

St. Clairsville, Ohio

October 7, 2026

The Board of Commissioners of Belmont County, Ohio, met this day in regular session. Present: Jerry Echemann, Vince Gianangeli 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. Gianangeli 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 \$887,512.52

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Gianangeli	Yes
Mr. Dutton	Yes

IN THE MATTER OF TRANSFERS WITHIN FUND

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

3410-BOND RETIRE-ENGINEERS

FROM	TO	AMOUNT
3410-410-95-460000 Transfers In	3410-410-44-540100 Principal Bond Payments	\$129,000.00
3410-410-95-460000 Transfers In	3410-410-45-545001 Interest Bond Payments	\$5,243.65
<u>1000-GENERAL FUND</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1000-110-30-525500 Professional Services	1000-110-41-560000 Transfers Out	\$7,916.66
1000-110-30-525500 Professional Services	1000-110-41-560000 Transfers Out	\$7,916.66
1000-110-41-560001 Grants-Mandated Share	1000-110-41-560000 Transfers Out	\$58,627.00

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Gianangeli	Yes
Mr. Dutton	Yes

IN THE MATTER OF TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS

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

1000 GENERAL FUND AND 2530 COUNTY HEALTH

FROM	TO	AMOUNT
1000-110-41-560000 Transfers Out	2530-530-24-429002 Transfers In	\$7,916.66
1000-110-41-560000 Transfers Out	2530-530-24-429002 Transfers In	\$7,916.66

1000-GENERAL FUND AND H00 PUBLIC ASSISTANCE/BCDJFS

FROM	TO	AMOUNT
1000-110-41-560000 Transfers Out	2610-610-95-460000 Transfers In	\$58,627.00
4 th Quarter 2026 Mandated Share		

2411-MOTOR VEHICLE AND GASOLINE TAX AND BOND RETIRE-ENGINEERS

FROM	TO	AMOUNT
2411-410-41-560000	3410-410-95-460000 Transfers In	\$134,243.65

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Gianangeli	Yes
Mr. Dutton	Yes

IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

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

JANUARY 6, 2026

2109-BEL. CO COMMISSIONERS CDBG

2109-720-39-525001	CDBG Grants	\$10,315.45
<u>1000-GENERAL FUND</u>		
1000-110-30-525901	Other Expenses	\$80,000.00

FEBRUARY 2, 2026

4104-BUILDING CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

4104-110-40-530000	Construction	\$720,886.80
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OCTOBER 6, 2026

8830- BELMONT COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY

8830-930-55-525500	Professional Services	\$5,040.34
8830-930-55-525500	Professional Services	\$87.64

8380- OAKVIEW JUV REHABILITATION

8380-380-32-520001	Food	\$2,360.00
8380-380-32-510300	Travel and Staff Development	\$1,775.00
8380-380-32-520002	Fuel/Utilities	\$25,000.00
8380-380-32-535000	General & Other Expenses	\$7,650.00
8380-380-32-510220	Workers' Compensation	\$19,114.94
8380-380-32-510225	Hospitalization	\$40,800.26
8380-380-32-510226	Dental	\$3,416.02
8380-380-32-510227	Vision	\$1,030.22
8380-380-32-510228	Life	\$246.56
8380-380-32-520102	Education/Recreation	\$375.00

2381-OAKVIEW JUV-ACTIVITY FUND

2381-380-32-510000	Activity Fund	\$446.00
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2226- COMM-BASED CORRECTIONS ACT GRANT

2226-320-32-510101	Salaries	\$18,344.25
2226-320-32-510210	Medicare	\$225.00
2226-320-32-510225	Hospitalization	\$6,135.25

2226-320-32-510201	Pers	\$2,175.00
2226-320-32-510220	Workers Compensation	\$277.00
<u>2313- COMMISSARY FUND/SHERIFF</u>		
2313-000-00-110100	Commissary	\$7,510.70
<u>2314-CONCEALED HANDGUN LICENSE FUND</u>		
2314-000-00-110100	CCW	\$1,021.00
2314-310-32-520200	CCW Equipment	\$1,896.00
<u>7310-SHERIFF’S RESERVE ACCOUNT</u>		
7310-310-32-520000	Reserve	\$2,127.50
<u>1000- GENERAL FUND</u>		
1000-310-32-520005	Background	\$68.00
1000-310-32-525007	E-SORN	\$441.00
1000-310-32-525900	False Alarms	\$700.00
1000-310-32-510222	Medical	\$810.18
1000-310-32-525012	Warrant Fee	\$430.17
1000-310-32-525005	Cruisers	\$450.00
<u>2353-HAZARD MITIGATION GRT/EMA</u>		
2353-000-00-110100	Hazard Mitigation	\$6,600.00
<u>8350-SPECIAL EMERGENCY PLANNING FUND-LEPC</u>		
8350-350-32-510101	Employee Salaries	\$23,456.00
8350-350-32-520200	Clean up supplies- Equipment	\$580.00
<u>2109-BELMONT CO COMMISSIONERS CDBG</u>		
2109-720-39-525001	CBDG Grants	\$275,744.55
<u>2411-MOTOR VEHICLE AND GASOLINE TAX</u>		
2411-410-41-560000	Transfers Out	\$134,243.65

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Gianangeli	Yes
Mr. Dutton	Yes

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

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli granting permission for county employees to travel as follows:
DJFS-Stacie Brown to New Philadelphia, OH, on October 6, 2026, to attend the FCFC Regional meeting. Estimated expenses: \$101.00. David Williamson to Cambridge, OH, on October 6, 2026, to attend the TPOC training. Estimated expenses: \$85.80.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Gianangeli	Yes
Mr. Dutton	Yes

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

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to approve the minutes of the Belmont County Board of Commissioners regular meeting of September 30, 2026.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Gianangeli	Yes
Mr. Dutton	Yes

**IN THE MATTER OF RESCHEDULING
COMMISSIONERS’ MEETING DAY**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to hold the board’s regular meeting at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 20, 2026, instead of Wednesday, October 21, 2026, due to a scheduling conflict and to notify the media of the same.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Gianangeli	Yes
Mr. Dutton	Yes

**IN THE MATTER OF ADOPTING REVISED JOB DESCRIPTION
FOR EXECUTIVE SECRETARY/WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to adopt the revised job description for Executive Secretary at Belmont County Water and Sewer District, effective October 7, 2026.

BELMONT COUNTY WATER & SEWER DISTRICT

Position: Executive Secretary
Department: Office
Supervisor: Director
Pay: See Current Pay Scale

Position Summary

Under the direction of the Director, the Executive Secretary provides administrative and executive support to the Director and management staff. The position coordinates administrative and regulatory requirements, maintains District records, organizes water and wastewater system information, and assist with personnel, compliance, and other management functions..

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- Provides administrative support to the Director and management staff, including correspondence, reports, scheduling, meetings, and document preparation.
- Manages and tracks District licenses, permits, certifications, renewals, and related regulatory requirements.
- Maintains accurate records for RPZ/backflow testing, grease trap inspections, and other District inspection and compliance programs.
- Collects, organizes, and maintains water distribution and wastewater collection system data, including main breaks, hydrants, pump stations, flows, inspections, and repairs.
- Prepares and maintains reports, spreadsheets, databases, forms, and records used for compliance, planning, and management decisions.
- Coordinates administrative communication and follow-up with employees, management, regulatory agencies, contractors, governmental offices, and the public.
- Assists with personnel, purchasing, contracts, public records, special projects, and other administrative matters as directed by the Director.
- Maintains organized electronic and physical filing systems and ensures assigned records are accurate, current, and accessible.
- Performs other related duties as assigned by the Director.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES

- Knowledge of office administration, recordkeeping, and general business practices.
- Strong organizational, communication, and computer skills.
- Ability to manage multiple priorities, meet deadlines, and maintain accurate records.
- Ability to maintain confidentiality and exercise sound judgment.
- Ability to organize and interpret utility operational and regulatory information.
- Ability to communicate effectively with employees, management, regulatory agencies, contractors, and the public.
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office and ability to learn District-specific software and systems.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

High school diploma or equivalent required. Additional education or training in business, public administration, office administration, or a related field is preferred.

Three years of progressively responsible administrative experience preferred. Experience in a public utility, governmental agency, or similar organization is desirable. Equivalent combinations of education, training, and experience may be considered.

RESPONSIBILITY

The Executive Secretary is responsible for the accurate and timely administration, organization, and maintenance of assigned records, programs, and information. The position supports management and coordinates administrative activities but does not assume technical or operational authority assigned to District management or qualified personnel.

WORKING CONDITIONS

Work is primarily performed in an office environment with occasional travel to District facilities, meetings, training, governmental offices, or other locations as required.

Updated: 10/07/2026

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Gianangeli	Yes
Mr. Dutton	Yes

IN THE MATTER OF HIRING CODY DOWDLE, FULL-TIME, COLLECTION SYSTEM OPERATOR/WATER & SEWER DISTRICT

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to approve the hire of Cody Dowdle, full-time Collection System Operator at Belmont County Water and Sewer District, effective October 19, 2026.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Gianangeli	Yes
Mr. Dutton	Yes

IN THE MATTER OF REJECTING BID RECEIVED FOR THE ENGINEER’S PROJECT 25-11

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to reject the one bid received for the Belmont County Engineer’s Project 25-11 BEL-CR20-0.33 Slide Repair received on September 30, 2026, based upon the recommendation of Belmont County Engineer Terry Lively.

Note: The bid was over 20% of the estimate. This project will be redesigned and re-bid at a later date.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Gianangeli	Yes
Mr. Dutton	Yes

IN THE MATTER OF ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL FROM GEO-TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATES, INC/ENGINEER’S

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to accept the proposal from Geo-Technology Associates, Inc., in the amount of \$9,500.00, for Geo-technical services for the Belmont County Engineer’s new Salt Storage Building at the Neffs Garage.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Gianangeli	Yes
Mr. Dutton	Yes

IN THE MATTER OF ACCEPTING ESTIMATE FROM RITE CARPET AND DECORATING, LLC/HR DEPARTMENT

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to accept estimate from Rite Carpet and Decorating, LLC, in the amount of \$5,745.75, to take up and dispose of old carpet and install new carpet in the Belmont County Human Resource’s offices.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Gianangeli	Yes
Mr. Dutton	Yes

IN THE MATTER OF ACCEPTING PROPOSAL FROM H. E. NEUMANN COMPANY/JAIL

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to accept proposal from H. E. Neumann Company in the amount of \$5,975.00 for replacement of five failed reheat valves at the Belmont County Jail.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Gianangeli	Yes
Mr. Dutton	Yes

IN THE MATTER OF ENTERING INTO THE STAFFING AGREEMENT WITH COLEMAN HEALTH SERVICES/ANIMAL SHELTER

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to enter into the Staffing Agreement by and between the Belmont County Commissioners, on behalf of the Belmont County Animal Shelter and Coleman Health Services, for a one-year term, to provide clients to staff the animal shelter.

Note: There is no cost to the county for this service.

STAFFING AGREEMENT

This Staffing Agreement (hereinafter referred to as the "Agreement") is made and entered into this 7th day of October, 2026, by and between the Belmont County Animal Shelter, by the Board of Commissioners of Belmont County, Ohio, (hereinafter referred to as the "County") and Coleman Health Services (hereinafter referred to as "Coleman").

WHEREAS, Coleman desires to provide clients to staff the Belmont County Animal Shelter; and

WHEREAS, the County desires to utilize the clients provided by Coleman to staff the animal shelter.

NOW THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, and of the mutual covenants and agreements hereinafter set forth, the County and Coleman agree as follows:

1. Coleman shall provide clients to staff the County's Animal Shelter at 45244 National Rd. W, St. Clairsville, Ohio 43950, or any other place that may be assigned from time to time, and upon agreement of the parties.
 2. The County shall provide a schedule for said staffing by Coleman, including dates and times.
 3. All staff to be provided by Coleman shall be at least eighteen (18) years old, and legally authorized to work in the state of Ohio.
 4. Coleman shall be responsible for all costs associated with each staff, including but not limited to, wages, workers' comp insurance, unemployment insurance, and all payroll withholding.
 5. The parties expressly agree that Coleman is acting as an independent contractor and further agree that this Agreement does not create a partnership or joint venture.
 6. The terms of this Agreement shall be one (1) year from the date of this Agreement, at which time the terms herein may be renegotiated; however, in the event the terms are not renegotiated, this Agreement shall renew automatically with the terms set forth herein. Further, this Agreement may be terminated at any time by either party by giving thirty (30) days advanced written notice.
 7. Coleman shall protect, save, indemnify, and hold the County, its officials and employees harmless from any liability, claims, damages, penalties, charges, or costs which may arise as from the performance of this Agreement.
 8. The parties shall comply with all local, state, and federal ordinances, laws, and
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regulations in the discharge of the obligations and performance of this Agreement.

- 9. This Agreement shall be binding on the County and Coleman, and their successors and assigns.
- 10. In the event any clause, provision, or remedy in this Agreement, for any reason, be deemed invalid or unenforceable, the remaining clauses and provisions shall not be affected, impaired, or invalidated and will remain in full force and effect.
- 11. This Agreement contains the entire agreement of the parties hereto, and there are no other promises or conditions in any other agreement, whether oral or written concerning the subject matter of this Agreement. Any amendments must be in writing and signed by each party. This Agreement supersedes any prior written or oral agreements between the parties.
- 12. All notices, requests, demands, or other communications required or permitted by the terms of this Agreement will be given in writing and delivered to the parties at the following addresses:

Belmont County Animal Shelter	Coleman Health Services
45244 National Rd. W	68150 Bayberry Dr.
St. Clairsville, OH 43950	St. Clairsville, OH 43950

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties have caused this Addendum to be signed by their duly authorized representatives this 7th day of OCTOBER, 2026.

BELMONT COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER,
BY: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
BELMONT COUNTY, OHIO

Jerry Echemann
Jerry Echemann, President

Vince Gianangeli
Vince Gianangeli, Vice President

J.P. Dutton
J.P. Dutton, Commissioner

COLEMAN HEALTH SERVICES

BY: Lucas Kazmirska

Print: Lucas Kazmirska

Title: Employment Specialist

APPROVED AS TO FORM BY:
J. KEVIN FLANAGAN
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY OF
BELMONT COUNTY, OHIO

T.J. Schultz
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
Date: 10/1/26

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Gianangeli	Yes
Mr. Dutton	Yes

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING VEHICLE TRADE-IN AND PURCHASE
FOR SENIOR SERVICES OF BELMONT COUNTY**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to approve the trade-in of one 2012 Box Truck for a trade-in amount of \$7,000.00 and purchase one 2026 Chevrolet Cutaway Box Truck with a lift gate from Whiteside of St. Clairsville, in the amount of \$63,019.00 for a total cost of \$56,019.00, for Senior Services of Belmont County, based upon the recommendation of Executive Director Lisa Kazmirski.
Note: This is a replacement vehicle and will be used for commodity food box distribution and other hauling needs of the senior centers.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Gianangeli	Yes
Mr. Dutton	Yes

**IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZING LISA KAZMIRSKI,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, TO SIGN THE WAIVER AGREEMENTS,
ON BEHALF OF SENIOR SERVICES OF BELMONT COUNTY**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to approve and authorize Lisa Kazmirski, Executive Director, to sign the Waiver Agreements, on behalf of Senior Services of Belmont County.
Note: SSOBC is now required to have contracts with insurance providers for Medicaid and Medicare directly because of the transfer of some consumers from PASSPORT Waiver services to MyCare Waiver. This is a statewide initiative but just started in our region on July 1, 2026.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Gianangeli	Yes
Mr. Dutton	Yes

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING THE VOCA AND SVAA GRANT
AWARD AND ACCEPTANCE FOR/PROSECUTOR’S VICTIM ASSISTANCE**

Motion made by Mr. Gianangeli, seconded by Mr. Dutton to approve and authorize Commission President Jerry Echemann to sign the VOCA and SVAA Grant Award and Acceptance Form for the Belmont County Prosecutor’s Victim Assistance grant for the period of October 1, 2026 through September 30, 2027 as follows:
Award Number: 2027-VOCA-136632415: VOCA Award: \$29,664.70
Award Number: 2027-SVAA-136632419: SVAA Award: \$ 6,640.00

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Gianangeli	Yes
Mr. Dutton	Yes
Mr. Echemann	Yes

Discussion re: Senior Services of Belmont County and 911 levy renewals-

Senior Services of Belmont County -Ms. Kazmirski, Executive Director, said the 1 mill levy will be reduced to a .75 mill. The 1 mill levy was established in 2007. She said, “We will have less income from the reduction, but we hope to manage the agency on that income with the addition of the renewal that is due next year, with a little bit of change, and a surplus that carries forward each year. So, we can bank on that when need be. \$1.8 million is currently brought in from the 1 mill levy.
911-Bryan Minder, Director, said the .75 mill levy renewal will be used for upgrades to the portable radio system. The radios are carried by all first responders. “It pays for everything from the backbone equipment at our center to all of the tower equipment, all the six towers that we have throughout the county and in West Virginia, it pays for everything for the maintenance of that system,” said Mr. Minder. He noted NextGen upgrades have been done, but there is continuous cost for the system.

Ms. Timko said the death rate has dropped by 44% over the years. She said early detection is important.

IN THE MATTER OF ADOPTING THE BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH PROCLAMATION

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to adopt the Breast Cancer Awareness Month Proclamation.

**Proclamation
National Breast Cancer Awareness Month**

WHEREAS, chances are, you know at least one person who has been personally affected by breast cancer; and
WHEREAS, in 2026, in the United States an estimated 321,910 new cases of invasive breast cancer and 60,730 new cases of non-invasive will be diagnosed in U.S. women; and
WHEREAS, approximately 66% of breast cancer cases are diagnosed at a localized stage, before the cancer has spread outside of the breast, when it is easiest to treat; and
WHEREAS, the overall 5-year relative survival rate for cancer diagnosed at the localized stage is 99% and there are currently over 4 million breast cancer survivors in the United States; and
WHEREAS, breast cancer death rates have slowly decreased since 1989, for an overall decline of 43% through 2020. This is in part due to better screening and early detection efforts, increased awareness, and continually improving treatment options; and
WHEREAS, we recognize breast cancer survivors, those battling the disease, their families, friends, and co-workers who are a source of love, encouragement, and support, and applaud the efforts of medical professionals and researchers working to find a cure for this deadly disease; and
WHEREAS, National Breast Cancer Awareness Month is an opportunity to unite all citizens in Belmont County to raise awareness of the disease.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Belmont County Commissioners do hereby recognize October as **BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH** and call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.
Adopted this 7th day of October, 2026.

BELMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Jerry Echemann /s/
Vince Gianangeli /s/
J. P. Dutton /s/

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Gianangeli	Yes
Mr. Dutton	Yes
Mr. Echemann	Yes

RECESS

IN THE MATTER OF ENTERING EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 11:00 A.M

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to enter executive session with Bricker Graydon Wyatt LLP (via phone), pursuant to ORC 121.22(G)(3) Court Action Exception to consider imminent court action.
Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Gianangeli	Yes
Mr. Dutton	Yes
Mr. Echemann	Yes

Kelly Porter, Belmont County Sanitary Sewer District Director, also present.

IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNING EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 11:37 A.M.

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to exit executive session at 11:37 a.m.
Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Gianangeli	Yes
Mr. Dutton	Yes

Mr. Echemann said as a result of executive session there is no action to be taken at this time.

BUDGET HEARINGS

Present: Jody Thomas, Fiscal Clerk and Jessica Koller, Assistant Clerk/Payroll
2027 budget requests were reviewed.

Building and Grounds-Present: Scott Larkin, Director and Rick Planey, Facilities Supervisor
\$5,425,850 requested for 2027. The projected project budget is \$686,500. There will be salary increases due to steps and union contract increases.

RECESS

Engineer’s-Present: Terry Livey, County Engineer
\$649,298 requested for 2027. This is an \$88,608 increase from 2026. There are salary increases and an increase for the GIS software upgrade. The Commissioners provide the salary for GIS through the map department. Mr. Dutton explained the county’s insurance cost is increasing 15.3% for 2027.

RECESS

IN THE MATTER OF ENTERING EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 1:08 P.M

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to enter executive session with Hannah Warrington, HR Manager, 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. Gianangeli	Yes
Mr. Dutton	Yes

IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNING EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 2:31 P.M.

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to exit executive session at 2:31 p.m.
Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Gianangeli	Yes
Mr. Dutton	Yes

Mr. Echemann said there are two motions to be made as a result of executive session.

**IN THE MATTER OF ACCEPTING THE RETIREMENT OF
ROBIN HESS, FULL-TIME COOK/SSOBC**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to accept the retirement of Robin Hess, full-time Cook at Senior Services of Belmont County, effective October 2, 2026.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Gianangeli	Yes
Mr. Dutton	Yes

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING THE PROMOTION OF
MICHAEL WONSKI, FULL-TIME WASTEWATER PLANT
OPERATOR II TO CHIEF WASTEWATER PLANT OPERATOR II**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to approve the promotion of Michael Wonski, full-time Wastewater Plant Operator II to Chief Wastewater Plant Operator II, effective October 8, 2026.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Gianangeli	Yes
Mr. Dutton	Yes

RECESS

Reconvened Thursday, October 8, 2026, with Commissioners Echemann, Gianangeli and Dutton and Jessica Koller, Assistant Clerk.

BUDGET HEARINGS

Present: Jody Thomas, Fiscal Clerk and Jessica Koller, Assistant Clerk/Payroll
2027 budget requests were reviewed.

EMA-Present: Dave Ivan, Director
\$434,557 Requested for 2027. Mr. Ivan said nothing has really changed in his budget request from 2026 to 2027. He is possibly looking at needing a new truck. They currently have three trucks and would like to donate the oldest one to another county. There is a slight increase in utilities. Mr. Ivan inquired about moving the Deputy Director from part-time to full-time. Mr. Dutton said they would have to discuss that with Cumberland Trail. Becky Horne, Administrative Secretary, may be retiring in 2027. Her payout will need to be added to the request.

RECESS

PROBATE/JUVENILE-Present: Judge Davies and Dave Carter, Court Administrator
\$274,275 requested for Probate, \$1,000,745 requested for Juvenile. Chief Probation Officer Kelly Porter is retiring April, 2027. They are moving positions within the department, so they will not be hiring a replacement. Dave Carter will be retiring November 30, 2026, and be rehired at a lower salary. His payout will be in 2026. There is a 5% increase in salaries on the juvenile side.

SARGUS-Present: DJ Watson, Director, Steve Kovaly, Deputy Director and Rhonda Greenwood, Board member.
2026's budget is going to be very close and fluid through the end of the year. There was a little carryover from previous years, but they have used all of it this year. Counties that do not have room have been buying beds in other states. Food and electricity costs are the biggest expense. They have gone from three teachers to two.

RECESS

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT-Present: Sheriff Zusack, Chief Deputy Moore and Miranda Miller, Fiscal Officer
\$12,101,045 requested for 2027. Contractual pay increase is 4% for bargaining unit employees. Jail payroll was reduced by \$76,000 due to the elimination of one position and reassignment of staff to better meet operational needs and maintain compliance. Overtime has been reduced by over 1,000 hours. An additional \$10,000 in other expenses is requested due to changes of staff email address increases. Additional \$4,000 requested for communications/radios. Additional \$10,000 requested for clothing allowances for several probationary employees that did not receive clothing allowances in 2026, but will be eligible in 2027. Equipment increase of \$10,000 is due to current taser devices reaching end of service life. Funding is requested for replacement of six cruisers. The body camera storage will now require a subscription for it to be stored to the cloud. Inmate intakes are down so there may need to be reduction in staffing.

RECESS

CLERK OF COURTS-Present: Laura Zupko
\$664,135 requested for 2027. Ms. Zupko said the postage cost is increasing tremendously. She is looking at a new jury management program due to the contract ending next year. Ms. Zupko said she talked to the courts about jury management being handled through them, it is handled that way in many other surrounding counties. Some moves have been made within her office and she will evaluate her salary request to possibly compensate some of the newer employees to get raises next year.

RECESS

There is one additional motion to be made.

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING CHANGE ORDERS FROM GRAE-CON CONSTRUCTION
FOR THE BUILDING AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT BUILDING PROJECT**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to approve the following Change Orders from Grae-Con Construction, Inc., for the Records Building and Health Department Building Project:

- Change Order No. 27, in the increased amount of \$2,982.00, for additional work related to the furnish and install a roof-mounted sled support for a radio antenna and relocate/reinstall the associated equipment at the new Records Building.
- Change Order No. 28, in the increased amount of 12,421.50 for additional work related to the over-excavation and replacement of unsuitable yielding subgrade with #1 aggregate along SR331.

- Change Order No. 29, in the increased amount of 21,000.00 for additional work related to the cost of hauling and disposing of 500 additional cubic yards of excess material beyond the quantity originally included in the bid.
- Note: New contract total is \$16,285,360.61.*

General Contractor Change Order Form	
CHANGE ORDER NO. 27	
Project Name: Records Building and Health Department Building Project (the "Project")	
Source document(s) and # (RFI, Bulletin, Shop Drawing Review): Proposed Change Order 34 attached hereto as Exhibit A .	This Change Order is effective as of the date of execution by the Owner.
Owner: Board of Commissioners of Belmont County, Ohio	General Contractor (Contractor): Grae-Con Construction, Inc.
Architect: Mills Group, LLC	
Description/Justification <i>(Add more pages or attach scope detail if necessary)</i> This Change Order addresses the additional work related to furnish and install a roof-mounted sled support for a radio antenna and relocate/reinstall the associated equipment at the new Records Building as set forth in Exhibit A . Accordingly, the Contract Sum is increased by \$2,982.00.	
Original Contract Sum	\$10,694,075.00
Net Change by Previous Change Orders	\$5,554,882.11
This Change Order Increase/Decrease (clearly indicate)	\$2,982.00
New Contract Sum	\$16,251,939.11
Revised Contract Time (critical path only) Original Substantial Completion Date or Duration: within 545 calendar days of the Date of Commencement Previous Adjustments by Change Order(s) 146 (calendar days) This Change Order ☒ ADD or ☐ DEDUCT 0 (calendar days) Revised Substantial Completion Date or Duration: within 691 calendar days of the Date of Commencement If applicable, revised Final Completion Date or Duration: N/A	

The compensation, Contract Sum adjustment, or time extension provided by this Change Order constitutes full and complete satisfaction for all direct and indirect costs, cumulative impact, if any, and interest related thereto, which has been or may be incurred in connection with alleged changes to the Work or alleged schedule impacts for all portions and phases of the Project through the date of the change order. To the extent any attachment(s) hereto are inconsistent with this provision, this provision and Section 7.2.3 of the modified AIA-A201 General Conditions of the Contract for Construction shall control.

By executing this Change Order, Owner and Contractor agree to modify the Agreement's Scope of Work, Contract Sum, and/or Contract Time as stated above. Upon execution, this Change Order becomes a Contract Document.

CONTRACTOR:

By: [Signature]
Printed Name: Cameron McIntosh
Title: Project Manager
Date: 10/07/2026

ARCHITECT:

By: [Signature]
Printed Name: Christopher J. Clark
Title: Principal
Date: 10/7/2026

OWNER:

By: [Signature]
Printed Name: JERRY ECHEMANN VINCE GIANANGELI J.P. DUTTON
Title: BELMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Date: 10/7/26

CERTIFICATE OF FUNDS
(ORC Section 5705.41)

The undersigned, Fiscal Officer of the Owner, hereby certifies in connection with the Agreement to which this Certificate is attached that the amount required to meet the obligations under the contract, obligation, or expenditure for the services described in the attached agreement, has been lawfully appropriated for the purpose, and is in the treasury or in process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund, free from any outstanding obligation or encumbrance.

Dated: 10/9/2026

[Signature]
Fiscal Officer

General Contractor Change Order Form	
CHANGE ORDER NO. 28	
Project Name: Records Building and Health Department Building Project (the "Project")	
Source document(s) and # (RFI, Bulletin, Shop Drawing Review): Proposed Change Order 36 attached hereto as Exhibit A .	This Change Order is effective as of the date of execution by the Owner.
Owner: Board of Commissioners of Belmont County, Ohio	General Contractor (Contractor): Grae-Con Construction, Inc.
Architect: Mills Group, LLC	
Description/Justification <i>(Add more pages or attach scope detail if necessary)</i> This Change Order addresses the additional work related to the over-excavation and replacement of unsuitable yielding subgrade with #1 aggregate along SR 331 between Stations 34+00 and 38+00 as set forth in Exhibit A . Accordingly, the Contract Sum is increased by \$12,421.50.	
Original Contract Sum	\$10,694,075.00
Net Change by Previous Change Orders	\$5,557,864.11
This Change Order Increase/Decrease (clearly indicate)	\$12,421.50
New Contract Sum	\$16,264,360.61
Revised Contract Time (critical path only) Original Substantial Completion Date or Duration: within 545 calendar days of the Date of Commencement Previous Adjustments by Change Order(s) <u>146</u> (calendar days) This Change Order ☒ ADD or ☐ DEDUCT <u>0</u> (calendar days) Revised Substantial Completion Date or Duration: within <u>691</u> calendar days of the Date of Commencement If applicable, revised Final Completion Date or Duration: <u>N/A</u>	

The compensation, Contract Sum adjustment, or time extension provided by this Change Order constitutes full and complete satisfaction for all direct and indirect costs, cumulative impact, if any, and interest related thereto, which has been or may be incurred in connection with alleged changes to the Work or alleged schedule impacts for all portions and phases of the Project through the date of the change order. To the extent any attachment(s) hereto are inconsistent with this provision, this provision and Section 7.2.3 of the modified AIA-A201 General Conditions of the Contract for Construction shall control.

By executing this Change Order, Owner and Contractor agree to modify the Agreement's Scope of Work, Contract Sum, and/or Contract Time as stated above. Upon execution, this Change Order becomes a Contract Document.

CONTRACTOR:		ARCHITECT:	
By:	<u><i>Cameron McIntosh</i></u>	By:	<u><i>Christopher J. Clark</i></u>
Printed Name:	<u>Cameron McIntosh</u>	Printed Name:	<u>Christopher J. Clark</u>
Title:	<u>Project Manager</u>	Title:	<u>Principal</u>
Date:	<u>10/07/2026</u>	Date:	<u>10/7/2026</u>

OWNER:

By:	<u><i>Vince Gianangeli</i></u>	<u><i>J.P. Dutton</i></u>	<u><i>Jerry Echemann</i></u>
Printed Name:	<u>VINCE GIANANGELI</u>	<u>J.P. DUTTON</u>	<u>JERRY ECHEMANN</u>
Title:	<u>BELMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS</u>		
Date:	<u>10/7/26</u>		

CERTIFICATE OF FUNDS
(ORC Section 5705.41)

The undersigned, Fiscal Officer of the Owner, hereby certifies in connection with the Agreement to which this Certificate is attached that the amount required to meet the obligations under the contract, obligation, or expenditure for the services described in the attached agreement, has been lawfully appropriated for the purpose, and is in the treasury or in process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund, free from any outstanding obligation or encumbrance.

Dated: 10/9/2026

Cristi S Henry
Fiscal Officer

General Contractor Change Order Form	
CHANGE ORDER NO. 29	
Project Name: Records Building and Health Department Building Project (the "Project")	
Source document(s) and # (RFI, Bulletin, Shop Drawing Review): Proposed Change Order 35 attached hereto as Exhibit A .	This Change Order is effective as of the date of execution by the Owner.
Owner: Board of Commissioners of Belmont County, Ohio	General Contractor (Contractor): Grae-Con Construction, Inc.
Architect: Mills Group, LLC	
Description/Justification <i>(Add more pages or attach scope detail if necessary)</i> This Change Order addresses the additional work related to the cost of hauling and disposing of 500 additional cubic yards of excess material beyond the quantity originally included in the bid as set forth in Exhibit A . Accordingly, the Contract Sum is increased by \$21,000.00.	
Original Contract Sum	\$10,694,075.00
Net Change by Previous Change Orders	\$5,570,285.61
This Change Order Increase/Decrease (clearly indicate)	\$21,000.00
New Contract Sum	\$16,285,360.61
Revised Contract Time (critical path only) Original Substantial Completion Date or Duration: within 545 calendar days of the Date of Commencement Previous Adjustments by Change Order(s) <u>146</u> (calendar days) This Change Order ☒ ADD or ☐ DEDUCT <u>0</u> (calendar days) Revised Substantial Completion Date or Duration: within <u>691</u> calendar days of the Date of Commencement If applicable, revised Final Completion Date or Duration: <u>N/A</u>	

The compensation, Contract Sum adjustment, or time extension provided by this Change Order constitutes full and complete satisfaction for all direct and indirect costs, cumulative impact, if any, and interest related thereto, which has been or may be incurred in connection with alleged changes to the Work or alleged schedule impacts for all portions and phases of the Project through the date of the change order. To the extent any attachment(s) hereto are inconsistent with this provision, this provision and Section 7.2.3 of the modified AIA-A201 General Conditions of the Contract for Construction shall control.

By executing this Change Order, Owner and Contractor agree to modify the Agreement's Scope of Work, Contract Sum, and/or Contract Time as stated above. Upon execution, this Change Order becomes a Contract Document.

CONTRACTOR:
By: [Signature]
Printed Name: Cameron McIntosh
Title: Project Manager
Date: 10/07/2026

ARCHITECT:
By: [Signature]
Printed Name: Christopher J. Clark
Title: Principal
Date: 10/7/2026

OWNER:
By: [Signature]
Printed Name: JERRY ECHEMANN J.P. DUTTON VINCE GIANANGELI
Title: BELMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONER
Date: 10/7/26

CERTIFICATE OF FUNDS
(ORC Section 5705.41)

The undersigned, Fiscal Officer of the Owner, hereby certifies in connection with the Agreement to which this Certificate is attached that the amount required to meet the obligations under the contract, obligation, or expenditure for the services described in the attached agreement, has been lawfully appropriated for the purpose, and is in the treasury or in process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund, free from any outstanding obligation or encumbrance.

Dated: 10/9/2026
[Signature]
Fiscal Officer

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Gianangeli	Yes
Mr. Dutton	Yes

IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNING
COMMISSIONERS MEETING
Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to adjourn the meeting
Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mr. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Gianangeli	Yes
Mr. Dutton	Yes

Read, approved and signed this 20th day of October, 2026.

Jerry Echemann /s/
J. P. Dutton /s/ COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Commissioner Gianangeli – Absent

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