



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

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**TOM GROSSMANN  
SHANNON JONES  
DAVID G. YOUNG**

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

**MINUTES: Regular Session – April 4, 2023**

*This is a summary of actions and discussions of the meeting. You may view this meeting through our YouTube Channel at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1ELh0jGpXd4VV2DTgsuqPA> or by contacting our office.*

The Board met in regular session pursuant to adjournment of the March 28, 2023, meeting.

Shannon Jones – present

Tom Grossmann – present

David G. Young – absent

Tina Osborne, Clerk – present

Minutes of the March 28, 2023 meeting were read and approved.

- 23-0400      A resolution was adopted to rescind resolution #23-0295 which authorized the hiring of Mikel Shane Barnette as Training Coordinator within Warren County Department of Job and Family Services, Human Services Division.  
Vote: Unanimous
- 23-0401      A resolution was adopted to accept resignation of Bailey Cobb, Alternative Response Caseworker II within the Warren County Department of Job and Family Services, Children Services Division, effective April 21, 2023.  
Vote: Unanimous
- 23-0402      A resolution was adopted to hire Emmanuel Olorunfemi as on On-Going Caseworker II, within the Warren County Department of Job and Family Services, Children Services Division. Vote: Unanimous
- 23-0403      A resolution was adopted to hire Laura Russell as On-Going Caseworker I, within the Warren County Department of Job and Family Services, Children Services Division. Vote: Unanimous
- 23-0404      A resolution was adopted to hire Chris Lemming as Wastewater Treatment Plant Technician, within the Warren County Water and Sewer Department.  
Vote: Unanimous

- 23-0405 A resolution was adopted to approve the promotion of Nick Brewer to the position of Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator I within the Warren County Water and Sewer Department. Vote: Unanimous
- 23-0406 A resolution was adopted to acknowledge policy with Arch Insurance for the provision of Stop Loss coverage for 2023 relative to the Self-Insured Workers' Compensation program. Vote: Unanimous
- 23-0407 A resolution was adopted to authorize EyeMed second amendment to the Fee for Service Agreement effective January 1, 2023. Vote: Unanimous
- 23-0408 A resolution was adopted to authorize the County Administrator to sign a letter of arrangement between the Board of County Commissioners and the Auditor of State relative to the 2022 County Financial Audit. Vote: Unanimous
- 23-0409 A resolution was adopted to approve Notice of Intent to award bid to John R. Jurgensen for the 2023 Resurfacing Project. Vote: Unanimous
- 23-0410 A resolution was adopted to award bid to Chemicals Inc. USA for the 2023 Sewer Treatment Plant Chemicals Project. Vote: Unanimous
- 23-0411 A resolution was adopted to advertise for bids for trash and recycling services on behalf of the Village of Harveysburg. Vote: Unanimous
- 23-0412 A resolution was adopted to authorize Susanne Mason, Program Manager of the Warren County Transit Service, to electronically sign the Elderly and Disabled Transit Fare Assistance Grant Contract by and between the Ohio Department of Transportation and the Warren County Board of Commissioners. Vote: Unanimous
- 23-0413 A resolution was adopted to declare various items within Board of Elections, Building and Zoning, Mary Haven, and Facilities Management as surplus and authorize the disposal of said items through internet auction. Vote: Unanimous
- 23-0414 A resolution was adopted to acknowledge payment of bills. Vote: Unanimous
- 23-0415 A resolution was adopted to approve various record plats. Vote: Unanimous
- 23-0416 A resolution was adopted to approve supplemental appropriation into Common Pleas Court Community Based Corrections #2289. Vote: Unanimous
- 23-0417 A resolution was adopted to approve supplemental appropriations in the RID Funds 3393 and 4493. Vote: Unanimous
- 23-0418 A resolution was adopted to approve appropriation adjustment within Children Services Fund #2273. Vote: Unanimous

- 23-0419 A resolution was adopted to approve appropriation adjustment within County Court Fund #2274. Vote: Unanimous
- 23-0420 A resolution was adopted to approve appropriation adjustment within Common Pleas Court #11011220. Vote: Unanimous
- 23-0421 A resolution was adopted to approve appropriation adjustments within Common Pleas Court #11011220 and from Court Services #11011223 into Common Pleas #11011220. Vote: Unanimous
- 23-0422 A resolution was adopted to approve appropriation adjustment within Common Pleas Court Fund #11011223. Vote: Unanimous
- 23-0423 A resolution was adopted to authorize participation in a sublease- purchase arrangement with the Ohio Secretary of State for the purpose of acquiring and implementing voting machines and equipment and financing certain costs thereof, a sublease-purchase agreement evidencing such arrangement, and matters related thereto. Vote: Unanimous
- 23-0424 A resolution was adopted to accept the full and final settlement and release of subrogation lien and authorize County Administrator to sign documents relative thereto. Vote: Unanimous

#### DISCUSSIONS

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

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Brian Sleeth, Warren County Board of Elections Director, was present to explain the resolution listed on the “for consideration not on the consent agenda” relative to sublease-purchase arrangement with Ohio Secretary of State.

Mr. Sleeth explained that the State had unused funds that were made available to counties throughout the state for the purchase of additional voting equipment. He stated the need for additional voting machines and scanners as Warren County will need to increase the number of precincts in the upcoming election due to an increase in the number of registered voters. He stated that this would be a one-time purchase.

Upon discussion, the Board resolved (Resolution #23-0423) to authorize participation in a sublease- purchase arrangement with the Ohio Secretary of State for the purpose of acquiring and implementing voting machines and equipment and financing certain costs thereof, a sublease-purchase agreement evidencing such arrangement, and matters related thereto.

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James Kuhn, Patient Advocate/Navigator with the Foundation on Sarcoidosis Research, was present to explain Sarcoidosis and the effects it has had on himself and his family in recognition of April as Sarcoidosis Awareness Month.

Upon discussion, the Board presented Mr. Kuhn and his wife a proclamation to proclaim April as Sarcoidosis Awareness Month in Warren County.

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Susanne Mason, Program Manager with Warren County Grants Administration, was present along with Brandon Baum and Geoff Kuzio, UTS, for a follow-up work session to discuss the 2023 Warren County Transit agreement.

Mr. Kuzio explained the request to amend the agreement in order to increase the rate by an additional \$2.50 per hour, stating that the increase will go directly to driver pay in order to retain and recruit drivers. He presented the attached PowerPoint presentation outlining the changes relative to the economy as it relates to their request.

There was much discussion relative to the economy and the need to increase driver pay as well as the question of why the agreement was renewed at the agreed upon price in December rather than requesting an increase at that time.

Bruce McGary, Assistant Prosecutor, answered the questions posed by the Board at the previous work session relative to the current agreement.

Upon discussion, the Board stated their desire to continue this discussion at the next meeting in order for Commissioner Young to be present.

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Trevor Hearn, Facilities Management Director, was present for a continued discussion relative to the Warren County Master Plan.

Mr. Hearn reviewed the PowerPoint presentation from the previous work session and introduced Jim Vorhis, VSWC Architects, the criteria architect for the Warren County Court Project.

Mr. Vorhis stated his opinion that Champlain did a good job on the layout of the building within the Master Plan and feels the placement of the County Court is a good location with enough parking to accommodate the court.

There was discussion relative to the job of the criteria architect vs. the design/build contractor and where the County Court project is in the process.

Mr. Vorhis stated the need to “double back” with the court in order to ensure accuracy of the proposed square footage of the building since it has been a year and a half since the original footprint was determined.

There was discussion relative to the accommodation of space if a full time County Court is established as well as the timeline for construction to begin for the County Court building.

Mr. Vorhis stated it would be approximately one year from the time the Board starts the Design/Build process before actual construction would begin.

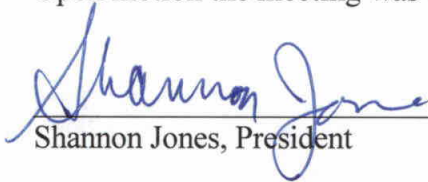
Upon further discussion, the Board stated their desire to continue this discussion in order for Commissioner Young to be present for the final decision to proceed.

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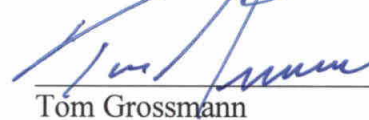
On motion, upon unanimous call of the roll, the Board entered into executive session at 10:14 a.m. relative to imminent litigation with legal counsel present pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 (G)(3) and exited at 10:25 a.m.

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Upon motion the meeting was adjourned.

  
Shannon Jones, President

  
David G. Young

  
Tom Grossmann

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 April 4, 2023, in compliance with Section 121.22 O.R.C.

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



# Warren County Commissioners Meeting 4.4.2023





## 2021 vs. Now

- \$31.37 per revenue hour
  - 2.5% annual increase based on trailing 12-month historical average (CPI-U)
- Actual CPI-U increase
  - 2021 = 4.7%
  - 2022 = 8.6%
  - 2023 Trend = 6.0%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Budgeted Rate (per hour)	\$ 31.37	\$ 32.15	\$ 32.96	\$ 33.78	\$ 34.63
Budgeted CPI-U	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%
Actual CPI-U	4.70%	8.60%	6.0%		
CPI Adjusted Rate (per hour)		\$ 32.84	\$ 35.67	\$ 37.81	



## Continued

- Budgeted 2023 Rent \$2955 / month
  - Actual 2023 Rent \$3866 / month
  - Other cost increases realized:
    - Utilities/Parts
    - Dispatch/Management Pay
    - Insurance
  - 2022 Data
    - Budgeted 40,000 Trips / 29,764 Rev Hours
    - Actual 34,029 Trips / 24,347 Rev Hours (4% increase from 2021)
    - Equates to annual shortage of 2.36 drivers (at 9 revenue hours per day)
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# Proposal

- UTS is proposing a \$2.50 rate increase for the remainder of 2023
  - Full wage pass-through
    - \$2 raise to all current drivers with 5+ years of experience
    - New hires at \$14 / hour instead of \$12 / hour
  - Retain our best drivers and bring in a higher quality candidate for WCTS
    - A \$12 / hour candidate in January 2021 is worth \$13.80 / hour in February 2023



## What does this mean for Warren County?

- Meet increase in demand from original contract
  - 14 drivers needed during peak times in 2021
  - 17 drivers needed during peak times in 2023
    - Root Cause:
      - Free medical rides
      - Increased demand in Mason and Lebanon
      - Increase in customers post-Covid
- Hire 3-5 high quality candidates at \$14/hour
  - 2 drivers in Mason to meet increasing demand
  - 1 driver for second Lebanon Loop
  - 1 “flex” driver to help in all areas
  - Opportunity for a Butler County Route Connection



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# Q & A

