

Commissioners' Journal
April 24, 2008

The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on April 24, 2008 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, Craig S. Albert opened the meeting 9:35 a.m. by leading the Board and audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVE MINUTES

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Young to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of April 22, 2008.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Samide</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Young</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Albert</i>	<i>Aye</i>

COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – KOKOSING CONSTRUCTION INCORPORATED CONTRACT – ASPHALT RESURFACING OF TAYLOR WELLS ROAD

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Young to approve and execute a Unit Price Contract with Kokosing Construction Incorporated for The Asphalt Resurfacing of Taylor Wells Road (CH 28, Section A) in Claridon Township in the amount of \$310,448.50.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Samide</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Young</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Albert</i>	<i>Aye</i>

COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE - RONYAK PAVING INCORPORATED CONTRACT - ASPHALT RESURFACING OF RAPIDS ROAD

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Young to approve and execute a Unit Price Contract with Ronyak Paving Incorporated for The Asphalt Resurfacing of Rapids Road (CH 1) in Troy Township in the amount of \$98,679.70.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Samide</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Young</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Albert</i>	<i>Aye</i>

COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – RONYAK PAVING INCORPORATED CONTRACT - ASPHALT RESURFACING OF RUSSELL ROAD

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Young to approve and execute a Unit Price Contract with Ronyak Paving Incorporated for The Asphalt Resurfacing of Russell Road (CH 20) in Russell Township in the amount of \$189,595.00.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Samide</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Young</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Albert</i>	<i>Aye</i>

COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – RONYAK PAVING INCORPORATED CONTRACT – LEVELING AND ASPHALT RESURFACING OF BASS LAKE ROAD

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Young to approve and execute a Unit Price Contract with Ronyak Paving Incorporated for The Leveling and Asphalt Resurfacing of Bass Lake Road (CH 23, Sections B&C) in Newbury Township in the amount of \$270,604.80.

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<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Samide</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Young</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Albert</i>	<i>Aye</i>

DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – OHIO DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES SUBGRANT #G-89-20-1065

Director Tim Taylor explained that a lot of the concerns previously presented to the Board regarding this agreement have been addressed and that there is a higher level of comfort.

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Young to approve and execute, upon the recommendation of the Executive Director of Job and Family Services, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) Subgrant Agreement (#G-89-20-1065) between ODJFS and the Geauga County Board of Commissioners establishing the terms, conditions and requirements governing the administration and use of federal funds, for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Samide</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Young</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Albert</i>	<i>Aye</i>

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – PANZICA CONSTRUCTION COMPANY AGREEMENT OF COMPLETION – NEWBURY SCHOOL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADES

The following request was read: “approve and execute the Agreement for Completion of the Newbury School Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades between the Geauga County Board of Commissioners and Panzica Construction Company”. Director Gus Saikaly stated that he would like to postpone action on the request. Mr. Saikaly talked with Mr. Panzica and they are trying to get more assurance and push to get this work done as soon as possible and not wait for a July completion date. Mr. Panzica is waiting on a call back from a contractor on site to discuss a quicker start and completion date to complete these upgrades. Commissioner Young commented that he believed that Mr. Panzica should be responsible for completing a project as quickly as possible and he has not been responsible on this project. Mr. Panzica has not been efficient at completing this project and has ignored and then violated ODOT rules. Commissioner Young added that if he really cared Mr. Panzica could have completed it long ago. Mr. Panzica has delayed this project for so long and Commissioner Young believes he should be sued. He agreed to do this project and he has not done it. Commissioner Young commented that if the Board took this project over, so much time has elapsed by this time it may cost more money if it has to go out to bid. Commissioner Samide commented that he has shown the kind of general manager he is and it will be remembered for future projects. Mr. Saikaly added that this agreement was the result of meeting held a few weeks ago that ended up with all agreeing to have this agreement to be able to move forward. Mr. Saikaly added his concern regarding this meeting, that was attended by county officials, where they all agreed to have this agreement, although Mr. Saikaly added that he knows it was not Board approval. Commissioner Albert stated that at that meeting Mr. Panzica was told that he did not have to start until school was out, at least the painting of the inside of the tanks because of the usage of water from the school system. Commissioner Albert stated he would give Mr. Panzica the benefit of the doubt that he will complete this project, when school is out. Mr. Saikaly stated that the project could be done with school in, it is done all the time. Mr. Saikaly continued that he understands the concerns of the Board and the need to get this project completed without this new agreement, if necessary and if it can be done. Commissioner Young stated that Mr. Panzica should just get the project done.

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – COMMUNITY FAIR HOUSING COMMISSION APPOINTMENT – MATTHEW KENNEDY

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Young to appoint Matthew Kennedy of Geauga Savings Bank to the Geauga County Community Fair Housing Commission for a two (2) year term expiring December 31, 2009.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Samide</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Young</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Albert</i>	<i>Aye</i>

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OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – NATIONAL FORECLOSURE MITIGATION COUNSELING GRANT AGREEMENT

Program Coordinator Rhea Dykes explained that this is a new grant, it will not change the scope of work it will compensate them for the work they are doing.

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Young to approve and execute the Ohio Housing Finance Agency National Foreclosure Mitigation Counseling Grant Agreement (#N-FC-83455) for the National Foreclosure Mitigation Counseling Grant, for the period April 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008, in the amount of \$9,540.00.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Samide</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Young</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Albert</i>	<i>Aye</i>

OTHER

Commissioner Samide briefly reported on her NOACA meeting with Mayor Procuk of Brooklyn Heights.

Director of Community and Economic Development Anita Stocker commented that the State energy bill went through and the electric rates will hold steady and manufacturing business will be able to negotiate for better rates. Commissioner Young commented that the Mike Brakey report was off the mark and it is a good thing that what they projected was wrong. Mia Moore, First Energy Area Manager stated that they are very knowledgeable people but what they were using were facts that occurred outside the State of Ohio and they continued to tout that information in Geauga County. Ms. Stocker added that a lot of letters were written to legislators to do something about the electric rates. Commissioner Young stated that Senator Tim Grendell played a significant role in being able to hopefully help NOPEC provide discounted electric rates for supply. Ms. Moore added that the distribution organizations will still have to select whether they will go with market retail rates or PUCO rates. If they go with market retail rates there will be auctions to select the best price. Commissioner Young, who is Vice Chairman of NOPEC, stated that they are the only aggregator that does anything nationwide. \$65 million was saved in northeast Ohio because of NOPEC. Ms. Moore added that First Energy did not want a rate shock for their customers but they were the only utility that abided by the law as it was written in 1999 in regards to deregulation. Ms. Moore added that all generation is separated from distribution and First Energy will be allowed to move forward with the open market side on the generation side of the business but they also will be to keep their northeast Ohio customers in terms of distribution. Ms. Stocker commented that when this happened in other states and they changed there was no example to see what would happen, therefore no letters were written or lobbying done saying "do not let this happen". The manufacturing community sent a lot of letters. The letters and NOPEC made a big difference in getting something that is more consumer and business friendly. There is an energy component built into the bill as well for wind and solar energy. Ms. Moore added there is a huge cost to wind and solar energy.

Commissioner Albert left session at this point.

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE - EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Young to move into executive session for the purpose of discussing the compensation of public employees.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Samide</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Young</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Albert</i>	<i>Absent</i>

The Board reconvened at 11:07 a.m. The following action was taken as a result of this executive session:

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Young to approve a general wage increase consisting of a single step increase per eligible employee

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as per the Geauga County Compensation tables for non-bargaining unit, non-JFS employees under the hiring authority of the Geauga County Board of Commissioners and not specifically identified with the following second action request for merit pay increases, to be effective with 2008 pay #10.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Samide</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Young</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Albert</i>	<i>Absent</i>

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Young to approve a 2008 merit wage increase for the following individuals, to be effective with 2008 pay #10 for the following:

<i>Heidi Delaney</i>	<i>Grade 10E</i>	<i>Step 4</i>
<i>Lisa Feigle</i>	<i>Grade 13</i>	<i>\$26.72 (beyond Step 11)</i>
<i>Karen Fueger</i>	<i>Grade 6</i>	<i>Step 7</i>
<i>Adrian Gorton</i>	<i>Grade 16E</i>	<i>Step 6</i>
<i>Sheryl Spencer</i>	<i>Grade 3</i>	<i>Step 10</i>
<i>Joni Stusek</i>	<i>Grade 11</i>	<i>Step 8</i>
<i>Gus Saikaly</i>	<i>Grade E17</i>	<i>Step 11</i>

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Samide</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Young</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Albert</i>	<i>Absent</i>

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Young to amend the motion of April 10, 2008:

“to approve the promotion of Ken Folsom to the position of Deputy Director – Preparedness (#1711) to be effective April 20, 2008 at the rate of \$21.19. After the successful completion of a 120 day period the rate will increase to \$22.63, Grade 14E, Step 4.”

to reflect a corrected wage increase of \$22.22, to be effective April 20, 2008. After the successful completion of a 120 day period the rate will increase to \$23.39, Grade 14E, Step 5.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Samide</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Young</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Albert</i>	<i>Absent</i>

OTHER

Claudine Kozenko, Commissioners' Clerk reviewed the Board's May and June calendars and pending meetings with the Board for availability.

County Recorder Glen Quigley presented the Board with the 2007 Geauga County Archives and Records Center Annual Report.

RECESS

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Young to move into recess at 11:26 a.m. until noon for the economic development meeting.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Samide</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Young</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Albert</i>	<i>Absent</i>

The Board reconvened at 12:14 p.m. Commissioner Young was absent from session at this point.

MONTHLY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MEETING

Commissioner Albert returned to session at this point. The Commissioners held the monthly Economic Development work session discussion. Those present for the meeting were: Bill Clark;

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Bob Cannon, Cannon Advantage; Rob Roy of Burton Township; Enzo Perfetto, Enzoco Homes; Anita Stocker, Director Community and Economic Development; Judith Beaumier, Burton Village; Linda Burhenne, Special Projects Coordinator; Commissioner Albert; Commissioner Samide; Commissioners' Clerk Claudine Kozenko.

Ms. Stocker introduced Robert E. Cannon of The Cannon Advantage. Mr. Cannon, a Certified Management Consultant, and author, has a number of products and services including consulting for inventors and their options. Mr. Cannon has been involved in developing and marketing products, patents and helping entrepreneurs to get licensed and take their product to market. In Mr. Cannon's newsletter "The Cannon Advantage" he recommends offering three options for inventors; license, sell the ideas or do-it-yourself. The license is the easiest and least expensive but a minimum return and little control. Selling your idea has no control and is a one shot deal. Do it yourself has a big reward and control but is the hardest and expensive and time consuming. There has to be some discipline brought to these inventors. Trademarks, licensing, and patents were discussed. Mr. Cannon offers coaching to inventors to help them develop, create presentations, how to find resources and options available for the product. Bill Clark questioned if there was anything the people in Geauga County could do to encourage some of these people with great ideas, such as incubators. Mr. Cannon believes incubators have a lot of merit. Creating a center that encourages people to bring ideas in and then impose discipline that will help them get their product to market would be a starting point. Initially an "idea center" would be a great way to start, explaining that there will be non-disclosure so it is a safe place to bring your ideas. After an informative and lengthy discussion the idea was discussed to perhaps set up a fund to help entrepreneurs in Geauga County by offering a one time consultation fee to understand how to develop their product and perhaps setting up a site for this consultation service. Ms. Stocker suggested a work session with the Board in the future to discuss this idea further.

Commissioner Albert introduced Enzo Perfetto of Enzoco Homes. Mr. Perfetto expressed the difficulties with housing in the area is partially due to the national housing downturn but a lot, in his opinion, is due to Geauga County in general and the "NIMBY" (not in my backyard) mentality. People in Geauga are getting older and want to scale down their houses as well as their lots. Large lot areas are a problem. With price of gas the proximity to major arteries is making Geauga County less desirable. Lake County has many pockets of real estate that are doing very well. Lake County has a very inviting atmosphere. In the City of Chardon it takes about 30 days to get your first reviews marked up and another 30 days before you can break ground. The Geauga County building Department is easy to work with. The septic system and "the point of sale" and septic system maintenance issues are preventing potential buyers from building in Geauga County. We need to look for future growth in Geauga County. People want quarter acre lots that offer little maintenance. The Board of Trustees for the Home Builders Association has progressive dialogues with Lake County Commissioners including monthly meetings with the Commissioners and their Building Department. In Cuyahoga County it is cheaper to knock down houses and build new as the infrastructure is already there. Mr. Perfetto stated that there is only one way to support a limited amount of residents and that is to raise taxes and then only the very wealthy will be able to live in Geauga County. There will be no other income generator. Mr. Perfetto has industrial property in Munson at \$4.00 per square foot and there have been no calls and no interest on that property. In Lake County there is availability but there is a lot of movement in that county. Mr. Perfetto loves living in Geauga County but he has moved his business to Lake and even Cuyahoga County. Commissioner Samide reported that the point of sale is a real problem in Geauga County. Mr. Perfetto believes in mandatory septic system cleanings. Mr. Perfetto concluded by saying that Geauga County needs to be more open minded. Septic systems and riparian setbacks are negative to the housing industry. More dialogue is needed between the Commissioners, the Planning Commission and the Home Builders Association. As a developer they purchase property based on the current zoning. But, when a piece of land with no zoning changes takes a year and a half to get approved it is a deterrent to builders. Commissioner Albert questioned why nothing is going on in Geauga County. Mr. Perfetto believes we are "reaping what we sowed" through the years with large lot zoning and NIMBY. Planning should be more creative and accept conservation zoning. Instead of 2,000 feet of road, 1,000 feet could suffice by clustering houses closer together and keeping the trees. Any changes brought in by a developer or builder becomes a stalemate. Commissioner Samide stated that the voters in Geauga County overwhelming want parks and semi rural environment and they like the Midwestern values. Mr. Perfetto would like to see more dialogue with representatives of the Home Builders Association

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before decisions are made and allow them to voice an opinion. Mr. Roy added that a balance of growth is needed. Mr. Perfetto stated that some conservation concepts need to be discussed.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- a. *The 2008 First Quarter Report "Economic State of Geauga" filed by the County Auditor.*
- b. *A weekly report filed by the County Dog Warden of all dogs seized, impounded, redeemed or destroyed for the week ending April 16, 2008 as required by O.R.C. 955.12.*

MEETINGS

Thu., 4/24 The Commissioners will hold the monthly Economic Development work session discussion at noon.

Thu., 4/24 Some members of the Board will be attending the CIC Community Improvement Corporation 38th Annual Salute to Commerce and Industry Annual meeting at 6:00 p.m. at St. Denis Party Center.

Tue., 4/29 The Commissioners will hold regular session.

Tue., 4/29 ADP meeting at 2:00 p.m.

Thu., 5/1 The Commissioners will hold regular session.

Tue., 5/6 The Commissioners will hold regular session.

*Thu., 5/8 **The Regularly scheduled Commissioners' meeting is cancelled.***

Thu., 5/8 14th District Elected Officials' Conference, Washington, DC

5/5 thru 5/11 Public Service Recognition Week

Tue., 5/13 The Commissioners will hold regular session.

Thu., 5/15 The Commissioners will hold regular session.

BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, COMMISSIONER ALBERT ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 1:51 P.M.

Geauga County Board of Commissioners

Mary E. Samide

William S. Young

Craig S. Albert

Claudine Kozenko, Commissioners' Clerk