

MEETING SUMMARY – PRESS RELEASE

August 13, 2026 | Regular Session, Road Viewing & Hearing, and Discussions | Cambridge, Ohio

CAMBRIDGE, Ohio – The Guernsey County Board of County Commissioners met on August 13, 2026, for a regular session that included a road viewing and hearing, formal resolutions, and discussions on water infrastructure and an informal visit from the Auditor of State.

Key Actions

Nighthawk Road Vacation Approved. Following a road viewing and public hearing, the Board unanimously approved the vacation of a portion of Nighthawk Road (T-59) in Richland Township. No members of the public appeared to oppose the petition. As a condition of approval, petitioner Eddie Potts has 90 days to complete construction of the required turnaround.

Electronic Monitoring Program Funded. Commissioners authorized \$50,000 from the General Fund to support the Cambridge Municipal Court's electronic ankle monitoring program for the second half of 2026 (July 1 – December 31). The program provides an alternative to incarceration for eligible offenders.

RUMA Approved for Ascent Resources. The Board approved Road Use Maintenance Agreement (RUMA) No. 26-04 for Ascent Resources – Utica, LLC for oil and gas operations at the Kirk OXF GR pad in Oxford Township (accessed via CR 691 Basket Road).

Children Services Signature Authority Updated. Upon recommendation of Guernsey County Children Services, the Board removed Hilaree Homko as signature designee and appointed Monica Kress in that role.

Discussions & Informational Items

City Water Rates and Meter Replacement. The Board met with the City of Cambridge Engineer to discuss the County's water service contract, aging water meters (over 30 years old), and potential rate adjustments. Options under consideration by the City include an approximate 8% rate increase or a meter fee. Commissioners raised concerns about affordability, noting that local water rates rank among the highest in the state and that combined water and sewer costs can reach \$110–\$160 per month for some households. Bids for meter replacement are expected in the coming weeks.

Auditor of State Visit. Auditor of State Stephen Cicak made an informal drop-in visit. Discussion covered meeting procedures, county infrastructure, and cybersecurity. Mr. Cicak requested to be notified of future special meetings.

Other Notices: A Notice of Furnishings was received related to site improvements at 612 Steubenville Avenue. The County Engineer announced a temporary bridge closure on Pigeon Gap Road (August 18–19) for maintenance.

Public Access: This summary is provided for transparency under Ohio's Sunshine Law (ORC 121.22). It is not a verbatim transcript. The complete official Commissioners Journal, full resolution texts, road vacation materials, discussion minutes, and supporting documents are maintained by the Clerk and available for public inspection or upon request.

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