

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2009-261 OPPOSING THE PROPOSED RATE INCREASE OF OHIO AMERICAN WATER COMPANY

The Board of County Commissioners of Ashtabula County, Ohio, met on the 23rd day of June, 2009, in regular session at the offices of the Board, Old Courthouse, 2nd Floor, Jefferson, Ohio, with the following members present: Peggy Carlo, Joseph A. Moroski, Daniel R. Claypool.

WHEREAS, Ohio American Water Company has proposed a statewide, incremental increase in its water rates effective 2010 through 2013 for the utility’s customers, which will affect Ashtabula area customers as follows:

<u>Effective date of Proposed increase</u>	<u>Percentage Increase</u>	<u>Monthly Increase</u>	<u>Daily Increase</u>
March/April 2010	25.05%	\$8.82	\$0.29
Apr-11	23.34%	\$10.82	\$0.34
Apr-12	6.86%	\$3.72	\$0.12
Apr-13	5.73%	\$3.33	\$0.11

(based on 5 CCF monthly usage)

WHEREAS, the thousands of Ashtabula County residents receive water directly through Ohio American Water, or through bulk water sales from Ohio American to their local water companies, in the cities of Ashtabula and Geneva; the villages of North Kingsville, Geneva-on-the-Lake and Rock Creek; and the townships of Ashtabula, Austinburg, Geneva, Harpersfield, Jefferson, Kingsville, Plymouth, Rome, Saybrook and Sheffield; and

WHEREAS, the proposed rates will represent a 60.98 percent increase for direct water customers from 2010 through 2013, and a 37.5 percent increase to bulk water costumers; and

WHEREAS, this request is the utility’s fourth since 2005, which, if approved, would have given Ohio American a 75-percent-plus increase in its rates in eight years; and

WHEREAS, this increase is unreasonable and should be rejected by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO); and

WHEREAS, in the best interest of consumers in Ashtabula County, this Board does not support this rate hike as our families and businesses cannot sustain such a substantial increase; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Ashtabula County, Ohio, does hereby urge the Ohio Public Utilities Commission to reject the proposed, state-wide rate increase of Ohio American Water Company; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Board be instructed to send certified copies of this resolution to all affected Ashtabula County cities, villages and townships, asking for their support in opposing this rate hike before the PUCO.

MOTION: Claypool moved the adoption, Moroski seconded.

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: Yeas: Carlo, Claypool, Moroski **Nays:** None **Abstained:** None **Absent:** None
Whereupon the resolution was declared passed unanimously.