**Meeting Minutes Tuesday, May 6, 2025, 3:30-4:35 PM**

In attendance Tyler Reed, Angie Hamberg, Brian Reed, David Dziedzicki, Gene Hollins, Brandon Lawson, Rita Bassiet, Jeannie Mok, Preston Stapleton, and Janet Tressler-Davis.

Dwight Heckelman newly appointed Board of Education Member attended the meeting. After council introductions, Dwight shared his background and experiences and his interest in being a BOE member. Term ends Dec. 31, 2025, and he is planning to run for the Board in the Nov. 2025 election.

Sub Committees were offered time to provide updates:

* Business Regulations
	+ Early voting in person & absentee: started April 8, May 6 polls open 6:30AM-7:30PM \*Issue 2 See pg. 2
* Healthcare- no report
* Taxation/Worker’s Comp. *(****more to come later in the meeting)***
* Workforce: WorkWISE Janet reported the Westerville WorkWISE Collective next meeting will be

Hosted by Delaware Area Career Center. They will be discussing their newest courses leading into career paths for students. The Chamber’s L&L 6-part Human Resource series is an extension of WorkWISWE – May 13 will be a session Transform Others thro0ugh Effective Coaching. The series was created in part as a retention effort for our businesses.

David Deyo, the representative from the Chamber’s group worker’s comp program through Sedwick and Client Representative for Sedgwick provided an overview of the role of a TPA which business pay for services and the MCO (Managed care organization) which is paid by the state of Ohio. We are in open enrollment now through May 31, 2025, for the MCO options. If you are currently in a program, you do not have to do anything during this time period. Effective July 1, 2025, employers will realize a 6% reduction in worker’s compensation rates. Attached to the email is a document from David on best practices for recordkeeping, documentation and injury reporting. Our Chamber has 17 groups in the group rated worker’s compensation plan. The 17 groups are experiencing $17,581 in savings.

Janet provided an update on the upcoming Chamber Election Academy noting Status Solutions Network is the sponsor of the Academy. The three-session program will run Wed. June 4, 11, 17. All speakers are confirmed except the Board of Elections and the graduation speaker.

The location of the Chamber Candidate Forums (for those Running in Nov. 2025 election) have been confirmed with the Westerville Public Library for the BOE, Sept. 3 and The Renaissance for the City Council Form, Thursday Sept. 4. She thanked The Renaissance and Status Solutions Network for serving as the sponsors for the forums. These are open to the public. The moderator is in the process of being confirmed.

Discussion occurred about future meeting topics/Speakers. Janet is waiting for a response from Dave Efland to agree to speak at the June Council meeting. A recap of State Budget in August would be helpful.

 **The meeting was adjourned at 4:40PM**

The next meeting will be on Tues., June 3 at the Chamber office 3:30-4:45PM

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| ***Chamber mission*** | To enhance the business climate and quality of life in our community. |
| ***Committee mission*** | We are business advocates, collaborating with public officials to support and/or establish legislation, regulations and policies that represent our members’ top concerns and enable businesses to thrive and compete locally, nationally, and internationally. We further serve members’ interests by providing related educational programs and materials and information about government actions impacting business. |

**Ohio Issue 2, Local Public Infrastructure Bond Amendment**

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| A **“yes”** vote supports allowing the state to issue up to $2.5 billion in general obligation bonds, limited to $250 million per year over 10 years, to assist local governments in funding public infrastructure improvement projects. |

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| A **“no”** vote opposes allowing the state to issue up to $2.5 billion in general obligation bonds, limited to $250 million per year over 10 years, to assist local governments in funding public infrastructure improvement projects. |

Issue 2 is a [constitutional amendment](https://ballotpedia.org/Legislatively_referred_constitutional_amendment) to allow the state government to issue $2.5 billion in general obligation bonds over ten years—no more than $250 million per year—to assist local governments in paying for public infrastructure projects. The funding would be provided through the State Capital Improvement Program.

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| **Proposed Constitutional Amendment****TO FUND PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS BY PERMITTING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS****Proposed by Joint Resolution of the General Assembly****To enact Section 2t of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio***A majority yes vote is required for the adoption of Section 2t.*This proposed amendment would:1. Authorize the state to issue bonds or other obligations to finance or assist in financing public infrastructure capital improvements for local governments and other governmental entities. Capital improvement projects would be limited to roads and bridges, wastewater treatment systems, water supply systems, solid waste disposal facilities, storm water and sanitary collection, storage, and treatment facilities.2. Determine that such capital improvements are necessary to preserve and expand the public infrastructure, ensure public health, safety and welfare, create and preserve jobs, enhance employment opportunities, and improve the economic welfare of the people of Ohio.3. Limit the total principal amount of the state general obligations issued under the amendment to no more than $2.5 billion over a ten-year period. Any principal amount that could have been issued in any prior fiscal year, but was not issued, may subsequently be issued.4. Require that obligations issued under this amendment mature no later than thirty (30) years after their date of issuance, and that any obligation issued to retire or refund other obligations mature no later than the permitted maturity date for the obligations being retired or refunded.5. Authorize the General Assembly to pass laws implementing this amendment, including laws establishing procedures for incurring and issuing obligations, and laws providing for the use of Ohio products, materials, services and labor to the extent possible.If approved, the amendment shall take effect immediately. |  |