



OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF KNOX COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

MOUNT VERNON, OH

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2026

TO VIEW THE RECORDED MEETING VISIT

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

10:00 AM WMVO Radio Line

10:30 AM Call to Order

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

Additional Staff

Jason Booth, County Administrator
Penny Doyle, Clerk/Executive Assistant
Andrew Champlin, I.T. Communications Coordinator

Public Attendance

Cheryl Splain, Reporter for Knox Pages

10:30 AM 988 Discussion with Kasey Bisch and Elena Allen

Commissioners met with Kasey Bisch and Elena Allen for an update on the 988 Hot Line State Wide program. They both were guests on the WMVO Radio Line to spread the word about their program. The 988 Hot Line is a Suicide and Crisis Lifeline coordinated through Ohio Guidestone Counseling Agency. The hot line is available 24/7/365 for individuals up to age 21 for mental health crisis, counseling, and support. The hot line is a free program paid for by the State of Ohio and covers counseling services for up to 42 days. The program started in September 2025, and collaborates with local schools, doctors, and parents. Ohio Guidestone is located in Delaware, Ohio, and services Delaware, Morrow, Knox, and Licking Counties. They have two counselors that visit individuals face-to-face and act as a liaison for other mental health resources. The goal of the visit with the Commissioners is to spread awareness of the program and the availability of their services for Knox County residents.

10:45 AM Departmental Update - Knox County I.T. Department

Commissioners met with Trevor Ditmars, Chief Information Officer of the Knox County I.T. Department, in a regular departmental update. Trevor submitted a report of projects completed by the Knox County I.T. Department since January 13, 2026. He discussed all line items included on the report and answered all questions from the Commissioners. Listed below are the highlights of the discussion:

Projects Completed by IT Since Last Report

Responded to 285 tickets in last 30 days

PC Replacements - Juvenile Probation and Probate Court

Migrated externally facing workloads to secured host

104 East High Street building - configured for county use

Service Center Panic Alarm Systems - begin monthly scheduled tests

Build Asset and Inventory Management System

City of Mount Vernon - move to COTC building - ongoing - UPS and Switchgear installed - CW access control

Staffing changes - Mallory moving to Commissioners Office

Ongoing

Clerk of Courts - Title Office - Bringing Title Office online to county systems - Spectrum Internet is scheduled for install this week - will have county phone and internet

City of Mount Vernon - move to COTC building - ongoing

Dog Shelter - digital signage in lobby - TV Installed - troubleshooting networking issues with remote-site content distribution

City of Mount Vernon - Municipal Court - move to Equivant - project is moving forward

Water and Wastewater - ongoing discussion regarding migration to Software Solutions (VIP) and integration with Knox County Auditor's Office

911 - Cloud Based 911 CAD+ Phone System (Central Square) - nearly complete - waiting for SIM activations

Service Center - exploring firewall replacement options for 2026 - engaging with various vendors - received 2 quotes so far

911 - Building Battery Backup systems (2) - Working with Vertiv to perform maintenance and testing on the critical power backup systems supporting 911 telephones

Service Center - Battery Backup Installations 8 total - 2 planned for installation Monday, February 16

Computer replacements for Knox County offices and City of Mount Vernon offices - due to the rapid growth of AI-related demand, we are prioritizing PC replacements early in the year to mitigate inventory volatility and sudden pricing increases

Resolutions to be Presented

RESOLUTION 2026-86--APPROVE THE HIRING OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANTS OF OHIO, INC. (CDC OF OHIO, INC.), TO PERFORM THE ADMINISTRATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF KNOX COUNTY'S VARIOUS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS (CDBG) AND RELATED OHIO DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT (ODOD) PROGRAMS.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Knox County Commissioners approve the Hiring of Community Development Consultants of Ohio, Inc. (CDC of Ohio, Inc.), to perform the administration and implementation of Knox County's various Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) and related Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) programs.

A copy of the certified resolution is attached to Journal No. 2026.

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

Approval of Transfer of Funds, Supplemental Appropriations and Bills

RESOLUTION 2026-87--APPROVE BILL LIST.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Knox County Commissioners approve the Bill List dated February 10, 2026.

A copy of the Bill List is attached to Journal No. 2026.

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

RESOLUTION 2026-88--APPROVE BILL LIST - THEN AND NOW.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Knox County Commissioners approve the Then and Now Bill List dated February 10, 2026.

A copy of the Then and Now Bill list is attached to Journal No. 2026.

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

Acceptance of Previous Minutes

The minutes from Tuesday, February 3, 2026, and Thursday, February 5, 2026, were presented and approved by the Board of Knox County Commissioners.

Items Received

The Board of Knox County Commissioners received the Knox County Sheriff's Office - Jail Food Cost Per Meal Report for January 2026. The total costs are \$16,002.64, consisting of 7,928 total meals prepared with a food cost per meal of \$1.85.

A copy of the Food Cost Per Meal Report is attached to Journal No. 2026.

The Board of Knox County Commissioners received the Knox County Sheriff's Office Inmate Report for January 2026.

Jail Population: 100 total - 80 males and 20 females
55 inmates held for the Knox County Sheriff's Office
41 inmates held for the Mount Vernon Police Department
1 inmate held for OOC
1 inmate held for CCP probation
2 inmates held for MCP

Inmate Average Days by Month - Females - 5 and Males - 5
Total Females Booked in January 2026 - 38
Total Males Booked in January 2026 - 90

A copy of the report is attached to Journal No. 2026.

County Administrator Updates

County Administrator Jason Booth did not have any new updates.

Commissioner Committee Updates

Commissioners did not have any new committee updates.

Adjourn the Meeting

Commissioner, President

Commissioner

Commissioner

ATTEST:

Penny R. Doyle
Clerk/Executive Assistant