



OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF KNOX COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

MOUNT VERNON, OH

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2025

TO VIEW THE RECORDED MEETING VISIT

<https://www.youtube.com/@knoxcountycommissioners1808>

10:00 AM Call to Order

Present: Commissioner, President Bill Pursel
Commissioner Barry Lester
Commissioner Drenda Keesee

Additional Staff

Jason Booth, County Administrator

Penny Doyle, Clerk/Executive Assistant

Andrew Champlin, I.T. Communications Coordinator

Resolutions to be Presented

RESOLUTION 2025-826--APPROVE ADVERTISEMENT FOR LEGAL NOTICE - INVITATION TO BID FOR THE KNOX COUNTY BUSINESS CENTER PROJECT.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Knox County Commissioners approve the Advertisement for a Legal Notice - Invitation to Bid for the Knox County Business Center Project.

A copy of the advertisement is attached to Journal No. 2025.

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Drenda Keesee
SECONDER:	Barry Lester
AYES:	Pursel Lester Keesee

RESOLUTION 2025-827--SET THE PERMANENT ASSESSMENT BASE OF THE NORTH BRANCH OF FORD CREEK DITCH MAINTENANCE FUND CAP TO \$57,192.00, PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE 6137.03.

WHEREAS, Section 6137 of the Ohio Revised Code allows for the Board of County Commissioners to review past ditch petition projects, re-evaluate the benefits to the owners within its watershed, and to establish the total cost of the project based on current prices; and

WHEREAS, the Knox County Engineer determined during the re-evaluation, the current prices for the project for excavation, clearing and grubbing, and seed, fertilizer and mulch would be \$285,960.35, and the 20% allowable permanent assessment base would be \$57,192.00 for the Maintenance Fund Cap; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners did hold a public meeting to discuss and review the permanent assessment base for the North Branch of Ford Creek, on Tuesday, December 16, 2025, at 6:00 p.m., at the Knox County Memorial Theatre, 112 East High Street, Mount Vernon, Ohio.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Knox County Commissioners approve to set the permanent assessment base of the North Branch of Ford Creek Ditch Maintenance Fund Cap to \$57,192.00, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 6137.03.

A copy of the certified resolution is attached to Journal No. 2025.

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Barry Lester
SECONDER:	Drenda Keesee
AYES:	Pursel Lester Keesee

RESOLUTION 2025-828--SET THE WATER AND SEWER USER CHARGES FOR HOWARD AND APPLE VALLEY, SEWER USER CHARGES FOR PLEASANT VIEW ACRES IN MONROE TOWNSHIP, MILLWOOD, OHIO, AND BLADENSBURG, OHIO, FOR THE KNOX COUNTY WATER AND WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Knox County Commissioners sets the water and sewer user charges for Howard and Apple Valley per month, as follows:

Bill Due March 2026

Water User Charges - \$24.17 for 4,000 gallons
\$ 5.20 for every 1,000 gallons after 4,000 gallons

Sewer User Charges - \$36.34 for 4,000 gallons
\$ 5.00 for every 1,000 gallons after 4,000 gallons
\$12.89 Debt Service User Rate

Bill Due March 2027

Water User Charges - \$26.17 for 4,000 gallons
\$ 5.70 for every 1,000 gallons after 4,000 gallons

Sewer User Charges - \$38.34 for 4,000 gallons
\$ 5.00 for every 1,000 gallons after 4,000 gallons
\$12.89 Debt Service User Rate

Bill Due March 2028

Water User Charges - \$28.17 for 4,000 gallons
\$ 6.20 for every 1,000 gallons after 4,000 gallons

Sewer User Charges - \$40.34 for 4,000 gallons
\$ 5.00 for every 1,000 gallons after 4,000 gallons
\$12.89 Debt Service User Rate

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Knox County Commissioners sets the sewer user charges for Pleasant View Acres in Monroe Township, per month as follows:

Bill Due March 2026 Sewer User Charges - \$36.34 per month

Bill Due March 2027 Sewer User Charges - \$38.34 per month

Bill Due March 2028 Sewer User Charges - \$40.34 per month

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Knox County Commissioners sets the sewer user charges for Millwood, Ohio, per month as follows:

Bill Due March 2026
Sewer User Charges - \$36.34 per month
\$12.89 Debt Service User Rate

Bill Due March 2027
Sewer User Charges - \$38.34 per month
\$12.89 Debt Service User Rate

Bill Due March 2028
Sewer User Charges - \$40.34 per month
\$12.89 Debt Service User Rate

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Knox County Commissioners sets the sewer user charges for Bladensburg, Ohio, per month as follows:

Bill Due March 2026 - Sewer User Charges - \$50.00 per month
Bill Due March 2027 - Sewer User Charges - \$50.00 per month
Bill Due March 2028 - Sewer User Charges - \$50.00 per month

A copy of the certified resolution is attached to Journal No. 2025.

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Barry Lester
SECONDER:	Drenda Keesee
AYES:	Pursel Lester Keesee

RESOLUTION 2025-829--RESCIND AND REPLACE RESOLUTION 2025-244 DATED APRIL 17, 2025, AUTHORIZING JEFF PICKRELL, DIRECTOR OF THE KNOX COUNTY WATER AND WASTEWATER, AS A SIGNING AGENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF A BOBCAT COMPACT EXCAVATOR E55 R-2 SERIES, FROM THE BOBCAT COMPANY, FOR THE KNOX COUNTY WATER AND WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT.

WHEREAS, the original resolution to purchase a New Holland E50D Mini Excavator from Advantage Ag and Equipment, LLC, for \$38,000.00, is not available for purchase and a comparable model and supplier was sought to fulfill the need of the Knox County Water and Wastewater Department.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Knox County Commissioners rescind and replace Resolution 2025-244, dated April 17, 2025, authorizing Jeff Pickrell, Director of the Knox County Water and Wastewater, as a signing agent for the purchase of a Bobcat Compact Excavator E55-R2 Series from The Bobcat Company, for the Knox County Water and Wastewater Department. The cost of the Bobcat Compact Excavator is \$43,000.00 (Sourcewell Construction Equipment Pricing).

A copy of the certified resolution and sales quote are attached to Journal No. 2025.

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Drenda Keesee
SECONDER:	Barry Lester
AYES:	Pursel Lester Keesee

RESOLUTION 2025-830--APPROVE THE 2026 COUNTY EMPLOYEE BENEFIT CONSORTIUM OF OHIO (CEBCO) WELLNESS GRANT AGREEMENT.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Knox County Commissioners approve the 2026 County Employee Benefit Consortium of Ohio (CEBCO) Wellness Grant Agreement. The grant funding amounts include \$4,000 Administrative Funds and \$12,270 Program Funds.

A copy of the agreement is attached to Journal No. 2025.

RESULT: APPROVED
MOVER: Barry Lester
SECONDER: Drenda Keesee
AYES: Pursel Lester Keesee

RESOLUTION 2025-831--APPROVE THE BID AWARD FOR THE KNOX COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES - CONSUMABLE OFFICE SUPPLIES FOR 2026, TO THE QUILL CORPORATION (MASTER SCHEDULE AND TONER/INK CARTRIDGES) AND THE CHARLES RITTER COMPANY (PAPER SCHEDULE).

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Knox County Commissioners approve the bid award for the Knox County Department of Job and Family Services Consumable Office Supplies for 2026 to the following:

Master Schedule to Quill Corporation - \$5,589.12
Toner/Ink Cartridge Schedule to Quill Corporation - \$23,219.85
Paper Schedule to The Charles Ritter Company - \$7,631.25

A copy of the bid award and supporting documentation are attached to Journal No. 2025.

RESULT: APPROVED
MOVER: Drenda Keesee
SECONDER: Barry Lester
AYES: Pursel Lester Keesee

RESOLUTION 2025-832--APPROVE THE KNOX COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE LETTER OF INTENT TO PURCHASE A 2026/27 TANDEM AXLE SNOW AND ICE CONTROL TRUCK EQUIPMENT PACKAGE FROM HENDERSON PRODUCTS, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$132,292.54 (NPPGOV CONTRACT).

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Knox County Commissioners approve the Knox County Engineer's Office Letter of Intent to Purchase a 2026/27 Tandem Axle Snow and Ice Control Truck Equipment Package from Henderson Products, in the amount of \$132,292.54 (NPPGov Contract).

A copy of the letter and proposal are attached to Journal No. 2025.

RESULT: APPROVED
MOVER: Barry Lester
SECONDER: Drenda Keesee
AYES: Pursel Lester Keesee

RESOLUTION 2025-833--APPROVE UTILITY PERMIT FROM MERCURY BROADBAND FOR FREDERICKTOWN AMITY ROAD IN PIKE TOWNSHIP (36' AERIAL FIBER OPTIC AND 184' UNDERGROUND FIBER OPTIC).

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Knox County Commissioners approve the Utility Permit from Mercury Broadband for Fredericktown Amity Road in Pike Township (36' aerial fiber optic and 184' underground fiber optic) - Multiple Service of Telecommunications - Overhead/Aerial - Directional Bore - Blacktop Road Surface - Right of Way Width of 60 feet - Bond required of \$1,000,000.

A copy of the application is attached to Journal No. 2025.

RESULT: APPROVED
MOVER: Drenda Keesee
SECONDER: Barry Lester
AYES: Pursel Lester Keesee

RESOLUTION 2025-834--APPROVE UTILITY PERMIT FROM MERCURY BROADBAND FOR DANVILLE AMITY ROAD IN PIKE TOWNSHIP (475' UNDERGROUND FIBER OPTIC).

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Knox County Commissioners approve the Utility Permit from Mercury Broadband for Danville Amity Road in Pike Township (475' underground fiber optic) - Multiple Service of Telecommunications - Directional Bore - Blacktop Road Surface - Right of Way Width of 40 feet - Bond required of \$1,000,000.

A copy of the application is attached to Journal No. 2025.

RESULT: APPROVED
MOVER: Barry Lester
SECONDER: Drenda Keesee
AYES: Pursel Lester Keesee

RESOLUTION 2025-835--APPROVE UTILITY PERMIT FROM MERCURY BROADBAND FOR FREDERICKTOWN AMITY ROAD AND DANIELS ROADS IN PIKE TOWNSHIP (6.007' UNDERGROUND FIBER OPTIC).

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Knox County Commissioners approve the Utility Permit from Mercury Broadband for Fredericktown Amity Road and Daniels Roads in Pike Township (6.007' underground fiber optic) - Multiple Service of Telecommunications - Directional Bore - Blacktop Road Surface - Right of Way Width of 60 feet - Bond required of \$1,000,000.

A copy of the application is attached to Journal No. 2025.

RESULT: APPROVED
MOVER: Drenda Keesee
SECONDER: Barry Lester
AYES: Pursel Lester Keesee

RESOLUTION 2025-836--APPROVE UTILITY PERMIT FROM MERCURY BROADBAND FOR SNIVELY ROAD IN BROWN TOWNSHIP (2.585' AERIAL FIBER OPTIC AND 501' UNDERGROUND FIBER OPTIC).

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Knox County Commissioners approve the Utility Permit from Mercury Broadband for Snively Road in Brown Township (2.585' aerial fiber optic and 501' underground fiber optic) - Multiple Service of Telecommunications - Overhead/Aerial - Directional Bore - Blacktop Road Surface - Right of Way Width of 30 feet - Bond required of \$1,000,000.

A copy of the application is attached to Journal No. 2025.

RESULT: APPROVED
MOVER: Barry Lester
SECONDER: Drenda Keesee
AYES: Pursel Lester Keesee

RESOLUTION 2025-837--APPROVE UTILITY PERMIT FROM MERCURY BROADBAND FOR DANVILLE AMITY ROAD IN PIKE AND BROWN TOWNSHIPS (12.659' AERIAL FIBER OPTIC AND 423' UNDERGROUND FIBER OPTIC).

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Knox County Commissioners approve the Utility Permit from Mercury Broadband for Danville Amity Road in Pike and Brown Townships (12.659' aerial fiber optic and 423' underground fiber optic) - Multiple Service of Telecommunications - Overhead/Aerial - Directional Bore - Blacktop Road Surface - Right of Way Width of 40 feet and 60 feet - Bond required of \$1,000,000.

A copy of the application is attached to Journal No. 2025.

RESULT: APPROVED
MOVER: Drenda Keesee
SECONDER: Barry Lester
AYES: Pursel Lester Keesee

RESOLUTION 2025-838--APPROVE UTILITY PERMIT FROM MERCURY BROADBAND FOR DANIELS ROAD IN BROWN TOWNSHIP (1.630' AERIAL FIBER OPTIC AND 1.283' UNDERGROUND FIBER OPTIC).

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Knox County Commissioners approve the Utility Permit from Mercury Broadband for Daniels Road in Brown Township (1.630' aerial fiber optic and 1.283' underground fiber optic) - Multiple Service of Telecommunications - Overhead/Aerial - Directional Bore - Blacktop Road Surface - Right of Way Width of 60 feet - Bond required of \$1,000,000.

A copy of the application is attached to Journal No. 2025.

RESULT: APPROVED
MOVER: Barry Lester
SECONDER: Drenda Keesee
AYES: Pursel Lester Keesee

RESOLUTION 2025-839--APPROVE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN KNOX COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES AND LICKING COUNTY JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING CHILD CARE PROVIDER LICENSING AND INSPECTION SERVICES, INCLUDING COMPLAINT INVESTIGATIONS, TRAINING, OUTREACH, RECRUITMENT, AND RELATED SUPERVISION.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Knox County Commissioners approve the Memorandum of Agreement between Knox County Department of Job and Family Services and Licking County Job and Family Services for the purpose of providing Child Care Provider Licensing and Inspection Services, including complaint investigations, training, outreach, recruitment, and related supervision. The effective date is January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026, with the maximum reimbursement of \$20,000.00.

A copy of the agreement is attached to Journal No. 2025.

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Drenda Keese
SECONDER:	Barry Lester
AYES:	Pursel Lester Keese

Approval of Transfer of Funds, Supplemental Appropriations and Bills

RESOLUTION 2025-840--APPROVE APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Knox County Commissioners approve the Appropriation Adjustment and that the following transfers be made:

Amount: \$10,000.00

From Appropriation Account: 236.1540.50302 - Contract Services - Engineer

To Appropriation Account: 236.1541.50204 - Materials - Engineer/Roads

Amount: \$12,000.00

From Appropriation Account: 236.1542.50204 - Materials - Engineer/Bridges & Culverts

To Appropriation Account: 236.1541.50204 - Materials - Engineer/Roads

Amount: \$12,000.00

From Appropriation Account: 236.1542.50366 - Contract/Projects - Engineer/Bridges & Culverts

To Appropriation Account: 236.1541.50204 - Materials - Engineer/Roads

A copy of the Appropriation Adjustment is attached to Journal No. 2025.

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Drenda Keese
SECONDER:	Bill Pursel
AYES:	Pursel Lester Keese

RESOLUTION 2025-841--APPROVE APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Knox County Commissioners approve the Appropriation Adjustment and that the following transfers be made:

Amount: \$20,000.00

From Appropriation Account: 101.1330.50121 - Salaries - Law Enforcement - Sheriff

To Appropriation Account: 101.1330.50101 - Salaries - Employees - Sheriff

Amount: \$1,800.00

From Appropriation Account: 101.1330.50121 - Salaries - Law Enforcement - Sheriff

To Appropriation Account: 101.1330.50105 - Medicare/Unemployment - Sheriff

Amount: \$18,000.00

From Appropriation Account: 101.1330.50121 - Salaries - Law Enforcement - Sheriff

To Appropriation Account: 101.1330.50125 - Salaries - Detective - Sheriff

Amount: \$1,000.00

From Appropriation Account: 101.1330.50121 - Salaries - Law Enforcement - Sheriff

To Appropriation Account: 101.1336.50101 - Salaries

Amount: \$45,000.00

From Appropriation Account: 101.1331.50121 - Salaries - Law Enforcement - Sheriff/Jail

To Appropriation Account: 101.1331.50101 - Salaries - Employees - Sheriff

Amount: \$5,000.00

From Appropriation Account: 101.1331.50128 - Salaries - Court Security - Transp. - Sheriff/Jail

To Appropriation Account: 101.1331.50101 - Salaries - Employees - Sheriff

Amount: \$1,000.00

From Appropriation Account: 101.1331.50128 - Salaries - Court Security - Transp. - Sheriff/Jail

To Appropriation Account: 101.1331.50105 - Medicare/Unemployment - Sheriff/Jail

A copy of the Appropriation Adjustment is attached to Journal No. 2025.

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Drenda Keesee
SECONDER:	Bill Pursel
AYES:	Pursel Lester Keesee

RESOLUTION 2025-842--APPROVE BILL LIST.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Knox County Commissioners approve the Bill List dated December 23, 2025.

A copy of the Bill List is attached to Journal No. 2025.

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Drenda Keesee
SECONDER:	Bill Pursel
AYES:	Pursel Lester Keesee

RESOLUTION 2025-843--APPROVE BILL LIST - THEN AND NOW.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Knox County Commissioners approve the Then and Now Bill List dated December 23, 2025.

A copy of the Then and Now Bill list is attached to Journal No. 2025.

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Drenda Keesee
SECONDER:	Bill Pursel
AYES:	Pursel Lester Keesee

Acceptance of Previous Minutes

The minutes from Thursday, December 18, 2025, and Thursday, August 28, 2025, were presented and approved by the Board of Knox County Commissioners.

County Administrator Updates

County Administrator Jason Booth reported there will be a brief meeting on Tuesday, December 30, 2025, to sign bills and financials.

Commissioner Committee Updates

Commissioner Pursel reported there will be no meeting on Thursday, December 25, 2025, and a brief meeting on Tuesday, December 30, 2025. He wished everyone a safe holiday.

Adjourn the Meeting

Commissioner, President

Commissioner

Commissioner

ATTEST:

Penny R. Doyle
Clerk/Executive Assistant