

Commissioners' Journal
February 3, 2009

The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on February 3, 2009 at 10:00 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, William S. Young opened the meeting at 10:03 a.m. by leading the Board and audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVE MINUTES

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of January 29, 2009.

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

APPROVE FINANCIALS

Fiscal Specialist Heidi Delaney reported the financials as including a Revenue Certification for the Engineer's Maintenance Road Fund and the Escrow Road and Bridge Fund and a Revenue De-certification for the Road and Bridge Fund; a supplemental appropriation for the Department of Emergency Services Capital Fund to appropriate a portion of the carryover balance; cash transfers for medical, dental and life insurance for February 2009; a purchase order for Insight Public Sector to be encumbered in the 800 Communications Permanent Improvement Fund in the amount of \$1,309,886.47 for the state bid purchase and installation of mobile data terminals (MDTs); one Then and Now and two travel requests.

Sheriff McClelland and Chief Deputy Scott Hildenbrand were present to discuss the 800 communications purchase order for mobile data terminals. This is the next step in putting the safety forces throughout Geauga County in a higher level. The MDT's will be put in Sheriff cars, police cars, fire and ambulance vehicles to give the capability of sharing data like no other county in Ohio. Commissioner Samide commented that Geauga County, with the help of the sales tax, has come so far and we are light years ahead in technology in the last five years. Commissioner Samide Sheriff McClelland added that crimes are being solved now by sharing some data and comparing notes. The MDTs will allow this to be performed better, quicker and shared over a wider area. The Sheriff gave several examples of the benefits of instant information and explained the safety benefits of instant shared information enhancement. Commissioner Jemison added that Access Geauga will also now be available instantly to all the safety vehicles instead of going to GIS and getting information printed out. Sheriff added that the goal is to get the information available currently in their offices and put it on the MDTs for instant information. All the police and fire departments are joining in on this system. Commissioner Young stated that this is very exciting and will make the county safer and stronger.

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and execute Resolution 09-013 itemizing the financials for the meeting of February 3, 2009.

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

PROBATE / JUVENILE COURT – AMENDMENT FORM – PROGRAM BUDGET SUMMARY

David Lubecky, Common Pleas Court Administrator / Magistrate reported that Judge Henry started using his courtroom again yesterday after the recent flooding (due to the hot water heater pipe separation in the Prosecutor's Office) and reported that there were a couple of bumps in the floor. County Administrator Dave Lair reported that everyone was back in their office except the one office where the water originated from. Commissioner Young added that very little carpet replacement will have to be done. Mr. Lubecky added that whatever records

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got wet were laid out and dried. All agreed that the fast action on behalf of the Chardon Police and Fire Departments and the staff of the Maintenance Department helped to prevent this from becoming a real disaster.

Mr. Lubecky reported that the program amendment was due to a change in health insurance of an employee from single to family coverage to which the department had budgeted for signal coverage.

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Amendment Form / Program Budget Summary #1 to the FY 2009 Department of Youth Services Subsidy Grant adding \$2,779.08 to Standard Program No. 201 Monitoring / Surveillance. This will result in total program costs in the amount of \$351,225.10 for FY 2009.

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

PLANNING COMMISSION – WATER QUALITY JOINT FUNDING AGREEMENT – U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Director Dave Dietrich stated that the Board has met with Martha Jagucki (USGS) and adjusted the proposal per the Commissioners input to include methane and pesticide components to the testing of the sixteen wells scattered throughout the county to continue trend analysis. These are the same wells that were tested ten years ago. This testing is done by scientific approach. Commissioner Jemison asked if the money is appropriated for this to which Mr. Lair reported it was.

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and execute a Joint Funding Agreement (#09-E4OH2472025) with U.S. Geological Survey, United States Department of the Interior and the Geauga County Board of Commissioners for temporal changes in water quality in Geauga County in the amount of \$73,045.00 for the period January 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010.

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

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – AD CONTRACT WITH TAG MEDIA

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Ad Contract with TAG Media LTD Publishing and Promotion for advertisement and promotional activity for economic development within the county, in accordance with the marketing and other objectives of the Geauga County Economic Analysis Plan.

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

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – FAIR HOUSING ACT 41ST ANNIVERSARY RESOLUTION

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and execute Resolution 09-014 to acknowledge the 41st Anniversary of the Fair Housing Act and the policy of Fair and Equal Access and to proclaim the month of April as Fair Housing Month.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Date: February 3, 2009
Resolution: 09- 014

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RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH

WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States passed the Civil Rights Act of 1968, of which Title VIII declared that the law of the land would now guarantee the rights of equal housing opportunity; and

WHEREAS, April 2009 is the 41st Anniversary of the Passage of the federal Fair Housing Act; and

WHEREAS, April has traditionally been designated as FAIR HOUSING MONTH by the President of the United States and by the Governor of the state of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the mission of fair housing in Ohio is to improve the quality of life for all residents and celebrate Ohio's fair housing law which is substantially equivalent to the federal Fair Housing Act; and

WHEREAS, this is a time to remember where we started, to celebrate 40 years of successes, and to march toward the future in ensuring justice and housing opportunities for all Americans

NOW THEREFORE, We, the Board of Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio wish to acknowledge the County's endorsement and commitment to celebrate the 41st Anniversary of the Passage of the federal Fair Housing Act and the policy of Fair and Equal Access to Housing and do hereby proclaim the month of April as FAIR HOUSING MONTH and encourage citizens to acquaint themselves with their rights that are protected under the law, and join in reaffirming a commitment to Fair Housing for all regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, familial or disability status.

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

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – YARNELL TREE COMPANY

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and execute a service Contract Agreement with Yarnell Tree Company to perform tree removal services at various water treatment plants within the department for the 2009 Year, in an amount not to exceed \$2,500.00.

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

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – MCDONALD EQUIPMENT COMPANY

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and execute a service Contract Agreement with McDonald Equipment Company to perform generator service and repairs as needed at various county water treatment plants and pump stations for the 2009 Year, in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00.

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

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – OSBOURN PLUMBING & HEATING

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and execute a service Contract Agreement with Osbourn Plumbing and Heating Company Incorporated to perform emergency plumbing repairs at various when needed at various locations within the department for the 2009 Year, in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00.

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

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – HARBOR BUILDING COMPANY INCORPORATED

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and execute a service Contract Agreement with Harbor Building Company Incorporated to perform construction and roofing services as needed at various county buildings within the department for the 2009 Year, in an amount not to exceed \$2,500.00.

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

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – LEASE BUSINESS TERMS – VERIZON WIRELESS

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Lease Business Terms (proposal) with Verizon Wireless for possible cell tower location on the Geauga County Fairgrounds for a five year initial lease term with an annual rental of \$10,800.00 (paid in \$900.00 monthly installments).

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

OTHER

Kimm Leininger, LISW Executive Director United Way was present to discuss the Free Tax Preparation Service sponsored by Financial Stability Partnership: Geauga County Board of Commissioners and United Way Services of Geauga County. Also present for the discussion was Chardon City Council Member Leslie Bednar who is working with United Way on a project management basis to help with the Geauga County Financial Stability Partnership. Ms. Leininger stated this is the first step of three in this partnership. The three steps are to help families to increase income, build their savings and gain and sustain their assets. The core of the program is financial literacy. Free financial tax preparation is the first step in an effort in helping families gain and sustain their assets. United Way is partnering with Ohio Benefits Bank which is funded through the Governors Office through the Ohio Department of Development for Community Services, who were one of the initial funders of the program to get it up and running. They are also partnering with the AARP program in Geauga County, who also have locations for tax prep services, and the Vita program operated out of the Department on Aging. Across the country 20-25% of low income individuals don't know they are eligible for the earned income tax credit (EITC). In addition to the free tax preparation assistance trained volunteer tax assistance can help these people determine if they are eligible for the (EITC). The EITC is the federal government's largest program benefiting lower income earning workers. Ms. Leininger added that the goal is to serve 200 Geauga County residents which would have to potential to bring over \$320,000.00 back into Geauga County. The free tax preparation service is available to households with an annual income less than \$56,000.00. Appointments are available February 7, 2009 through March 31, 2009. There are over 21 trained volunteers who will be doing the tax preparation services at the following sites: Chagrin Falls Community Center, Huntsburg Town Hall, Job and Family Services, Middlefield Public Library, NDCL, St. Mary's in Chardon, Thompson United Methodist Church and West Geauga High School. Through the Ohio Benefits bank the volunteer counselor can walk individuals through the process to help them discover what other programs of assistance they may be eligible for. Commissioner Jemison commented that this is a magnificent program especially for those individuals who had EITC monies coming and didn't even know it. Ms. Leininger explained that some low income families' income is so low that they don't have to file an income tax return and therefore don't know that they are eligible for and EITC credit. Ms. Leininger shared a story of a single mother with several children who filed and EITC credit and received \$20,000.00 and was able to put money down on a house and a car that she needed to be able to get to work. This same woman now is a contributor to society. Ms. Leininger will be getting this information to the media and employers in Geauga County. Once these individuals receive their refund they will be educated on savings and how to begin to build there own wealth.

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OTHER

Commissioners' Clerk passed out previously collected paperwork on Connect Ohio for the Board's review.

Ms. Kozenko also discussed with the Board the choices for the stationary final draft. Ms. Kozenko thanked Kevin Bach from the Auditor's Office who created the stationary which Commissioner Samide then fine tuned. Commissioner Jemison agreed that once the letterhead is completed it can be emailed to the departments for electronic use. Commissioner Jemison asked to have the county website added to the stationary.

Commissioner Young added the CCAO Regional Legislative Briefing at The Rusty Nail in Kent at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, February 6, 2009.

Mia Moore filing a rate distribution case to have standard rates by June 1 for CEI customers. Ms. Moore added that there will be other news regarding the company overall in future weeks. The Board inquired about the transmission lines. Ms. Moore reported that Ohio Power Siting Board rejected the CARE appeal and believes it will be taken to the Ohio Supreme Court. The utility company is able to work through its process with surveyors to move forward.

MEETINGS

Thu., 2/5 The Commissioners will hold regular session.

Tue., 2/10 The Commissioners will hold regular session.

Thu., 2/12 The Commissioners will hold regular session.

Fri., 2/13 NOACA

Mon., 2/16 The County Offices will be closed in honor of the Presidents Day Holiday.

Tues., 2/17 The Commissioners' regular session is cancelled.

Thur., 2/19 The Commissioners will hold regular session.

Thur., 2/19 The Commissioners will hold Public Hearing #1 regarding the updates to the Special Purpose Flood Damage Reduction with regards to building in areas of special flood hazard of the Floodplain Management Regulations at 10:30 a.m. and February 26, 2009

Thur., 2/19 Chagrin River Watershed Partners, Incorporated Board of Directors Quarterly meeting at 4:00 p.m.

2/22 thru 2/24 Some of the Commissioners will be attending CCAO Commissioners Training.

Tue., 2/24 The Commissioners' regular session is cancelled.

Tue., 2/26 The Commissioners will hold regular session.

Tue., 2/26 Public Viewing on the petition for Ditch Improvement under Kenston Lake Drive on Thursday, February 26, 2009 at 12:00 p.m.

BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, COMMISSIONER YOUNG ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 10:55 P.M.

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Geauga County Board of Commissioners

Tracy A. Jemison

Mary E. Samide

William S. Young

Claudine Kozenko, Commissioners' Clerk