

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

2026 MEETING

Meeting: Board Of Commissioners

Location: Commissioners' Board Room

Date: 1/29/2026

Time: 8:00AM – 10:04AM

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

Present: Theresa Garcia – County Administrator

Others Present: Julie Schwochow, Ruth Zimmerman, Pat Dickman, Rich Oddo, Kelly Pocock

(*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 1/27/2026 minutes were reviewed/approved by the Board. The Board reviewed incoming mail and external meeting notices. | Scott Miller Charles Schwochow Russ Zimmerman | | *Motion: Move to Approve minutes Moved by: Charles Schwochow 2nd: Russ Zimmerman Yes – 3 |
| Commissioners and Administrator Discussion | Jason Hill asked the Commissioners if they would be willing to put drainage tile on the piece of farm land he leases from them. After discussion the Commissioners did not feel that was something they would do as it was not going to improve the land use for them. | | | |
| | The Chamber annual meeting was changed to Tuesday 2/24/26. Commissioners would like to attend and asked to rearrange the agenda on that day. | | | |
| | Commissioners discussed information they received from TMACOG and the cost of membership. There are three entities in the county that pay for memberships. Many benefits from TMACOG are available for non-members but at a higher cost. There has always been a question on how the premium is established. The Commissioners would be willing to pay for the premium minus the premium received from the other entities. | | | |

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|--|--|---|--|
| | Commissioner Zimmerman attended the first committee meeting for the OS Solid Waste to set up the new board and committees. They had a presentation by the vendor that will help put together the new plan for the Ottawa Sandusky Solid Waste Board. | | | |
| * Then /Now Documents | <p>One certificate was presented by the Commissioner's Office. The PO's for the following invoices were not done prior to receiving them as the 2025 ones were liquidated to have funds for 2026 and were not received in time for 2025. Several invoices for Thomas Porter make up this certificate. Thomas Porter - \$46,819.50</p> <p>One certificate was presented by the Sheriff's Office. Expenses incurred after PO deadline or insufficient funds at the end of the year. Five invoices make up this certificate. Community Hospitalists LLC - \$105.90 Consultants in Lab med - \$89.18 Emergency Physicians - \$94.23 ProMedica Memorial Hospital - \$428.05 Huron Co. Sheriff - \$7.00</p> | <p>Commissioners</p> <p>Sheriff</p> | <p>\$46,819.50</p> <p>\$105.90 \$89.18 \$94.23 \$4283.05 \$7.00</p> | <p>*Motion: Move to Approve certificates Moved by: Russ Zimmerman 2nd: Charles Schwochow Yes – 3</p> |
| * Personnel | January health insurance transfer was presented for signatures | | \$447,727.32 | |
| * Travel Requests | None | | | |
| Facility Management | <p><u>Pat Dickman and Rick Oddo – Facility Management.</u> Pat and Rich came in for their regular meeting with the Commissioners. See attachment for agenda items. Commissioner Miller asked if they had seen any issues from the cold weather with pipes or other building mechanics. Pat had Kleinfelder and Wadsworth out at the JJC to make a list of issues and how they are going to fix them. We are still holding the retainage fee until the project is completed. Commissioner Zimmerman felt if some of the issues were fixed we could release at least half of the retainage. Pat should be getting an update from Thomas Porter on Clyde Court. The carpet replacement at the service center was completed and they will be starting the renovation on the offices next week. The outside door at the jail by the kitchen is rusted and needs to be replaced. He is getting quotes on replacing the door. There are several options on the</p> | <p>Pat Dickman – Director Rich Oddo – Purchasing Agent</p> | | |

| | | | | |
|----------------------|--|---------------------------|--|---|
| | <p>repair/replacement that Pat is looking at. After discussion with the board of elections they are planning on cleaning the carpet and they are good with that. Rich talked about the boiler inspection certificates and the cost of the certificates. The cost of the certificates increased by 66%. Pat and Rich thought maybe CoRSA, county liability insurance, could find out why the cost difference. Rich talked about the phone switch over. As we switched over Rich would cancel the old services. Rich would log in to check on final invoices. When he received them they were billing us for service on phones we didn't have anymore. IT is helping sort through the invoices. Pat took his staff out to the new EMS building so they can look around and see the setup. They are hoping we don't get much more snow, they are running out of room to put the snow.</p> | | | |
| Dog Kennel | <p>Kelly Pocock – Dog Kennel. Kelly came in for her regular meeting with the Commissioners. See attachment for agenda items. Kelly talked about some of the stray dogs they have picked up during the cold weather. December and January impounded dogs are about the same but only half the people are coming to pick the dogs up. Adoptions are low. They are brainstorming and working with organizations on what to do to put a game plan together to increase adoptions and stop surrenders. Kelly and staff are participating in multiple webinar trainings. License season is off to a good start. Dog Kennel laws are all being updated so she will have to change a lot of her forms and procedures.</p> | Kelly Pocock – Dog Warden | | |
| * Resolutions | <p>2026 – 45 APPROVING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO EMS TRANSFER LINE AND FUND TRANSFER FROM EMS FUND TO PI FUND FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS; EMS PI CAPITAL OUTLAYS FOR STRYKER POWER COTS ANNUAL PAYMENT 3 OF 5, AUTOPULSE & XSERIES SERVICE PAYMENT 3 OF 4 AND 2026 BOND PAYMENT, LS-14 & LS-18 BUILDINGS</p> | EMS | | <p>*Motion: Move to Approve resolution Moved by: Russ Zimmerman 2nd: Charles Schwochow Yes – 3</p> |
| | <p>2026 - 46 PURSUANT TO SECTION 5705.03 OF THE REVISED CODE REQUESTING THE SANDUSKY COUNTY AUDITOR TO CERTIFY TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY</p> | 9-1-1 Levy | | <p>*Motion: Move to Approve resolution Moved by: Russ Zimmerman</p> |

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| | COMMISSIONERS THE CURRENT TAX VALUATION OF SANDUSKY COUNTY AND THE DOLLAR AMOUNT OF REVENUE THAT WOULD BE GENERATED BY A RENEWAL OF 0.3 (3/10) MILL TAX LEVY FOR THE ONGOING PURCHASE AND MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT AND THE OPERATIONAL SERVICES OF THE 911 SYSTEM IN SANDUSKY COUNTY, EXCLUDING THE CITY OF BELLEVUE AND THE VILLAGE OF GREEN SPRINGS | | | 2nd: Charles Schwochow Yes - 3 |
| Public Open Session | Citizens Attendees – none Media Attendees – none Elected Officials – none | | | |
| * Adjournment (10:04am) | With business completed for the day the meeting was adjourned. | | | * Motion: Move to adjourn Moved by: Russ Zimmerman 2nd: Charles Schwochow Yes - 3 |

Signature of:



Scott Miller, President



Charles Schwochow, Vice President



Russ Zimmerman

Board of County Commissioners, Sandusky County Ohio

Attest: 
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

County Commissioner's Report

Dog Warden's Office

January 27, 2026

| <u>2026 Dog License Sales</u> | <u>Previous Year</u> | <u>Current Year</u> |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Year Dog License | 10,164 | 4768 |
| License Late Fee | 986 | |
| 1 Year Partial License | 155 | |
| 3 Year Dog License | 682 | 251 |
| 3 Year Partial License | 31 | |
| Dangerous Dog License | 10 | 4 |
| Kennel License | 21 | 18 |
| Kennel License Extra | 7 | 5 |
| Permanent Dog License | 54 | 9 |
| Service Dog License (Free) | 1 | 0 |
| Transfer In | 35 | 1 |

Kennel Census

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| December 2026 | January 2026 |
| Impounded- 26 | Impounded- 26 |
| Redemptions- 22 | Redemptions- 11 |
| Adoption- 4 | Adoptions- 3 |
| Euthanized/Died- 2 | Euthanized/Died- 2 |
| Transfer- 1 | Transfer- 0. |

Kennel Incidents

| | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| December 2026 | January 2026 |
| Community Asst. - 1 | Community Asst. - 2 |
| Bite-11 | Bite- 10 |
| Humane- 21 | Humane- 18 |
| RAL- 31 | RAL- 19 |
| Sick/Injured- 1 | Sick/Injured- 5 |
| No license- 2 | No license-6 |
| Rehoming Assistance- 7 | Rehoming Assistance- 1 |

Requested graphs and charts are attached.

Scheduled/Completed Trainings

Multiple webinars through the ASPCA and the HSUS are being worked on by kennel staff monthly. Kelly and Evelyn have been completing at least one training per month with Ohio Animal Welfare Federation. Kelly has been completing trainings with the Bissell Pet Foundation and NACA. Pam will be completing Evidence Record Training as she will be our Evidence Officer.

To Discuss

Bathroom remodel-Almost there.

Adoptions have decreased significantly. This is the current trend across the country.

Raising rates on the services we provide. (Eff. Jan. 1st, 2026) No issue

Licensing season is off to a good start. Many less issues this year.

Events

T shirts for fundraisers for both the SDF and the Alpha Project ongoing.

Pictures with Santa at the kennel on November 22nd went very well. This was a great event!! Just under \$1300 was donated to the Sick Dog Fund.

Hoodie Fundraiser raised just over \$1000.

Humane Related

Humane Related Welfare Checks- Unfounded- 8
Pending-5
Education Needed- 13
Charges Filed- 1
In Court- 2

Questions?

1. JDC upgrades; new RTU's, HRU, controls, ext.
Update: Remaining Task
 - Kleinfelder and Wadsworth met on site on 1/18/26. A list of issues has been identified. Including ERU hood installed incorrectly, duct work leaks, programming and balance issues.
 - Final documents have not been submitted to the county.
 - Holding \$36,818.00 retainage fee.

2. Clyde Court Renovation

Update:

To receive cost estimate for the building expansion by 2/6/26.

3. Internal Maintenance Projects

Update:

- Carpet replacement at Service Center complete.
- Office area renovation to begin next week at the Service Center.
- Jail outside door discussion.
- Discussion about carpet at BOE.
- Boiler inspection certificates cost discussion.
- Phone switch over update
- EMS building review.
- Snow/Cold

