

Description	Williams County Commissioners' Regular Session #40	
Date	Tuesday, June 9, 2026	
Time	Speaker	Note
10:19:18 AM	SL	All right. I will call the meeting to order and begin with the Pledge, please.
10:19:40 AM	Roll Call	Roll Call: TR: Yes; BW: Present; SL: Here; Quorum is met.
10:19:48 AM	Resolution 301	Approving Minutes from Regular Session on June 4, 2026; BW: Motion; TR: Second; Roll Call: TR: Yes; BW: Yes; SL: Yes; Motion Carried.
10:20:44 AM	Resolution 302	Approving Agenda as Presented; BW: Motion; TR: Second; Roll Call: TR: Yes; BW: Yes; SL: Yes; Motion Carried.
10:21:20 AM	Resolution 303	Approving Payment of Bills; BW: Motion; TR: Second; Roll Call: TR: Yes; BW: Yes; SL: Yes; Motion Carried.
10:21:49 AM	Conversation	SL: Vond, I don't have my computer. It was dead this morning. VH: I'll take care of it. SL: Thank you. Because I was on it so much. Are you sleeping down there Terry? TR: Well, your statement didn't deserve a (inaudible).
10:22:03 AM	Resolution 304	Supplemental Appropriation(s) on behalf of Airport Authority, Commissioners, and Recorder's Office; BW: Motion; TR: Second; Roll Call: TR: Yes; BW: Yes; SL: Yes; Motion Carried.
10:23:00 AM	Resolution 305	Entering into an Amendment to Agreement between Williams County Commissioners and Garmann/Miller & Associates for architectural services for the North Annex Building Renovation at a cost not to exceed \$15,000; BW: Motion; TR: Second; Roll Call: TR: Yes; BW: Yes; SL: Yes; Motion Carried.
10:23:43 AM	Conversation	SL: You might want to circle yes or no on all these. These got thrown in with a pile. Send them back that way and I'll finish them. BW: Okay.
10:23:48 AM	Resolution 306	Approving Updated Permit as presented by Todd Roth for the right-of-way permits; BW: Motion;

		TR: Second; Roll Call: TR: Yes; BW: Yes; SL: Yes; Motion Carried.
10:24:39 AM	Permit Discussion	SL: Is this where they're changing it to a six month (inaudible)? AR: Hmm, yep. It expires in six months.
10:25:06 AM	Resolution 307	Entering into a IV-E Contract between Williams County Department of Job & Family Services and Kids Count Too, Inc.; BW: Motion; TR: Second; Roll Call: TR: Yes; BW: Yes; SL: Yes; Motion Carried.
10:26:16 AM	Also Signed	Project #2-2025 – Hickory Hills Wastewater Treatment Plant Certificate of Substantial Completion; Dog Warden report for the month of May and the Dog Warden report for the week of June 1 st . The Auditor's Financial Analysis report for month of May and credit card expenditure for the Sheriff's office for June.
10:27:09 AM	TR	You know Sarah you'd have money if you'd quite spending \$7,700 dollars on food. (Laughter). It would be kind of hard to feed people, right? Wasn't that your job? What you do? I was just making, I was just approving a bill and the first one there was \$7,177.
10:27:24 AM	SS	That's probably to GFS. Gordon Foods.
10:27:30 AM	TR/SS	I haven't opened it but yeah, probably. And cars break down too, huh? SS: And hot shots break down.
10:27:47 AM	TR	I was impressed with the driver I rode with actually had an extra belt in their car so when it breaks down he can slide the belt on it. Because it broke once. And I thought that was very forward thinking of them to have the part in the truck that just said, we had this break once. Belts are cheap so if that ever happens again boom, I can slide it on and go. So, it was good to see your folks thinking.
10:28:13 AM	SL	This is a more in-depth report than we're used to getting from the Dog Warden?
10:28:14 AM	AR	That is the monthly one, so there is more to that one.

10:29:18 AM	Conversation	SL: Is your neighbor on there? BW: No, but I see who's down at the bottom of that list? TR: I didn't see that.
10:29:50 AM	TR	I had a nice conversation with Ashley Epling. Because I didn't realize she was the president of the dog, Humane Society. And it's like to just know that Ashley's in charge of it and she said I am trying to get ahead of this and try to do some proactive stuff to just let people know what we're doing and why we're doing what we're doing and things like that. So, she was gonna try to get ahead of some of this negativity that surrounds them of you know, taking dogs and killing dogs and doing whatever Facebook says they do. So, I think Ashley, she's a pretty good marketer, right?
10:30:19 AM	SL/TR	I haven't heard the Humane Society in any complaints with them. It's always been the Dog Warden. TR: They are the same person so, I mean.
10:30:27 AM	SL	Well, right, but they were, I know they were complaining about that German Shepherd that was running around earlier in the year.
10:30:31 AM	TR	Ah, all of that stuff. Just trying how to figure out how to put out some type of a this is what we do type stuff.
10:30:37 AM	SL	Well it would be nice if those people who complain could actually go out there and say hey, can you fill me in on this? But instead the just get on Facebook and they want to roast somebody.
10:30:46 AM	BW	Come out and volunteer. They always take volunteers.
10:30:49 AM	SL	And once again it is usually the same five people that complain about everything in the world.
10:31:01 AM	AR	When you're ready you can roll into Sarah's 10:30.
10:31:10 AM	Bill Conversation	BW: I signed mine I believe I don't think I have any to push through. TR: Good.
10:31:16 AM	SL/TR	SL: Are you guys ready? TR: Yeah.

10:31:20 AM	SL	Okay, then we will start with the Williams County Department of Aging update with Sarah.
10:31:45 AM	SS	I have stuff for you (handing out information). Okay. So, I wanted to give you a community update. First of all, there is a new neighbor coming in to the Bryan Senior Center. We're doing a, the Port Authority is building villas and we are excited for our new neighbors. But we just want to remind the community that my department is NOT building these. So, there's a little bit of confusion. We've been receiving a flood of phone calls from individuals like asking questions about the villas that are being built next to the senior center there on Portland Avenue. And we're very excited for the senior housing, but I really don't have any information or cannot put you on a wait list or talk to you about walk-in showers. So, please call the Port Authority for questions about those villas.
10:32:34 AM	TR/SS	Well, and really on there there's an email address, right? SS: There is. TR: So, I did talk to Mayor Schlade yesterday and there's an open house, not an open house, a ribbon cutting tomorrow. So, I think everybody that has questions about it, it would be great, and we're trying to really get a list going of folks to sign up to move in. So, we can, as the senior centers could say email your desires here right? And learn more. So, you're going to be at that grand, or that ribbon cutting? SS: I do plan to be there.
10:33:03 AM	TR/SS	Alright. So, maybe then we can get you in contact and you can help sell that for them. SS: Well, I have this poster in all of my centers right now. TR: Nice. SS: But they're asking are these rentals or are they buying them? That's one of them.
10:33:12 AM	BW/SS/TR	They're all rentals. SS: They're all rentals. Okay. TR: Based on income.
10:33:20 AM	SL	And there's a company that's gonna handle all that then? They're gonna be owned by a company or what? You don't know do you?

10:33:25 AM	BW/SS	The Port Authority is partnered with, I think the, there's a development company on there (inaudible). SS: Yeah, CIM Property.
10:33:33 AM	SL	So, they're going to do the build but who is going to own them?
10:33:35 AM	BW/SL/TR	They will be the managers also. And then they will end up owning them. SL: They'll own them. TR: Building managers.
10:33:41 AM	SS	You can have this flyer if you want.
10:33:47 AM	BW	That was my understanding the last conversation that I had about that.
10:33:51 AM	SS	A reminder that we are cooling stations centers. And people of all ages are welcome in our centers. If you think you might want lunch, please call either the day before or first thing in the morning so that we have enough food. But this is something that we provide to all ages in the community. And it's gonna be a hot summer they're estimating. Tonight we have our Edon evening of fun. We do six of these events a year.
10:34:27 AM	SS	That doesn't include our Thanksgiving and Christmas. So, they rotate throughout the senior centers in the county. Meals are served at 4:30. Sorry, I left the time off. And it's a chance for senior to see each other from other communities, but it's also a fundraiser. So, this is six fundraisers a year that I do. And the money goes to the Williams County senior centers support fund. We usually just lovingly call it the 501(c)(3). And that money is for consumables for doing activities for our seniors like the diamond dots and flowers so they can garden. But, we also give money to repairs for both the Montpelier building and the Bryan building. And even in 2025 it helped us to purchase a vehicle. So, donations that we get to the 501(c)(3) directly impact my department.
10:35:17 AM	SS	I wanted to give you an update on meals. We currently have 305 people receiving meals. Like this time last year, we were pushing 370 something. I think I peaked somewhere around 372 or 374. So, we have for the last year worked to get people either into the centers or provide

		services or figure things out if they don't need our meals. Or if they are only asking for meals maybe once or twice a month, maybe something else is going on. And they can come in and they can get frozens for lunch instead of us doing a home delivered meal. So, we are trying to look at those, I don't know if you remember, we had a priority list of like the people who were most in need. And we're trying to get to the people who are maybe lower on the prior and see if there's other things that we can do to support them other than dropping a meal every day.
10:36:13 AM	SL	And do we have a, I don't know, application? SS: There is, there's a whole. SL: And do we do a home inspection with these people? Do we ensure there is a need or is it just, I don't know? How do we do that? Because we're gonna have to look at our mission statement. If we're going to keep losing money something's gonna have to give especially if we can't pass a levy. So, something's gonna, if we can say hey, you know what, if you don't need these meals, it's not.
10:36:42 AM	SS	There is a tool, an assessment that comes from Area on Aging. Because that, the funds is actually federal funds. It's, you know, Older Americans Act dollars. So, we do have to be in the home with them. We can start the process outside the home. But we make a home visit and we help them fill out that eligibility paperwork. And it asks, can you bathe yourself? Can you dress yourself? Does anybody help you with your grocery shopping? It's not just how old are you and can you drive? I think Some people think those are the questions we ask. But there is actually three pages of assessment questions that we ask. So, on our end, we can add a little bit at the end and so we have a whole section of who is your support? What do we need to know about you? And then working on getting those individuals into another arrangement if they come back as having low needs for us. So, it's gonna take time. I mean we assess people every six months. So, I don't have the staff bandwidth to go out and assess all three hundred people today. SL: Sure.

10:37:47 AM	SS	But as we are doing reassessments we are trying to get people, I'd love to see them in my centers. That's the best place for them.
10:37:53 AM	TR	When I rode the one day, I did notice that most, I would say majority of the folks had somebody there with them, right? That probably could have taken them or could have come into the center with them. So, but I did see those, there was a percentage where, my goodness, we absolutely, we have to be able to see those people. So again, without a levy we would have to be able to figure out how to target that, those, that group. And I'm betting at least 50% of them would say yeah, no big deal, right? And the other 50% are like oh my goodness we really need to target. So, we've gotta figure out how to structure ourselves. And at least be talking openly about it, about what this potentially could look like, you know.
10:38:38 AM	SS	Yes. The assessment gives me a number. So, everybody, when they answer the questions, there's a couple of, it comes down to a number. So, I can assess everybody and say hey, people who are like 20 below, we're gonna have to.
10:38:50 AM	TR	Can this number? SS: Yes TR: Now, will that affect Area Office on Aging dollars?
10:38:59 AM	SS	Yes. Because they award me units in our contract, and then I have to provide the service. And then I draw down how many units I provided.
10:39:06 AM	TR	So, if you're feeding less they would get less?
10:39:09 AM	SS	Yes, but at this point I'm already out of money anyway.
10:39:10 AM	TR	Yeah. They only give, only, it's still 70 grand, right? A year?
10:39:21 AM	SS/TR	It is, but I run out somewhere around March. TR: But it's still only 70 grand comparatively, so we have to figure out how to say. SS: Yes. The bulk of my year is on levy dollars. TR: Is on levy dollars, right.
10:39:23 AM	SL	How long is the, has these levies been going on? When did they start?

10:39:28 AM	SS	My oldest one is from 2005.
10:39:31 AM	SL	And that's when we actually started senior centers?
10:39:33 AM	SS	The senior centers have been going around for over 50 years.
10:39:37 AM	TR/SS	In Williams County? SS: Yes
10:39:39 AM	SL	And when did they start home delivery, do you know?
10:39:44 AM	SS	That was the whole point. That's how it started. A group of six families in Montpelier realized that there was a need for seniors to have nutrition and so they started a little, just community group amongst themselves cooking meals and then delivering it to people in need in the Montpelier area.
10:39:58 AM	SL	And that was probably all free to everybody then?
10:40:01 AM	SS	I don't know how they funded themselves. That's before I started working here.
10:40:06 AM	SL	Right.
10:40:10 AM	SS	But I do know they've taken, like with NOCAC and a couple other community partners over the years, but at some point, even I think under the Board of DD at some point. We came under the commissioners and we had a levy (inaudible).
10:40:23 AM	TR	Williams County Department of Aging has been servicing the seniors of Williams County since 1983. The county's home delivered meals program was established as a core service during that period. So, probably before that, but it really came into effect, the good news or the bad news is government got involved in '83 by what Google says, right? Because I've heard somebody say that it was the hospital had done something like this too. And they were actually serving out of the hospital. And then government decided, and maybe it got too big for the hospital. I don't know back to that date, who knows?
10:40:54 AM	SS	It could have been a lot of community partners who were doing similar little projects. Like we

		do transportation right now, right? I do transportation, but I can list probably two or three other people in the area who also do transportation.
10:41:05 AM	TR/AR	It might be interesting, Anne, in our records, just to see when we were established. Can you, is that fairly easy? AR: Mm hmm. TR: And try to hone in on '83 as far as Google says, because I'm gonna guess you there's a resolution that kind of establishes this in '83. AR: Yep.
10:41:20 AM	SL	And that was just home delivered meals, it wasn't the senior centers in every community? It was just?
10:41:27 AM	SS	It was, it started as home delivered meal.
10:41:31 AM	SL	And it's evolved into the senior centers? And so, you have a lot of people paying for something that they never use, but they just care about the seniors. I just wonder what the, what do we really need? If we have to look at downsizing, I mean, what is our real need? It's taking care of people at home that can't leave the house.
10:41:52 AM	SS	I think that is a great question. So, I pulled data, the further issues I gave you, if you give you like 5 min I might answer some of that. I then you can tell me what you still have questions on and I'll go back and I'll send out the answers to you.
10:42:08 AM	SS	So, I want to just quickly tell you that we provided almost 11,000 meals in May between home delivered meals, frozen, and in the centers. And we had 684 non-emergency transportation rides. So, this is another heavy service that gets used in my department. And then lastly, there's supportive service. We think of Sarah Carothers and what she does in the community, especially if people are going into long-term care. Like the long-term care centers in our area just give out her card like candy. And it is exploding. You can see we've got almost 300% growth since 2023. So, what services are we doing and why? So, if you look at these images I gave you, in some parts of our area almost 42% of our seniors over the age of 65 live alone. So, it's a (inaudible). So, especially in this Pioneer area, why I don't

		want to close the Pioneer center because they really do need our services. They're living alone in their home.
10:43:21 AM	TR	Well I would suggest those people come to the center than.
10:43:22 AM	SL	Well, if they can't get out though, if they're literally people that can't drive, those are the people I feel like we don't want to let slip through the cracks.
10:43:30 AM	SS	Yes, I agree with that.
10:43:33 AM	SL	People that are absolutely are stuck in their house. And all your services.
10:43:37 AM	SS	I mean they have people who are living in the home with them, but they are not necessarily the caregivers. So, when we see somebody in the home we also have to take that with a grain of salt because.
10:43:50 AM	TR	I respect that.
10:43:53 AM	SS	And these are messy situations, that's all I can say. So, 13% of our Medicare beneficiaries are being treated for heart failure. And this is due, just over the age of 65 and this is linked to inactivity and poor diet. So, this is why we need healthy nutritious meals, not just a meal. We need them to get in and do like our yoga and our tai chi and things like that in the centers. So, 5% of your seniors struggle to even dress themselves alone. They need to have intensive support to get through just basic care tasks.
10:44:31 AM	SL	But we don't do any of that, right?
10:44:33 AM	SS	We do not do that, but we help them apply for Medicaid or Medicare so that they can get a visiting nurse or home health aide so that they can have that. So, that's part of what Sarah Carothers does.
10:44:47 AM	SL	And that's not levy funded, that's just?
10:44:49 AM	SS	That is levy funded. Sarah's work is levy funded as well.
10:45:00 AM	SL	So, Sarah Carothers has her own levy.

10:45:04 AM	SS/SL	No, it's an expense in my department. So, the levy isn't targeted straight to Sarah, it's targeted to the services in my department and she's one of the services. SL: Gotcha
10:45:09 AM	TR/SS	And I'd just like to add that Sarah Carothers was added during my tenure, so it's been within the last ten years. And when we added her Donna Sprow was the director at the time and she said you guys, this is an expense. I don't know that we're gonna be able to sustain this in my budget. And she hit the ground running and has hit such home runs I don't know how we'd ever live without her, right? SS: Yeah, I would agree. TR: But when we added her it was like, and we could, we could possibly pay for it out of Job and Family Services . Well, they're broke too, so that, you know, that idea. But once upon a time it was, this was kind of a Job and Family Services function. And blending that if we could every find funding there. I mean, it's really not a senior center function. Thank you guys again for doing that and I think it's such an important role we have to maintain it through somewhere, right? So, but it was an add-on since I've been here. Because there was such a deep need because, yeah, it was just, nobody had anybody to call on when they needed to fill out all of this paperwork for Medicaid and Medicare. The nursing homes were screaming at Job and Family Services because nobody could work their way through their paperwork to be able to get it done.
10:46:16 AM	SS/TR	And now there's enough work for two. TR: And now there's enough work for two. SS: One hundred percent.
10:46:19 AM	TR	No, we're not adding anybody (laughing). But we need to.
10:46:25 AM	SS/TR	We need to. TR: I know. SS: We need to really look at that because it would be about \$80,000 to add a second licensed social worker. And that's something if we wanted to do levy funds and the community wanted to support it, we could look at that. So, if you were gonna add a person and you were gonna add a levy you might

		add that into a levy now. SS: One hundred percent. That is something that keeps me up at night. Because if Sarah, you know, wins a trip around the world and takes off, that is gonna hugely impact our long-term care facilities, our caregivers, and people, she does not service anybody under the age of 60. With very few exceptions like if someone has a lot of disabilities and, you know, it's navigating the board and SSI and other things and it's a really complex case then she may pick it up. But I'm talking like maybe three cases a year.
10:47:09 AM	TR	And I think that's a Christie question too. If by chance there's a bucket of money that we can't spend that we could help redirect. Because Christie don't know this conversation, right? So, we should probably at least talk to Christie about funding. SS: I'd love to. TR: And she's gonna freak out and say there's no money. But if there ever becomes money keep that, or she finds a bucket of money that we don't, you know, because she's learning her role in that world too. What are you thinking Vond? Are you coming up with anything on how to help fund, where do you fund a position like that?
10:47:41 AM	VH	Levy funding is the logical one.
10:47:47 AM	TR	We are republicans we are not supposed to add no tax dollars. I already added my one. That was Sarah. I don't get to add another one.
10:47:56 AM	SS	So, if you hear something I'd love to have a conversation with her about it.
10:48:10 AM	SS	And then 8.2% of individuals cannot do (inaudible) alone. So, this is what you are talking about, right? They are stuck in their house or they're not able to do any kind of activities by themselves without us. We pick them up and we take them where they need to go and we bring them back. And that 8% really does kind of fit in with the, you know, almost 1,000 rides that we give a month.
10:48:36 AM	SS	I am going to keep going here because (inaudible) 100,000 deaths that you have for individuals over the age of 65. So, for every

		100,000 people who die in our county, over a fourth of those are from a fall. Twenty-six percent are from a fall. And when we deliver meals, 99% of the calls that I make to EMS are because we delivered a meal and found someone on the floor. Last week we had found someone on the floor to the point where if we had not been diligent and quietly listened to hear her, she would have died on the floor. So, our drivers save lives. I feel strong enough that I feel like I can make that statement. And this is an investment that we make into the community. And then there's, dementia/Alzheimer's is very high in our county. These individuals are also living alone and caregivers aren't able to support.
10:49:32 AM	SS	And then lastly, I gave you some information about kinship care. Because this is a very invisible benefit to our services in the community. So many of our grandparents are taking care, of our individuals are grandparents taking care of relative children. This is something I personally do. I have a child in my home that I'm not biologically related to. But I took her in and I've kept her out of foster care. So, it's like an invisible statistic. But providing our services in terms of like meals that keeps them in the home, or transportation that keeps them active, and then they can care for their relative or non-relative children in the home. So, it has an impact on people who are not 65. We have an impact on the entire community, not just people who are over the age of 60. And we save money for the entire community. These are from Parkview Health. They believe so much in the need to do the services they've actually created a data hub that helps me track that information. So, that's my update.
10:50:26 AM	SL	Okay. Once again you have proved to be very important for the county and now we just have to figure out how we're gonna fund everything.
10:50:36 AM	TR/SS	And where are we at on levy? What's our timeline? We're having levy conversations. SS: We are having levy conversations. TR: And are

		we, we have a cut date when we have to have that on a ballot, correct?
10:50:46 AM	SS/TR	Yes. TR: Which is? SS: I have to have the letter to them by August.
10:50:50 AM	TR	Okay, so, we have time but it's gonna be August. BW: Ninety days before election. TR: And I think we really need to see a budget on why you're asking for a number. SS: Yes. TR: You know, and what that number is. Because we're hearing different things in the community. I'm hearing different things. And people don't wanna pay taxes. So, I think we have to be conscientious about this number we're gonna send out to people or it will not pass. We've already tried to be boneheads and send through big dollar levies. Just because it's the seniors don't mean they're gonna click yes. You know, so I, it's a whole different world we're living but we gotta do something and it'll offer Williams County the chance to do that, right?
10:51:25 AM	SS	Yes. So, this is step one. This is the needs statement of like, when I ask for things, this is why I need them. And then I'll come back to you with the budget.
10:51:36 AM	TR	With a number of, and it's gotta be a five-year budget, right? So, you've gotta add in those, and that's something we really didn't do a good job before is adding in. Okay, we're gonna give 3% raises. You know, costs of living are gonna keep going up. SS: Health insurance. TR: Yes, the first year it's gonna be a little heavy. The next year it's gonna be, here we go. The next year it's gonna be. Sorry, I'm working on the TV. The next year it's gonna be, and then by the fourth year or the fifth year it's gonna lose a little bit. And that's gotta be, you know, but we want to run this as tight as we can to show the public that we're gonna run as lean as we need to and still offer the service.
10:52:13 AM	SS/TR	Yes. I'm very much aware that the people I'm going to ask for levy funds are the people I'm trying to help. So, you know, at some point. TR: Well, there's a whole other group that's voting that I don't think we're counting. And I don't

		even know who, how we touch those people. You know, that Trump voter group is a big group, and they're not necessarily the senior group that we think carries our levies. I don't know.
10:52:40 AM	BW/TR	Well, I think people, just keep in mind that some day they'll need these services and if we're not there to provide it for them, who's going to? TR: Right. No, I get it.
10:52:42 AM	SS/BW	Okay, well, if you don't have any other questions (inaudible). BW: Thank you very much. Keep up the good work. SS: Okay, thank you.
10:52:44 AM	SL	Thank you Sarah.
10:52:53 AM	AR	You can go to the next thing.
10:52:56 AM	TR	We can do our executive now?
10:52:58 AM	Executive Session	BW: Alright. Well, I make a Motion to go into Executive Session under Ohio Revised Code 121.22(G)(1) for Employment requested by Commissioner Rummel; TR: I will Second that. Roll Call: TR: Yes; BW: Yes; SL: Yes; Motion Carried. (Present: Shane, Mark and Nick from Vancrest, Vickie Grimm and Parker Houk from Williams County Auditor's Office).
12:40:14 PM	SL	We are coming out of Executive Session with NO ACTION.
12:40:19 PM	ADJOURNED	SL: And we stand Adjourned.
WILLIAMS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS		
APPROVED:		
_____ Scott A. Lirot, President	_____ Bartley E. Westfall, Vice-President	_____ Terry N. Rummel, Member
ATTEST:		
Anne M. Retcher, Clerk		Robin R. Kemp, Deputy Clerk