

St. Clairsville, Ohio

September 23, 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 \$2,132,050.85

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:

1000 GENERAL FUND

FROM	TO	AMOUNT
1000-110-30-525901 Other Expenses	1000-110-41-560000 Transfers Out	\$933.00

2526 MENTAL HEALTH

FROM	TO	AMOUNT
2526-520-34-535000 Other Expenses	2526-520-34-525003 Building	\$8,000.00

2610 PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

FROM	TO	AMOUNT
2610-610-35-520000 Public Assistance	2610-610-35-535000 Other Expenses	\$250,000.00

2650 BELMONT CO SENIOR PROGRAMS

FROM	TO	AMOUNT
2650-650-35-510200 Training, License & Cert	2650-650-35-525004 Facilities	\$15,000.00
2650-650-35-510101 Salary Employees	2650-650-35-525004 Facilities	\$15,000.00
2650-650-35-510101 Salary Employees	2650-650-35-525005 Fuel	\$25,000.00

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 2612 CHILD SUPPORT ENF ADM. FUND

FROM	TO	AMOUNT
1000-110-41-560000 Transfers Out	2612-610-95-460000 Transfers In	\$933.00

1000 GENERAL FUND AND 3113 DEBT SERVICE-COUNTY ISSUES

FROM	TO	AMOUNT
1000-110-41-560000 Transfers Out	3113-110-95-460000 Transfers In	\$728,337.50

1000 GENERAL FUND AND 3114 BUILDING CONSTR. NOTE RET.

FROM	TO	AMOUNT
1000-110-41-560000 Transfers Out	3114-110-95-460000 Transfers In	\$220,763.89

5437 WATER WORKS FUND AND 4432 WWS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUND

FROM	TO	AMOUNT
5437-430-41-560000 Transfers Out	4432-430-95-460000 Transfers In	\$27,897.48

5440 SANITARY SEWER DISTRICT FUND AND 4430 SSD CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUND

FROM	TO	AMOUNT
5440-430-41-560000 Transfers Out	4430-430-95-460000 Transfers In	\$1,500.00

5445 WATER & SEWER GUARANTEE DEPOSIT FUND AND 5437 WATER WORKS FUND

FROM	TO	AMOUNT
5445-430-41-560000 Transfers Out	5437-430-95-460000 Transfers In	\$2,608.51

5445 WATER & SEWER GUARANTEE DEPOSIT FUND AND 5440 SANITARY SEWER DISTRICT FUND

FROM	TO	AMOUNT
5445-430-41-560000 Transfers Out	5440-430-95-460000 Transfers In	\$672.90

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 date:

***JANUARY 6, 2026**

1000 GENERAL FUND

1000-110-41-560000	Transfers Out	\$949,101.39
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SEPTEMBER 15, 2026

2280 LAW LIBRARY

2280-280-31-510101	Salary	\$6,000.00
2280-280-31-510201	PERS	\$500.00
2280-280-31-510210	Medicare	\$300.00
2280-280-31-520100	Supplies	\$7,986.81

3120 T.L.F. FUND

3120-110-30-525002	St. Clairs-Richland S. D.	\$128,115.80
3120-110-30-525001	Bel Harr Area JVS	\$8,725.42

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

IN THE MATTER OF ACKNOWLEDGING THE BELMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RECEIVED AND REVIEWED THE FINAL SALES & USE TAX DISTRIBUTION REPORT FOR JULY 2026

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli 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 July 2026.

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: SSOBC-Barnesville Senior Center employees to Zanesville, OH, on October 14, 2026, for a senior outing to Conn’s Potato Chip Factory. Bellaire Senior Center employees to Pittsburgh, PA, on October 14, 2026, for a senior outing to Robinson Town Center. Bethesda and Centerville Senior Center employees to Woodsfield, OH, on October 21, 2026, for a senior outing to Senior Fun Day at Westwood Senior Living. Colerain Senior Center employees to Pittsburgh, PA, on October 14, 2026, for a senior outing on the Gateway Clipper and to Wheeling, WV, on October 20, 2026, to Oglebay Park. Centerville and Flushing Senior Center employees to Coshocton, OH, on October 16, 2026, Roscoe Village. Martins Ferry Senior Center employees to Moundsville, WV, on October 16, 2026, for a senior outing for shopping and lunch. St. Clairsville Senior Center employees to Wheeling and Moundsville, WV, on October 6, 2026 for a senior outing for shopping and lunch and to Rogers, OH, on October 16, 2026, to spend the day at the flea market.

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 16, 2026.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

IN THE MATTER OF HIRING ALLISON CAIN, PART-TIME, NON-EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION DRIVER/SSOBC

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to approve the hire of Allison Cain, part-time, Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Driver for Senior Services of Belmont County, effective September 29, 2026.

Note: This is a replacement position.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

IN THE MATTER OF ACCEPTING THE RETIREMENT OF MICHAEL FREY, FULL-TIME ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES CASE MANAGER/JFS

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to approve the retirement of Michael Frey, full-time Adult Protective Services Case Manager at Belmont County Department of Job and Family Services, effective October 30, 2026.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

IN THE MATTER OF ACCEPTING THE RETIREMENT OF JENNIFER FIETZ, FULL-TIME CHILDREN SERVICES CASE MANAGER/JFS

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to approve the retirement of Jennifer Fietz, full-time Children Services Case Manager at Belmont County Department of Job and Family Services, effective December 26, 2026.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING THE GENERAL RATIFICATION OF PAID-UP OIL & GAS LEASE WITH ASCENT RESOURCES-UTICA, LLC

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to approve and sign the General Ratification of Paid-Up Oil & Gas Lease, effective June 30, 2021, between the Belmont County Board of Commissioners and Ascent Resources – Utica, LLC.

Note: The amendment is adding an additional 1.131 net acres in Colerain, Richland, Pultney & Pease Townships for an additional payment of
\$ 1 0 , 1 7 9 . 0 0 .

GENERAL RATIFICATION OF PAID-UP OIL & GAS LEASE

STATE OF OHIO)
) SS KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, THAT
COUNTY OF BELMONT)

THIS GENERAL RATIFICATION OF PAID-UP OIL & GAS LEASE (this “**Ratification**”) is made effective the 30th day of June, 2021 (the “**Effective Date**”), by and between **The Belmont County Board of Commissioners, by Jerry Echemann as President, Vince Gianangeli as Vice President, and J.P. Dutton as Commissioner**, whose address is 101 West Main Street, St. Clairsville, Ohio 43950 (hereinafter “**Lessor**”), and **Ascent Resources – Utica, LLC**, an Oklahoma limited liability company, whose address is P.O. Box 13678, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73113 (hereinafter “**Lessee**”). Lessor and Lessee are sometimes collectively referred to herein as the “**Parties**.”

RECITALS

WHEREAS, on the 30th day of **June, 2021**, Lessor executed and delivered unto Lessee that certain Paid Up Oil & Gas Lease (hereinafter called “**Lease**”), made effective the 30th day of **June, 2021**, as evidenced by a Memorandum of Oil & Gas Lease recorded in Volume **894**, Page **1168**, as Instrument No. 202100007632 of the Official Records of Belmont County, Ohio (hereinafter called “**Memorandum**”);

WHEREAS, the Lease was amended in that certain Amendment and Ratification of Paid-Up Oil & Gas Lease made effective the 30th day of **June, 2021**, recorded in Volume **898**, Page **234**, as Instrument No. 202100010900 of the Official Records of Belmont County, Ohio, and in that certain Amendment and Ratification of Paid-Up Oil & Gas Lease made effective the 30th day of **June, 2021**, recorded in Volume **901**, Page **1253**, as Instrument No. 202200002105 of the Official Records of Belmont County, Ohio (hereinafter collectively called the “**Amendments**”);

WHEREAS, the Lease was ratified in that certain General Ratification of Paid-Up Oil & Gas Lease made effective the 30th day of **June, 2021**, recorded in Volume **907**, Page **4530**, as Instrument No. 202200009427 of the Official Records of Belmont County, Ohio (hereinafter called the “**Prior Ratification**”);

WHEREAS, the Lease was extended by that certain Notice of Extension of Oil and Gas Lease recorded in Volume **944**, Page **3991**, as Instrument No. 202600007558 of the Official Records of Belmont County, Ohio (hereinafter called the “**Extension**”);

WHEREAS, following the Amendments and Prior Ratification the Lease covered the oil and gas interests in certain lands in the Townships of Richland, Pultney, Colerain, and Pease, County of Belmont, State of Ohio, containing **54.539936** gross acres, more or less, which are more particularly described in Exhibit “A” attached hereto and made a part hereof (hereinafter referred to as the “**Leased Premises**”);

WHEREAS, Lessee previously tendered bonus payments to Lessor based on Lessee’s prior determination that Lessor owned 50.627912 net mineral acres in the Leased Premises following the Amendments and Prior Ratification;

WHEREAS, prior to the expiration of the primary term, Lessee tendered an extension payment to Lessor for that portion of the 50.627912 net mineral acres which were not included in drilling or production units or otherwise being maintained by other provision in the Lease at the expiration of the primary term;

WHEREAS, Lessee has now determined that Lessor owns 51.758912 net mineral acres in the Leased Premises;

WHEREAS, Lessee has requested that Lessor ratify the Lease, Memorandum, Amendments, Prior Ratification, and Extension above in their capacity as the current owner of the Leased Premises;

WHEREAS, Lessee has agreed to pay Lessor the bonus and extension payments owed to Lessor under the Lease for the additional 1.131 net mineral acres it has determined Lessor owns; and

WHEREAS, Lessor and Lessee for their mutual benefit, desire to ratify the Lease based on the terms agreed to herein.

RATIFICATION

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of One Dollar (\$1.00) and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, and of the mutual covenants and agreements hereinafter set forth, and intending to be legally bound, Lessor and Lessee hereby agree as follows:

1. **Incorporation of Recitals**. The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein by reference as if set forth at length.
2. **Ratification of Lease**. It is the purpose and intent of Lessor to hereby ratify and confirm the Lease, Memorandum, Amendments, Prior Ratification, and Extension (collectively, the “**Lease Documents**”), and the Lessor does hereby grant, lease, and let the Leased Premises to the Lessee, subject to all terms, conditions, and limitations contained in the Lease Documents.
3. **Payment**. Lessee agrees to pay Lessor the sum set forth in the associated Order of Payment under the terms set forth in the associated Order of Payment which are incorporated herein by reference.
4. **Effect**. It is the understanding and intent of both Parties that this Ratification shall have no effect upon, and is not intended to amend any terms, conditions, or provisions of the Lease Documents beyond affirming the validity of said Lease Documents with respect to 51.758912 net mineral acres.
5. **Successors and Assigns**. All rights, remedies, liabilities, covenants, conditions and agreements herein imposed upon either of the Parties or imposed upon either of the Parties pursuant to the provisions of the Lease, Memorandum, Amendments, Prior Ratification, and Extension shall inure to and be binding upon the legal representatives, successors and assigns of the Parties hereto.
6. **Counterparts**. This Ratification may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together constitute one and the same instrument.

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[SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have executed this Ratification as of the dates below, but it shall be considered to be effective as of the Effective Date.

LESSOR:

The Belmont County Board of Commissioners

LESSEE:

Ascent Resources – Utica, LLC

By: Jerry Echemann
Name: Jerry Echemann
Title: President

By: Vince Gianangeli
Name: Vince Gianangeli
Title: Vice President

By: J.P. Dutton
Name: J.P. Dutton
Title: Commissioner

By: _____
Name: Kacie Booher
Title: Attorney-In-Fact

LESSOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

STATE OF OHIO)
COUNTY OF BELMONT) §

On this, the 23RD day of SEPTEMBER 2026, before me, the undersigned officer, personally appeared **Jerry Echemann as President, Vince Gianangeli as Vice-President, and J.P. Dutton as Commissioner of The Belmont County Board of Commissioners, signing on behalf of Belmont County Sanitary Sewer District No. 3**, known to me (or satisfactorily proven) to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument, and acknowledged that he/she/they executed the same for the purposes therein contained.



BONNIE ZUZAK
Notary Public
State of Ohio
My Comm. Expires
February 18, 2031

My Commission Expires: 2/18/2031
Signature/Notary Public: Bonnie Zuzak
Name/Notary Public (print): BONNIE ZUZAK

LESSEE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

STATE OF _____ }
COUNTY OF _____ } ss.

On this, the ____ day of _____, 2026, before me, undersigned officer, personally appeared Kacie Booher, who acknowledged herself to be the Attorney-in-Fact of Ascent Resources – Utica, LLC, an Oklahoma limited liability company, and that she as such Attorney-in-Fact, being authorized to do so, executed the foregoing instrument for the purpose therein contained by signing the name of the limited liability company by herself as Attorney-in-Fact.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I here unto set my hand and official seal.

My Commission expires: _____
Signature/Notary Public: _____
Name/Notary Public (print): _____

Prepared By/Return To: Ascent Resources – Utica, LLC, P.O. Box 13678, Oklahoma City, OK 73113

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

**IN THE MATTER OF PROPOSED ROAD NAME
CHANGE FROM EVERETT TURNER-
DORY MILL ROAD (T-192) TO DORY MILL ROAD,
GOSHEN TWP. SEC. 31, T-7, R-5, SEC. 25, T-7, R-5,
AND SEC. 26 T-7, R-5**

[Belmont Co. Commissioners
[Courthouse
[St. Clairsville, Ohio 43950
[Date September 23, 2026

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to authorize the Clerk of the Board to establish a date and time for the hearing regarding the request to change the name of Everett Turner-Dory Mill Road (Township Road No. 192) located in Goshen Township, Section 31, T-7, R-5, Section 25, T-7, R-5 and Section 26, T-7, R-5, to Dory Mill Road, pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code Section 5541.04 and proceed with the required notifications.

To: Douglas Kemp, F.O., Goshen Township Trustees, 40780 Bethesda Belmont Road, Bethesda, OH, 43719.

You are hereby notified that the 7th day of October 2026, at 11:00 o'clock A.M., has been fixed as the date, and the office of the Commissioners, in the Courthouse, St. Clairsville, Ohio, as the place where the Commissioners will act on the above stated matter.

By order of the Belmont County Commissioners.

Bonnie Zuzak /s/
Clerk of the Board

- Mail by certified return receipt requested
- cc: Goshen Township Trustees
Engineer’s Dept.
Petitioner

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

**IN THE MATTER OF LIQUOR LICENSE TRANSFER FROM EPM INC, LANSING
CARRYOUT TO THOMAS E. SCOTT ENTERPRISES LLC**

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli 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 D3 liquor license, Permit No. 07931483-1 from EPM Inc, Lansing Carryout, 55181 National Road, Pease Township, Lansing, Ohio 43934 to Thomas E Scott Enterprises LLC, at 71481 Fairpoint New Athens Road, Wheeling Township, Fairpoint, Ohio 43927. 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. Echemann	Yes
Mr. Gianangeli	Yes
Mr. Dutton	Yes

**IN THE MATTER OF ADOPTING THE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN
AMENDED AND RESTATED AGREEMENT OF SUBLEASE WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF
YOUTH SERVICES WHICH AMENDS, RESTATES, AND REPLACES ALL PRIOR SUBLEASE
AGREEMENTS WITH RESPECT TO THE OAKVIEW JUVENILE RESIDENTIAL CENTER**

RESOLUTION

The County Commissioners of the County of Belmont, Ohio met in REGULAR session this date with the following members present: COMMISSIONER ECHEMANN
COMMISSIONER GIANANGELI
COMMISSIONER DUTTON

COMMISSIONER ECHEMANN offered the following resolution and moved its adoption.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AMENDED AND RESTATED AGREEMENT OF SUBLEASE WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES WHICH AMENDS, RESTATES, AND REPLACES ALL PRIOR SUBLEASE AGREEMENTS WITH RESPECT TO THE OAKVIEW JUVENILE RESIDENTIAL CENTER

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Belmont (the "Board") has previously entered into various agreements of sublease (collectively, the "Prior Sublease", and as supplemented and amended from time to time, the "Sublease"), with the Ohio Department of Youth Services (the "Department") concerning the Oakview Juvenile Residential Center (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, in order to provide additional capital funding as authorized by the General Assembly and to consolidate the legal record of the Project, the Board and the Department now desire to enter into an Amended and Restated Agreement of Sublease (the "Sublease") to amend, restate, and replace in its entirety any and all prior sublease agreements or amendments thereto; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that two or more members of the Board are authorized and directed to execute and deliver, in the name and on behalf of County, the Amended and Restated Agreement of Sublease between the Board and the Department, in substantially the form submitted to and now on file with the Board which is hereby approved.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the approval of such changes by said members of the Board shall be conclusively evidenced by the execution of the Sublease by such members of the Board; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that each member of the Board is each separately authorized to take all actions and to execute such certificates and other instruments as may be necessary or appropriate, including but not limited to an Updated Certificate of Clerk and Certificate of Absence of Litigation, in order to affect the intent of these resolutions; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board and of any of its committees that resulted in those formal actions, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its adoption and, to the extent inconsistent therewith, supersedes any prior resolution of this Board.

Commissioner Gianangeli seconded the motion and the roll called for adoption of the foregoing resolution, the vote resulted as follows:

AYES: *Commissioners Echemann, Commissioner Gianangeli
+ Commissioner Dutton*

NAYS:

ABSTENTIONS:

ADOPTED this *23rd* day of *SEPTEMBER*, 2026

Bernie Murphy

Clerk, Board of County Commissioners,
County of Belmont, Ohio

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

IN THE MATTER OF ENTERING INTO THE BELMONT COUNTY OAKVIEW RESIDENTIAL CENTER AMENDED AND RESTATED AGREEMENT OF SUBLEASE BETWEEN OHIO DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES AND COUNTY OF BELMONT, OHIO

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to enter into the Belmont County Oakview Residential Center Amended and Restated Agreement of Sublease between Ohio Department of Youth Services and County of Belmont, Ohio.
Note: Oakview is receiving an additional \$283,771.41 for a dry valve system replacement and an outdoor recreation space.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

IN THE MATTER OF ADOPTING THE RESOLUTION TO ASSIGN AUTHORITY TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE

BELMONT COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES TO PERMIT THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM THE CHILDREN SERVICES FUND TO THE BELMONT COUNTY FAMILY CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL

Motion by Commissioner Echemann to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Ohio Administrative Code Section 5101:9-6 provides for the distribution of Ohio Department of Job and Family Services allocations to county department of job and family services; and

WHEREAS, specifically, Amended Substitute House Bill 96 was signed into law on June 30, 2025, by Governor Mike DeWine; and

WHEREAS, specifically Section 307.90 appropriation line 600523 allocates Multi-System Youth funds to county department of job and family services; and

WHEREAS, the Belmont County Department of Job and Family Services has \$71,541.11 of Multi-System Youth funding remaining as of June 30, 2026; and

WHEREAS, to fully maximize its allocations and best serve the youth of Belmont County these unspent funds may be transferred to the Flexible Funding Pool of the Belmont County Family and Children First Council per Ohio Administrative Code 5101:2-54-01(6)(a); and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Belmont County Board of Commissioners hereby assigns authority to Jeffery Felton, BCDJFS Director, the authority to approve the total transfer of \$71,541.11 from the children services fund to the Belmont County Family Children First Council Flexible Spending Pool for state fiscal year 2026.

Commissioner Gianangeli seconded the Resolution and the roll being called upon its adoption the vote resulted as follows:

Adopted this 23rd day of September 2026

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

CARES Program Update-Present: Chad Zambori, CARES Program Director, Nathan Yost, CARES Coordinator, Tim Hall, CTFD Fire Chief, Lisa Kazmirski, SSOBC Executive Director and Jeff Felton, JFS Director.

Mr. Zambori said, “The CARES program is a community paramedicine program. The goal of the program is to hopefully keep people out of the hospital, reduce 911 calls and reduce hospitalizations. Along with that we go into people’s homes, meet them where they’re at, and hopefully fill any gaps that are needed, whatever that may be.” From January through June 2026, the CARES program had a total of 952 interactions, 423 in home visits, 3,263 phone contacts totaling 11,934 minutes and 277 mental health interactions. They had 842 referrals from different agencies in the county. Ms. Kazmirski said without the CARES program they would have to hire additional staff. Mr. Felton said they provide high quality of services.

RECESS

IN THE MATTER OF ENTERING EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 11:31 A.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 of public employees and ORC 121.22 (G)(4) Collective Bargaining Exception.

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 12:13 P.M.

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to exit executive session at 12:13 p.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 one motion to be considered.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE BELMONT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND UTILITY WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Belmont County Board of Commissioners and Utility Workers Union of America removing the classifications of Chief Wastewater Plant Operator III and Wastewater Plant Operator III and replace with the classification of Chief Wastewater Plant Operator II.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING between BELMONT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS and UTILITY WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA
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The Belmont County Board of Commissioners (hereinafter referred to as “the Employer”) and the Utility Workers Union of America (hereinafter referred to as “the Union”), and jointly referred to as “the Parties,” hereby agree to the following Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”).

ARTICLE 2
UNION RECOGNITION

Section 2.01. The Employer recognizes the Union as the sole and exclusive representative for all employees included in the bargaining unit as certified by the Ohio State Employment Relations Board, 2017-REP-04-0048:

All full time employees in the positions of Chief Water Plant Operator III, Water Plant Operator III, Water Plant Operator II, Water Plant Operator I, Operator-in-Training (Water Plant), ~~Chief Wastewater Plant Operator III, Wastewater Plant Operator III, Chief Wastewater Plant Operator II~~, Wastewater Plant Operator II, Wastewater Plant Operator I, Operator-in-Training (Wastewater Plant), Collection System Supervisor, Wastewater Pump Technician II, Wastewater Pump Technician I, Wastewater Pump technician, Collection System Operator II, Collection System Operator I, Collection System Operator, Crew Leader, Mechanic/Distribution Maintenance II, Mechanic/Distribution Maintenance I, Mechanic/Distribution Maintenance, Utility Worker II, Utility Worker I, Utility Worker, Equipment Operator II, Equipment Operator I, Equipment Operator, Master Mechanic II, Master Mechanic I, Master Mechanic, Accounts Billing Clerk, Accounts Payable Clerk, Accounts Receivable Clerk, Accounts Billing Clerk Lead, Accounts Payable Clerk Lead, Accounts Receivable Clerk Lead, Locator II, Locator I, Locator, General Secretary, Draftsman, Draftsman I, and Draftsman II.

Section 2.02. All positions and classifications not specifically established herein as being included in the bargaining unit, shall be excluded from the bargaining unit subject to the following. Should the Employer create a new position or reclassify a position presently in the bargaining unit, the Employer agrees to meet with the Union within thirty (30) days to discuss the inclusion or exclusion from the bargaining unit, subject to the restrictions in Section 2.03. If the parties are unable to agree to the status of the position, the issue shall be subject to appeal by the Union to the State Employment Relation Board pursuant to Chapter 4117 ORC and the SERB rules and regulations.

Section 2.03. Notwithstanding the provisions of this Article, all other employees, including but not limited to all seasonal and all casual employees, are excluded.

The Parties agree to remove the classifications struck through above from the Appendix and add the Chief Wastewater Plant Operator II classification as follows.

2026 WAGE SCALE

CLASSIFICATION	STEP	HOURLY BASE RATE OF PAY
CHIEF WASTEWATER PLANT OPERATOR II	STARTING	\$30.37
	TOP TIER	\$30.99

2027 WAGES

CLASSIFICATION	STEP	HOURLY BASE RATE OF PAY
CHIEF WASTEWATER PLANT OPERATOR II	STARTING	\$31.28
	TOP TIER	\$31.92

The Parties agree that once the position is filled the appropriate paperwork shall be jointly filed with SERB.

FOR THE EMPLOYER: _____ FOR THE UNION: _____

Kelly Porter, Director
Date Approved 9-23-26
Jerry Echemann /s/
Vince Gianangeli /s/
J. P. Dutton /s/

Union Representative

BELMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

RECESS

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

RECORDS CENTER-Present: Laura Ellis, Records Manager
\$20,000.00 requested for 2027, same as 2026. Ms. Ellis would like to purchase a new computer for the community room and a laptop when they are in the new building. She has a quote from Digital Data for \$3,505.00 for both items. Ms. Ellis is the only full-time employee. There are three part-time employees. She would like one of the part-time employees be moved to full-time.

RECESS

IN THE MATTER OF ENTERING EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 12:43 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 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 1:07 P.M.

Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to exit executive session at 1:07 p.m.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

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

Reconvened Thursday, September 24, 2026, with Commissioners Echemann, Gianangeli and Dutton present.

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

VETERAN'S-Cindi Maupin, Executive Director and Missy Gheen, Administrative Accounts Manager
\$1,501,528.00 requested. Per ORC they are to receive .5 millage of property tax. They should get that figure from the Auditor's Office, but they do not so they have to calculate the figure themselves. One-half of the budget they receive is sent back to the General Fund at the end of the year.

RECESS

PORT AUTHORITY-Present: Larry Merry, Executive Director and Jennifer Brothers, Administrative Assistant
\$65,000.00 will be allocated for 2027. Mr. Merry said they are in good financial condition due to having some oil and gas leases.

RECESS

TREASURER-Kathy Kelich, Treasurer

September 23, 2026

\$494,484.00 requested for 2027. This included slight increases for the staff. Hospitalization cost is not included in the figure. Ms. Thomas will plug those numbers in when she receives them from the Auditor's Office.

RECESS

IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNING
COMMISSIONERS MEETING AT 12:08 P.M.
Motion made by Mr. Echemann, seconded by Mr. Gianangeli to adjourn the meeting at 12:08 p.m.
Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

Read, approved and signed this 30th day of September, 2026.

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