

UNION COUNTY COMMISSIONERS JOURNAL 2025

March 4, 2025

The Union County Commissioners met in regular session this 4th day of March, 2025, with the following members present:

Steve Robinson, President
David A. Lawrence, Vice President
William Narducci, County Administrator
Letitia Rayl, Assistant County Administrator/Budget Officer
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 was in attendance.

*Commissioner McCarthy was in remote 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: Andrew Smarra, Treasurer; Ginger Yonak, Director/Human Resources; Brad Gilbert, Director/EMA; Brandon Clay, Director/Board of Elections; Sheriff Mike Justice; Brad Bodenmiller, Director/LUC Regional Planning Commission; Wendy Golden, Court Administrator/Common Pleas Court; David Phillips, Prosecutor; Judge Rick Rodger/Probate and Juvenile Court; Eric Phillips, Director/Economic and Development; Adam Negley, Executive Director/Mental Health and Recovery Board; Karen Elyon, Director/Union County Tourism; and Thayne Gray, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney.

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Elected Officials/Department Head Updates:

- Andy Smarra had no report.
- Eric Phillips stated there is an Economic Forecast Event on Thursday, March 27. It will be at 8:00 a.m. at the AMIC. There will be a good presentation.
- Brad Gilbert stated March 16 – March 22 is Severe Weather Awareness Week in Ohio. On March 19 at 9:50 a.m. there will be a statewide tornado siren. There will also be a tornado drill for staff on the 19th as well. It is not mandated.
- Adam Negley stated Mental Health and Recovery is partnering with the Avalon Theatre for a session called Empowering Parents in the Digital Era. There will be some researchers from the University of Dayton there to talk about the younger generation and social media use. This event will be on Wednesday, March 12 at 6:00 p.m. and it is free for the public. The Prevention, Awareness and Support Services Agency will host a one-day training on mental health first aid on Saturday, March 15 at Our Ladies of Lourdes Parish. This training is open to the public. NAMI MidOhio, National Alliance on Mental Illness, has established a prenatal and postpartum support

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group. The first event is March 11, and will be held at the Health Department. All information about this event can be found at the NAMI website.

- Ginger Yonak stated National Employee Appreciation Day is Friday. Employees can stop by Coffee Hall or Kitschen Bakery for a free treat. Employees must bring their ID to get the treat. Last week was the first BMI educational workshop. There will be four more, and there will be both virtual and in person ones. Lunch will be provided at the in-person events. The Wellness program ends in June. Employees must get a physical exam and complete \$50 of Anthem Rewards to get the Wellness discount, and spouses only need to complete the physical exam. The Sydney Health App does offer virtual appointments, and the Health Department now offers preventative care services.
- Brad Bodenmiller stated the County Comprehensive Plan public hearing is on March 12. He will be sending the agenda and resolution drafts later today. The state is potentially eliminating the Rural Transportation Organizations funds. Richwood has received funds for sidewalks, so local communities could be impacted by this change. He is encouraging the community to reach out to local representatives regarding this change.
- Karen Elyon stated the 80% ADR for occupancies is from Honda. There is a conference next week for the state association about short-term rentals. The annual tourism breakfast is Thursday, March 20.

The following handout accompanied Ms. Elyon's update:

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UNION COUNTY
TOURISM

All County Meeting
 Tuesday, February 4, 2025

Tourism Impact

	Year to Date - January 2025 vs January 2024											
	Occ %		ADR		RevPAR		Percent Change from YTD 2024					
	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	Occ	ADR	RevPAR	Room Rev	Room Avail	Room Sold
Ohio	43.7	42.8	105.98	104.15	46.28	44.59	2.0	1.8	3.8	4.5	0.7	2.7
Union County, OH	70.7	57.5	109.50	91.43	77.42	52.56	23.0	19.8	47.3	47.1	-0.2	22.6
Dublin/I-270 West submarket	54.2	48.4	98.63	93.38	53.41	45.20	11.9	5.6	18.2	18.2	0.0	11.9
Marion County, OH	46.8	42.3	88.81	81.62	41.55	34.56	10.5	8.8	20.2	20.2	0.0	10.5
Delaware County, OH	47.2	46.6	118.05	114.49	55.76	53.34	1.4	3.1	4.5	4.5	0.0	1.4
Clark County, OH	45.7	36.9	87.28	84.55	39.89	31.24	23.7	3.2	27.7	17.3	-8.1	13.7

Short-term Rental Assessment

Year-to-Date

- Listings: 54
- ADR: \$140
- Occupancy: 23.6%

Destination Uplift

The next best practices marketing webinar title, "**Search Engine Optimization You Can Do**" will be held **11 a.m. – noon, Tuesday, March 18**. To register go to, <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2796518110221502809> or scan the QR Code and use code: PARTNER2025.



Bandwango Trails

The Covered Bridge Trail and the Naturally Crafted Adventure Trail launched in February with new prizes and several new participating business.

Union Station 1820 Metrics (January & February)

- Gross Sales: \$3,800
- Visitors: 407
- Active Vendors: 71

America 250 – Ohio

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The task force meets this morning at 9:30 a.m. at the Union County Chamber of Commerce.

Updates include:

- Awaiting word on grant submission.
- Honda Heritage Center is now a participant in the Fourth Grade History Pass
- Working with Marysville Art League leadership to apply for their participation in the Creativity Trail that launched in February.
- Working through the process for Union County murals to be submitted to the mural trail.

Other

- The Union County Tourism annual breakfast meeting will be held on Thursday, March 20 at 8 a.m. at the Grain Wedding & Event Center.


- Brandon Clay stated the Board of Elections is preparing for the May 6 election. There is only one state issue, but multiple school and township levies. Their website has a list of all issues that will be on the ballot. Sample ballots will possibly be up next week. Overseas and military ballots will go out March 21, and early voting begins on April 7. That means the voter registration deadline is April 6. The deadline for the November 6 election is August 6. The Board reorganization meeting is later today, and this year there are two new members.
- Mike Justice stated that Balloon Festival is not happening this year, but the fair will have a concert on August 2. The Union County Sheriff's App is updated and working. It will now include the jail roster, and "submit a tip" for schools.
- Judge Rodger encouraged everyone to attend the Empowering Parents in the Digital Era event. He stated the annual report will be coming out soon. Probate and Juvenile Court applied for a grant for a software update. He is hopeful they will receive that.
- David Phillips stated there is a three-day trial this week, and there will be another one next week. He has been reviewing House Bill 315 and looking into the changes that impact townships and other departments. His office is working on the delinquent tax list and has collected over \$300,000 of delinquencies. Some properties are going to sale, and others are going into payment plans.
- Wendy Golden stated Judge Fraser is on day two of a three-day trial.
- Bill Narducci stated the logjam project is moving forward, and there will be an update provided on that during a regular Commissioners session in the next couple of weeks.
- Thayne Gray had no report.

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*Commissioner Robinson adjourned the meeting at 8:48 a.m.

The preceding minutes were read and approved March 12, 2025.


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 Digitally signed by Steve Robinson
DN: cn=Steve Robinson,
o=Commissioners, ou=Commissioner,
email=mlehman@unioncountyohio.gov,
c=US
Date: 2025.03.12 11:12:45 -04'00'
Adobe Acrobat version: 2020.005.30748


Steve Robinson
Commissioner

 Digitally signed by David A. Lawrence
DN: cn=David A. Lawrence,
o=Commissioners, ou=Commissioner,
email=mlehman@unioncountyohio.gov,
c=US
Date: 2025.03.12 11:13:03 -04'00'
Adobe Acrobat version: 2020.005.30748

David A. Lawrence
Commissioner

 Digitally signed
by Tom McCarthy
Date: 2025.03.12
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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
Date: 2025.03.12 11:13:48 -04'00'
Adobe Acrobat version: 2020.005.30748

Mallory Lehman, Clerk to the Board