

July 9, 2026

The Gallia County Board of Commissioners met on this date for the purpose of approving the minutes of the previous meeting and current transfers, appropriations and bills. At 9:00 a.m. the meeting was called to order by President Jeremy Kroll. Roll Call: President Jeremy Kroll, present; Vice President Q. Jay Stapleton, present; Commissioner Tony Hughes, present.

The President entertained a motion for approval of the July 2, 2026, minutes. Tony Hughes made and Q. Jay Stapleton seconded the motion. Roll call: Mr. Kroll, yea; Mr. Stapleton, yea; Mr. Hughes, yea.

2026 Canine Shelter Weekly Report														
Week Ending	Came In	Adopted	Reclaimed	Euthanized	Out to Rescue	MIA	Died (Natural or unknown Causes)	Destroyed (in field)	Total Out	Remaining at shelter	Out to County Foster	In from County Foster	Died in Foster (Natural or Unknown Causes)	Total in Foster
7/5	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	32	0	0	0	23

FINANCIAL REPORT REVIEW

County Administrator, Janie Peck presented the Commission with the following financial report:

- The June 2026 Financial Reports for comparison with the June 2025 Financial Reports. The following was noted during the review:
 - 1/1/2025 beginning cash balance was \$3,945,348.16
 - 1/1/2026 beginning cash balance was \$4,483,450.26
 - Increase of \$538,102.10
 - 06/30/2025 ending cash balance was \$4,351,595.90
 - 06/30/2026 ending cash balance was \$4,592,978.82
 - Increase of \$241,382.92

COMMISSIONERS – EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9:47 a.m. the president entertained a motion to enter executive session with County Auditor Robert Jacks, County Administrator’s Amanda Phillips and Janie Peck concerning the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee. Q. Jay Stapleton moved and Tony Hughes seconded the motion. Roll call: Mr. Kroll, yea; Mr. Stapleton, yea; Mr. Hughes, yea. Returned to regular session at 10:12 a.m.; No action taken.

TRANSIT – UPDATE

Transit Administrator Kathy Campbell provided the Commissioners with an update on the Gallia County Transit program. No action taken.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Economic Development Director Taylor Stepp presented the following letter to be signed by the Commission. Q. Jay Stapleton moved to sign, and Tony Hughes seconded the motion. Roll call: Mr. Kroll, yea; Mr. Stapleton, yea; Mr. Hughes, yea.

Ohio Department of Development Opportunity Zone 2.0 Nomination Review

77 South High Street Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Members of the Review Committee:

On behalf of the Gallia County Board of Commissioners, we write in full support of Gallia County Economic Development’s nomination of census tracts 39053953600, 39053953901, 39053953700, and 39053953800 for inclusion in Ohio’s Opportunity Zone 2.0 map. Together, these four tracts represent the full scope of Gallia County’s development strategy, from industrial growth along our primary corridor to the workforce, housing, and reclamation efforts that support our mission. Opportunity Zone designation is central to what allows us to compete for private investment.

Gallia County is classified as Distressed under the Ohio Revised Code, and each of these tracts qualify as a New Markets Tax Credit Severely Distressed census tract. Our county works hard to address two root problems: a declining and aging population, and a labor force that leaves the county each day to find work. About one third of our workforce commutes more than 25 miles for employment, and many travel well over an hour each way. This sends economic energy out of Gallia County, and it places steady pressure on our population as skilled workers eventually follow their jobs elsewhere. The most direct way to change that is to build the industrial capacity to give residents careers that stay in Gallia. These four tracts are where that work is being carried out.

Tracts 39053953600 and 39053953901 are the core of that effort. Both sit along the US-35 and SR-850 corridor, the county’s focused area of industrial developments and one of the few areas of greenfield land in Gallia County that sits

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outside the flood plain. Tract 39053953600 is anchored by the Dan Evans Industrial Park, a SiteOhio Authenticated site, and the Southeastern Ohio Spec Building now under construction there. Over \$6 million is being invested in that facility. This tract was part of the Opportunity Zone 1.0 map, and that designation was a deciding factor in bringing private development to this site. Removing it from the 2.0 map would undercut the momentum that public and private investment has successfully established there.

Tract 3905395901 lies along the same corridor and is anchored by the Ohio Valley Commerce Park, a 560-acre site that is the largest industrial parcel in the county outside the flood plain. This tract was not included in the 1.0 map, and the difference is visible in the difference of investment when compared to the other half of the corridor.

Tract 39053953700 is home to the University of Rio Grande and Rio Grande Community College, the institution that supplies much of the workforce pipeline our industrial strategy depends on, along with the Renew Rio housing initiative that is expanding the residential base needed to retain that workforce locally.

Tract 39053953800 covers the Mercerville and Crown City area, a former coal mining region where the county and ODNR have invested in growing tourism, reclamation, and outdoor recreation. The \$4 billion Nucor investment sits directly across the river, offering unique industrial opportunities.

The Ohio Valley region is entering a period of significant industrial investment in advanced energy, metals production, and defense manufacturing. Each of those will generate demand for the fabricators, logistics providers, and supply chain firms that Gallia County intends to compete for. We have geographic proximity and prepared sites. Opportunity Zone designation across these four tracts is a necessary part of the incentive stack that makes our full strategy of industrial development competitive and successful.

The Gallia County Board of Commissioners fully supports this nomination and asks the committee to give it serious consideration.

Sincerely,

s/ Jeremy Kroll

s/Q. Jay Stapleton

s/Tony Hughes

D&D ENTERPRISES

Tyler Duncan, with D&D Enterprises, requested from the Commissioners permission to access the County Sewer behind Beech Street and Porterbrook Road. Q. Jay Stapleton moved to allow D&D to access the sewer as requested, Tony Hughes seconded the motion. Roll call: Mr. Kroll, yea; Mr. Stapleton, yea; Mr. Hughes, yea.

INVESTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Gallia County Treasurer, Steve McGhee, Chair of the Investment Committee, presented the 2nd quarter 2026 investment report for review. The Investment reports are submitted monthly; with meetings held quarterly. Members present were the Commissioners Jeremy Kroll, Q. Jay Stapleton, Tony Hughes, and representing Steve McGhee, County Treasurer was his deputy Treasurer Tammy McConnell. The Investment Report is filed in the Treasurer's office.

ADJOURN

At 4:00 p.m. the President entertained a motion for adjournment. Q. Jay Stapleton made and Tony Hughes seconded the motion Roll call: Mr. Kroll, yea; Mr. Stapleton, yea; Mr. Hughes, yea.

Jeremy Kroll
Jeremy Kroll, President

Amanda Phillips
Amanda Phillips, Clerk to the Board

Q. Jay Stapleton
Q. Jay Stapleton, Vice President

Tony Hughes
Tony Hughes, Commissioner