

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**September 2, 2021**

*The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on September 2, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at the Junior Fair Stage at the Great Geauga County Fair located at 14373 North Cheshire Street in Burton, 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 10:06 a.m. by leading the Board and audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.*

*Commissioner Dvorak read the following prayer:*

*Almighty and Loving Father,  
We are gathered here today to celebrate our 199<sup>th</sup> Great Geauga County Fair  
Send us your Holy Spirit to be our guide and give us the wisdom to understand every topic that we discuss today  
Enlighten our minds and let your love be upon us  
We all strive to make the Best, Better! Our Junior Fair children are competing with their projects with High Hopes of doing well. But at the Fair, over the years you learn how to win and you learn how to lose  
But always congratulate the winners!  
The blessings are your 4-H friends and families – while they are forever!  
The 4-H Pledge –  
I pledge my Head to clearer thinking  
My heart to greater loyalty  
My hands to larger service  
And my Health to better living, for my club, my community and my country  
Living in a rural area  
These Geauga County Children have rough hands, farmer's tans, dirty boots and country roots  
Thank you, Lord for the 4-H program which is over 100 years old  
4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning Leadership Citizenship and Life skills.  
Amen*

WELCOME

*The Commissioners' welcomed everyone to the Great Geauga County Fair, opening day. Commissioner Dvorak recognized the Elected Officials in attendance that included County Engineer Joe Cattell, Former Recorder Sharon Gingerich, Recorder Celesta Mullins, Clerk of Courts Sheila Bevington and Prosecutor Jim Flaiz.*

*Mr. Dvorak recognized Agricultural Society Fair Board President Dave Parker. Mr. Parker thanked everyone for coming today and the Board of Commissioners for having their meeting at the fair, and for all their continued support and for all that they do for the Fair.*

MEETING MINUTES

*Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of July 20, 2021.*

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

*Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of July 27, 2021.*

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

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AIRPORT AUTHORITY – FAA GRANT – PROPERTY ACQUISITION

County Administrator Gerard Morgan explained that this is part of the FAA grant for the property acquisition for the Federal Improvement property, which is referred to as the Ford property, this is being separated from the Hodgins property.

*Motion:* by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Aviation Administration, FAA Airport Improvement Program Grant Agreement, Part I – Offer (AIP Grant #3-39-0054-024-2021) to Acquire Land for Runway 11 Runway Protection Zone of 7.605 acres in the amount of \$231,235.00 and further execute the Airport Improvement Program Sponsor Certifications, including Selection of Consultants, Real Property Acquisition, Construction Project Final Acceptance, Certification and Disclosure Regarding Potential Conflicts of Interest and Drug-Free Workplace.

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

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT (COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC) – UPDATE THE OHIO DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AGENCY / OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT'S ORGANIZATION CONTACTS FORM (OCEAN USERS) ROLE AND ASSIGNMENT FORM

Mr. Morgan explained that this is to update the form for the OCEAN users to access the software program that is used to handle the CDBG grant. Clerk Christine Blair noted that we are removing two employees and adding Mr. Gorton as oversight on the grant.

*Motion:* by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Ohio Development Services Agency / Office of Community Development Organization Contacts Form (OCEAN Users and Role Assignment Form) that is used to apply for and maintain ODSA programs and grants.

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

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – 2022 BUDGET HEARING SCHEDULE

Mr. Morgan asked the Board to approve the budget hearing schedule for the 2022 tax budget.

*Motion:* by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve the 2022 Budget Hearing Schedule.

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

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE - CHANGE ORDER #4 INCREASE CONTRACT – DONLEY'S INDEPENDENCE, LLC – GMP #1 AND #2

Mr. Morgan explained that this change order is for upgrades to the generator which allows us to run the whole building on generator, which is better to do now.

*Motion:* by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute Change Order #4, increasing the Contract with Donley's Independence, LLC for Guaranteed Maximum Price, Phase 1 and Phase #2 (GMP #1 & #2) for upgrades to the building generator and security that were not covered in the original contract in the amount of \$784,734.00.

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

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DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – RESOLUTION AMENDING #19-130 TO FURTHER SPECIFY AMOUNT OF MONEY TO BE ACCUMULATED IN CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND

Mr. Morgan stated that when we did the resolution to set up the capital projects fund there was no maximum set and now the State Auditor's are requesting we set a maximum on that fund which will be set up at \$40 million, which is the high end of the estimate, and the max we are able to put in there.

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and execute Resolution #21-110 Amending Resolution #19-130 To Further Specify the Amount of Money to be Accumulated in the Capital Projects Fund.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Date: September 2, 2021

Resolution: #21-110

**A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION No. 19-130 TO FURTHER SPECIFY THE AMOUNT OF MONEY TO BE ACCUMULATED IN THE CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND**

WHEREAS, on or about October 8, 2019, the Geauga County Board of Commissioners ("County Commissioners") passed Resolution No. 19-130 requesting the establishment of a capital projects fund pursuant to R.C. 5705.13(C) and further requesting the County Auditor to seek approval of the fund from the Auditor of the State of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the capital projects fund was established in accordance with R.C. 5705.13(C) and received the required approvals; and

WHEREAS, the County Commissioners wish to amend the Resolution to further specify the amount of money to be accumulated in the capital project fund for the purposes set forth in Resolution No. 19-130;

WHEREAS, the County Commissioners desire to designate the sum of Forty Million Dollars (\$40,000,000.00) as the amount of money to be accumulated for those purposes, in accordance with R.C. 5705.13(C).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners hereby amend Resolution No. 19-130 to designate the sum of Forty Million Dollars (\$40,000,000.00) as the amount of money to be accumulated in the capital project fund for the purposes set forth in the Resolution.

Roll Call Vote:	Commissioner Spidalieri	Aye
	Commissioner Lennon	Aye
	Commissioner Dvorak	Aye

PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE – APPLICATION OF PROSECUTING ATTORNEY TO EMPLOY BENESCH, FRIEDLANDER, COPLAN AND ARNOFF, LLP

Prosecutor Jim Flaiz explained that Benesch's office is assisting the Prosecutor's office with things for the new building, adding that they are trying to do a majority of it, and then they review or a check over on the work being done. This is an application to go back to the Court for additional assistance on the other projects that will need done in the County. Mr. Morgan added that there are several projects, including with the Department on Aging community center, the Ravenwood building along with a few other projects that may need to be done. Mr. Flaiz stated that Ms. LaChapelle will prepare the documents and then Benesch will review them for final approval. There was some discussion about doing some updating and valuation of the properties from when the last study was completed. Commissioner Spidalieri thanked Mr. Flaiz for helping us get this to where we are, and that he hoped the residents of the County are grateful for what he has here, working together as a team.

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*Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Application of Prosecuting Attorney and Geauga County Board of Commissioners to employ Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan and Arnoff, LLP as outside legal counsel to assist the Prosecutor's Office with the provision of legal services to support capital improvements projects involving the design, remodeling and / or construction of county buildings.*

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

*Mr. Spidalieri noticed that Howard Bates had walked up to the meeting, and he wanted to give Mr. Bates kudos for all the support he has given to the 4-H kids in this County, and last weekend he went to the Portage County Fair and he walked in to the auction and Mr. Bates was there supporting the 4-H kids in Portage, and he just want to say Thank you.*

**KENT STATE UNIVERSITY**

*Commissioner Dvorak introduced Kent State Geauga Dean Angela Spalsbury, explaining that she is very involved in the Geauga County community, serving on many boards, including the University Hospitals Geauga Medical Campus Board of Directors, the Geauga Growth Partnership Board of Directors and the Geauga County Job and Family Services Advisory Board.*

*Ms. Blair explained that since 2018 Dr. Angela Spalsbury has served as the Dean and Chief Administrative Officer of Kent State University Geauga and Twinsburg Academic Center. Dr. Spalsbury earned her PhD in pure mathematics from Kent State. She also earned a Master of Science in mathematics from the University of Pretoria in South Africa. Before joining Kent State, she chaired the Mathematics Department at Youngstown State University. She also taught at John Carroll University, Hiram College and the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa.*

*Dr. Angela Spalsbury expressed that she was excited to be here and at the fair. Dr. Spalsbury introduced Kent State University President Todd Diacon, explaining that President Diacon joined the Kent State University in July 2019 as the 13<sup>th</sup> President. President Diacon is a tireless advocate for student success, that he has more than 30 years of experience in higher education leadership. President Diacon has a commitment to college affordability and access has resulted in nationally recognized initiatives to boost student retention, graduation rates and academic achievement.*

*President Diacon joined Kent State as provost in 2012 and has been at the forefront of expanding Kent State's international presence, he has led the charge to recruit and promote more diverse faculty, and has helped the university attract world renowned leaders in the fields of aviation, engineering, brain health, liquid crystals and peace and conflict studies.*

*Before coming to Kent State, President Diacon served as deputy chancellor at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, where he was also a professor of history. President Diacon began his career at the University of Tennessee as a history professor.*

*Dr. Spalsbury stated that President Diacon is a native of Wellington, Kansas and was told he lived next to farms, while he didn't live on one. President Diacon specializes in agrarian history and the history of central state power in Brazil. He earned his bachelor's degree from Southwestern College in Kansas and his master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.*

*President Diacon is married to former Kent State employee Moema Furtado and they have one grown son. Dr. Spalsbury expressed excitement for having them here at the Great Geauga County Fair.*

*President Diacon stated that Wellington, Kansas and that is the county that grows more wheat than any other place in the United States, mentioning that his family was farmers and his Uncle ran a dairy farm back in the day. President Diacon stated it brought back memories being here*

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*and thanked Dean Spalsbury for her great leadership. President Diacon stated that about five years ago they started to think about deep infrastructural impacts for our campus as a way to make a deep impact in the communities, expressing the working relationship with Superintendent Stoddard and the new school facility. It's an amazing project and a great example of how we can work together. President Diacon thanked elected officials for their hard work and thanked everyone for being their today.*

*Commissioner Dvorak presented President Diacon with some Geauga County Maple Syrup and posed for a few pictures.*

**OTHER**

*The Board reviewed upcoming events.*

**MEETINGS**

*Mon., 9/6 **County Offices will be closed in observance of the Labor Day Holiday. Twenty-four hour operations will continue to operate as usual.***

*Thu., 9/9 The Commissioners will hold regular session at 9:30 am.*

*Fri., 9/10 NOACA Board of Directors Meeting, 9:00 a.m. Cleveland*

*Mon., 9/13 Board of Revision, 9:00 a.m. Auditor's Office*

*Tue., 9/14 Planning Commission, 7:30 a.m. 470 Center Street, Building #8 meeting room*

*Tue., 9/14 The Commissioners will hold regular session at 9:30 a.m.*

*Tue., 9/14 The Commissioners will visit the County Office Building Site*

*Mon., 9/20 Family First Council, 1:30 p.m. at Job and Family Services*

*Tue., 9/21 The Commissioners will hold regular session at 9:30 a.m.*

*Commissioner Dvorak noted that Sheriff Hildenbrand had arrived at the meeting.*

***BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD***

*Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to adjourn the meeting at 10:28 a.m.*

*Geauga County Board of Commissioners*

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*James W. Dvorak*

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*Timothy C. Lennon*

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*Ralph Spidalieri*

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*Christine Blair, Commissioners' Clerk*

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