

Commissioners' Journal
March 2, 2021

The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on March 2, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' Chambers located at 470 Center Street in Chardon, Ohio.

It is declared and determined that all formal actions of the Board of County Commissioners concerning and relating to the adoption of all resolutions that were adopted in this meeting, and that all deliberations of the Board of County Commissioners that resulted in such formal action were open to the public and were in compliance with all legal requirements, including section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

The President of the Board, James W. Dvorak opened the meeting at 9:32 a.m. by leading the Board and audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Commissioner Lennon was absent from today's meeting.*

Commissioner Dvorak read the following prayer:

Dear Lord

Thank you for getting us through this winter.

We are tired of the snow, cold weather and being cooped up! And praying for our friends and family to stay healthy during the pandemic.

The harder winter is, the more we welcome spring.

Whatever temperature, whatever the weather is where you live, Spring is an annual reminder that God makes everything beautiful in its time.

The coming of spring lifts our spirits and renews our Hope!

Amen

MEETING MINUTES

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of February 9, 2021.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Absent*</i>
	<i>Commissioner Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of February 18, 2021.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Absent</i>
	<i>Commissioner Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of February 23, 2021.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Absent</i>
	<i>Commissioner Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>

COMMISSIONERS OFFICE - COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

County Administrator Gerard Morgan reported on the items approved by the County Administrator on February 26, 2021 that included for the Department on Aging to accept the resignation of Magaly Rios, Recreation and Education Assistant to be effective March 5, 2021; as authorized by Resolution #21-003 under the direction and supervision of the County Commissioners that was approved January 5, 2021 pursuant to O.R.C. 305.30.

Commissioners' Journal
March 2, 2021

COMMISSIONERS OFFICE – CHANGE ORDER #1 – INCREASE CONTRACT –
GUARANTEED MAXIMUM PRICE, PHASE #1 AND PHASE #2) – DONLEY'S
INDEPENDENCE, LLC

Mr. Morgan explained that this change order is an increase on GMP #1 and #2 for Donley's Independence on the new building for additional storm water pollution prevention and water service revisions for just under \$37,000.00.

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute Change Order #1, increasing the Contract (Guaranteed Maximum Price, Phase #1 and #2) with Donley's Independence, LLC for additional Storm Water Pollution Prevention and Water Service Revisions in the amount of \$36,819.00.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Absent</i>
	<i>Commissioner Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>

APPROVE FINANCIALS

Budget and Finance Manager Adrian Gorton explained the financials for today as including Supplemental Appropriations for partial General Fund carryover distribution for items that were not included in the permanent appropriations; Encumbrance increase from the Commissioners to Donley's Independence increasing the Contract for GMP #1 and #2 with Donley's Independence, LLC for additional Storm Water Pollution Prevention and Water Service Revisions in the amount of \$36,819.00; Then and Now from Job and Family Services to the Chardon Lakes Golf Course, Incorporated for Child Advocacy Center February and March rent not previously encumbered; a payment for ADP to Tyler Technologies, Incorporated for 2021 licensing and support payments on the County's Financial system in the amount of \$173,096.91; a payment for the Engineer's Office to Concord Road Equipment Company to outfit a single axle truck with dump body, snow plow and salt spreading equipment in the amount of \$74,604.27; and Revenue Certification and De-Certifications from Developmental Disabilities in the Metzenbaum, Donation and Construction funds to adjust revenue to their budgetary needs.

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute Resolution #21-023 itemizing the financials for the meeting of March 2 2021.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Absent</i>
	<i>Commissioner Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>

BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES – RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MARCH
2021 AS DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH

Superintendent Don Rice asked the Board to recognize March as Developmental Disabilities Awareness month, noting that they didn't bring any clients with them today due to COVID. Mr. Rice expressed that they were doing well with only having about 30 clients with COVID but that they did lose an older client to COVID. Commissioner Spidalieri expressed gratitude for everything they do. Mr. Rice thanked them and stated that they have good people all the way around and it's a pleasure to work with them.

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute Resolution #21-024 Recognizing March 2021 as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Date: March 2, 2021
Resolution: #21-024

**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MARCH 2021 AS
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS, The Geauga County Board of Developmental Disabilities mission and purpose is to provide vital support, services and resources to more than 900 individuals with

Commissioners' Journal
March 2, 2021

developmental disabilities and their families. Also known as The Metzenbaum Center, it is Geauga County's epicenter for individuals with developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, friends, neighbors and co-workers encourage everyone to focus on the abilities of all people and to provide opportunities to function as independently and productively as possible in our community; and

WHEREAS, continued public awareness and understanding are effective and informative ways to help address the challenges faced by people with developmental disabilities in being fully included in society; and

WHEREAS, Disabilities do not prevent individuals from being fully included in school, in the workplace, at home, as members of their families and communities; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Commissioners recognizes the need to promote and protect the human rights of all persons with disabilities and hereby proclaims March 2021 as Developmental Disabilities Awareness month; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Geauga County Board of Commissioners desires all residents to support individuals with developmental disabilities as they live, learn and earn in our community. We want to build a caring County where individuals of all ages are integrated, accepted and achieving their full potential in community life, education, and employment. We encourage all citizens to recognize that our communities are stronger when everyone works together towards equality, opportunity, and inclusion for all.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Absent</i>
	<i>Commissioner Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>

The Board posed for a quick picture.

COMMON PLEAS COURT / ADULT PROBATION – APPROVE SUBMISSION OF CREDIT CARD APPLICATION – GEAUGA CREDIT UNION

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve the submission of a credit card application to the Geauga Credit Union for a VISA that will be used for travel purposes.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Absent</i>
	<i>Commissioner Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>

COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – AUTHORIZE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO EXECUTE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION PROJECT GRANT / LOAN AGREEMENT – STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM – AUBURN – BELL ROAD RESURFACING

Deputy Engineer Shane Hajjar explained that last year they had applied for OPWC funding for the Auburn and Bell resurfacing which was above the funding limit and also submitted two smaller bridge projects, Thompson Road and Taylor Wells Road bridges. Those projects were submitted but were unsure if the projects would be funded. Mr. Hajjar noted that they had found out later that all were approved and are now asking to approve Mr. Lennon the designated CEO to execute the agreements.

Mr. Hajjar noted that this project includes a grant of \$250,000.00 and a loan that needs paid back of \$150,000.00.

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and authorize Timothy C. Lennon, Board member and Chief Executive Officer to execute the Ohio Public Works Commission Project Grant / Loan Agreement State Capital Improvements Program for Auburn (CH 4)-Bell Road (CH 10) Resurfacing in the amount of \$400,000.00 (\$250,000.00 Grant and \$150,000.00 Loan).

Commissioners' Journal
March 2, 2021

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT (COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC) – AGREEMENT – NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES – ASSIST WITH PY2019 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAMS

Executive Director Dave Favorite asked the Board to approve an agreement with an outside consultant to assist us with the current CDBG programs that we are in the second year of the cycle and prepare for the new grant. Mr. Favorite stated that this is kind of a training program with the two new employees so that next year we don't need the outside company.

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute an Agreement between Geauga County, Ohio and Neighborhood Development Services (NDS) to assist with and perform necessary functions to complete the PY2019 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Programs through October 31, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$43,950.00.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	Commissioner Spidalieri	Aye
	Commissioner Lennon	Absent
	Commissioner Dvorak	Aye

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – GEAUGA COATINGS

Fiscal and Personnel Specialist Kathleen Miller asked the Board to execute the service contract with Geauga Coatings.

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute the service Contract Agreement with Geauga Coatings to perform several concrete leveling and coating jobs for the department for a two-year period (2021-2022) in an amount not to exceed \$45,000.00 (\$22,500.00 each year).

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	Commissioner Spidalieri	Aye
	Commissioner Lennon	Absent
	Commissioner Dvorak	Aye

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – AQUA-AEROBICS SYSTEMS, INCORPORATED

Ms. Miller asked the Board to execute the contract with Aqua-Aerobic Systems to perform pilot testing at McFarland. Mr. Morgan explained that this is treatment equipment that will try at least in the interim to bring the plant into compliance, this is not a permanent solution.

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute the service Contract Agreement with Aqua-Aerobic Systems, Incorporated to perform Pilot Testing at McFarland Wastewater Treatment Plant as outlined in Proposal No. 11665 for the department for a one-year period in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	Commissioner Spidalieri	Aye
	Commissioner Lennon	Absent
	Commissioner Dvorak	Aye

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – APPOINT JAMES DAVIS – COUNTY APIARIST

It was noted that Mr. Davis was appointed as interim last year. Mr. Davis completed last year and when inquired about this year, he agreed. Mr. Davis also handles Lake County.

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to appoint James Davis as County Apiarist and further execute the 2021 Ohio Department of Agriculture, Appointment for County Apiary Inspector form to be effective March 1, 2021 at the rate of \$13.00 per hour and a mileage reimbursement rate of \$0.56.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	Commissioner Spidalieri	Aye
	Commissioner Lennon	Absent
	Commissioner Dvorak	Aye

Commissioners' Journal
March 2, 2021

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – RESOLUTION HONORING BARBARA TITUS AS THE 2021 LEADERSHIP GEAUGA EMERALD LEADER AWARD WINNER

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute Resolution #21-025 Honoring Barbara Titus as the 2021 Leadership Geauga Emerald Leader Award Winner.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Resolution: #21-025
Date: March 2, 2021

**RESOLUTION HONORING BARBARA TITUS
AS THE 2021 LEADERSHIP GEAUGA EMERALD LEADER AWARD WINNER**

WHEREAS, each year since 2001, Leadership Geauga County has recognized community leaders who have significantly enhanced the quality of life in Geauga County. The Emerald Leader Award is presented annually to an individual, a business and / or a non-profit agency that exemplifies outstanding leadership by positive contributions through volunteerism, philanthropy, or innovation that impact the quality of life in Geauga County; and

WHEREAS, Barbara Titus is respected nationally as a leader in business and is well-known for her dedication as a volunteer for non-profit organizations. Barbara Titus is the Vice President of Operations and International Sales and Director for Sheoga Hardwood Flooring in Middlefield, is currently serving as President of the Geauga Credit Union and serves on the University Hospital Leadership Council; and

WHEREAS, Barbara Titus is a woman of strong faith and has a deep commitment for public service, including her support of the Red Tulip Project, the first Safe Sober House for Women in Geauga County by having Sheoga Hardwood donate all the hardwood flooring. Barbara Titus is very passionate about helping our active military service men and women, our Veterans and Gold Star Families. Barbara Titus is involved in the Gary Sinise Foundation's R.I.S.E. program, has been instrumental in the development of the Valor Retreat and has encouraged local charity organizations, like Santa's Hide-a-Way Hollow to add events for Veterans and their families; and

WHEREAS, Barbara Titus is an active member of the Geauga Growth Partnership Intern program where she spends time assisting the young students of the County helping to train and prepare them for interviews and building their resumes; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Geauga County Board of Commissioners wishes to recognize Barbara Titus for her dedication and continued community service and for being the recipient of the 2021 Leadership Geauga Emerald Leader Award.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution becomes part of the permanent record of the Board of Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Absent</i>
	<i>Commissioner Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>

DISCUSSION ON SANCTUARY COUNTY BY LOCAL RESIDENT

A local resident Stephanie Bourne, who is a concealed carry holder, expressed concern about HB 127 and the direction of the current administration regarding our 2nd amendment rights and would like to assist with whatever she needs to do to make Geauga County as a 2nd Amendment Sanctuary County. Ms. Bourne noted that there is a HB 62 that was presented to make the State of Ohio a 2nd Amendment Sanctuary State. Ms. Bourne wants Geauga County to be a safe haven for responsible gun owners to protect their family and property. Ms. Bourne offered to assist with whatever needs to be done, and asked for a direction of what she can do.

Mr. Dvorak inquired about how many counties are signed up, to which Ms. Bourne noted that she thought there was at least a dozen. Mr. Dvorak asked about HB 62 and when it was going through. Ms. Bourne noted that it is supposed to go through in the next couple weeks and expressed that what is contained in HB 127 is disastrous for any 2nd amendment advocate or

Commissioners' Journal
March 2, 2021

anyone who wants to protect themselves. Mr. Spidalieri stated that he didn't know enough about this, but that he was pro 2nd amendment and that Geauga County is pretty much a pro 2nd amendment county. Ms. Bourne noted that Ashtabula is already a Sanctuary County and presented a resolution from the State of Missouri under the 2nd Amendment Preservation Act. This outlines the duty of the county and that they will not enforce or go against 2nd amendment rights, including the tracking of firearms and limit the rounds in magazines.

HB 127 contains a new tax on firearms and that you will be required to pass an evaluation in order to purchase ammunition. Ms. Bourne expressed that she is willing to do whatever needs to be done to help.

Mr. Dvorak expressed that they will look into this and do some additional research.

OTHER

The Board reviewed upcoming events.

MEETINGS

- Wed., 3/3 Special Planning Commission, 7:30 a.m., 470 Center St. Building #1C, Conference room (Webex)*
- Tue., 3/9 Planning Commission, 7:30 a.m., 470 Center St. Building #8 meeting room*
- Tue., 3/9 The Commissioners will hold regular session at 9:30 a.m.*
- Fri., 3/12 NOACA, Meet and Greet, 8:00 a.m., Board of Directors meeting, 9:00 a.m., Cleveland*
- Mon., 3/15 Board of Revision, 9:00 a.m. Auditor's (webex)*
- Mon., 3/15 Family First Council, 1:30 p.m. Job and Family Services*
- Tue., 3/16 The Commissioners will hold regular session at 9:30 a.m.*
- Tue., 3/16 Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste Board of Directors Meeting, 12:00 p.m. Warren, District Office (Zoom)*
- Tue., 3/22 The Commissioners will hold regular session at 9:30 a.m.*

BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Geauga County Board of Commissioners

James W. Dvorak

Timothy C. Lennon

Ralph Spidalieri

Christine Blair, Commissioners' Clerk

Commissioners' Journal
March 2, 2021

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK