

The Board of Greene County Commissioners met in regular session via YouTube Live at 1:00 P.M. Those present via teleconference were: Robert J. Glaser, Richard Gould and Tom Koogler

The minutes of Thursday, April 30, 2020 previously circulated and available for public viewing were approved.

Mr. Glaser apologized for missing a development meeting last week at which he was to give an economic report on the County. He hadn't been feeling well and slept through the meeting.

IN RE – TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. Koogler moved Resolution 20-5-7-1 authorizing the transfer of appropriations.

Mr. Gould seconded the motion, and on roll call the result was as follows:

Copy follows this page in journal.

Mr. Glaser-----Aye
Mr. Gould-----Aye
Mr. Koogler-----Aye

IN RE – PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Mr. Gould moved Resolution 20-5-7-2 approving the personnel actions as presented.

Mr. Koogler seconded the motion, and on roll call the result was as follows:

Copy follows this page in journal.

Mr. Glaser-----Aye
Mr. Gould-----Aye
Mr. Koogler-----Aye

IN RE – APPROVING SUBGRANT AWARD AGREEMENT: ACE TASK FORCE

Mr. Koogler moved Resolution 20-5-7-3 approving a subgrant award agreement from the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services for a grant in the amount of \$52,720.24 for the ACE Task Force. The Ohio Recovery Grant will be used to partially cover the wages of the director, for confidential funds and to purchase equipment. There is no cash match required.

Mr. Gould seconded the motion, and on roll call the result was as follows:

Copy follows this page in journal.

Mr. Glaser-----Aye
Mr. Gould-----Aye
Mr. Koogler-----Aye

IN RE – AUTH. ACCEPTANCE, OHIO SUPREME COURT TECHNOLOGY GRANT: JUV. COURT

Mr. Gould moved Resolution 20-5-7-4 accepting a Supreme Court of Ohio Technology Grant for Juvenile Court in the amount of \$22,703.52 to be used to purchase laptops and related software to permit staff to work remotely.

Mr. Koogler seconded the motion, and on roll call the result was as follows:

Copy follows this page in journal.

Mr. Glaser-----Aye
Mr. Gould-----Aye
Mr. Koogler-----Aye

IN RE – ACCEPTANCE OF PERFORMANCE BOND: BEAVERCREEK TOWNE CENTRE

Mr. Koogler moved Resolution 20-5-7-5 accepting the performance bond for Beaver Creek Towne Centre, City of Beaver Creek, for sanitary and water lines in the amount of \$59,885.

Mr. Gould seconded the motion, and on roll call the result was as follows:

Mr. Glaser-----Aye
Mr. Gould-----Aye
Mr. Koogler-----Aye

Mr. Glaser said this next resolution on the agenda will place 775 acres in a perpetual land trust, limiting the use of the land for only agricultural purposes. He said this easement would go with the deed to the land and pass to the next owner, if the land is sold. He questioned whether approving an easement in perpetuity is right.

Mr. Gould said he understands what Mr. Glaser is saying, but the rights of the individual property owner supersedes all others' rights.

Mr. Koogler said he agrees with Mr. Gould, but is concerned that it stymies development especially if some property is in a community with potential development. He added it is the property owner's right to do what they want with their property. He asked if the political subdivision could be informed and other options worked out with the property owners.

Mr. Glaser said maybe the easement could be for 50 or a 100 years, but not forever. Mr. Koogler agreed with Mr. Glaser, but questioned the Board's authority and the need to do more research.

Brandon Huddleson, County Administrator, said right now the request is for a resolution of support for an application to obtain funding. The Board has no authority as to whether this request for an easement should be granted or not. He said requests like this are reviewed by Regional Planning to ensure that parcels are compliant with local and County plans. This request did not show any issues.

IN RE – RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT LAEPP: TLT (7)

Mr. Gould moved Resolution 20-5-7-6 approving a resolution of support authorizing participation in the Ohio Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program (LAEPP) from the Tecumseh Land Trust on behalf of seven County residents.

Mr. Koogler seconded the motion, and on roll call the result was as follows:

Copy follows this page in journal.

Mr. Glaser-----Nay
Mr. Gould-----Aye
Mr. Koogler-----Aye

Mr. Huddleson commended Greene County Public Health on the great job they've done to keep County residents safe during this time. He said Greene County has low case numbers and a low number of fatalities. With the impending re-opening of business and restaurants, Mr. Huddleson said, Public Health has been working with everyone to make sure they are prepared to open safely and follow the Governor's rules. He added that in a conversation with Melissa Howell, Health Commissioner, she said that once businesses open, they will look at compliance with suggested practices and work with businesses to open safely.

Mr. Huddleson said the numbers indicate there are 170 people for every 100,000 people in the State with Coronavirus, while in Greene County the number is 30 for every 100,000 people. He wanted to acknowledge that the work done by Public Health has kept Greene County residents safe.

Mr. Gould read a statement about COVID-19 as an individual elected official and not on behalf of the Board of Commissioners. He said the virus first appeared, there was fear of hospitals being overrun and a high death toll, but that didn't happen here. At last count, he said, there have been 50 cases in Greene County and five deaths.

While he thinks the initial response was accurate and beneficial, the fact is not all counties are the same and citizens have been unable to work for eight weeks. Mr. Gould said we are a nation of doers and it is time to get back to work.

Mr. Gould's hope is that the Governor will relax or loosen restrictions so that Ohioans can get back to work, or cede authority to the local level to decide how and when businesses can open.

Mr. Koogler agreed with Mr. Gould. However, the Board of Commissioners has no authority whether businesses close or open; that decision lies with the Governor and Ohio Department of Health. He said Commissioners have the same level of anxiety, disappointment and concerns as everyone else.

Mr. Gould agreed with his fellow Commissioners. He said some businesses have been decimated by this pandemic, and he wishes the Board did have more authority.

A copy of Mr. Gould's statement follows this page in the journal.

Commissioners adjourned at 1:35 P.M. and will reconvene via YouTube Live on Thursday, May 14, 2020 at 1 P.M.

Attest: _____
Clerk

Contracts signed by Co. Admin., pursuant to Res. No. 17-7-27-7:
Tara Stephens, Deputy Registrar Office Lease at Ledbetter, varies, BoCC
Petroleum UST Release Compensation Board, Application for Coverage, \$2,450, San. Eng.