



Ohio Revised Code

Section 307.12 Resolution for disposal of unneeded, obsolete or unfit personal property.

Effective: April 9, 2025

Legislation: House Bill 497

(A) Except as otherwise provided in divisions (D), (E), and (G) of this section, when the board of county commissioners finds, by resolution, that the county has personal property, including motor vehicles acquired for the use of county officers and departments, and road machinery, equipment, tools, or supplies, that is not needed for public use, is obsolete, or is unfit for the use for which it was acquired, and when the fair market value of the property to be sold or donated under this division is, in the opinion of the board, in excess of five thousand dollars, the board may do either of the following:

(1) Sell the property at public auction or by sealed bid to the highest bidder. Notice of the time, place, and manner of the sale shall be published at least ten days prior to the sale, using at least one of the following methods:

- (a) In the print or digital edition of a newspaper of general circulation within the county;
- (b) On the official public notice web site established under section 125.182 of the Revised Code;
- (c) On the web site and social media account of the county.

If a board conducts a sale of property by sealed bid, the form of the bid shall be as prescribed by the board, and each bid shall contain the name of the person submitting it. Bids received shall be opened and tabulated at the time stated in the notice. The property shall be sold to the highest bidder, except that the board may reject all bids and hold another sale, by public auction or sealed bid, in the manner prescribed by this section.

(2) Donate any motor vehicle that does not exceed four thousand five hundred dollars in value to a nonprofit organization exempt from federal income taxation pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 501(a) and (c)(3) for the purpose of meeting the transportation needs of participants in the Ohio works first program



established under Chapter 5107. of the Revised Code and participants in the prevention, retention, and contingency program established under Chapter 5108. of the Revised Code.

(B) When the board of county commissioners finds, by resolution, that the county has personal property, including motor vehicles acquired for the use of county officers and departments, and road machinery, equipment, tools, or supplies, that is not needed for public use, is obsolete, or is unfit for the use for which it was acquired, and when the fair market value of the property to be sold or donated under this division is, in the opinion of the board, five thousand dollars or less, the board may do either of the following:

(1) Sell the property by private sale, without advertisement or public notification;

(2) Donate the property to an eligible nonprofit organization that is located in this state and is exempt from federal income taxation pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 501(a) and (c)(3). Before donating property, the nonprofit organization shall provide the board evidence that the organization is located in this state and is exempt from federal income taxation pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 501(a) and (c)(3).

(C) Members of the board of county commissioners shall consult with the Ohio ethics commission, and comply with the provisions of Chapters 102. and 2921. of the Revised Code, with respect to any sale or donation under division (A) or (B) of this section to a nonprofit organization of which a county commissioner, any member of the county commissioner's family, or any business associate of the county commissioner is a trustee, officer, board member, or employee.

(D) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in division (A), (B), or (E) of this section and regardless of the property's value, the board of county commissioners may sell or donate county personal property, including motor vehicles, to the federal government, the state, any political subdivision of the state, or a county land reutilization corporation without advertisement or public notification.

(E) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in division (A), (B), or (G) of this section and regardless of the property's value, the board of county commissioners may sell personal property, including motor vehicles acquired for the use of county officers and departments, and road machinery, equipment, tools, or supplies, that is not needed for public use, is obsolete, or is unfit for



the use for which it was acquired, by internet auction. The board shall adopt a resolution expressing its intent to sell property by internet auction. The resolution shall include a description of how the internet auctions will be conducted and shall specify the number of days for bidding on the property, which shall be no less than ten days, including Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays. The resolution shall indicate whether the county will conduct the internet auctions or the board will contract with a representative to conduct the internet auctions and shall establish the general terms and conditions of sale. If a representative is known when the resolution is adopted, the resolution shall provide contact information such as the representative's name, address, and telephone number.

After adoption of the resolution, the board shall publish, in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, notice of its intent to sell unneeded, obsolete, or unfit-for-use county personal property by internet auction. The notice shall include a summary of the information provided in the resolution and shall be published twice or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code. The second and any subsequent notice shall be published not less than ten nor more than twenty days after the previous notice. A similar notice also shall be posted continually in a conspicuous place in the offices of the county auditor and the board of county commissioners. If the county maintains a web site on the internet, the notice shall be posted continually at that web site.

When property is to be sold by internet auction, the board or its representative may establish a minimum price that will be accepted for specific items and may establish any other terms and conditions for a particular sale, including requirements for pick-up or delivery, method of payment, and sales tax. This type of information shall be provided on the internet at the time of the auction and may be provided before that time upon request after the terms and conditions have been determined by the board or its representative.

(F) When a county officer or department head determines that county-owned personal property under the jurisdiction of the officer or department head, including motor vehicles, road machinery, equipment, tools, or supplies, is not of immediate need, the county officer or department head may notify the board of county commissioners, and the board may lease that personal property to any municipal corporation, township, other political subdivision of the state, or to a county land reutilization corporation. The lease shall require the county to be reimbursed under terms, conditions, and fees established by the board, or under contracts executed by the board.



(G) If the board of county commissioners finds, by resolution, that the county has vehicles, equipment, or machinery that is not needed, or is unfit for public use, and the board desires to sell the vehicles, equipment, or machinery to the person or firm from which it proposes to purchase other vehicles, equipment, or machinery, the board may offer to sell the vehicles, equipment, or machinery to that person or firm, and to have the selling price credited to the person or firm against the purchase price of other vehicles, equipment, or machinery.

(H) If the board of county commissioners advertises for bids for the sale of new vehicles, equipment, or machinery to the county, it may include in the same advertisement a notice of the willingness of the board to accept bids for the purchase of county-owned vehicles, equipment, or machinery that is obsolete or not needed for public use, and to have the amount of those bids subtracted from the selling price of the other vehicles, equipment, or machinery as a means of determining the lowest responsible bidder.

(I) If a board of county commissioners determines that county personal property is not needed for public use, or is obsolete or unfit for the use for which it was acquired, and that the property has no value, the board may discard or salvage that property.

(J) A county engineer, in the engineer's discretion, may dispose of scrap construction materials on such terms as the engineer determines reasonable, including disposal without recovery of costs, if the total value of the materials does not exceed twenty-five thousand dollars. The engineer shall maintain records of all dispositions made under this division, including identification of the origin of the materials, the final disposition, and copies of all receipts resulting from the dispositions.

As used in division (J) of this section, "scrap construction materials" means construction materials that result from a road or bridge improvement, remain after the improvement is completed, and are not reusable. Construction material that is metal and that results from a road or bridge improvement and remains after the improvement is completed is scrap construction material only if it cannot be used in any other road or bridge improvement or other project in its current state.