. He inquired how many were adopted out before that. Mr. Lewis said the county should not euthanize too fast. Mr. Dutton said at the end of October 546 dogs came in and over 200 were adopted. He noted he would check those numbers. Mr. Dutton said the national percentage rate to be considered a no kill shelter is under 10%. Belmont County has operated under that number for the last nine years with the percentages ranging from 3% to 7%. The county works to make sure the euthanization numbers are as low as possible. Mr. Dutton said factual numbers show the county is well below the non kill shelter percentage. He added in some extreme cases the dog doesn't even enter the shelter. The dog warden makes the determination when called to a home if the dog is suffering and the owner can not afford to euthanize it. The dog is turned over to the shelter and that euthanization is on the county's record. Billie Amos, St. Clairsville, asked if the media was asked not to attend today's meeting. Mr. Dutton said they would never do that. He believes Belmont County's meetings are attended by the media more than other counties. Mr. Dutton said they have open public forum where anyone can come in and ask questions. Other counties require a notice given first or don't even have one. Ms. Amos said Mr. Dutton had announced at a prior meeting that Jefferson County Animal Shelter had closed because of space issues and that was not true. Mr. Dutton found the story from September and it stated Jefferson County reaches capacity and halted taking in surrenders. Ms. Amos said Gypsy and Wilson's applications were turned down because the applicants were members of Pawsitive Placements. She asked if the county would stop euthanizations until after the holidays and the pending investigation. Mr. Dutton said they are looking into information presented, but there is no evidence or grounds to terminate any of the animal shelter staff. Ms. Amos asked why Road Home is the only organization that can take dogs from Belmont County's shelter. Mr. Meyer asked what other groups she was talking about. She replied they can identify themselves at the next night meeting. Ms. Amos asked for copies of the shelter's intake/outtake reports. She also asked about the cats adopted at the shelter. Mr. Dutton said the cats are under the care of Cat Stray Shun. Ms. Amos said the only goal is to help the animals. Mr. Dutton disagreed, they want staff terminated.

Edward Mehm, who lives on a private road in West Wheeling, inquires who owns the road and who is responsible for repairs. Mr. Dutton said to check with the County Engineer. The Board of Commissioners are not over the roads. By law public money can not be expended on private property.

RECESS

IN THE MATTER OF ENTERING EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 10:24 A.M.

Motion made by Mr. Dutton, seconded by Mr. Echemann to enter executive session with Katie Bayness, HR Administrator, pursuant to ORC 121.22 (G)(1) Personnel Exception to consider the employment of public employees and ORC 121.22(G)(4) Collective Bargaining Exception. Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Dutton	Yes
Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Meyer	Yes

IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNING EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 1:23 P.M.

Motion made by Mr. Dutton, seconded by Mr. Echemann to exit executive session at 1:23 p.m. Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Dutton	Yes
Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Meyer	Yes

Mr. Dutton said there is are no motions to be considered at this time.

RECESS

**IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNING
COMMISSIONERS MEETING AT 1:34 P.M.**

Motion made by Mr. Dutton, seconded by Mr. Echemann to adjourn the meeting at 1:34 p.m.
Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Dutton	Yes
Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Meyer	Yes

Read, approved and signed this 21st day of November, 2023.

J. P. Dutton /s/_____

Jerry Echemann /s/_____ COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Josh Meyer /s/_____

We, J. P. Dutton and Bonnie Zuzak, President and Clerk respectively of the Board of Commissioners of Belmont County, Ohio, do hereby certify the foregoing minutes of the proceedings of said Board have been read, approved and signed as provided for by Sec. 305.11 of the Revised Code of Ohio.

J. P. Dutton /s/_____ PRESIDENT

Bonnie Zuzak /s/_____ CLERK