

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **MIAMI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ADOPT 2016 BUDGET**

The Miami County Commissioners formally adopted the 2016 tax planning budget during their regular Board meeting on Tuesday, July 14, 2015. The approval is based upon projections of estimated carryover, estimated revenue and anticipated expenditures for the year 2016.

The tax planning budget, mandated by the Ohio Revised Code, is a planning tool and the first step in the County's budgeting process for 2016. The second and final step is the adoption of 2016 appropriations, which will be adopted by resolution in December of this year.

The Board of Commissioners will hold hearings in the fall with each elected official and department head to discuss their final appropriation requests and narrow any gap there may be in the 2016 budget between revenues and expenses.

The County Budget Commission projects the General Fund revenues for 2016 at \$24,146,631.42. Requested expenditures in 2016 are limited to \$29,188,432.65. Total funds revenues for 2016 are projected to be \$80,914,406.16 and appropriations of \$89,049,881.17.

The \$4.2 million in general fund cuts made by Miami County elected officials and departments in 2010 enabled the county to have budget surpluses each year. However, with the purchasing of beds for incarcerated females from Shelby County this year and the possible opening of the third pod at the incarceration facility for females in 2016, our budget could be that much tighter.

Commissioner John F. "Jack" Evans states, "Because of the cost of housing the growing number of female inmates, we will continually evaluate our financial condition with the county auditor to ensure our positive position in the markets and take action when needed. We are looking forward, with the support of all the elected officials and department heads, to once again balance the county budget."

Commissioner Richard "Dick" Cultice said, "Several years ago, the Commissioners changed the budget process and moved the detailed discussions with the other elected officials and department heads to the fall appropriations hearings. This change gives us 9 months of operations to have a better appreciation of what the previous years' revenue and expenses were in order to better forecast the next year's appropriations."

O'Brien continued, "Since the 2010 cuts, with the support of all the elected officials, we've made decisions that have put us in strong positions to better manage our services and expenses. Moving all county IT personnel under the county auditor and making them available to all county offices has made for greater efficiencies. A new county website helps us communicate with our citizens and improve our visibility for economic development. None of this would happen without the support of the other elected officials and department heads."