

## UNION COUNTY COMMISSIONERS JOURNAL 2025

June 2, 2026

The Union County Commissioners met in regular session this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June 2026, with the following members present:

Tom McCarthy, President  
David A. Lawrence, Commissioner  
Janell Alexander, Budget Analyst  
Mallory Lehman, Clerk to the Board

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

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\*Mike Williamson, Marysville Journal Tribune was 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: Dr. Dave Applegate, Coroner; John Rosevear, Deputy Coroner; Lance Emberling, Lead Investigator/Coroner; Andrew Smarra, Treasurer; Kenzie Fisher, Human Resources Assistant; Brad Gilbert, Director/EMA; Brandon Clay, Director/Board of Elections; Michelle Forrider, Deputy Director/Board of Elections; Sue Ware, Director/Human Services; Wendy Golden, Court Administrator/Common Pleas Court; Judge Don Fraser/Common Pleas Court; Judge Rick Rodger/Probate and Juvenile Court; Eric Phillips, Director/Economic and Development; Brent Nickle, District Administrator/Union Soil & Water Conservation District; Kara Brown, Superintendent/Union County Board of DD; Karen Riffle, Recorder; Andrea Weaver, Auditor; Jessica Cain, Office Administrator/Engineer's Office; Sasha Ritchason, Secretary/Union County Health Department; Holly Zweizig, Executive Director/Mental Health and Recovery Board; David Phillips, Prosecutor; and Thayne Gray, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney.

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**Elected Officials/Department Head Updates:**

- Eric Phillips stated there are 10 students from Marysville Schools in Marysville's sister city, Yorii. They will be there for 10 days.
- Brent Nickle stated the office is busy with drainage calls due to the high amounts of rainfall recently.
- Andrea Weaver stated the office is busy with BOR hearings. They have been able to settle around 62% of cases. The new BOR filing system has given the office some challenges, but they are working through them.
- Kenzie Fisher stated the Wellness Program ends on June 30 and encouraged everyone to remind their employees of this deadline. Human Resources has been working with Memorial Health on a county-wide weight loss challenge. An email with more information will be sent out in the future.
- Dr. Applegate attended the State Coroners Educational Conference. Statewide, fatal overdoses are down, but suicides among middle-aged individuals is on the rise. The conference was well attended, and a popular topic was mental health in their field. The Coroner office has hired a new death

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investigator. There is new technology being introduced that will reduce the number of Jane Does and John Does. Lance Emberling was selected as the Coroner's Investigator of the year.

- Kara Brown stated the Special Olympics golf outing is in July. This is a fundraiser for Special Olympics teams and athletes. The Special Olympics basketball team won the state championship this year.
- Sue Ware stated the Foster Parent Banquet was held on May 21 and thanked all elected officials who attended.
- Holly Zweizig thanked Dr. Applegate for talking about on mental health because May is Mental Health Awareness Month. Mental Health and Recovery continue to transition their services from Maryhaven.
- Karen Riffle stated the Recorder's Office is continuing to work on getting everything digitally recorded. They are on track to be done by the end of June.
- Brad Gilbert stated there was minor flash flooding in the county from the amount of rain. The office will be at Safety Town for a demonstration later today.
- Sasha Ritchason stated the Health Department is busy with Safety Town. She thanked all community partners for helping make this a success every year.
- Brandon Clay stated the May election has been audited, and it was completed with 100% accuracy.
- David Phillips stated he is working with Human Resources to fill the Prosecutor's Office fiscal officer position, and an assistant prosecutor position. He will be at the State House next week to testify for the bill attempting to change Ohio's burglary law. They received a grant for courthouse security.
- Judge Rodger stated Juvenile and Probate Court have hired a new magistrate and clerk. They have applied for a grant for live scan fingerprinting.
- Judge Fraser stated Common Pleas Court has submitted to become a specialized docket Mental Health Court.
- Andy Smarra stated the Treasurer's Office will be filling out the proper paperwork to notify the state they will be extending the second half tax due date to August. The Budget Commission will meet on June 8 and there will be a presentation on how tax law works and all of the changes. These are public meetings for anyone to attend.
- Jessica Cain stated the Engineer's Office is busy with construction. The chip seal program will start at the end of this month and will be in the southern part of the county.

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

The preceding minutes were read and approved July 1, 2026.



Tom McCarthy  
Commissioner

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Steve Robinson  
Commissioner

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Shaun Bailey  
Commissioner

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ou=Clerk to the Board,  
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Mallory Lehman, Clerk to the Board