

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**July 14, 2009**

*The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on July 14, 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 10:05 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 July 9, 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 Diane Arp explained the financials as including a Revenue De-Certification for the General Fund; supplementals include a de-appropriation of two line items to get the appropriations in place to do the de-certification; two travel requests and two purchase orders for Job and Family Services for the purchase of two vehicles, a 2009 Dodge Avenger and a 2009 Dodge Caravan. Commissioner Jemison noted that our certificate will be reduced from the Budget Commission by almost \$1.5 million (out of a \$30 million budget) which is reflected in the financials today. Commissioners commented that that was a big reduction.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and execute Resolution 09-130 itemizing the financials for the meeting of July 14, 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>

**ENGINEER'S OFFICE – KOKOSING CONSTRUCTION COMPANY UNIT PRICE CONTRACT – WILSON MILLS ROAD SECTIONS A-C**

*Planning Engineer Mike Stone reported this is another American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) project.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and execute a Unit Price Contract with Kokosing Construction Company for the Asphalt Resurfacing of Wilson Mills Road (CH 8, Sections A-C) in Chester Township, in the amount of \$516,950.52.*

<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>

**ENGINEER'S OFFICE – KOKOSING CONSTRUCTION COMPANY UNIT PRICE CONTRACT – WILSON MILLS ROAD SECTIONS D-F**

*Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and execute a Unit Price Contract with Kokosing Construction Company for the Asphalt Resurfacing of Wilson Mills Road (CH 8, Sections D-F) in Chester Township, in the amount of \$398,715.19.*

<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' Journal**  
**July 14, 2009**

**ENGINEER'S OFFICE – KOKOSING CONSTRUCTION COMPANY UNIT PRICE CONTRACT – WASHINGTON STREET**

*Mr. Stone added that it is worth noting that South Russell Village is getting the benefit along with the county on this 100% ARRA project.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and execute a Unit Price Contract with Kokosing Construction Company for the Asphalt Resurfacing of Washington Street (CH 606, Sections A-C) in South Russell Village and Bainbridge Township, in the amount of \$364,249.37.*

<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>

**ENGINEER'S OFFICE – RESOLUTION ORDERING NAUVOO ROAD IMPROVEMENT – MIDDLEFIELD TOWNSHIP**

*Mr. Stone stated that due to ARRA projects this one is moving to federal funds for fiscal year 2010 in an amount not to exceed \$260,000.00. The current estimate for this project is \$725,000.00. This is the section between Route 608 and Route 528.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and execute Resolution 09-131 Ordering the Improvement of Nauvoo Road (CH 41, Section A) in Middlefield Township. This resolution also requests the Board approve and execute the cover sheet for the specification booklet for the same.*

<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>

**ENGINEER'S OFFICE – AWARD BID – RESURFACE THOMPSON ROAD – RONYAK PAVING INCORPORATED**

*Mr. Stone explained this project was bid quite a while ago but they were waiting on grant approval. This project has a 67% Ohio Public Works grant.*

*Mr. Stone thanked Commissioners' Clerk Claudine Kozenko for pushing this paperwork through because the sooner this can get back to ODOT the sooner the projects can be bid. Mr. Stone stated the she has been really helpful and believed the Board should know.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to award the bid to Ronyak Paving Incorporated for The Asphalt Resurfacing of Thompson Road Project (CH 7, Sections A-E) in Thompson Township, in the amount of \$276,568.06, as they represented the lowest and best bid.*

<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 – PAYROLL AUTHORIZATION FORM**

*Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Payroll Authorization Form authorizing the listed individuals to sign and approve payroll and status change forms for the Department of Water Resources: Douglas Bowen, Gerard Morgan, Adrian Gorton and David Lair.*

<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 AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – CERTIFICATION OF DETERMINATION SUBSEQUENT EXEMPTION**

*Director Anita Stocker reported that this is paperwork that she likes to get out of the way early. This is simply a notification process to the state to notify them that there is no potential environmental issue. In order to expend money that the department has recaptured from the*

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**July 14, 2009**

*payoff of loans through the housing portion of the program they are obligated to re-spend it on the same type of activity. This means they can go in and do housing repairs.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and authorize the President of the Board to sign the Certification of Determination of Subsequent Exemption for a Categorical Exclusion Project under the Recapture Housing program.*

<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 AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – LETTER OF COMMITMENT – GEAUGA FINISHING LLC**

*Commissioner Jemison stated that this will create six jobs initially and eventually down the road more jobs will be created. Ms. Stocker added that the jobs may be cyclical and that there will be probably be a second line (product).*

*Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Letter of Commitment to Geauga Finishing LLC to purchase machinery and equipment for the facility located at 15005 Berkshire Industrial Parkway, Burton Township by lending \$135,000.00 in Revolving Loan funds for a period of five years (60 months) at a fixed interest rate of three (3%), upon the recommendation of the Revolving Loan Fund Committee.*

<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>

**MENTAL HEALTH – LEVY DISCUSSION**

*James Adams, Director Geauga County Board of Mental Health & Recovery (CBMHRS) explained that the Mental Health and Recovery Services Board had reviewed the finances with the fiscal year of July 1 through June 30 with the State fiscal year. In their single largest discretionary line item, General Revenue Fund line 505 base funding, they have lost 45% of its original allocation. Other state funding lines have also incurred losses to almost one-quarter of a million dollars. Mr. Adams stated that they have experienced an 85% increase in the number of people requesting services. Six hundred new people came to them for treatment since January of this year. Mr. Adams informed the Board of the good news of receiving stimulus funds based on Ohio's unemployment and poverty rates. They received a rebate on some Medicaid match that they paid, about \$125,000.00 or \$150,000.00, one time funds. CBMHRS currently has two small property tax levies; one of those is a 0.7 mill five year property tax set to expire December 2009. The Board Trustees passed a resolution requesting the Commissioners place this mental health levy on the 2009 November ballot as a replacement levy. This levy allows for funding mental health and substance abuse prevention and treatment services. This levy was passed as a replacement 10 years ago so revenue has remained relatively flat since then. A replacement would generate approximately \$1.5 million per year with \$700,000.00 (or about \$350,000.00 in their next fiscal year) in new revenue per year. These funds will not allow growth in the system but will delay or offset additional cuts to programming. At the beginning of July the (CBMHRS) Board reduced or eliminated 37 programs and services for the next twelve months and had six lay-offs and they expect another six to ten lay-offs in the next months. Every agency took a cut – including Catholic Charities, Ravenwood, Women's Safe and Mental Health Association. The Board already took an 8% budget cut, and they have had a flat budget for three years. Without passage of the levy, they will need to reduce or close entire agencies by July of next year. The decision for the levy is based on declining state revenues but also on increased demand for critical care services. Currently waiting lists for critical counseling services exceed 12 weeks. While other programs were reduced or eliminated, these services were increased to accommodate these growing demands. The need for the other treatment services and programs has not been eliminated. This year between 3,000 and 4,000 Geauga County citizens will receive critical behavioral health care services. Mr. Adams stated that it is their goal to weather this storm and address the needs as the budget and the economy allow. Commissioner Jemison commented that if CBMHRS can't sell this levy to the public they risk of losing it all. Mr. Adams said that they Board looked at this issue historically and they have never lost a replacement or*

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**July 14, 2009**

*renewal in Geauga County. Mr. Adams said that Geauga County has been responded dramatically for Mental Health and he has confidence that the people will come through. At meetings and seminars he tells people that one in seven Geauga County residents will need their services at some point in their lifetime. Commissioner Samide asked if they could not hold off on the building that Mental Health is currently building. Mr. Adams replied that if they did they would lose every grant dollar that they have acquired. Mr. Adams added that not only is the construction basically paid for with state and federal dollars but they also received \$437,000.00 that were not anticipating for operation costs for three or four years down the road. Mr. Adams stated that this amount has been incorporated into the current fiscals that the Commissioners have. They anticipate the operational costs to be between \$100,000.00 and \$110,000.00 per year. Commissioner Samide asked what would happen if the levy does not pass. They would absorb the hit for the remainder of 2010 and try again in the spring primary in 2010. They also have the ability to borrow against the asset revenue projections to carry them through June 30, 2011. Commissioner Jamison stated that he does not question the need for the levy but he is worried about the levy not passing and Mental Health having to go into 2010 without \$1.4 million trying to get \$2.1 million. Commissioner Jamison also stated that he knows the residents have been very supportive but we are in very unprecedented times and many residents are wondering if they will even have a job tomorrow. The residents are struggling as well. Mr. Adams replied that the Mental Health Board discussed several scenarios but if they don't receive that revenue they will end up having to close agencies, they have no choice. Commissioner Samide added that they will be facing other levies on the ballot at the same time. Commissioner Young added that if he had the ability to vote no to putting the levy on the ballot he would, but O.R.C. says he cannot. Commissioner Samide stated that they are all supportive of Mental Health. Commissioner Jamison commented that the people are looking for their government to start trimming down. Mr. Adams said that even with the levy they will be cutting back, they are still reducing. Commissioner Samide commented that there will come a time where we have to quit going to the tax payers – they are just going to say no. Commissioner Young stated that the need for mental health services has doubled but even if the economy got better the services would not go down that quickly. Mr. Adams added that they will see it go down but not until the economy improves. Commissioner Samide commented that she sees, for the future, instead of giving three percent raises every year she sees reducing pays/payroll on the horizon. If there is no more money and we are shrinking everything else has to shrink as well. Commissioner Young agreed and added that he would rather see salaries go down than to have to lay people off and avoid the complicated process of layoffs. Mr. Adams stated that his Board felt they have to give the levy a try or they would have to do another almost a half a million dollars of programs, immediately. The Mental Health Board believes the public should have the opportunity to respond to that. Mr. Adams thanked the Board for his time.*

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- a) A monthly report filed by the Geauga County Sheriff's Office of an account of expenses for the inmate meals for the month ending June 2009.*
- b) A monthly report filed by the Geauga County Sheriff's Office of an account of expenses for the prisoner transport for the month ending June 2009 as required by O.R.C. 325.07.*

**MEETINGS**

*Tue., 7/14      Planning Commission meeting at 470 Center Street, Building #8 at 7:30 p.m.*

*Thu., 7/16      The Commissioners will hold regular session.*

*Mon., 7/22      Board of Revisions at 8:30 a.m. at the Auditor's Conference Room.*

*Mon., 7/20      Family First meeting - JFS at 2:00 p.m.*

*Mon., 7/20      Board of Revisions at the Auditor's Conference Room.*

*Tue., 7/21      The Commissioners will hold regular session.*

*Wed., 7/22      Board of Revisions at the Auditor's Conference Room.*

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**July 14, 2009**

*Thu., 7/23      The Commissioners will hold regular session.*

*Mon., 7/27      Board of Revision meeting at the Auditor's Conference Room.*

*Tue., 7/28      The Commissioners will hold regular session.*

*Tue., 7/29      Board of Revision meeting at the Auditor's Conference Room.*

*Thu., 7/30      The Commissioners will hold regular session.*

***BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, COMMISSIONER YOUNG ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 10:50 A.M.***

*Geauga County Board of Commissioners*

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*Tracy A. Jemison*

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*Mary E. Samide*

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*William S. Young*

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*Claudine Kozenko, Commissioners' Clerk*