

May 1, 2024

St. Clairsville, Ohio

May 1, 2024

The Board of Commissioners of Belmont County, Ohio, met this day in regular 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.**

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

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Meyer 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 his warrant on the County Treasurer in payment of the bills allowed:

**IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$748,949.17**

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

**IN THE MATTER OF TRANSFERS WITHIN FUND**

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

**A00 GENERAL FUND**

<b>FROM</b>	<b>TO</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
E-0051-A001-A50.000 Budget Stabilization	E-0257-A015-A15.074 Transfers Out	\$1,659.86

**K00 M.V.G.T. FUND/ENGINEER**

<b>FROM</b>	<b>TO</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
E-2812-K000-K13.012 Equipment	E-2812-K000-K12.000 Materials	\$30,000.00
E-2812-K000-K15.011 Cont. Services	E-2812-K000-K16.013 Cont. Projects	\$30,000.00
E-2813-K000-K27.012 Equipment	E-2812-K000-K16.013 Cont. Projects	\$70,000.00
E-2813-K000-K30.013 Cont. Projects	E-2812-K000-K16.013 Cont. Projects	\$100,000.00
E-2813-K000-K40.074 Transfers Out	E-2812-K000-K12.000 Materials	\$150,000.00

**Y91 EMPLOYER'S SHARE HOLDING ACCOUNT**

<b>FROM</b>	<b>TO</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
E-9891-Y091-Y01.006 Hospitalization	E-9891-Y091-Y12.000 HSA Fund	\$70.89

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

**IN THE MATTER OF TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUND**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Meyer to approve the following transfers between funds as follows:

**A00 GENERAL FUND AND S17 CHILDREN SERVICES/BCDJFS**

<b>FROM</b>	<b>TO</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
E-0051-A001-A50.000 Budget Stabilization	R-2765-S017-S15.574 Transfers In	\$1,659.86

**K00 M.V.G.T. FUND AND O39 BOND RETIR/ENGINEER**

<b>FROM</b>	<b>TO</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
E-2813-K000-K40.074 Transfers Out	R-9218-O039-O05.574 Transfers In	\$7,761.00

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Meyer 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 3, 2024\*\***

E-9218-O039-O05.050	Loan Payment	\$96,217.67
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**\*\*MAY 1, 2024\*\***

**A00 GENERAL FUND**

E-0056-A006-E04.011	Contract Services	\$138.54
E-0131-A006-A04.002	Salaries-Road	\$1,000.00

**H00 PUBLIC ASSISTANCE/BCDJFS**

E-2510-H000-H01.002	Salaries	\$21,406.50
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**O39 BOND RETIREMENT/ENGINEER**

E-9218-O039-O05.050	Loan Payment	\$9,663.00
E-9218-O039-O06.051	Interest Payment	\$7,761.00

**S30 OAKVIEW JUVENILE REHABILITATION**

E-8010-S030-S54.000	Food	\$40.00
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**SHERIFF/VARIOUS FUNDS**

E-0131-A006-A09.000	Medical	\$6,921.34
E-0131-A006-A20.000	False Alarms	\$350.00
E-0131-A006-A23.000	Background	\$149.00
E-0131-A006-A24.000	E-SORN	\$360.00
E-0131-A006-A32.000	Warrant Fee	\$619.12
E-1652-B016-B02.000	DUI	\$50.00
E-5100-S000-S01.010	Commissary	\$7,310.84
E-5101-S001-S06.000	CCW License	\$1,276.00
E-5101-S001-S07.012	CCW Equipment	\$2,178.00
E-9710-U010-U06.000	Communications	\$582.11

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

**IN THE MATTER OF TRANSFER OF FUNDS**  
**FOR HSA CHARGEBACKS/MAY 2024**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Meyer to make the following transfer of funds for HSA Chargebacks for May 2024

HSA CHARGEBACKS		MONTHLY CHARGEBACKS	
From:		To:	
NUMBER	ACCOUNT	NUMBER	AMOUNT
E-2811-K200-K10.006	ENGINEER	R-9891-Y091-Y12.500	192.62
E-3702-P005-P31.000	WWS#3	R-9891-Y091-Y12.500	263.51
E-2410-S066-S80.000	BCBDD-MAIN FUND	R-9891-Y091-Y12.500	263.51
E-5005-S070-S06.006	SENIOR SERVICES	R-9891-Y091-Y12.500	70.89
E-6010-S079-S07.006	CLERK OF COURTS	R-9891-Y091-Y12.500	192.62
		TOTALS	983.15

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING THEN AND NOW CERTIFICATE/AUDITOR'S**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Meyer to execute payment of Then and Now Certification dated May 1, 2024, presented by the County Auditor pursuant to O.R.C. 5705.41(d) 1, and authorizing the drawing of warrant(s) in payment of amounts due upon contract to order.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

**IN THE MATTER OF ACKNOWLEDGING THE BELMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RECEIVED AND REVIEWED THE FINAL SALES & USE TAX DISTRIBUTION REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2024**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Meyer to acknowledge the Belmont County Commissioners received and reviewed the following from the Belmont County Auditor's Office:

- Final Sales & Use Tax Distribution Report for the month of February 2024.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

**IN THE MATTER OF GRANTING PERMISSION FOR COUNTY EMPLOYEES TO TRAVEL**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Meyer granting permission for county employees to travel as follows: **NORTHERN DIVISION COURT/ADULT PROBATION**-Chad Moore to Columbus, OH, May 29-31, 2024, to attend the 2024 Line Officer Training Institute. A county vehicle will be used for travel.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

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

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Meyer to approve the minutes of the Belmont County Board of Commissioners regular meeting of April 24, 2024.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING VEHICLE PURCHASE FOR COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, JUVENILE/PROBATE DIVISION**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Meyer to approve the purchase of a 2024 Honda CRV from Lindsay Automotive Inc, through the State of Ohio Cooperative Purchasing Contract, in the amount of \$36,665.00, based upon the recommendation of Judge Albert Davies, Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile/Probate Division.

*Note: This is a replacement vehicle that will be used by the probation staff to transport youth to and from CrossFit and C-CAP and will be purchased with funding from the Department of Youth Services Subsidy Grant.*

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

**IN THE MATTER OF ACCEPTING QUOTE FROM BOB’S TRANSMISSION/  
BUILDING AND GROUNDS**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Meyer to accept the quote from Bob’s Transmission, in the amount of \$4,500.00, for a rebuilt transmission and torque converter on a 2015 Dodge Ram 2500 for the Belmont County Building and Grounds Department, based upon the recommendation of Director Scott Larkin.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING THE CHARGE FROM  
PLATINUM PROPERTY MAINTENANCE/JAIL**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Meyer to approve the charge, in the amount of \$4,466.23, from Platinum Property Maintenance for additional work needed on the network cables before the installation of the new camera system at the Belmont County Jail, based upon the recommendation of Sheriff Dave Lucas.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

**IN THE MATTER OF ACCEPTING QUOTE FROM GP GRAPHIC DESIGN/RECORDS DEPARTMENT**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Meyer to accept the quote from GP Graphic Design, in the amount of \$276.00, for installation of graphics on the van for the Belmont County Records Department.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

**IN THE MATTER OF AWARDING BID FOR BELMONT  
COUNTY ENGINEER’S PROJECT 24-2 2024 CHIP SEAL  
PROGRAM TO LOW BIDDER YOUNGBLOOD PAVING, INC.**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Meyer to award the bid for the Belmont County Engineer’s Project 24-2 2024 Chip Seal Program to low bidder Youngblood Paving, Inc., in the amount of \$1,187,650.78, based upon the recommendation of Terry Lively, County Engineer.

*Note: Engineer’s estimate: \$1,282,264.00.*

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

**IN THE MATTER OF ADOPTING THE PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING  
MAY 2, 2024 AS THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR BELMONT COUNTY**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Meyer to adopt the proclamation designating May 2, 2024, as the National Day of Prayer for Belmont County.

**PROCLAMATION  
IN HONOR OF  
FOSTER PARENT APPRECIATION MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, all foster families are thanked for their commitment for being there for children, whether for a day or a lifetime; and  
**WHEREAS**, Belmont County benefits from the selfless dedication and service on the part of foster parents and kinship providers. Their contributions to the welfare of children are irreplaceable; and  
**WHEREAS**, in Belmont County there are fifty-four (54) children in care being provided a safe, secure, and stable home along with the compassion and nurture of a foster or kinship family; and  
**WHEREAS**, there are twenty-seven (27) licensed foster homes in Belmont County; and  
**WHEREAS**, Belmont County urges all residents to volunteer their time and talents on behalf of children in foster care and to support and recognize the commitment of foster families and kinship providers who work with these children and youth; and  
**WHEREAS**, Every child needs a family.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Belmont County Commissioners do hereby proclaim May 2024 as “Foster Parent Appreciation Month” to celebrate all those who have invited a child in need into their hearts and homes and express our profound appreciation for those who make foster care possible.

Adopted this 1st day of May, 2024.

**BELMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

*Jerry Echemann /s/* \_\_\_\_\_  
*Josh Meyer /s/* \_\_\_\_\_  
*J. P. Dutton /s/* \_\_\_\_\_

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

**IN THE MATTER OF 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 TO OFFSET CERTAIN COSTS OF THE NEW BELMONT COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, WITH SUCH EXPENDITURES INCURRED ON OR AFTER MARCH 3, 2021, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024.**

WHEREAS, Title IX, Subtitle M, Section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act, Pub. L. 117-2 [H.R. 1319], signed into law March 11, 2021 (“**ARPA**”), appropriated Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (“**Fund**”) payments from the U.S. Treasury Secretary to metropolitan cities, nonentitlement units of local government, and counties; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to the ARPA’s Fund methodology, the County of Belmont, Ohio (the “**County**”) was allocated approximately \$13,015,130.00 (the “**Fund Payment**”) to “mitigate the fiscal effects stemming from the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)”;

WHEREAS, in response to this economic crisis, the Department of the Treasury (“**Treasury Department**”) is providing such relief to state and local governments to enable them to continue to support the public health response and lay the foundation for a strong and equitable economic recovery; and,

WHEREAS, the ARPA and its supporting guidance issued by the Treasury Department provide that the Fund Payment may only be used by the County to finance costs that (a) respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency or its negative economic impacts; (b) respond to workers performing essential work; (c) provide government services to the extent of reduction in revenue; and (d) make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure (collectively, “**Criteria**”); and,

WHEREAS, so long as the County duly directs its Fund Payment to finance those costs in compliance with the Criteria, the County may use the Fund Payment to offset the County’s various fiscal effects from COVID-19 during the period beginning March 3, 2021, and ending December 31, 2024 (“**Covered Period**”); and,

WHEREAS, the Treasury Department has published an Interim Final Rule and a Final Rule with an effective date of April 1, 2022 (collectively, 31 CFR 35.1 *et seq.*), its regularly updated Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds’ Frequently Asked Questions, and its Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds: Overview of the Final Rule (collectively, “**Guidance**”), further explaining the Criteria and the proper use of the Fund Payment during the Covered Period; and,

WHEREAS, the Criteria and Guidance describe such eligible uses of the Fund Payment to include providing government services, to the extent of a loss of revenue, as authorized under 31 C.F.R. 35.6(d); and,

WHEREAS, this Board passed a resolution on February 8, 2023, electing to use the “Standard Allowance” of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000) to calculate this County’s revenue loss, as authorized under 31 C.F.R. 35.6(d)(1); and,

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners, Belmont County, Ohio, intends to take action and use the Fund Payment as described herein in a manner consistent with the Final Rule released by the Treasury Department on January 6, 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Belmont, State of Ohio:

SECTION 1. This Board hereby declares that its COVID-19 Response, defined herein, duly authorizes undertaking proper fund accounting transfer(s) such that a portion of the County’s Fund Payment is to be transferred to the General Fund for the reimbursement of previous eligible expenditures and/or incurring of future such eligible expenditures as set forth in EXHIBIT A. This Board’s decision that such expenditures are appropriate by virtue of charging to the County’s Fund Payment is based on the following consideration: provision of government services, to the extent of the County’s reduction in revenue, and which such expenses comply with the Criteria and its supporting Guidance.

SECTION 2. This Board hereby directs the County Treasurer to process the required paperwork to effectuate the fund accounting transfer(s) authorized in Section 1.

SECTION 3. This Board finds and determines that all formal actions of this Board and any of its committees concerning and relating to the passage of this resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board and any of its committees that resulted in those formal actions were in meetings open to the public, all in compliance with Ohio’s Sunshine Laws, including Section 121.22 of the Revised Code.

Commissioner Echemann moved and Commissioner Meyer seconded the foregoing resolution, and the roll being called on its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Echemann ; Mr. Meyer ; Mr. Dutton

Nays: \_\_\_\_\_ ; \_\_\_\_\_ ; \_\_\_\_\_

Attest: Bonnie Zuzak /s/  
Clerk

**OPEN PUBLIC FORUM**-Taylor Archer, Maynard, said he feels something needs established here to keep the young people in the area. He said there is a shortage of workers and good jobs are needed to keep the young people here. Mr. Archer asked if the board had a plan. Mr. Dutton said situations take a long time to develop. He said they have been working hard on economic development and he is proud of what we have in Belmont County currently. He added there are limits to what they can do. Frank Shaffer, Township Association President, said the current group of Commissioners have done more to attract businesses than any other. Mr. Meyer said Ohio Means Jobs in Martins Ferry works with individuals to get them employment. Belmont County CIC works with smaller businesses and the Belmont County Port Authority also works getting businesses to the county.

**Proclamation in Honor of Reese Stephen, Division III-150 Pound Weight Class State Wrestling Champion and Skyler King, Division III-157 Pound Weight Class State Wrestling Champion**

**Present:** Skyler King, Reese Stephen, Coach Stephen and Mrs. Stephen.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADOPTING PROCLAMATION IN HONOR OF SKYLER KING, DIVISION III-157 POUND WEIGHT CLASS STATE WRESTLING CHAMPION**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Meyer to adopt the proclamations in honor of Skyler King, Division III-157 pound weight class State Wrestling Champion.

**Proclamation  
in honor of  
Skyler King  
Division III-157 Pound Weight Class  
State Wrestling Champion**

WHEREAS, Senior Skyler King of Barnesville High School won his second state title on March 10, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Skyler King completed that mission at the Value City Arena at the Jerome Schottenstein Center when he won the 157-pound weight class in Division III with an 4-0 decision over his opponent; and

WHEREAS, Skyler King ended his season with a record of 54-3. He finishes his high school career with a record of 184-28 and is a three time state placer; and

WHEREAS, heartfelt congratulations are extended to head Coach Jayson Stephen and Assistant Coaches Rick Milhoan, TJ King and Kyle King, who is Skyler’s father, and Skyler King who have brought much pride to the Barnesville School District, as well as Belmont County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Belmont County Commissioners, on behalf of all county residents, do hereby honor Skyler King on his athletic achievements and wish him continued success in all of his future endeavors.

Adopted this 1st day of May, 2024.

**BELMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
Jerry Echemann /s/  
Josh Meyer /s/  
J. P. Dutton /s/

May 1, 2024

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

**IN THE MATTER OF ADOPTING PROCLAMATION IN HONOR OF REESE STEPHEN,  
DIVISION III-150 POUND WEIGHT CLASS STATE WRESTLING CHAMPION**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Meyer to adopt the proclamations in honor of Reese Stephen, Division III-150 pound weight class State Wrestling Champion.

**Proclamation  
in honor of  
Reese Stephen  
Division III-150 Pound Weight Class  
State Wrestling Champion**

**WHEREAS**, Senior Reese Stephen of Barnesville High School won his second state title on March 10, 2024; and  
**WHEREAS**, Reese Stephen completed that mission at the Value City Arena at the Jerome Schottenstein Center when he won the 150-pound weight class in Division III with an 5-1 decision over his opponent; and

**WHEREAS**, Reese Stephen ended his season with a record of 54-3. He finishes his high school career with a record of 178-10 and is now a three-time all-Ohioan; and

**WHEREAS**, heartfelt congratulations are extended to head Coach Jayson Stephen, who is Reese’s father, and Assistant Coaches Rick Milhoan, TJ King and Kyle King and Reese Stephen who have brought much pride to the Barnesville School District, as well as Belmont County.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Belmont County Commissioners, on behalf of all county residents, do hereby honor Reese Stephen on his athletic achievements and wish him continued success in all of his future endeavors.  
 Adopted this 1st day of May, 2024.

**BELMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Jerry Echemann /s/  
Josh Meyer /s/  
J. P. Dutton /s/

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

**RECESS**

**Announcement-Present:** Tourism Director Jackee Pugh, Morristown Mayor Heather Stitt and Gabe Hays, Wallace and Pancher. Mr. Echemann said two years ago Governor DeWine announced the Appalachian Community Grant Program. The Underground Railroad Museum was awarded \$3.9 million today. Ms. Pugh said the museum is a hidden gem, it is hard to get people to go where it is currently located. The museum will be moved to the Black Horse Inn in Morristown. The interior of the inn will be renovated. Ms. Pugh said this is a win for Belmont County. She thanked the Commissioners, Port Authority Director Larry Merry and the Steering Committee members for their work on getting the funding. Mr. Meyer said Ms. Pugh did the lion’s share of the work. Mr. Dutton said they had a great team working on it. He said John Mattox (Founder of the Underground Railroad) was looking at a long-term location before his passing and his family is still involved.

**RECESS**

**Department of Job and Family Services Director Jeff Felton, Christine Parker, Administrator, Nickie Couch, Intake Supervisor, Jennifer Feitz, Adoption Case Manager, Megan Stuckey, Foster Care Case Manager, Hope Romshak, Kinnect to Family Case Manager, LeAnn Boston, Case Manager and Foster Parent Mary Carrel**

**Re: Foster Parent Appreciation Month Proclamation**

Ms. Carrel said she and her husband have been fostering children for 15 years and they have adopted three of those children. Mr. Felton said the whole family is part of fostering. Ms. Parker said there are twenty-seven foster families in Belmont County. A case worker visits the foster parent once a month. Ms. Carrel said she enjoys being able to put a smile on the kids face. Mr. Felton said they give much support emotionally and financially to the foster family.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADOPTING THE PROCLAMATION  
DECLARING MAY FOSTER PARENT APPRECIATION MONTH**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Meyer to adopt the proclamation declaring May Foster Parent Appreciation Month.

**PROCLAMATION  
IN HONOR OF  
FOSTER PARENT APPRECIATION MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, all foster families are thanked for their commitment for being there for children, whether for a day or a lifetime; and  
**WHEREAS**, Belmont County benefits from the selfless dedication and service on the part of foster parents and kinship providers. Their contributions to the welfare of children are irreplaceable; and

**WHEREAS**, in Belmont County there are fifty-four (54) children in care being provided a safe, secure, and stable home along with the compassion and nurture of a foster or kinship family; and

**WHEREAS**, there are twenty-seven (27) licensed foster homes in Belmont County; and

**WHEREAS**, Belmont County urges all residents to volunteer their time and talents on behalf of children in foster care and to support and recognize the commitment of foster families and kinship providers who work with these children and youth; and

**WHEREAS**, Every child needs a family.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Belmont County Commissioners do hereby proclaim May 2024 as “Foster Parent Appreciation Month” to celebrate all those who have invited a child in need into their hearts and homes and express our profound appreciation for those who make foster care possible.

Adopted this 1st day of May, 2024.

**BELMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Jerry Echemann /s/  
Josh Meyer /s/  
J. P. Dutton /s/

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

May 1, 2024

**IN THE MATTER OF ENTERING EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 11:30 A.M.**

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

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

Hannah Warrington, HR Administrative Assistant also present.

**IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNING EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 12:23 P.M.**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Meyer to exit executive session at 12:23 p.m.  
Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

Mr. Echemann said as a result of executive session there are four motions to be considered.

**IN THE MATTER OF EXTENDING PROBATION FOR CHEYANNE CORNISH, FULL-TIME ASSISTANT DOG WARDEN**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Meyer to extend the probation period for Cheyanne Cornish, full-time Assistant Dog Warden at Belmont County Animal shelter, for an additional 90 days.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

**IN THE MATTER OF EXTENDING PROBATION FOR BRYAN FOX, FULL-TIME UTILITY WORKER FOR WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Meyer to extend the probationary period of Bryan Fox, Full-Time Utility Worker for Belmont County Water and Sewer District, for an additional 60 days to July 2, 2024, or until a minimum of a Class B CDL is obtained, whichever is first.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

**IN THE MATTER OF EXTENDING PROBATION FOR NICHOLAS MATERKOSKI, FULL-TIME UTILITY WORKER FOR WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Meyer to extend the probationary period of Nicholas Materkoski, Full-Time Utility Worker for Belmont County Water and Sewer District, for an additional 60 days to July 2, 2024, or until a minimum of a Class B CDL is obtained, whichever is first.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

**IN THE MATTER OF EXTENDING PROBATION FOR DOMINIC MEMMO, FULL-TIME UTILITY WORKER FOR WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Meyer to extend the probationary period of Dominic Memmo, Full-Time Utility Worker for Belmont County Water and Sewer District, for an additional 60 days to July 2, 2024, or until a minimum of a Class B CDL is obtained, whichever is first.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

**Reconvened at 2:00 p.m. with not further business to be had.**

May 1, 2024

May 1, 2024

**IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNING  
COMMISSIONERS MEETING AT 2:00 P.M.**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Meyer to adjourn the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

Read, approved and signed this 8th day of May, 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