



BOARD of COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 22, 2020

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVES 2021 BUDGET

WARREN COUNTY, OHIO – Today the Warren County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) adopted its 2021 budget totaling \$77,936,893. The budget breakdown shows 57% going to the county's criminal justice system, 40% to general operations, and the remaining to social and debt services. While 2020 provided substantial challenges, the BOCC's unwavering fiscal model of spending less than anticipated allowed Warren County to confidently weather the financial impacts of the global Coronavirus pandemic. While the possibility of more unknowns in the coming year remains, the Board approved a minimal budget increase of 0.66% for 2021, knowing that conservative fiscal management is of the utmost importance.

Despite the financial uncertainties of 2020, the BOCC did not furlough or lay-off any employees and ensured that all Warren County services continued on behalf of the taxpayer. Departments under the BOCC, as well as other county elected officials, worked to keep their 2021 budgets low. Increases in the budget reflect required statutory increases and only a few additional positions that were approved by the BOCC.

Warren County witnessed a consistent incoming revenue through real estate and sales taxes during 2020. While planning for a projected 25% decrease in these revenue sources, there was approximately a \$1 million increase in Warren County's collected sales tax. Additionally, The BOCC is estimated to maintain a \$38 million carry-over for 2020, which comes after the reserve \$12 million "rainy day" fund and the Board's discretionary \$10 million county-wide "infrastructure bank." Neither of these funds were modified due to the unforeseen expenditures related to the COVID-19 pandemic and are another testament to Warren County's strong financial position.

About the Warren County Board of County Commissioners

The Warren County Board of Commissioners is the legislative and executive body of county government. As the governing body, the Board is fiscally responsible for taxpayer dollars and for provision of services as required by state and federal law or mandated by the public. The Board works, through community partnership, to conscientiously protect and enhance the health, safety and quality of life of all Warren County residents, businesses and communities in a respectful, efficient and fiscally responsible way that addresses the needs today and invests in tomorrow.

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