



Defiance County Board of Commissioners

David S. Kern, Dana Phipps, and Mick Pocratsky

NEWS RELEASE

Monday, July 15, 2024

The Board of Defiance County Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, July 15, 2024, in the Defiance County Commissioners' Conference Room. President Kern called the meeting to order. Also present were Commissioner Dana Phipps; Commissioner Mick Pocratsky; County Administrator, Sherry Carnahan; HR Coordinator, Emily Meyer; and Clerk, Liz Stuart.

The Commissioners met in General Session to approve and sign various resolutions, contracts, and documents. The Commissioners also reviewed the calendar of events and discussed upcoming meetings.

The Commissioners met with Economic Development Executive Director Erika Willitzer for an update. She reported on the summer manufacturing camp, which was attended by 45 kids, and stated that she is still working to bring housing developers into the region. There was also a discussion that was held under executive session to discuss confidential information related to the marketing plans, specific business strategy, production techniques, trade secrets, or personal financial statements of an applicant for economic development assistance (ORC 121.22 (G) (8)).

The Commissioners met with Heidi Hull and Karrah Rath of the Board of DD and Good Samaritan School for a quarterly update. Ms. Hull reported that they have been working closely with the Family and Children First Council with an emphasis on Early Intervention. She reported that the Good Samaritan School is currently fully staffed and that they will be expanding the parking lot in order to allow more parking for staff and visitors and to create a parking area and driveway loop for buses, with more building improvements planned as budget allows.

The Commissioners met with Fort Defiance Humane Society Executive Director Lisa Weaner, Humane Society Board members Kathi Diamond and Jeff Batt, Dog Warden Randy Vogel, Sheriff Doug Engel, Lt. Brad Grillot, 911 Director Kristi Booth, Defiance Police Chief Shafer, and Hicksville Police Chief Denning to discuss cage capacity at the Fort Defiance Humane Society. Ms. Weaner reported that there is a nationwide crisis in the number of abandoned and surrendered dogs, and that the Humane Society and their foster homes are constantly at full capacity. Mr. Vogel and the other law enforcement officers reported that they are unable to pick up dogs when they get reports of them running loose due to not having anywhere to keep the dogs safely. The Board discussed the possibility of building a County Dog Pound in order to ensure there was space for dogs that were picked up by law enforcement.

Release Approved:


David Kern, Defiance County Commissioner

Pending Requests for Use of the Defiance County Courthouse and County Property:

- Mother Teresa Respect for Life - "Life Chain – Praying/singing" on Sunday, October 6 from 1:30-3:00pm at Courthouse

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