



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
WARREN COUNTY, OHIO**

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***TOM ARISS***

***PAT ARNOLD SOUTH***

***DAVID G. YOUNG***

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
WARREN COUNTY, OHIO**

**MINUTES: Regular Session -- October 18, 2011**

The Board met in regular session pursuant to adjournment of the October 11, 2011, meeting.

David G. Young - present

Pat Arnold South - present

Tom Ariss - present

Tina Davis, Clerk - present

Minutes of the October 11, 2011 meeting were read and approved.

- 11-1433      A resolution was adopted to accept Resignation due to Retirement of Melvin Curran, Compliance Specialist, within the Department of Job and Family Services, Human Services Division, effective October 7, 2011. Vote: Unanimous
- 11-1434      A resolution was adopted to authorize Public Advertisement of a Request for Proposals for Public Safety Radio Communications System. Vote: Unanimous
- 11-1435      A resolution was adopted to authorize Waiver of returned check fee for William & Joann Clowers at 1745 Kirby Road, Lebanon. Vote: Unanimous
- 11-1436      A resolution was adopted to approve First Amendment to Frequency Reconfiguration Agreement with Nextel on behalf of Warren County Telecommunications. Vote: Unanimous
- 11-1437      A resolution was adopted to approve Notice of Intent to Award Bid to Diggit Excavating, Inc. for the Hart Road Waterline Extension Project. Vote: Unanimous

- 11-1438 A resolution was adopted to declare an emergency and waive competitive bidding process for emergency replacement of the Variable Frequency Drives at the Warren Co Jail. Vote: Unanimous
- 11-1439 A resolution was adopted to approve an Emergency Service to Pump No. One at the Shelly Booster Station. Vote: Unanimous
- 11-1440 A resolution was adopted to enter into Agreement with TW Telecom for renewal of Telephone System Agreement on behalf of Warren County Telecommunications. Vote: Unanimous
- 11-1441 A resolution was adopted to approve various Refunds. Vote: Unanimous
- 11-1442 A resolution was adopted to acknowledge payment of Bills. Vote: Unanimous
- 11-1443 A resolution was adopted to approve Bond Release for Hopewell Valley, LLC, for completion of improvements in the Villages of Hopewell Valley, Section 2-A, situated in Hamilton Township. Vote: Unanimous
- 11-1444 A resolution was adopted to approve the following Replat. Vote: Unanimous
- 11-1445 A resolution was adopted to approve Appropriation Decreases within various Funds. Vote: Unanimous
- 11-1446 A resolution was adopted to approve Operational Transfer from County General Fund #101-1112 into Human Services Fund #203. Vote: Unanimous
- 11-1447 A resolution was adopted to approve Operational Transfer from Commissioners Fund #101-1112 into Child Support Enforcement Agency Fund #263. Vote: Unanimous
- 11-1448 A resolution was adopted to approve Appropriation Adjustments within the Clerk of Courts Certificate of Title Administration Fund #250-1260. Vote: Unanimous
- 11-1449 A resolution was adopted to approve an Appropriation Adjustment within Building Services Fund #101-1600. Vote: Unanimous
- 11-1450 A resolution was adopted to approve an Appropriation Adjustment within Probate Court Fund #276 and Juvenile Court Fund #101-1240. Vote: Unanimous
- 11-1451 A resolution was adopted to approve Appropriation Adjustment within Data Processing Fund #101-1400. Vote: Unanimous
- 11-1452 A resolution was adopted to approve Appropriation Adjustment within Children Services Fund #273. Vote: Unanimous

- 11-1453        A resolution was adopted to authorize payment of Bills. Vote: Unanimous
- 11-1454        A resolution was adopted to authorize payment of Bills.  
Vote: Mr. Young - yea; Mr. Ariss - yea; Mrs. South - abstain
- 11-1455        A resolution was adopted to approve Appropriation Adjustment within Building Services Fund #467. Vote: Unanimous
- 11-1456        A resolution was adopted to approve Supplemental Appropriation into County Fairgrounds Fund #498. Vote: Unanimous
- 11-1457        A resolution was adopted to authorize the Posting of the "Director of Facilities Management" position, within the Building Services Department, in accordance with Warren County Personnel Policy Manual, Section 2.02(A).  
Vote: Unanimous

#### DISCUSSIONS

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On motion, upon unanimous call of the roll, the Board accepted and approved the consent agenda.

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Joe Wilson, Jim Stevens, Tari Maddox, Ron Hurtt, Jeff McCarty, Jerry Chaney and Ralph Campbell, members of the Warren County Agricultural Society, were present for a work session to discuss finances relative to the Fairgrounds.

Mr. Wilson stated that the fair revenue was down this year due to the extreme heat. He also stated that the proceeds they receive from the racing industry are also down and that the overhead at the fairgrounds is increasing. He stated that on top of the decrease in revenue and increase in costs, they had a number of expenses related to the barn fire that were not anticipated. He then stated that the Agricultural Society is requesting the Boards' consideration of allocating \$50,000 from the fire insurance funds to the Agricultural Society in order for them to pay current and future expenses for the remainder of the year including an overdue electric bill.

There was discussion relative to the need to change the way the Agricultural Society is doing business in order to make the fairgrounds "pay their own way".

Commissioners Young stated his surprise that the Agricultural Society is an \$800,000 per year enterprise and that the Warren County Fair actually makes money during a regular season. He then stated that, in his opinion, the need to address three areas in order to make this a sustainable enterprise:

1. Future repairs at the fairgrounds
2. 4-H—needs to remain the primary focus
3. How the fairgrounds will be used in the future and what it will look like

There was then discussion relative to Mrs. South's idea of once the racetrack has relocated to turn the fairgrounds into an equestrian center which would bring additional tourism dollars to Warren County.

Mrs. South suggested that the Board consider hiring a consultant to explore the available option and the expenses related to those options for the future of the fairgrounds.

Commissioners Young and Ariss agreed to consider that option in the future.

Commissioner Young then stated his option that the current business model of the Warren County Fair cannot be successful in this economy.

There was discussion relative to the possibility of cutting the expenses relative to the fair by not having the rides and concessions come in until Thursday and having local organizations such as churches and civic groups provide the concession on Monday – Wednesday.

Mr. Wilson stated that the Agricultural Society is already exploring that option and are looking into the legal aspects relative to contracts that have already been approved.

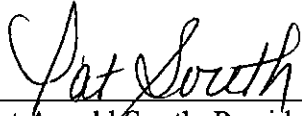
Upon further discussion, the Board agreed to transfer \$50,000 to the Agricultural Society with the understanding that the Warren County Agricultural Society will make structural changes in the way they do business in order to become "self sufficient".

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On motion, upon unanimous call of the roll, the Board entered into executive session at 11:15 a.m. to discuss union negotiation pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 (G)(4) and personnel matters pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 (G)(1) and exited at 1:12 p.m.

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Upon motion the meeting was adjourned.

  
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Pat Arnold South, President

  
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David G. Young

  
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Tom Ariss

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of County Commissioners held on October 18, 2011, in compliance with Section 121.22 O.R.C.

  
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Tina Davis, Clerk  
Board of County Commissioners  
Warren County, Ohio