



# Delaware County Commissioners

Ken O'Brien  
Dennis Stapleton  
Gary Merrell

County Administrator  
Tim Hansley

Clerk to the Commissioners  
Jennifer Walraven

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

*Delaware County Commissioners vote to approve issuance of bonds for Sewer System  
Improvements*

Both Commission President Gary Merrell and Vice President Dennis Stapleton voted to approve bond financing for up to \$13.7 million for Delaware County Sanitary Sewer Treatment and Collection System improvements at last week's meeting. The revenue bonds will be used to improve and upgrade treatment plants and construct and upgrade pump stations, gravity and trunk lines.

They may also be used to acquire real estate necessary to complete the projects. Both Commissioners Merrell and Stapleton agreed that paying for an extension of the sewer, such as for the Nelson Farms development west of Sawmill Parkway, would be prudent. They referred to a recent Building Industry Association of Central Ohio's study that cited that housing and business development would accompany the sewer extension, generating \$6 million in increased sales and property tax revenue and conveyance fees for the county over a 20-year period. It would also result in a one-time windfall of \$24 million in tap fees.

Commissioner Ken O'Brien opposed the measure by sharing, "It gives great latitude to use for developers in their quest to have what used to be paid for by developers being paid for by the county." But Commissioner Stapleton commented that the sewer extension piece has been missing in the county's overall growth plans.

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The county will use revenue from a recently-approved sewer rate increase to pay the revenue bonds back.

The Board of Commissioners is allowed to issue revenue bonds to provide monies for projects that are necessary and in the best interest of the County.

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