

Mike Halleck: So, this Resolution 45-2019 I'll read it for the record:

RESOLUTION NUMBER 45-2019

A RESOLUTION TO JOIN WITH THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY IN FILING APPLICATION TO THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS REGARDING THE APPOINTMENT OF OUTSIDE COUNSEL PURSUANT TO SECTION 305.14 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE.

Motion by Commissioner HOPPEL, seconded by Commissioner WEIGLE, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, R.C. 305.14 provides that the Court of Common Pleas, upon application of the Prosecuting Attorney and the Board of County Commissioners ("Board") may authorize the employment of legal counsel to assist the Prosecuting Attorney, the Board, or any other county officer in any matter of public business coming before said board or officer; and

WHEREAS, the Prosecuting Attorney and the Board have determined that it is necessary for the Columbiana County Treasurer to have outside counsel to represent her office and the County in a bankruptcy proceeding filed by Cobra Pipeline Co., Ltd. In Bankruptcy Case No. 19-15961-aih; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires authorize the Treasurer to hire a law firm of her choice to represent the Treasurer and County in said bankruptcy proceeding.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners of Columbiana County, Ohio, that the Board hereby joins with the Prosecuting Attorney in filing an application with the Court of Common Pleas for the authorization, pursuant to R.C. 305.14, to employ a law firm of the Treasurer's choosing as special counsel to represent the Treasurer and the County in the aforementioned bankruptcy proceeding.

4. The Clerk of this Board of Commissioners is hereby directed to deliver a certified copy of this Resolution to the County Treasurer.

The roll being called, the Board votes as follows:

Commissioner <u>Jim Hoppel</u>	voting <u>AYE</u>
Commissioner <u>Jim Hoppel</u>	voting <u>AYE</u>
Commissioner <u>Tom Weigle</u>	voting <u>AYE</u>

So, this Resolution is to authorize the hiring of counsel.

Jim Hoppel: I think you mentioned we don't want to overspend on this but I think we ought to get onboard with it and after some early meetings then analyze it and see if we have any chance of getting any money. There may be no chance of getting any money at all then we could go from there.

Mike Halleck: Well if I may let's have a motion and a second and then have a discussion.

Motion by Mr. Hoppel, seconded by Mr. Weigle to; adopt Resolution #45-2019.

Mike Halleck; Ok Discussion did you have anything to add to what you just said?

Jim Hoppel: Well its probably on record. I think we ought to get on board and find out what it involves and get more information on it before we decide if we want to continue or not. Like you say it could take 5 years at least and we just keep spending money one after another and pretty soon we've spend more then we have a chance of getting.

Linda Bolon: I should be able to report to you what firm we are going to retain here hopefully this afternoon we'll be able to talk with someone and get their ideas on what it is because we will also share with them what we stand to lose and make sure that we're clear with them that we don't want to exceed what we're trying to recover. So, if it is an ongoing thing that they would have to report to us every so often. Is this unusual to request this?

Krista Peddicord: They should be reporting to you every so often.

Linda Bolon: So, they would report to us what their going rate is and what the court rate is which is what I assume different.

Krista Peddicord: There would be a contract that they would enter into with you that would lay out the fees and the agreement.

Linda Bolon: I might say that this seems highly unusual and Lisa you can put your comments in too. Normally, correct me if I'm wrong, we usual receive notice from the court first versus the way were receiving it from the company and it just seems very unusual and I think that's another reason why we need to protect our interest.

Mike Halleck: Commissioner Weigle did you have anything you wanted to question?

Tim Weigle: Maybe we ought to just authorize up to \$15,000.00 for the Treasurer to begin with as a starting point. That way if your able to proceed without having us to come back and convene and authorize more money?

Lind Bolon: Ok, that sounds good. Do you want to amend your resolution?

Tim Weigle: Just a thought.

Mike Halleck: I don't totally disagree with Commissioner Weigle it would be nice to have a cap but I'm not so sure the 15,000.00 I hope it would.

Tim Weigle: It would get a start at least to get them for Monday noon meeting.

Mike Halleck: Yes, we could always come back to our regular meeting on Wednesday if we have to up it. I just have a couple questions not necessarily about the resolution. I don't know anything about this company.

Tim Weigle: Can I read you something?

Mike Halleck: Yes

Tim Weigle: COBRA Pipelines LTD which owns 300 miles of infrastructure natural gas pipeline in Ohio including Washington county owes 1.475 million in back taxes across 11 townships. According to recent published delinquent accounts out of Washington County Auditor's Office. Evidently, they got word before we did.

Mike Halleck: So, they filed the same time in Washington County as well?

Krista Peddicord: There are a number of counties named. In looking into this, I have had discussion with Mahoning County Prosecutors Office just kind of letting them know it comes from our county and goes up to them and wanting to find out if they have attempted to collect it in any way. We have been working on this for a while trying to collect and it hasn't happened yet.

Linda Bolon: There's a list.

Mike Halleck: Of the counties that have an issue with them?

Linda Bolon: Yes

Mike Halleck: Does anyone know what they have in our county?

Tim Weigle: Washington, Wayne?

Mike Halleck: It's not part of that Nexxus thing is it?

Tim Weigle: No, that's what we were afraid of.

Mike Halleck: Ok Motion has been made and seconded, please call the Roll.

Scherry DeSarro: Commissioner Hoppel: Yes, Commissioner Weigle: Yes, Commissioner Halleck: Yes

Mike Halleck: Is there anything else to come before the board as it relates specifically to the bankruptcy filing? Hearing none this meeting is adjourned.