

St. Clairsville, Ohio

April 5, 2024

The Board of Commissioners of Belmont County, Ohio, met this day in special session. Present: Jerry Echemann, Josh Meyer and J. P. Dutton, 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.**

**“SPECIAL MEETING”**

**IN THE MATTER OF ADOPTING RESOLUTION**  
**DECLARING A STATE OF EMERGENCY**

Commissioner Echemann moved to adopt the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the extreme weather conditions commencing in the morning of Monday, April 1, 2024 has deposited large amounts of rain and created flooding and embankment failures in Belmont County; and

**WHEREAS**, as of 11:00 a.m., April 5, 2024, the Belmont County Commissioners have declared a State of Emergency to exist in Belmont County due to the aforementioned.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, we, the Board of Belmont County Commissioners declares a State of Emergency and that we hereby invoke and declare those portions of the Ohio Revised Code which are applicable to the conditions and have caused the issuance of this resolution, to be in full force and in effect in the county for the exercise of all necessary emergency authority for protection of the lives and property of the people of Belmont County and the restoration of local government with a minimum of interruption.

Reference is hereby made to all appropriate laws, statutes, ordinances and resolutions, and particularly to Section 5502 of the Ohio Revised Code.

All public offices and employees of Belmont County are hereby directed to exercise the utmost diligence in the discharge of duties required of them for the duration of the emergency in execution of emergency laws, regulations, and directives-State and local.

All citizens are called upon and directed to comply with necessary emergency measures, to cooperate with public officials and disaster services forces in executing emergency operation plans, and to obey and comply with the lawful directions of properly identified officers.

All operating forces will direct their communications and request for assistance and operations directly to the Emergency Operations Center.

The Belmont County Emergency Management Agency will be requesting State and or Federal assistance when the local political subdivisions make their request.

Commissioner Meyer seconded the motion and upon roll call the foregoing was unanimously adopted.

In witness, whereof, we have hereunto set our hand this 5th day of April, 2024

BELMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

Jerry Echemann /s/

Jerry Echemann, President

Josh Meyer /s/

Josh Meyer, Vice-President

J. P. Dutton /s/

J. P. Dutton

Mr. Echemann said, “This is not so much a FEMA situation as it is a flood cleanup effort that will be underway now.” Mr. Ivan said, “ The whole process to this is to be able to put less restrictions on any type of purchasing of equipment we may need. With this motion, we can eliminate all the paperwork and be able to go out and take care of our resources.” Mr. Dutton asked if the weather stations that were set up were a help. Mr. Ivan said it was a big help. They were able to see how much rain areas received and then went to those areas to check it out. He added EMA has rain gauges on their website that residents can view. EMA also shares information with the National Weather Service which helps them determine when to issue warnings.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNING  
COMMISSIONERS' SPECIAL MEETING AT 11:15 A.M.**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Meyer to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 a.m.  
Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

Read, approved and signed this 10th day of April, 2024.

Jerry Echemann /s/

J. P. Dutton /s/ COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Josh Meyer /s/

We, Jerry Echemann 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.

Jerry Echemann /s/ PRESIDENT

Bonnie Zuzak /s/ CLERK