

## UNION COUNTY COMMISSIONERS JOURNAL 2025

May 6, 2025

The Union County Commissioners met in regular session this 6<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2025, with the following members present:

Steve Robinson, President  
David A. Lawrence, Vice President  
Tom McCarthy, Commissioner  
William Narducci, County Administrator  
Mallory Lehman, Clerk to the Board

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\*Commissioner Robinson called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

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\*Mike Williamson, Marysville Journal Tribune; and Joe Case, Marysville Matters were in attendance.

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**Elected Officials/Department Head Meeting**

The Commissioners held their monthly staff meeting this date with the following elected officials and department heads in attendance: Brad Gilbert, Director/EMA; Wendy Golden, Court Administrator/Common Pleas Court; Judge Don Fraser/Common Pleas Court; Judge Rick Rodger/Probate and Juvenile Court; Wayne Dellinger, Extension Educator, Agriculture and Natural Resources/OSU Extension; Inge Witt, Economic Development Administrator/Economic and Development; Jessica Cain, Office Administrator/Engineer; Andrea Weaver, Auditor; Karen Riffle, Recorder; Jason Orcena, Health Commissioner/Union County Health Department; Holly Zweizig, Assistant Director/Mental Health and Recovery Board; David Phillips, Prosecutor; and Thayne Gray, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney.

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**Elected Officials/Department Head Updates:**

- Wayne Dellinger stated with the amount of rain field progress has been slowed down. As of April 14, there have been no new cases of bird flu in the state. This is good news for the county fairs and the bird shows will not be cancelled. The tag-in deadline for livestock at the fair is today.
- Jessica Cain reminded everyone of Issue 2 on the ballot today. She encouraged everyone to vote yes on this because it brings \$1.1 million to the county annually. This issue has been in place since the 80's and is not new. The Richwood operations crew has reported back to the Marysville facility, and summer construction work will start soon. There are still two vacant road maintenance positions open, and they have hired seasonal workers for this year. The building department is transitioning to an electronic review planning system, and they will be starting virtual inspections soon. The first-floor offices are now open to the public. She wanted to give a thank you to the facilities staff, but especially Kyle Wiley. He has been there almost every day helping finish up the work.
- Karen Riffle stated her office is running smoothly and has no other report.
- David Phillips stated he is planning training for First Amendment training and media emergency training. Mark Weaver will be the speaker. He is hoping the Commissioners will help pay for the training, but he will proceed with getting this scheduled even if they do not. It is important training

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for elected officials and department heads. The tentative date is June 24 at London Avenue from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm.

- Judge Rodger had no report.
- Judge Fraser stated Common Pleas Court has heard over 1000 cases this year. Last month there were 279 cases, and there is usually one jury trial a month. They have recently hired two probation officers. Judge Mark O'Connor has passed away. He filled in every Wednesday while Judge Fraser held drug court. Judge O'Connor will be missed greatly. It will be hard to replace him on a full-time basis. Judge Steve Beathard from Fayette County has agreed to come to Union County twice a month. There is a new grand jury today at 9:00 a.m.
- Holly Zweig stated May is Mental Health Awareness Month. The Mental Health and Recovery Board is promoting prevention services, treatment services, and the national crisis hotline number, 988, on social media and a billboard. On May 18, Inside Out 2 will be playing at the Avalon Theatre. It is a free event to attend.
- Andrea Weaver stated the Auditor's Office is still working on reevaluation. There were significantly fewer Board of Revision applications turned in. The website now has a feature that everyone must do a sales search before turning in a BOR application, and this could be why. There will only be a day and a half of hearings this month. There are three new employees in the real estate division. The tentative abstract must be submitted to the Ohio Department of Taxation by June 9 for approval by July or August. Once it is approved, all property owners will receive postcards notifying them new property values are on the website. The Auditor's Office will hold informal public meetings for the public to come to talk to an appraiser about their property values.
- Jason Orcena stated the annual rabies clinic will be on Sunday, May 18. Locations will include the Marysville OSU Large Animal Clinic, Union Township Fire Department in Milford Center, and Northwestern Fire District in Raymond. It is a partnership with local vets and the Humane Society. Rabies vaccines are only \$12, and he encouraged everyone to attend. The Health Department is working with their Safety Town partners, local first responders. The schools are Fairbanks, North Union and Jonathan Alder. Marysville Schools Safety Town will be in June. There are a couple of solid waste nuisances that will be going to the Board of Health for consideration of public health orders in May or June. One is in Essex and the other is in Broadway.
- Brad Gilbert thanked everyone who attended the EMA Accreditation Ceremony last week. The office will now be working on reaccreditation. Tomorrow is Rob Jostes' retirement party. He worked for the county about seven years, and his position was part time, but he worked crazy hours. They have hired Jim Strayton to fill that position, and he started today. There will be a cyber exercise with IT and the Cyber Response Team for the county. He thanked everyone for
- Inge Witt stated Economic Development has been busy, and their new hire Ally will start full time next week.
- Thayne Gray had no report.
- Bill Narducci thanked all departments for being patient during this time of transition in the Commissioners Office. He thanked Amy Wesley and Christy Bailey from the Auditor's Office for their continued help and support to Kenzie Fisher, Mallory Lehman, and Ginger Yonak with the financial side of things. The cybersecurity training is today in meeting room A. He congratulated Brad Gilbert and EMA again on their accreditation.

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\*Commissioner Robinson adjourned the meeting at 8:51 a.m.


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The preceding minutes were read and approved May 21, 2025.

 Digitally signed by Steve Robinson  
DN: cn=Steve Robinson,  
o=Commissioners, ou=Commissioner,  
email=mlehman@unioncountyohio.g  
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Date: 2025.05.21 09:50:26 -04'00'  
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Steve Robinson  
Commissioner

 Digitally signed by David A. Lawrence  
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o=Commissioners, ou=Commissioner,  
email=mlehman@unioncountyohio.gov,  
c=US  
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David A. Lawrence  
Commissioner

 Digitally signed by  
Tom McCarthy  
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Tom McCarthy  
Commissioner

 Digitally signed by Mallory Lehman  
DN: cn=Mallory Lehman,  
o=Commissioners, ou=Assistant Clerk to  
the Board,  
email=mlehman@unioncountyohio.gov,  
c=US  
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Mallory Lehman, Clerk to the Board