



BOARD of COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

406 Justice Drive, Lebanon, Ohio 45036 | Phone: (513) 695-1250

PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Candace Miller, Commissioners' Aide
Phone: (513)695-1253

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WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ADOPTS 2023 BUDGET

WARREN COUNTY, OHIO – Today the Warren County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) adopted its 2023 general fund budget totaling \$86,027,130. The budget breakdown shows 58.4% going to the county's criminal justice system, 40.2% to general operations, and the remaining 1.4% to social services and miscellaneous items. With an anticipated revenue of \$90,454,557 in 2023, the BOCC remains steadfast in its fiscally conservative policies on behalf of the tax payer, providing them with excellent services. Commissioner Shannon Jones noted her appreciation for Warren County staff, "who also share [the Board's] point of view about tax resources and the need to be prudent with them."

The BOCC is closing out 2022 with major financial wins. In 2021, the Commissioners granted a one-time Property Tax Holiday on the county's collected portion. By not collecting the county's share, \$24 million of property tax revenue remained with Warren County residents in 2022.

Commissioner Tom Grossmann, currently serving as the Board President, emphasized that the BOCC provided, "the single largest tax cut for one year in Ohio history," and by partnering to include levies relating to developmental disabilities and senior services, the property tax holiday resulted in a collective savings of nearly \$50 million on behalf of Warren County property owners.

Investments the Board made in radio upgrades for the Telecommunications Department will be fully paid out at the end of the year, resulting in a zero-debt balance for the county's general fund. Additionally, the quarter percent sales tax increase used to finance the county's new Jail & Sheriff's Office will sunset in just eleven days. Through this model, the BOCC saved tax payers approximately \$30 million in interest costs on this \$58 million project.

Commenting on the county's financial position, Commissioner Dave Young pointed to these two significant investments as how Warren County was put on the national map, commending his colleagues

for their work to get projects done creatively. Commissioner Young stated he is, “pleased that in 2023, this county will not be making any general fund debt payments and so we can legitimately say, once again, after building a new jail, and after doing our Telecom project and upgrading public safety assets, that we are debt free.”

Following their steadfast policy of receiving more than anticipated and spending less than budgeted, 2022 revenue comes in at \$74.5 million to date. This is 124% of the anticipated \$63.1 million, with expenses currently at 73% of the budgeted amount through November. The Commissioners expect to maintain a \$48.1 million unencumbered carryover and finish out the year with sales tax up 7.02% from 2021.

Commissioner Young said that they are often asked what makes Warren County different, his response being “we are fiscally conservative in good times and bad times . . . if you anticipate less money coming in than really is going to come in, and spend less than that number, that’s . . . how you generate these budget surpluses.”

About the Warren County Board of County Commissioners

The Warren County Board of Commissioners is the legislative and executive body of county government. As the governing body, the Board is fiscally responsible for taxpayer dollars and for provision of services as required by state and federal law or mandated by the public. The Board works, through community partnership, to conscientiously protect and enhance the health, safety and quality of life of all Warren County residents, businesses and communities in a respectful, efficient and fiscally responsible way that addresses the needs today and invests in tomorrow.

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