

Commissioners' Journal
November 4, 2008

The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on November 4, 2008 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, Craig S. Albert opened the meeting at 10:05 a.m. by leading the Board and audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPOINT ACTING CLERK

Commissioner Albert read the motion to appoint the acting clerk.

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Albert to appoint Christine Blair as Acting Clerk for the November 4, 2008 session.

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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> |

APPROVE FINANCIALS

Budget Officer Heidi Delaney reported the financials as a revenue certification request for the Job & Family Services Family First Council Fund, Supplemental and Appropriation transfers to redistribute appropriations where necessary, Cash Transfers for Medical, Dental and Life Insurance for November 2008, a payment to Hanna, Zabriskie & Daron, Inc. in the amount of \$187,190.38 for the Prosecutor's remodel project, and five travel requests for various departments.

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Young to approve and execute Resolution 08-158 itemizing the financials for the meeting of November 4, 2008.

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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> |

COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE –CHANGE ORDER #1 TAYLOR WELLS ROAD

Commissioner Albert stated that it was quite a lot of money for a change order. County Administrator David Lair made mention the cost of asphalt material may have escalated the cost of the contract.

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Young to approve and execute Change Order #1 and final increasing the contract with Kokosing Construction Incorporated for The Asphalt Resurfacing of Taylor Wells Road (CH 28, Section A), in the amount of \$52,948.44.

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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> |

COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – CHANGE ORDER #1 LEGGETT ROAD

Commissioner Albert commented that it is a lot of money for Leggett Road. Commissioner Young commented that maybe they should have waited until the price of gas came down.

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Young to approve and execute Change Order #1 and final increasing the contract with Kokosing Construction Incorporated for The Cement Stabilization and Asphalt Repaving of

Commissioners' Journal
November 4, 2008

a Portion of Section D and Asphalt Resurfacing of the Entirety of Section E of Leggett Road (CH 33), in the amount of \$18,855.10.

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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> |

COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – CHANGE ORDER #1 AQUILLA ROAD

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Young to approve and execute Change Order #1 and final increasing the contract with Ronyak Paving Incorporated for Asphalt Resurfacing of Aquilla Road (CH 5s, Sections A&B), in the amount of \$59,409.25.

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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> |

COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – CHANGE ORDER #1 CHAGRIN ROAD

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Young to approve and execute Change Order #1 and final decreasing the contract with Kenmore Construction Company for the Asphalt Resurfacing of Chagrin Road (CH 9, Sections A&B) Project, in the amount of \$1,834.43.

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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> |

COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – EASEMENT FOR CHAGRIN RD. WATERLINE – SUSANNE M. GLODEN, TRUSTEE

Commissioner Albert asked if this easement was a Water Resources project, and it was stated that it was a County Engineers project.

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Young to approve and execute an Easement for Waterline Purposes for Susanne M. Gloden, Trustee (parcel #02-251300) for the Chagrin Road Waterline Project in Bainbridge Township, in the amount of \$1.00.

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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> |

COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – EASEMENT FOR CHAGRIN RD. WATERLINE – BAINBRIDGE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Young to approve and execute an Easement for Waterline Purposes for Bainbridge Township Board of Trustees (parcel #02-729413) for the Chagrin Road Waterline Project in Bainbridge Township, in the amount of \$1.00.

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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 WATER RESOURCES – RELEASE PERFORMANCE BOND - SCRANTON WOODS WATER

Mr. Lair stated that this was his favorite project. It was discussed that this should be the last action taken on this project.

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Young to approve releasing the performance bond for Shinn Brothers Incorporated for the Scranton Woods Water Improvement Project as the project is substantially complete as of August 8, 2008 and a one year Maintenance Bond has been received.

Commissioners' Journal
November 4, 2008

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| Roll Call Vote: | Commissioner Samide | Aye |
| | Commissioner Young | Aye |
| | Commissioner Albert | Aye |

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – MICRO LOAN PROGRAM

Director Anita Stocker explained it is one of the riskier loan programs, but does not mean that it's not collateralized; we will take whatever we can take. Usually they are well collateralized, as long as collateral holds its value. With the regular loan fund, when a bank says yes, it means they are a viable company. With the Micro Loan program there is no bank involved, the committee decides if they are a reliable company. The loan amounts are usually \$25,000.00 or less, with the average being around \$10,000.00. Sales will provide the debt source and allows for collateralization on something they own. The Board of County Commissioners is the sole lender on it, and is in the first position on anything they collateralize; usually they are second or third. The value of the collateral will be riskier.

Mr. Lair commented that you have people on the committee, many of whom are banks, signing off loans and giving loans to those who would not normally get a loan. Ms. Stocker replied most banks had a hard time approving these loans before the current financial situation. Community Development believes they are providing something that has been closed off for the last nine months. She commented that they can't guarantee that they are going to pay it all back, by nature it's risky. Businesses that would normally be started aren't going to be started unless people have a family member that has cash available.

The Board questioned if the Micro Loan Fund was going to be a hassle like the former Chip Loan program. Ms. Stocker responded yes, it is going to be a hassle a lot of work. The main reason is Ms. Stocker's office is drawn to the gap that is not being fulfilled. Mr. Lair commented it's to give someone a start, to be successful in a small business and theoretically Community Development is providing a service. Ms. Stocker commented that what was available to people is now closed off and wondered when will the government come in and provide an opening.

Commissioner Young expressed his concern about being in a liberal position with tax dollars, banks would take it as stockholders money, plus tax dollars. Commissioner Young added that it seemed like a tremendous amount of work; calling a committee together, have them do a lot of research to dole out \$10,000.00 for something that could be shaky to begin with. Commissioner Young expressed concerns as to why the Board should be taking the risk with tax dollars, particularly with the expected low revenues in the county right now. Commissioner Young questioned when will the tax dollars or revenue come back to the county, it could be years away. Commissioner Samide expressed concern for using those dollars to finance the company's expenses as opposed to their capital and believes that could be problematic. Ms. Stocker replied, "It is tax dollars, that is true, but its tax dollars that have been lent out but repaid, earned interest and come back to the county. It's still tax dollars, I agree, but it has served its purpose once and now it's being re-circulated to continue to serve its purpose." Ms. Stocker added that she did not see it extending forever, but there is nothing to take its place right now. If the county can allow start up funds to help start a business, it might be best, it may be the only time the county might get involved.

It was expressed that the amount of money considered to be loaned to someone trying to get his / her business started was minimal. A lot could not be done with \$10,000.00, even \$25,000.00 today. If the amount you needed was that low, most likely the business would fail. A larger sum of money would be better going to a company who could bring in higher dividends to pay it back, like is currently being done with the Revolving Loan fund.

One of the items discussed as an example was of a person who had started selling Gluten Free Bakery. This person needs to purchase a mixer to do a higher volume of goods. The only problem is that she doesn't have the money to make the purchase. This Micro Loan fund could give her the cash to make the purchase. Then the comment was made that if this person has already started to sell these gluten free items, then they have developed a kind of track record, and they should have the ability to save the money to be able to buy it on their own.

It was discussed that it is really difficult, even if you have personal assets to get a loan from a bank to start up a business. The option then raised was to go to an individual for the money. A

Commissioners' Journal
November 4, 2008

private investor might be willing to give someone a loan at a little higher interest rate for the payback, but there would be no bank involved. It would just be a transaction between the investor and the business owner.

Commissioner Young commented on a newspaper article written about the possibility of a private group organizing in this county to do this. There's plenty of people that have lots of money, a lot of them considering how to invest it today, so they could have some risk with it, but it would not be any riskier buying stocks, real estate or whatever. Ms. Stocker expressed that as the story comes out, people who are interested in lending would step forward and maybe all we have to do is put people in touch with people. Commissioner Albert agreed, especially with the market the way it is today. If someone had the potential like this gluten free, it sounds like a great idea, who wouldn't want to invest if they had some extra cash. Ms. Stocker replied, if there are people out there who would invest their money. She asked, "What are you getting out of a money market now or a CD, nothing." If there's a chance to get eight percent return, as long as the gap is filled. That's all we're trying to do. If there is a lending gap, we're just trying to plug it. Commissioner Albert commented he thinks what you're doing is great. There's a lot of other ideas and enough people now that have cash, that if somebody could show them the business had the potential to at least pay them back they'd be more than willing to loan money. Ms. Stocker replied, "I don't care if it's us or somebody else as long as the gap can get filled. Who knows, we ask people to write in, tell us, and we put people in touch, make a list and pass names along, maybe just become a network".

Commissioner Young asked if anyone knew of some organization out there that does this now, as we need to learn more about it. Commissioner Young asked Ms. Stocker to see if some of these people here in Geauga County are willing to have a general discussion or a work session.

Audience member Mia Moore commented that there is a group called Jump Start in Cuyahoga County. The question was asked, are they a private equity? Ms. Stocker commented she believed that some of their funding came from Department of Development. Ms. Stocker thanked the Board for listening.

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – ACCEPT RETIREMENT RESIGNATION – DAVID LAIR

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Young to accept the retirement resignation of David Lair, County Administrator to be effective December 31, 2008.

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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> |

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE - ADVERTISE PUBLIC HEARING – DAVID LAIR RETIREMENT AND REEMPLOYMENT

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Young to grant permission to advertise to give public notice and hold a public meeting to announce David Lair will be retired and is seeking re-employment as the County Administrator. This meeting will be held on Thursday, December 11, 2008 at 10:30 a.m. The public notice of this issue and notice of this hearing will be published on November 6, 2008.

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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> |

OTHER

Some of the Commissioners will be attending the Heritage Ohio Main Street Program Workshop at Kent Free Library in Kent, Ohio at 10:00 a.m. Commissioner Samide said this is where they make application and explain what the Main St. Program is all about.

Commissioners' Journal
November 4, 2008

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- a) *The Annual Report filed by the Sheriff's Office of all fines and costs in criminal prosecutions collected and fines and cost paid over to the clerk of the court of common pleas or to the county treasurer for the period September 1, 2007 through August 31, 2008, as required by O.R.C. 311.16.*

MEETINGS

- Thu., 11/6 The Regularly scheduled Commissioners' meeting is cancelled.*
- Thu., 11/6 Some of the Commissioners will be attending the Heritage Ohio Main Street Program Workshop at Kent Free Library in Kent, Ohio at 10:00 a.m.*
- Mon., 11/10 Dedication of the County Home Cemetery at 10.00 a.m.*
- Tue., 11/11 County offices will be closed for general business in honor of Veterans Day.*
- Wed., 11/12 Geauga County Township Association Quarterly Dinner Meeting at 6:30 p.m.*
- Thu., 11/13 The Commissioners will hold regular session.*
- Thu., 11/13 Planning Commission*
- Fri., 11/14 NOACA*
- Mon., 11/17 Family First*
- Tue., 11/18 The Commissioners will hold regular session.*
- Thu., 11/20 The Commissioners will hold regular session.*
- Tue., 11/25 The Commissioners will hold regular session.*
- Thu., 11/27 County offices will be closed for general business in light of the Thanksgiving Holiday. Twenty-four hour operations will continue to operate as usual.*
- Fri., 11/28 County offices under the hiring authority of the Board of Commissioners will be closed for general business.*

Commissioners' Journal
November 4, 2008

BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, COMMISSIONER ALBERT ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 10:47 A.M.

Geauga County Board of Commissioners

Mary E. Samide

William S. Young

Craig S. Albert

Christine Blair, Acting Commissioners' Clerk