

Sandusky County Commissioners – 622 Croghan Street, Fremont, OH 43420

2026 MEETING

Meeting: Board Of Commissioners

Location: Commissioners' Board Room

Date: 1/13/2026

Time: 8:00AM

Present: Commissioners: Scott Miller – President, Russ Zimmerman – Vice President; Charles Schwochow

Present: Theresa Garcia – County Administrator

Others Present: Julie Schwochow, Ruth Zimmerman, Peggy Courtney, Pat Dickman, Rich Oddo, Terry Stanforth

(*action items)

AGENDA ITEMS	BRIEF DESCRIPTIONS / ACTION STEPS:	PERSON RESPONSIBLE:	DOLLAR AMOUNT:	MOTION / VOTE
Call to Order Pledge of Allegiance (8:00am)		Scott Miller, President		
*Review & Approval of Commissioner Meeting Minutes, incoming Mail Review & External Meeting Notices	The 1/8/2026 and 1/12/26 minutes were reviewed/approved by the Board. The Board reviewed incoming mail and external meeting notices.	Scott Miller Russ Zimmerman Charles Schwochow		<p>*Motion: Move to Approve minutes from 1/8/26 Moved by: Russ Zimmerman 2nd: Charles Schwochow Yes – 3</p> <p>*Motion: Move to Approve minutes from 1/12/26 Moved by: Russ Zimmerman 2nd: Charles Schwochow Yes – 3</p>
Commissioners and Administrator Discussion	There was some conversation regarding the bi-centennial bell for the County. The bell is in the lobby of the courthouse and the holder and the trailer for it is out at Facility Management offices. There may be a possibility the bell will be taken to the fair this year.			
	EMA Director forwarded an email from FEMA regarding the grant for the EOC. We need to talk more with Thomas Porter on how this will work at the Big Lots building.			

	Administrator Garcia attended the TID (Transportation Improvement District) meeting. There were no projects presented for this year that would be eligible for TID funding. City of Clyde did receive funds last year they will be using for a project this year.			
	Commissioners entered recess at 8:39am until the 9:00am meeting			
* Then /Now Documents	<p>One certificate was presented by the Sheriff's Office. Expenses for these invoices incurred after P.O. deadline and/or insufficient funds at year end. Five invoices make up this certificate. Hardtime Products - \$855.00 Offender Watch - \$35.00 R&R - \$80.00 Westview Vet - \$393.91 Skillet - \$49,392.64</p>	Sheriff	\$855.00 \$35.00 \$80.00 \$399.91 \$49,392.64	<p>*Motion: Move to Approve certificates Moved by: Russ Zimmerman 2nd: Charles Schwochow Yes – 3</p>
	<p>One certificate was presented by the Sheriff's Office. Expenses incurred after PO deadline and/or insufficient funds at year end. Invoices for six vendors make up this certificate. Community Health Services - \$185.50 Consultants Lab Med - \$ 81.08 Emergency Physicians - \$188.46 ProMedica Memorial Hospital - \$871.28 Skillet Kitchens - \$2,565.57 Wrap Technologies \$ 6,285.33</p>	Sheriff	\$185.50 \$81.08 \$188.46 \$871.28 \$2,565.57 \$6,285.33	
	<p>One certificate was presented by the Dog Kennel. Did not put appropriate amount in the standard PO for December. One invoice makes up this certificate. Columbia Gas - \$759.63</p>	Dog Kennel	\$759.63	
	<p>One certificate was presented by the Commissioner's Office. The PO's for the following invoices was not done prior to receiving them as the 2025 ones were liquidated to have funds available for 2026. Four invoices make up this certificate. Dotson Company - \$756,197.54 KCS Contracting - \$452,706.16 Ardent Fitness - \$3,400.00 Fed Ex - \$19.87</p>	Commissioners	\$756,197.54 \$452,706.16 \$3,400.00 \$19.87	
		Board of Elections	\$26.00	

	<p>One certificate was presented by the Board of Elections. All PO's were liquidated in 2025. One invoice makes up this certificate. Sharie Chagnon - \$26.00</p> <p>One certificate was presented by the Board of DD. The PO submitted was not enough to cover the December expense. One invoice makes up this certificate. Hand and Hand - \$499.50</p>	Board of DD	\$499.50	
* Personnel	None			
* Travel Requests	None			
Community Work Program	John was not available to attend this meeting.			
Visitors Bureau	<p><u>Peggy Courtney – Visitors Bureau.</u> Peggy came in for her regular meeting with the Commissioners. See attachment for agenda items. The Community Guide has been sent to the printer. They are about a week behind getting it to print but she is happy with that. It is an America 250 spin on the cover and content. It is a bigger issue this year than last year. There are more ads than in the past and more articles. Commissioner Miller asked about where the guides are sent and if they send some to the islands. Peggy noted that anyone who has an ad in the guide gets a supply and she does send some to the Chamber office on the islands. This year's Rock and Awe had issues with lights being out on some of the displays. They need to re-string the lights for next year other than the tree. They thought about putting a committee together for the Rock and Awe to work on the project and restructure the funding. She was thinking about sponsorship levels and getting additional sponsors. They were asked by City of Fremont to help with an America 250 parade and it would be separated by era's. Peggy presented a list of America 250 Events that are scheduled (see attachment).</p>	Peggy Courtney – Executive Director		
Pat Dickman	<p><u>Pat Dickman and Rich Oddo – Facility Management.</u> Pat and Rich came in for their regular meeting with the Commissioners. See attachment for agenda items. Tomorrow is the meeting with Kleinfelder to discuss the JJC upgrade and the issues. Pat has several items to discuss and has asked for sales and engineering to attend the meeting. Commissioner Zimmerman will</p>	Pat Dickman – Director Rich Oddo – Purchasing Agent		

	represent the Commissioners. Final documents haven't been received and we are still holding the retainage fee. They are replacing some of the carpet at the service center. The new office area out there will start in two weeks. Pat is working on a job description for a part-time landscaper position. The Board of Elections had asked about replacing the carpet in the center room. He did get a quote. Commissioners asked about using Solid Waste recycle funding. They are going to look in to that. The Commissioners noted if it does not need replaced we should possibly wait for it.			
* Resolutions	2026 – 25 APPROVING OUT OF STATE TRAVEL FOR SHERIFF CHRISOPHER HILTON AND MAJOR JODY HATFIELD TO WASHINGTON, D.C. FOR 2026 NSA WINTER CONFERENCE FROM JANUARY 30TH TO FEBRUARY 5TH 2026	Sheriff		*Motion: Move to Approve resolution Moved by: Charles Schwochow 2nd: Russ Zimmerman Yes – 3
	2026 - 26 APPROVING BLANKET RESOLUTION FOR ALL OUT OF COUNTY TRAVEL FOR SHERIFF CHRIS HILTON TO ATTEND BSSA CONFERENCES, BSSA MEETINGS, IGNITE MEETINGS AND OTHER MEETINGS PAID FOR OUT OF THE FURTHERANCE OF JUSTICE FUND FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2026.	Sheriff		*Motion: Move to Approve resolution Moved by: Russ Zimmerman 2nd: Charles Schwochow Yes – 3
	2026 - 27 ORDER TO VACATE A CERTAIN PORTION OF COUNTY ROAD 210 IN RILEY TOWNSHIP, SANDUSKY COUNTY, OHIO PRESENTED BY RILEY TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES RECORDED IN ROAD RECORD 9 PAGE 281-286	Road Vacations		*Motion: Move to Approve resolution Moved by: Russ Zimmerman 2nd: Charles Schwochow Yes – 3
	2026 - 28 AWARDING BID TO D2 EXCAVATING, LLC OF VICKERY, OHIO FOR THE SAN-CR 213-06.67 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT	Engineer	\$1,139,100.00	*Motion: Move to Approve resolution Moved by: Russ Zimmerman 2nd: Charles Schwochow Yes – 3
	2026 - 29 APPROVING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR HAZMAT CONTRACT SERVICES (\$2,000.00) AND 9-1-1 CONTRACT SERVICES (\$15,000.00), UTILITIES (\$24,260.00) AND SUPPLIES (\$2,432.00) FOR INCREASED EXPENSES FOR 2026	9-1-1 Hazmat	\$2,000.00 \$15,000.00 \$24,600.00 \$2,432.00	*Motion: Move to Approve resolution Moved by: Charles Schwochow 2nd: Russ Zimmerman Yes – 3

	2026 - 30 REAPPOINTING TIM ELLENBERGER AND SHANE DYER TO THE SANDUSKY COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES BOARD (BOARD OF DD)	Board of DD		*Motion: Move to Approve resolution Moved by: Russ Zimmerman 2nd: Charles Schwochow Yes – 3
Public Open Session	Citizens Attendees – none Media Attendees – none Elected Officials – none			
Veterans Office	Terry Stanforth – Veterans Office. Terry came in for his regular meeting with the Commissioners. Commissioner Miller updated Terry on the Visitors Bureau participation in the America 250 events and parades and they may be asked to help with some of that. He also talked about some Christmas lights at the memorial park next year. Terry noted they are in a new year and busy already. He has been helping two homeless veterans find places to stay. He has one set up at Great Lakes Hotel and GLCAP is helping to find a place. The other gentlemen he has given paperwork and is trying to help him find a place. He has a new part-time driver to replace one that retired.	Terry Stanforth – Service Officer		
* Adjournment (am)	With business completed for the day the meeting was adjourned.			* Motion: Move to adjourn Moved by: 2nd: Yes - 3

Signature of:



Scott Miller, President



Russ Zimmerman, Vice President



Charles Schwochow

Board of County Commissioners, Sandusky County Ohio

Attest: Theresa Garcia
Clerk to the Board / County Administrator

I, the undersigned, Clerk of the Board of Commissioners,
Sandusky County, Ohio, do hereby certify that the foregoing
Is a true and correct copy from the official record of said
Board of County Commissioners as recorded in its Journal.

Clerk, Board of County Commissioners, Sandusky County, Ohio



America 250-OH Events in Sandusky County, OH

Community Events

- **America 250-OH Barn in Fremont, OH** – Painted in 2024, the America 250 Barn was a partnership with the America 250-Ohio Commission and the Sandusky County Visitors Bureau. This mural commemorates 250 years of America that takes place in 2026. This barn is owned by David and Ingrid Miarer and is located at 3888 W. State Street (US 20) Fremont, OH 43420
- **Sandusky County Historic Barn Mural Trail, Sandusky County, OH** – These beautiful murals were made possible from the multiple corporate and private donors who have partnered to make it all possible and is brought to you by the Sandusky County Visitors Bureau. The barn trail continues to grow as additional barn locations are secured. Most of the Sandusky County Historic Barn Murals were designed by David Thornbury, a graphic designer and Marketing Director for the Sandusky County Visitors Bureau and are all painted by Barn Artist Scott Hagan.
- **Presidents' Day Celebration Centered Around the America 250 at Hayes Presidential Library & Museums, Fremont, OH -Ohio's February theme of Ohio Works: Innovation, Industry and Business – (Feb. 16, 2026)** – Celebrate Presidents' Day with free admission and activities on Monday, Feb. 16, at the Hayes Presidential Library & Museums, America's first presidential library.

Hayes Presidential will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and offer a day-long celebration that will be centered around the America 250 – Ohio Celebration's February theme of Ohio Works: Innovation, Industry and Business.
- Visitors can take a free, self-guided tour of the museum and sign up for a free tour of the first floor of the Hayes Home.

Hayes Home tours will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis, and no advance reservations are taken. The first tour is at 9:15 a.m., and the last tour is at 4:30 p.m. Attendees must check in at the museum front desk to get their tour time and tickets.

The research library will be closed for the holiday.

There will be a variety of events and activities in the museum, including scavenger hunts and crafts themed on innovation and invention, a presidential photo station, gallery talks in the special exhibit “Inside President Hayes’ Library,” presidential trivia and story time. Visitors can also vote for their favorite Ohio invention, and results will be announced in the afternoon.

This annual celebration also honors America’s semiquincentennial, happening throughout 2026. Hayes Presidential has several events and exhibits planned throughout the year for the nation’s milestone anniversary.

The schedule of events is as follows:

- 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. – The museum is open for self-guided tours.
- 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. – Craft activities and scavenger hunt in the museum.
- 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. – Voting for the favorite invention. There will be a designated ballot area.
- 9:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. – Tours of the Hayes Home first floor. Tours last about a half hour. **Attendees must check in at the museum front desk to get their tour time and tickets.**
- 10:15 a.m. – Gallery talk in the special exhibit “Inside President Hayes’ Library.” For details on the exhibit, visit <https://www.rbhayes.org/news/2025/09/25/general/special-exhibit-examines-president-hayes-love-of-reading/>.
- 11 a.m. – Presidential trivia in the history lab in the lower level
- 11:30 a.m. – Story time
- 1 p.m. – Presidential trivia in the history lab in the lower level
- 1:30 p.m. – Story time
- 2:15 p.m. – Gallery talk in the special exhibit “Inside President Hayes’ Library.” For details on the exhibit, visit <https://www.rbhayes.org/news/2025/09/25/general/special-exhibit-examines-president-hayes-love-of-reading/>.
- 3 p.m. – Presidential trivia in the history lab in the lower level
- 4:30 p.m. – Winner of the election for favorite invention is announced.

Hayes Presidential is America’s first presidential library and the forerunner of the federal presidential library system. It is partially funded by the state of Ohio and affiliated with the Ohio History Connection. Hayes Presidential is located at Spiegel Grove on Buckland Avenue.

For information, call 419-332-2081, or visit rbhayes.org. Like Hayes Presidential on Facebook and follow on Instagram at [rbhayespres](https://www.instagram.com/rbhayespres) and on Bluesky at [rbhayespres.bsky.social](https://bsky.social).

- **Hayes Presidential Library & Museums, Fremont, OH: Special Exhibit – “Welcome to the World’s Fair: Philadelphia, 1876” (Mar. 27, 2026 – June 30, 2027)** Location: Museum Lower Level Rotating Exhibit Gallery. Description - When a handful of colonists declared their independence from Great Britain in 1776, no one was certain how their democratic experiment would fare. In 1876, one hundred years later, the growing United States celebrated the success of that experiment in grand fashion. The Philadelphia Centennial Exposition was a world’s fair that demonstrated the young American republic’s innovations in science, agriculture, industry, and the arts. The six-month long event attracted prominent speakers from across the country, including the Republican candidate for president, Rutherford B. Hayes.

With the United States poised to celebrate 250 years of the American experiment, the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library & Museums will remember the 150th anniversary of the Philadelphia Centennial Exposition with a year-long exhibit titled “Welcome to the World’s Fair: Philadelphia, 1876,” opening March 27, 2026. The exhibit will share the history of the exposition, discuss its impact on American culture and society, and display artifacts from the exposition. Accompanying the Centennial exhibit, the museum will also feature a gallery of artifacts from its collection from the American Revolution in homage to 250 years of American independence.

- **Hayes Presidential Library & Museums, Fremont, OH: Incorporating the 250th into daily house tours and museum exhibits (Apr. 1, 2026 – Dec. 30, 2026)** – Description - Celebrate America’s 250th birthday with a visit to the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library & Museums at Spiegel Grove, the 25-acre estate that was once the home of our 19th president of the United States and his wife, First Lady Lucy Webb Hayes. Spiegel Grove includes the couple’s 31-room Victorian mansion with original architectural details and furnishings, a museum with two floors of exhibits, a research library, and the Hayes tomb. From April through December 2026, in a nod to the country’s 250th, special elements will be incorporated into guided tours of the Hayes home, including President Hayes’s thoughts on the American Revolution and family connections to the nation’s struggle for independence. Tours will also highlight objects in the home that relate to the Revolutionary War era, such as a mirror with a connection to George Washington. In the museum, a special exhibit will focus on the Centennial Exhibition of 1876, which took place in Philadelphia and celebrated America’s 100th birthday. Throughout the museum, artifacts from the American Revolution era will be specially marked for visitors to easily locate. These include earrings carved from the wood that held the Liberty Bell, a British cannon that U.S. forces captured during the Battles of Saratoga in 1777, and a ring purported to contain a lock of

George Washington's hair, which belonged to Eliza Hamilton, wife of Alexander Hamilton. Other artifacts of interest include Lucy's wedding dress, Abraham Lincoln's slippers, the horse drawn carriage the Hayeses used during their years in the White House and signed documents from all 45 U.S. presidents.

- **Ohio Goes to the Movies @ The Paramount Cinema, Fremont, OH May 9, 2026:** Free movie at The Paramount Cinema to view "The Hunger Games".
- **Gibsonburg Homecoming, Gibsonburg, OH – June 2026,** Will likely feature America 250 (Gibsonburg is an AM 250-OH Community)
- **Hayes Presidential Library & Museums, Fremont, OH: "The Untold Stories of Ohio's First Ladies" (July -Aug. 24, 2025)** – A dynamic interactive traveling kiosk exhibit that shines a spotlight on the lives, leadership and legacy of Ohio's most influential First Ladies. Partnership between HPLM and the National First Ladies Library & Museum
- **City of Fremont/Sandusky County 250th Birthday Parade: July 4, 2026 – Details TBD**
- **Hayes Presidential Library & Museums, Fremont, OH: Independence Day – 250th Celebration (July 4, 2026, 2:00 to 3:30 pm)** - On July 4, 2025, America turns 250, and the site of America's first presidential library is the perfect place to celebrate. Enjoy a day of nostalgic fun, an old-fashioned picnic and a patriotic concert by a band featuring members of the Toledo Symphony at the Hayes Presidential Library & Museums.

Bring a picnic or purchase food on-site at Spiegel Grove, the 25-acre wooded estate of 19th U.S. President Rutherford and First Lady Lucy Hayes. From 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., enjoy games from days past, kids' activities, curator talks about American history and speakers giving historic speeches.

The event will culminate with the annual Independence Day Concert, performed by the Toledo Concert Band from 2 to 3:30 p.m. on the verandah of the Historic Hayes Home. The concert band features members of the Toledo Symphony Orchestra. Bring a chair or blanket for seating on the spacious Hayes Home lawn. Admission to the picnic, games, talks and concert is free.

The museum will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and tours of the historic Hayes Home will be offered throughout the day. Discounted admission to the home and museum will be available. For updated times and a schedule of activities, visit rbhayes.org.

- **Hayes Presidential Library & Museums, Fremont, OH: Wreath Laying at President Hayes' Tomb (Oct. 4, 2026, time TBD)**
- **Hayes Presidential Library & Museums, Fremont, OH: Special Exhibit – "Eyes of Freedom" (Early Oct. 2026, exact dates TBD)** - Location: Spiegel Grove grounds (area near tomb)

Description: Visit the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library & Museums in [early October 2026, exact display dates TBD] to view a special outdoor exhibit, Eyes of Freedom, a traveling memorial dedicated to honoring the service and sacrifice of all who answer our nation's call. The exhibit is comprised of nine panels, along with the Silent Battle bronze sculpture. There is no charge to view this exhibit.

In the Spring of 2005, "L"-Co. or Lima Company was deployed to Iraq. Twenty-two Marines and one Navy Corpsman were killed in action between May and August of that year. The news of their losses prompted spontaneous expressions of compassion for the families of the fallen and the surviving Marines. Anita Miller, a Columbus, Ohio artist who had no prior connection to the Marines describes her experience... "I awoke in the middle of the night with a start and hovering in front of me I saw life-sized paintings, displayed in a circle. People were milling around them leaving messages of love in the boots at the base of the portraits. Suddenly, the people disappeared, and a small crew of workers came in and dismantled the paintings as if they were moving it to a new location. I knew it was a traveling tribute to the fallen of Lima Company and I felt somehow, I was being asked to create it." Two and a half years later, after meeting and working with the families of the fallen, The Lima Company Memorial was unveiled in the Ohio Statehouse and was displayed before it began touring the country. To date, this exhibition has been displayed in 34 states at over 360 events.

- **Hayes Presidential Library & Museums, Fremont, OH: Special Exhibit – “Warrior Dogs & Faithful Companions” (Oct. 1 – 31, 2026)** Location: museum’s rotunda. Description: This exhibit showcases Ohio artist James Mellick’s signature wood forms. Each dog represents a different military campaign, as well as the injuries that their human counterparts endure. Mellick created the installation to raise awareness of the sacrifices made by veterans and their needs now. The nine K9 sculptures are both humbling and healing, representing a special bond between the soldiers and canines. To this end, the display of these sculptures is for the purpose of:
 - Opening dialogue and encouraging psychological healing for veterans and families
 - Calling attention to the ongoing needs of physically and psychologically wounded veterans through our bond and connection with our faithful canine companions
 - Bringing attention to the service and heroism of the military working dogThe beauty and craftsmanship of the exhibition is not intended to ignore the intensity or suffering of war. Mellick’s intent is to emphasize the nobility of those who sacrificed life, limb, and spirit in service to their country.

James Mellick’s career as an artist has been divided between the art market and the university. In 1973 he earned his Master of Fine Arts degree from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville with a major in painting, a minor in sculpture and extensive work in printmaking.

Group Tour Experiences

- Exploring the Battle of Fort Stephenson with Historian Dan Baker
- The Sandusky County Historic Barn Mural Trail
- Commander in Chef - Dinner with a President featuring Kent McClary as Ulysses S. Grant or Theodore Roosevelt
- Clyde, Ohio Bootleggers Tour
- Homestead Holidays - a 1940s-style holiday celebration at Creek Bend Farm in Lindsey
- 9/11 – Public Safety Service Memorial in Gibsonburg, OH
- Meet the Cannon Maker
- Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library & Museums AM 250-OH offerings
- Pottery Perfection America 250 glass craft
- Cherry City Honey “Land of Milk & Honey” presentation
- Mad River Railroad

Revised: 1-12-26

1. JDC upgrades; new RTU's, HRU, controls, ext.
Update: Remaining Task
 - Kleinfelder is to attend meeting on Jan 14th at 9am to discuss shortfalls in engineering and equipment operation.
 - Final documents have not been submitted to the county.
 - Holding \$36,818.00 retainage fee.

2. Clyde Court Renovation

Update:

None.

3. Internal Maintenance Projects

Update:

- Carpet to be replaced at Service Center 1/16/26-1/19/26
- Office area renovation to begin in next two weeks at the Service Center.
- A/C unit for the BOH Immunization storage area went out. Waiting for approval from them to proceed.
- Working on job description for a part-time landscaper.
- Discussion about more carpet replacement at BOE.
- Budget discussion.



712 North Street, Suite 102 – Fremont, OH 43420 – 800-255-8070 – www.sanduskycounty.org

Commissioner Meeting Agenda – January 13, 2026

1. 2026 Sandusky County Community Guide
2. Rock & Awe Holiday Light Show
3. America 250-OH

