

 **FILE**

Commissioners:
Jay H. Wippel
Harold R. Henson
Gary K. Scherer

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PICKAWAY

Pickaway County
Board of County Commissioners
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Administrator:
April Dengler
Clerk:
Angela Karr

The Pickaway County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session in their office located at 139 West Franklin Street, Circleville, Ohio, on Tuesday, February 21, 2023, with the following members present: Mr. Jay H. Wippel, Mr. Harold R. Henson, and Mr. Gary K. Scherer. April Dengler, County Administrator, was also in attendance.

During business conducted while in session, Commissioner Wippel opened the public hearing for the consideration of designating restricted areas and fixing boundaries under Ohio Revised Code Section 303.58 for solar and wind projects in unincorporated areas. Bryce McKenney, McNees, Wallace and Nurick, went on to give an example of what we are all here for today and get the public's input for the consideration of a resolution. Mr. McKenney advised that a future board could decide to remove or amend the resolution if put in place. Mr. McKenney informed that if any individual did not approve of the resolution that they could seek a referendum. The resolution would apply to the unincorporated area and if trustees would like to request solar or wind projects in their township, it can be brought before the Board of Commissioners. There are three projects that were considered as grandfathered before the Ohio Power Siting Board. If a grandfathered project was to be amended, it can no longer be considered as grandfathered and the restricted area would apply. The following individuals spoke before the board:

- Steve Garner, Jackson Township – Mr. Gardner urged the Commissioners to pass the resolution.
- Todd Brady, Yamarick Township – Mr. Brady is not for solar panel or totally against them, but he does not feel they are efficient enough to put them up. The companies are controlling the narrative and situation and by having the resolution that the county is against it would deter these companies from bringing so many to our county that cannot sustain. Last summer they were starting to cause rolling blackouts and Mr. Brady urged to not target Pickaway County to become a blackout area in order for these companies to get it away from the areas that are for solar energy.
- Joe Weaver – Wayne Township – Mr. Weaver discussed that these companies are trying to break up their project sizes to stay below the 50-Megawatt size. This is a way to grab the money and go. These companies will wind down over time and their money will run out.

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- Bill Keller – Deercreek Township – Supports and urges the passage of a Resolution.
- John Maynard, Scioto Township – Mr. Maynard asked what happens if part of the unincorporated property becomes incorporated and Mr. McKenny described that the law will be for unincorporated and will have to look into annexations.
- Chris Weaver, Monroe Township – Supports and urges the passage of a Resolution.
- Tom Ebenhack, Wayne Township– Mr. Ebenhack put 16 panels on a barn years ago. The panels only generated 600 kilowatts in summer and less than 300 kilowatts in the winter. It is not efficient, especially during the winter months.
- Shirley Bowser, Deercreek Township – Mrs. Bowser feels that this county is going to have a lot of opportunity in the future and planning for the future in agriculture. This is what Pickaway County is known for. Mrs. Bowser viewed a solar farm in southern Ohio and there were large areas of gravel and roadways being placed in fields for the projects. She believes that we will have more growth with agriculture in Pickaway County without the solar.
- Chuck Hamilton, Washington Township – Mr. Hamilton's gut feeling is that these solar companies are in it for the money and will leave the aftermath in the hands of the farmers. Those that are for the solar need to research and will pay for it in the future.
- Brenna Gibson, Wayne Township Trustee – Mrs. Gibson stressed that it does disrupt the generational aspect of agriculture and agriculture is the number one aspect in Pickaway County. The trustees have talked about owner rights and constituents that are against solar and try to listen to all aspects of the community.
- Chris Weaver, Monroe Township – Mr. Weaver discussed the southern solar farm in Ross County.
- Teddy Roger, Monroe Township Trustee – Mr. Rogers did a lot of research, visited solar farms and had a difficult time finding the good. He has friends that did not sign their land, but neighbors did. They found that the solar companies sold numerous times and never followed the contract. Mr. Rogers expressed that Monroe township is against solar.
- Brenna Gibson, Wayne Township Trustee – shared that no one in this room will see the aftermath of solar once these projects are up in 30+ years. It will be the younger generation that will be cleaning it up.
- Chief Roger Peart, Deercreek Fire Department – Chief Peart explained that Deercreek Fire Department is a taxed based fire department and has had several conversations with solar companies. It takes special equipment and training to handle a solar farm.
- Matthew Hafey, Darby Township – People are not going to want to move into residential areas of Pickaway County that have solar panels in their back yard. It will deter people from moving to Pickaway County.

- Lucinda Hartsock, Wayne Township – Mrs. Hartsock shares in Pickaway County by purchasing food, parts and agriculture products for farmers which contributes to the county financially. She loves this county and plans to continue as a farmer.
- Chris Mullins, County Engineer - Mr. Mullins explained that resources and township roads are not designed to handle these kinds of projects. Mr. Mullins budget and bonds will not put the roads back to the shape they were in prior to projects. Pickaway County is fortunate to have the rock quarries that we have, however they do have a limit to them and will be used up in fields instead of roads.
- Ian Fausnaugh, Jackson Township Trustee – Mr. Fausnaugh expressed that Jackson Township Trustees oppose solar projects in their township.

Commissioner Wippel thanked all for attending today and the resolution will be considered. Commissioner Scherer shared that they pay attention to all constituents and at the end of the day have to make the best decision for the community.

During business conducted while in session, Commissioner Gary Scherer offered the motion, seconded by Commissioner Harold Henson, to adopt the following Resolution:

Resolution No.:022123-13

Resolution designating one or more restricted areas and fixing their boundaries under Section 303.58 of the Ohio Revised Code.

WHEREAS, the Pickaway County Board of Commissioners has responsibility for preserving the general health, safety, and welfare within the territory of Pickaway County; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 303.58 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Pickaway County Board of Commissioners announced through Resolution No. PC-121322-111 issued on December 13, 2022 that it was considering adopting a resolution designating all unincorporated area of Pickaway County as a restricted area that would then prohibit the construction of an economically significant wind farm, a large wind farm, or a large solar facility in the restricted area; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 303.58 of the Ohio Revised Code and Resolution No. PC-121322-111 the Pickaway County Board of Commissioners issued notice of this meeting on December 13, 2022, where such notice indicated that the Pickaway County Board of Commissioners intended to consider adoption of a resolution designating all unincorporated area of Pickaway County as a restricted area, and such notice also included a map identifying all unincorporated area in the county as the restricted area; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 303.58 of the Ohio Revised Code, this notice was sent on [insert date] by first class mail, to all school districts, municipal corporations, and boards of township trustees located in whole, or in part, within the boundaries of the proposed restricted area; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 303.58 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Pickaway County Board of Commissioners did provide public notice of the date and time of the meeting by publication in the Circleville Herald on Saturday, January 21, 2023; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 303.58 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Pickaway County Board of Commissioners did publicly post a map showing the boundaries of the proposed restricted area at all public libraries within the county; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 303.58 of the Ohio Revised Code, the newspaper notice, written notice occurred to school districts, municipal corporations, and boards of township trustees, and posting of material at public libraries all occurred more than 30 days prior to the meeting adopting this resolution; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 303.58(D) of the Ohio Revised Code, any resolution designating a restricted area shall include a map of the restricted area, as well as texts sufficient to identify all boundaries of the restricted area, and a copy of the resolution and any accompanying texts and maps shall be filed with the office of the county recorder of the county; and

THEREFORE, be it Resolved that the Pickaway County Board of Commissioners hereby finds and determines that construction of any economically significant wind farm, large wind farm, or large solar facility will not promote the general health, safety, and welfare within the territory of Pickaway County. Accordingly, and having met the notice requirements under Section 303.58 of the Ohio Revised Code the Pickaway County Board of Commissioners through this Resolution designates all unincorporated area of the Pickaway County as a restricted area under Section 303.58 of the Ohio Revised Code thereby prohibiting the construction of any economically significant wind farm, large wind farm, or large solar facility in the restricted area. A map reflecting all unincorporated area of Pickaway County being designed a restricted area is attached to this Resolution and is adopted pursuant to this Resolution. The Pickaway County Board of Commissioners further directs that a copy of this Resolution and all accompanying texts and maps be filed with the office of the county recorder of Pickaway County.

Roll call vote on the motion was as follows: Commissioner Wippel, yes; Commissioner Henson, yes; Commissioner Scherer, yes. Voting No: None. Motion carried.

Attest: Angela Karr
Angela Karr, Clerk

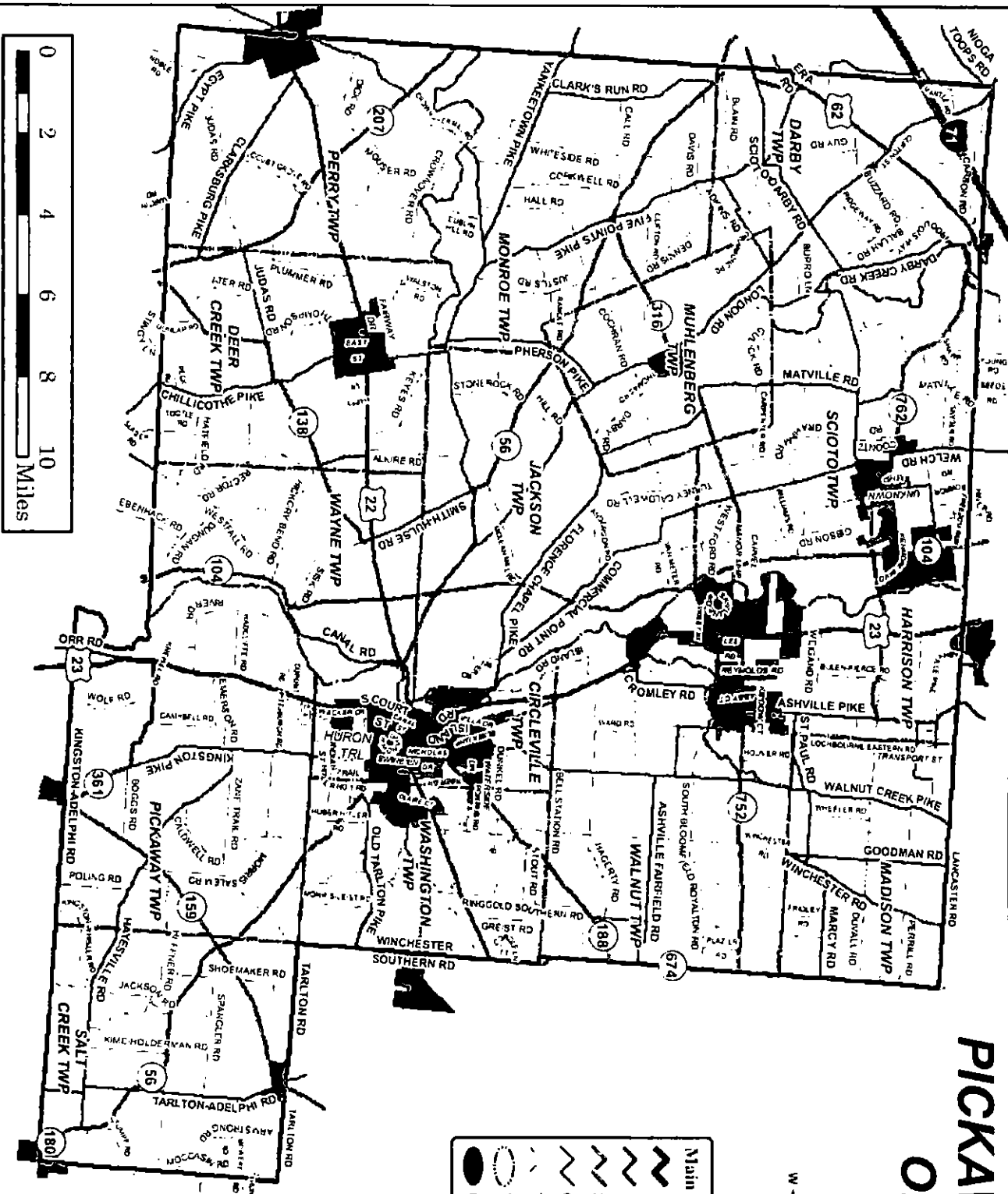
~Certification~

I, Angela Karr, Clerk to the Pickaway County Board of Commissioners, hereby certify that this is a true and accurate record of the proceedings of the board and may be found in Journal #67, pages dated February 21, 2023.

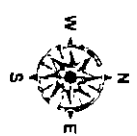
Angela Karr
Angela Karr

In the Matter of
Public Hearing and Resolution Designating
Restricted Areas and Fixing Boundaries Under
Ohio Revised Code Section 303.58:

PICKAWAY CO. OHIO



- Main Roads
- Interstate Highway
- US Routes
- State Routes
- County Road
- Township Routes
- Townships
- Corp Boundaries



Pickaway County GIS
124 W Franklin St.
Circleville, Ohio 43113
For Reference Only Date 2022
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