

**COMMISSIONERS' MEETING  
MINUTES SUMMARY  
MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2026  
9:00 A.M.**

**Saved as digital recording: CGS2026-01-05**

Ted S. Mercer, President, Present  
Wade H. Westfall, Vice President, Present  
Gregory A. Simmons, Member, Present

Appointments

9:00 a.m. Reorganization of the Board  
9:03 a.m. General Business  
9:30 a.m. Executive Session – Certain Personnel Matters (Appointment, Employment, Dismissal, Promotion, Compensation) in accordance with O.R.C. 121.22(G)(1) – Commissioners

**Reorganization of the Board**

Welcome, Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance

**RESOLUTION NO. 26-01-01**

Mr. Simmons moved and Mr. Mercer seconded the motion to elect Wade H. Westfall as President of the Board for the term of one (1) year, beginning today and ending at the organization meeting of the Board on or before the second Monday of January 2027. The Board voted as follows upon roll call: Mr. Mercer, Yea; Mr. Simmons, Yea; Mr. Westfall, Abstain.

**RESOLUTION NO. 26-01-02**

Mr. Mercer moved and Mr. Westfall seconded the motion to elect Gregory A. Simmons as Vice President of the Board for the term of one (1) year, beginning today and ending at the organization meeting of the Board on or before the second Monday of January 2027. The Board voted as follows upon roll call: Mr. Simmons, Abstain; Mr. Westfall, Yea; Mr. Mercer, Yea.

**RESOLUTION NO. 26-01-03**

Mr. Simmons moved and Mr. Westfall seconded the motion to set the meetings of the Board of Miami County Commissioners as follows: two general (regular) sessions – Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. and Thursdays at 1:30 p.m.; one (1) Work Session each Thursday at 9:00 a.m. Further, Executive Sessions will be held pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 (G)(1)(8). The Board reserves the right to change, add or delete regular, special, or executive meetings and work sessions, as it deems necessary. The Board voted as follows upon roll call: Mr. Westfall, Yea; Mr. Mercer, Yea; Mr. Simmons, Yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-01-04

Mr. Westfall moved and Mr. Simmons seconded the motion to assign Commissioners' representation to the various boards/committees as attached during 2026. The Board voted as follows upon roll call: Mr. Mercer, Yea; Mr. Simmons, Yea; Mr. Westfall, Yea.

Mr. Simmons moved and Mr. Westfall seconded the motion to adjourn from the Reorganization of the Board Meeting at 9:04 a.m. and Enter into General Business. The Board voted as follows upon roll call: Mr. Simmons, Yea; Mr. Westfall, Yea; Mr. Mercer, Yea.

General Business

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Mercer moved and Mr. Simmons seconded the motion to approve the agenda as presented. The Board voted as follows upon roll call: Mr. Westfall, Yea; Mr. Simmons, Yea; Mr. Mercer, Yea.

Mr. Simmons moved and Mr. Mercer seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the December 30, 2025 meeting and dispense with the oral reading. The Board voted as follows upon roll call: Mr. Simmons, Yea; Mr. Mercer, Yea; Mr. Westfall, Yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-01-05

Mr. Mercer moved and Mr. Simmons seconded the motion to establish the following formula for the one (1) cent sales tax, effective January 1, 2026:

75% General Fund	001
14% Central Communications	109
1% Super Fund Cleanup	126
10% Capital Improvement	309

The additional one-fourth of one percent sales tax (renewed on July 18, 2024 by Resolution Nos. 24-07-831 and 24-07-832) will be paid into the General Fund, Account #3126. The Board voted as follows upon roll call: Mr. Mercer, Yea; Mr. Westfall, Yea; Mr. Simmons, Yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-01-06

Mr. Simmons moved and Mr. Mercer seconded the motion to authorize the Miami County Engineer, when not required by law to use competitive bidding, to employ such laborers and vehicles, use such county employees and property, lease such implements and tools, and purchase such materials as are necessary in the construction, reconstruction, improvement, maintenance (including mowing and spraying) or repair of roads, bridges, and culverts, under the jurisdiction of the Miami County Engineer, by force account during the calendar year of 2026. The Board voted as follows upon roll call: Mr. Westfall, Yea; Mr. Simmons, Yea; Mr. Mercer, Yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-01-07

Mr. Mercer moved and Mr. Simmons seconded the motion to hereby authorize the Miami County Engineer to develop and administer permits for county-maintained highways in calendar year of 2026 and to keep said permits with the permanent road records of Miami County, Ohio. The Board voted as follows upon roll call: Mr. Simmons, Yea; Mr. Mercer, Yea; Mr. Westfall, Yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-01-08

Mr. Simmons moved and Mr. Mercer seconded the motion to authorize the salary of Engineer with compensation in accordance with O.R.C. Section 326.14. The County Engineer has elected not to engage in private practice of engineering or surveying. The payment of Miami County for the pay period beginning January 1, 2026 and ending date of December 31, 2026 be made a charge of each two (2) weeks from the portion of the fund known as the Road Fund. The Board voted as follows upon roll call: Mr. Mercer, Yea; Mr. Westfall, Yea; Mr. Simmons, Yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-01-09

Mr. Mercer moved and Mr. Simmons seconded the motion to authorize the County Engineer/Sanitary Engineer and Miami County Transit, in the name of Miami County, to participate in contracts of the Ohio Department of Transportation in the year 2026 for the purchase of machinery, materials, supplies or other articles pursuant to Section 5513.01 (B) ORC; to agree to be bound by all terms and conditions as the Director of Transportation prescribes and; to directly pay the vendor, under each such contract of the Ohio Department of Transportation in which the Miami County participates, for items it receives pursuant to the contract. Miami County agrees to hold the Director of Transportation and the Ohio Department of Transportation harmless for any claim or dispute arising out of participation in a contract pursuant to Section 5513.01 (B) ORC. The Board voted as follows upon roll call: Mr. Westfall, Yea; Mr. Simmons, Yea; Mr. Mercer, Yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-01-10

Mr. Simmons moved and Mr. Mercer seconded the motion to authorize the 2026 Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission dues (\$14,412.56) as calculated per the 2020 U.S. Census be paid as follows: 57% from Fund 0001, Dept. 002 and 43% from Fund 0102; and designate the appointments of Paul Huelskamp and Ted S. Mercer as Members and Daniel E. Baker and Gregory A. Simmons as Alternates to the MVRPC Board; and Paul P. Huelskamp as Member and Daniel E. Baker as Alternate to the MVRPC Technical Advisory Committee for 2026. The Board voted as follows upon roll call: Mr. Simmons, Yea; Mr. Mercer, Yea; Mr. Westfall, Yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-01-11

Mr. Mercer moved and Mr. Simmons seconded the motion to authorize and sign an Independent Contractor Agreements (attached) with the following:

Michael Bruns, Bruns Consulting, LLC, 2120 Watkins Road, Fort Recovery, Ohio, for a total cost not to exceed \$170,000.00 (rate of \$140.00 per hour)

Candace Goodall, Architect, 1246 Fairway Drive, Troy, Ohio 45373, for a total cost not to exceed \$170,000.00 (rate of \$140.00 per hour)

Joseph McGovern, McGovern Imagery LTD, 6617 County Road 66A, New Bremen, Ohio, for a total cost not to exceed \$100,000.00 (rate of \$140.00 per hour)

Michael J. Wehrkamp, Wehrkamp Engineering, Inc., 1805 Laurel Creek Drive, Troy, Ohio, for a total cost not to exceed \$150,000.00 (rate of \$140.00 per hour)

To perform plans examining services for the Department of Development on an “as needed” basis. Costs will be paid from Funds 01051. The term of said agreements is January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026. The Board voted as follows upon roll call: Mr. Mercer, Yea; Mr. Westfall, Yea; Mr. Simmons, Yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-01-12

Mr. Simmons moved and Mr. Mercer seconded the motion to authorize participation in the State of Ohio Cooperative Purchasing Program through the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) in the Year 2026, pursuant to O.R.C. 126.04. The Board voted as follows upon roll call: Mr. Westfall, Yea; Mr. Simmons, Yea; Mr. Mercer, Yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-01-13

Mr. Mercer moved and Mr. Simmons seconded the motion to authorize membership and payment of annual dues (\$2,175.00 will be paid from Fund 01002), to the National Association of Counties (NACo) in 2026. Founded in 1935, NACo brings county officials together to advocate with a collective voice on national policy, exchange ideas and build new leadership skills, pursue transformational county solutions, enrich the public's understanding of county government and exercise exemplary leadership in public service. The Board voted as follows upon roll call: Mr. Simmons, Yea; Mr. Mercer, Yea; Mr. Westfall, Yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-01-14

Mr. Simmons moved and Mr. Mercer seconded the motion to designate Wade H. Westfall, President of the Board of Commissioners, as the Official Voting Representative of Miami County at the Annual Meeting of the County Commissioners Association of Ohio (CCAO) in 2026. Further, designate Gregory A. Simmons, Vice President of the Board of Commissioners, as the Alternate Voting Representative of Miami County. Further, authorize payment of annual dues (\$11,949.00) in 2026 to be paid from Fund 01002. The Board voted as follows upon roll call: Mr. Mercer, Yea; Mr. Westfall, Yea; Mr. Simmons, Yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-01-15

Mr. Mercer moved and Mr. Simmons seconded the motion to declare intent to sell unneeded, obsolete or unfit for use for which it was acquired personal property, motor vehicles, road machinery, equipment, tools and furnishings by Internet Auction in calendar year 2026. The Board, on May 17, 2018, entered into the GovDeals Online Auction Memo of Understanding which allows the County to post assets for sale and for potential buyers to bid on these assets via an online auction system. The Board of Miami County Commissioners will post a notice of such internet auction(s) on a continuous basis through accessing the Miami County Website. Said assets for sale will be posted for 15 days including Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays. The notice of such internet auction(s) will also be posted in the office of the County Auditor and office of the Board of Commissioners and the internet auction will be conducted in accordance with the terms and condition described in the document called "Online Sales – Terms & Conditions". Further, the Clerk of the Board is hereby ordered to take the steps necessary to implement this resolution including making arrangements for publication in the newspaper of a summary of the information contained in this resolution and for posting the required notices in the offices of the County Auditor and Board of Commissioners, as well as the Miami County website. The Board voted as follows upon roll call: Mr. Westfall, Yea; Mr. Simmons, Yea; Mr. Mercer, Yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-01-16

Mr. Simmons moved and Mr. Mercer seconded the motion to authorize and sign the attached Memorandum of Understanding for Child Abuse and Neglect Assessment, as requested by the Department of Job and Family Services. The purpose of the attached MOU is to define the roles and responsibilities of each official or agency in assessing or investigating child abuse or neglect in the county, pursuant to 2151.421(J)(2) of the Ohio Revised Code and 5101:1-33-26 of the Ohio Administrative Code. The MOU is effective January 1, 2026. The Board voted as follows upon roll call: Mr. Simmons, Yea; Mr. Mercer, Yea; Mr. Westfall, Yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-01-17

Mr. Mercer moved and Mr. Simmons seconded the motion to hereby assign authority to Sara Bowers, Director of Miami County Department of Job and Family Services, to serve as the Board of Miami County Commissioners' designee and to transfer Child, Family, and Community Protective Allocation Funds from the PA Fund to the CSEA or PCSA Fund on behalf of Miami County Department of Job and Family Services for the period of January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026. The Board voted as follows upon roll call: Mr. Mercer, Yea; Mr. Westfall, Yea; Mr. Simmons, Yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-01-18

Mr. Simmons moved and Mr. Mercer seconded the motion to hereby assign authority to Sara Bowers, Director of Miami County Department of Job and Family Services, to serve as the Board of Miami County Commissioners' designee and to transfer the Income Maintenance Allocation from the PA Fund to the CSEA Fund on behalf of Miami County Department of Job and Family Services for the period of January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026. The Board voted as follows upon roll call: Mr. Westfall, Yea; Mr. Simmons, Yea; Mr. Mercer, Yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-01-19

Mr. Mercer moved and Mr. Simmons seconded the motion to hereby assign authority to Sara Bowers, Director of Miami County Department of Job and Family Services, to serve as the Board of Miami County Commissioners' designee and to transfer Kinship Caregiver Funds from the PA Fund to the PCSA Fund on behalf of Miami County Department of Job and Family Services for the period of January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026. The Board voted as follows upon roll call: Mr. Simmons, Yea; Mr. Mercer, Yea; Mr. Westfall, Yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-01-20

Mr. Simmons moved and Mr. Mercer seconded the motion to hereby assign authority to Sara Bowers, Director of Miami County Department of Job and Family Services, to serve as the Board of Miami County Commissioners' designee and to sign inter-county adjustment agreements on behalf of Miami County Department of Job and Family Services for the period of January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026. The Board voted as follows upon roll call: Mr. Mercer, Yea; Mr. Westfall, Yea; Mr. Simmons, Yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-01-21

Mr. Mercer moved and Mr. Simmons seconded the motion to accept the attached quote from Tony's Body Shop, Covington, OH and authorize said company to repair/replace the passenger side bumper, grille assembly and front lamps, front fender, and door on a 2024 Chevrolet Trailblazer (VIN#KL79MRSL4RB122348) in the Department of Development fleet. Said vehicle was damaged in a deer collision incident on or about December 16, 2025. The cost of the repair shall not exceed \$4,471.75 and will be paid from Fund 01098. Multiple quotes were received: Tony's Body Shop, Covington, OH - \$4,471.75; Dave Knapp Collision Center, Greenville, OH - \$4,808.94, CarStar, Troy, OH - \$6,265.73; and Caliber Collision, Troy, OH - \$6,951.26. The Board voted as follows upon roll call: Mr. Westfall, Yea; Mr. Simmons, Yea; Mr. Mercer, Yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-01-22

Mr. Simmons moved and Mr. Mercer seconded the motion to authorize contract negotiations with Choice One Engineering, Sidney, Ohio to provide professional services for the design of the Woodward Hills Water Study. The Sanitary Engineering Department has requested the completion of a professional study to identify and evaluate water supply options for the Woodward Hills Subdivision in Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio. On November 13, 2025, by Resolution No. 25-11-1397, the Board of Miami County Commissioners opened and read Statements of Qualifications for Professional Design and Engineering Services for said project. The Miami County Sanitary Engineer used the "qualifications-based selection" process to evaluate statements of qualifications and the firm of Choice One Engineering ranked highest using the qualifications based selection for said Project. The Board voted as follows upon roll call: Mr. Simmons, Yea; Mr. Mercer, Yea; Mr. Westfall, Yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-01-23

Mr. Mercer moved and Mr. Simmons seconded the motion to reappoint Mr. Scott Taylor of Springfield, Ohio to serve as the Miami County Apiarist during the year 2026 (approximate season is April 14th to October 31st, weather permitting). Appropriations shall not exceed \$6,000.00 (\$6.50 per hive (approx. 600 hives); \$0.70 mileage (or the current IRS rate); and Meals and Incidentals in accordance with the Federal General Services Expense Administration (GSA) guidelines. Further, the Clerk of the Board is hereby directed to certify a copy of this motion to the State Director of Agriculture for approval of this appointment, in accordance with the provisions of Section 909.07 O.R.C. The Board voted as follows upon roll call: Mr. Mercer, Yea; Mr. Westfall, Yea; Mr. Simmons, Yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-01-24 Signatures Only:

Letter(s) – Miami County Community Engagement Letter – Commissioners  
Mr. Simmons moved and Mr. Mercer seconded the motion to approve the signatures only as submitted. The Board voted as follows upon roll call: Mr. Westfall, Yea; Mr. Simmons, Yea; Mr. Mercer, Yea.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-01-25 Executive Session – Certain Personnel Matters (Appointment, Employment, Dismissal, Promotion, Compensation) in accordance with O.R.C. 121.22(G)(1) – Commissioners

Mr. Mercer moved and Mr. Simmons seconded the motion to enter into Executive Session at 9:30 a.m. for the purpose of Certain Personnel Matters (Appointment, Employment, Dismissal, Promotion, Compensation) in accordance with O.R.C. 121.22(G)(1). The Board voted as follows upon roll call: Mr. Simmons, Yea; Mr. Mercer, Yea; Mr. Westfall, Yea.

There being no further business to be transacted, Mr. Simmons moved and Mr. Mercer seconded the motion to adjourn from Executive Session at 10:38 a.m. with no action taken. The Board voted as follows upon roll call: Mr. Mercer, Yea; Mr. Westfall, Yea; Mr. Simmons, Yea.

Respectfully submitted:  
Janelle S. Barga, Clerk

*General Business Meeting on Tuesday, January 6, 2026 has been canceled.*

*Full minutes of the proceedings from this meeting have been digitally recorded.*