

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**February 24, 2011**

*The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on February 24, 2011 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, Tracy A. Jemison opened the meeting at 10:02 a.m. by leading the Board and audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.*

*\* Commissioner Samide was absent from this session.*

**APPROVE MINUTES**

*Motion: by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Jemison to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of February 17, 2011.*

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

**APPROVE FINANCIALS**

*Budget Administrator Heidi Delaney explained the financials as including a revenue certification request for the Engineer's Road Maintenance Fund; an appropriation transfer from the Contingency account to return appropriations to the Sheriff's Office for pay-ins made into the General Fund; a cash transfer into the General Fund for payment of Transit's first quarter cost allocation; travel requests for the Common Pleas Court, Engineer's Office, and the Transit department; a Then and Now for Intensive Supervision / Probation for travel; a payment to Sabre Communications in the amount of \$177,209.00 for the Troy / Chagrin Radio Tower Construction and a payment to Alcatel Lucent in the amount of \$157,671.40 for the 800 System Microwave update.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Jemison to approve and execute Resolution #11-022 itemizing the financials for the meeting of February 24, 2011.*

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

**OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – AGREEMENT – HESS AND ASSOCIATES ENGINEERING, INCORPORATED**

*Director Anita Stocker explained that this was a Formula project that the Commissioners had previously approved. Chagrin Falls Park Community Center does a lot of senior activities and they have found that those Seniors have had to park scattered about and the ground is uneven and getting in and out has become an issue. This will expand the parking lot by joining to sections in the middle, paving it making it an even surface. Ms. Stocker stated that they sent out request for proposals to five (5) Engineers to get the best cost to draw up the specifications. Hess came in at \$8,500.00, which was the budgeted amount for the project.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Jemison to approve and execute the Agreement between the Geauga County Board of Commissioners and Hess and Associates Engineering, Incorporated for professional services for the Chagrin Falls Park Community Center Parking Improvement project under the CDBG FY 2010 Formula Grant in the amount of \$8,500.00.*

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

*A local resident in the audience asked if the county was doing something that would benefit the community in Chagrin Falls? Ms. Stocker explained that Chagrin Falls Park Community Center*

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*is located in Bainbridge Township, not Chagrin Falls Village, in a small area that has a very low income level in the community. Commissioner Jemison explained that they are a 501-C-3, non-profit organization, that they are really a victim of their own success, that they have so many things going on there, they ran out of parking. Ms. Stocker stated that the community center is very large, with meeting capability and that the Department on Aging does a lot of senior outreach activities there. Commissioner Young commented that the area has been upgraded over the past years, with dilapidated houses being torn down. Ms. Stocker noted that Habitat for Humanity is active there with public housing really affecting the area.*

**JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – FAMILY SERVICES PLANNING COMMITTEE – SOCIAL SERVICES TITLE XX FUNDS**

*Rex Brobst stated that in November the Commissioners approved the preliminary Title XX (20) profile to be submitted to the state. Since then a public hearing was held in January and the Family Services Planning Committee met and approved a revised profile that once approved by the Commissioners will be submitted to the state. Mr. Jemison asked Mr. Brobst to explain the revised profile. Mr. Brobst stated they were showing the same dollar amounts as the preliminary profile but some Title XX funds that were allocated to employment assistance were moved for not being used in the last biennium to adult protective services through Job and Family Services, all the other allocations remained the same. These are based as a best estimate on what the state will be providing as we don't know what those final allocations from the state will be. The local resident asked how much money was being talked about for the Title XX funds. Mr. Jemison stated it was \$400,000.00 for a two year period. The resident asked if there was anticipation that they would be operating with lower funds going forward from the state. Mr. Brobst stated that it was possible, that they need to wait for the state budget to be completed and the Title XX funds are allocated. This determines what each county will receive; this could be an increase or could be a decrease, they just have to wait.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Jemison to approve the recommendations from the Family Services Planning Committee for the proposed social services to be provided using Title XX funds and further approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Revised Title XX County Profile for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2013.*

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

**BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES – CHANGE ORDER #1, CHANGE ORDER #2 AND CHANGE ORDER #3 – JOHNSON CONTROLS, INCORPORATED**

*Superintendent Don Rice stated that these change orders are part of the building project that they are hoping to be near completion. Mr. Rice was hopeful that they would be obtaining their certificate of occupancy today. Mr. Rice explained that they still had some final reviews to be done along with a few things still needing to be worked on. Not having everything confirmed yet, they hope to set a date to hold an Open House in the middle of March. Mr. Rice stated that these change orders have to do with the security systems that are in place with the security company. The first is for an increase for labor that had to be put in because the project was drawn out longer then they had originally put in to be there, pertaining to the control system for wiring. The second change order is for window tags. Mr. Rice explained that they currently have security badges that they use to get in and out of the building; these window tags are a security badge that is placed in the vehicle allowing the gates and doors to open and close for vehicles driving in and out of the secured parking area. Mr. Jemison asked if this was an afterthought. Mr. Rice explained that it was something they were planning to purchase, but didn't think it needed to be part of the building contract because they were being placed in the vehicles. Mr. Jemison stated that this was something that was planned, just not as part of the building contract. Mr. Rice explained that the Prosecuting Attorney was requiring it be included in the contract as it was part of the package. Mr. Rice explained that the third change order was an extra, that throughout the building the communication switches are stored in boxes secured with locks and that one of those boxes installed was not large enough, so this additional purchase is required to hold DVR's and a battery back up system. Mr. Jemison questioned that someone didn't figure this out. Mr. Rice stated that they designed it and thought they had left enough space, but when it actually came to putting it into the space, it wasn't big enough.*

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*Mr. Jemison stated that with the increase for delays, that resonates with the Board looking at an additional \$15,400.00 because the project didn't run along as scheduled. Mr. Jemison stated that understanding the contract includes penalties for delays, he inquired about the anticipation of leveraging those delays so this does not become an additional expense to the county. Mr. Rice explained that this is going to be added to the liquidation of assets component for the penalty phase, along with being late. The fact is they are about three months late, and along with incurring penalties, Mr. Rice explained that all these things were going to be compiled and gone over at a meeting to walk through the several components of non-conforming work for things put in that were not to design. All these things will be worked through. Mr. Rice stated that he would be inviting the Commissioners to attend and mediate this process. Mr. Jemison asked what we were retaining for this project being this is not the first delay cost for this project. Mr. Rice stated that they were retaining a little more then 10% for a little more then \$300,000.00 and that this was indeed the second major change that we've had.*

*The local resident asked the Board if they felt they could say no to Mr. Rice and reject it, and what the result would be. Mr. Jemison stated that the window tags were something they were already planning on purchasing, just not as part of the building project, with the addition of the box, that is just something we are going to negotiate, but it's something that we need to have. The resident explained that someone made the mistake and that we need to start negotiating now and say no. Mr. Rice explained that he was the Superintendent for the Board of Developmental Disabilities and that he was not the contractor, that Mr. Rice was the person paying the contractor through the process. Mr. Rice explained that they had a day of reckoning coming with the contractor for the issues currently on the table along with others. Mr. Jemison stated that this project needs to get done, that having \$300,000.00 of the contractor's money is giving us room to talk and negotiate these issues. Ending up paying the \$1,075.00 is another story. There is no doubt that this project has not gone as expected with numerous delays and the taxpayers should not have to pay for it. Mr. Rice explained that the contract was for three million dollars. The resident raised the question on whether they would hire this contractor again and if we had used them before. Mr. Jemison said that the Board has used them before along with several other county agencies and have had great success, but for whatever reason the mix on this project was not a good mix with the Architect, the Contractor and the sub-contractors. Mr. Rice stated that the reality of it was that one of the sub-contractors really put the general contractor over, that he couldn't blame Hummel, when it was one of the sub-contractors. Mr. Young stated that it really have been unfortunate, but that he is hopeful that in less then a month from now, about three weeks to have it get finished, and then get the negotiations done, that they don't want anything else to slow this down anymore, if possible.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Jemison to approve Change Order #1 increasing the contract with Johnson Controls, Incorporated due to project delay costs for attendance of construction meetings and project support time for the period September 2010 through January 2010 for the installation of the security system in the amount of \$15,400.00.*

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

*Motion: by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Jemison to approve Change Order #2 increasing the contract with Johnson Controls, Incorporated for Interior Long Range Vehicle Window Button /Tag materials for the installation of the security system in the amount of \$2,470.00.*

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

*Motion: by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Jemison to approve Change Order #3 increasing the contract with Johnson Controls, Incorporated for one thirty (30) inch data cabinet for the two (2) digital recorders and one UPS for the installation of the security system in the amount of \$1,075.00.*

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Roll Call Vote:	Commissioner Samide	Absent
	Commissioner Young	Aye
	Commissioner Jemison	Aye

**DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENTS –  
MCDONALD EQUIPMENT COMPANY AND FOUR SEASON CONSTRUCTION AND  
ROOFING, INCORPORATED**

*Business Manger Adrian Gorton explained that these are regular emergency style standard contracts that may or may not get used during the year. The first is for generator services and repairs with McDonald Equipment and the second is for Four Seasons Construction and Roofing. They would be used for any emergency roof repairs or something that would need to be done quickly for which the department didn't have the expertise.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Jemison to approve and execute the service Contract Agreement with McDonald Equipment Company to perform generator services and repairs as needed at various county water treatment plants for the Year 2011 in an amount not to exceed \$1,000.00.*

Roll Call Vote:	Commissioner Samide	Absent
	Commissioner Young	Aye
	Commissioner Jemison	Aye

*Motion: by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Jemison to approve and execute the service Contract Agreement with Four Seasons Construction and Roofing, Incorporated to perform construction and roofing services as needed at various county buildings within the department for the Year 2011 in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00.*

Roll Call Vote:	Commissioner Samide	Absent
	Commissioner Young	Aye
	Commissioner Jemison	Aye

**DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – MCFARLAND CREEK SEWER SYSTEM  
REHABILITATION PROJECT PHASE 1 AND PHASE 3 - STATE OF OHIO WATER  
POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND (WPCLF/SRF) CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER #1 AND  
CHANGE ORDER #1 - UNITED SURVEY, INCORPORATED**

*Mr. Gorton stated that the McFarland Creek Sewer System Rehabilitation Project is coming to a close, that Phase 2 is complete. Mr. Gorton explained that these change orders are for end of project quantity adjustments for Phase 1 and 3 of the projects. The cost of the project for Phase 1 decreases for a little more then \$64,000.00 and the second increases the contract for Phase 3 by a little over \$3,000.00. Mr. Jemison stated that this project came in under what we had anticipated spending by a significant amount. Mr. Gorton stated that they found less issues then we anticipated while they were lining, grouting and fixing manholes. This was a I and I project designed to tighten up the sewer system in Bainbridge. Mr. Jemison stated that it was successful, and that there is a lot of storm water we are no longer treating. Mr. Gorton explained that Phase 2 was a big project involving a trunk line that crossed the Chagrin River, stating the importance of them looking at it, since built in the 70's, it had most likely not been televised to the extent that they just completed.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Jemison to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the State of Ohio Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF/SRF) Contract Change Order #1 decreasing the contract with United Survey, Incorporated for end of project quantity adjustments for the McFarland Creek Sewer System Rehabilitation Project, Phase 1 in the amount of \$64,230.00.*

Roll Call Vote:	Commissioner Samide	Absent
	Commissioner Young	Aye
	Commissioner Jemison	Aye

*Motion: by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Jemison to approve and execute Change Order #1 decreasing the contract with United Survey,*

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*Incorporated for end of project quantity adjustments for the McFarland Creek Sewer System Rehabilitation Project, Phase 1 in the amount of \$64,230.00.*

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

*Motion:* by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Jemison to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the State of Ohio Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF/SRF) Contract Change Order #1 increasing the contract with United Survey, Incorporated for end of project quantity adjustments for the McFarland Creek Sewer System Rehabilitation Project, Phase 3 in the amount of \$3,327.00.

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

*Motion:* by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Jemison to approve and execute Change Order #1 increasing the contract with United Survey, Incorporated for end of project quantity adjustments for the McFarland Creek Sewer System Rehabilitation Project, Phase 3 in the amount of \$3,327.00.

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

*The local resident inquired about the total expenditure for the McFarland Creek project. Mr. Gorton responded that all total the project was less than one million dollars. The resident asked what was spent with McDonald Equipment Company last year. Mr. Gorton explained that to his knowledge we didn't spend any money with them last year, that the contracts are put into place in case something happens that they would need to fix or repair immediately and not have to wait for the contract to be put into place.*

**COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – RESOLUTIONS HONORING JUNIOR GIRL SCOUT TROOP #980 ON ACHIEVING BRONZE AWARD AND CADETTE GIRL SCOUT TROOP #480 ON ACHIEVING SILVER AWARD**

*Motion:* by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Jemison to approve and execute Resolution #11-023 honoring Junior Girl Scout Troop #980 on achieving their Bronze Award and Resolution #11-024 honoring Cadette Girl Scout Troop #480 on achieving their Silver Award.

*Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio*

*Resolution: 11-023*  
*Date: February 24, 2011*

**RESOLUTION COMMENDING JUNIOR GIRL SCOUT TROOP #980  
FOR ACHIEVING THE JUNIOR GIRL SCOUT BRONZE AWARD**

*WHEREAS, the Girl Scouts are a nationally acclaimed organization known for training young women to build character, citizenship and leadership; and*

*WHEREAS, in order to achieve the Bronze Award, must (1) earn two Junior Girl Scout Badges that relate to the Bronze award project topic, (2) complete one of the four Girl Scout Signs, which are based on the 4 program goals of Girl Scouting, (3) earn the Junior Leadership Award or Junior Aid Award, which concentrate on building leadership skills by helping younger girl scouts, while becoming someone that they can look up to, (4) decide on and complete a Bronze Award Project that should take 15 hours and demonstrated leadership skills, a commitment to the community and an understanding of the Girl Scout Promise and Law; and*

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*WHEREAS, the Girl Scout Bronze award was earned by Kenston Junior Girl Scout Troop #980; and*

*WHEREAS, Junior Girl Scout Troop #980, lead by Lori Markley, Jennifer Jeromin and Loretta Krzys, earned their Bronze Award by renovating the garden around the Old Auburn Town Hall, with the help of Mr. Markley they designed the garden, and received the plants as a donation from JFD Landscapes. Troop #980 award recipients are Megan Fisher, Julie Hajdu, Lillie Haviland, Kendra Henderson, Jacqueline Jeromin, Alexia Journey, Angela Kotara, Isabelle Krzys, Elise Markley, Kate Moss, Riley Potts, and Emily Thomas; and*

*NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Geauga County Board of Commissioners salutes Junior Girl Scout Troop #980 for service to their community and to the Girl Scouts of America.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution become part of the permanent record of the Board of Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio.*

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

*Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio*

*Resolution: 11-024*

*Date: February 24, 2011*

***RESOLUTION COMMENDING GIRL SCOUT CADETTE TROOP #480  
FOR ACHIEVING THE GIRL SCOUT CADETTE SILVER AWARD***

*WHEREAS, the Girl Scouts are a nationally acclaimed organization known for training young women to build character, citizenship and leadership; and*

*WHEREAS, in order to achieve the Silver award, must (1) meet with an advisor and develop a timeline, (2) earn three Interest Project Awards related to parts of the Girl Scout Promise and Law, earn the STUDIO 2B Focus: "uniquely me! The Real Deal" charm, put leadership into action: spend 15 hours in a leadership role, keep records and a journal for discussion with an advisor, (3) earn "Your Own Business" Interest Project Award (4) set goals for self-improvement, earn the charm "Looking In, Reaching Out", (5) decide on and complete a Silver Award Project that should take approximately 40 hours to complete (including planning time); and*

*WHEREAS, the Cadette Scout Silver Award was earned by Kenston Middle School Cadette Scout Troop #480; and*

*WHEREAS, Cadette Scout Troop #480, lead by Pam Reisinger, with assistance from parents in the troop, fulfilled the requirements with "Dare to Care" packages for people in the area that needed some extra "TLC". The Cadette Troop contacted local agencies and churches to acquire a list of names and then asked for donations from local hotels, dentists, doctors, and florists for the care packages and any remaining items were bought through the use of cookie money. Cadette Troop #480 award recipients are Samantha Cumley, Halle D'Amico, Alexis Fleming, Lauren Hoefler, Cassie Holub, Hannah Jerson, Carole Nelson, Katie Reisinger, Morganne Standley, and Annica Uveges; and*

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NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Geauga County Board of Commissioners salutes Cadette Scout Troop #480 for service to their community and to the Girl Scouts of America.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution become part of the permanent record of the Board of Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio.

Roll Call Vote:	Commissioner Samide	Absent
	Commissioner Young	Aye
	Commissioner Jemison	Aye

**LIQUOR LICENSE –13468 INC (D.B.A. RIVER WALK ENTERTAINMENT COMPLEX) TROY TOWNSHIP**

Motion: by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Jemison to to concur with Troy Township Trustees in not requesting a hearing on the liquor license requested by 13468 INC (d.b.a. River Walk Entertainment Complex) located at 13468 Main Market Road, Burton (C TRFO 6548427).

Roll Call Vote:	Commissioner Samide	Absent
	Commissioner Young	Aye
	Commissioner Jemison	Aye

**OTHER**

The Board reviewed upcoming events.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- a) The 2010 Fourth 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 February 16, 2011 as required by O.R.C. 955.12.

The local resident asked Mr. Jemison for his personal take on the Economic State as it stands at the end of the fourth quarter. Mr. Jemison stated that it told us what we pretty much knew. That it was a good thing that we only spent about 89-90% of appropriations so our carryover coming in to this year was about \$3.7 million. That was actually \$100,000.00 more that we went into the year with, which meant that we lived within our means. People might say that you needed a \$3.7 million carryover, that is less then about 15% of our budget, and right now our cash balance as of today is about \$3.1 million. Mr. Jemison explained that certain revenue streams don't come in until March; a good example of this is the property tax revenues. A cash flow is needed to make it at the beginning of the year until these other revenues are collected. Mr. Jemison stated that right now they have no idea with the budget they passed where we are with the undivided local government funds. If we lose all the undivided local government funds that will be a little less then \$1 million and we need to plan for that. Mr. Jemison explained that one thing they have always done to plan for that is by having a contingency fund. Last year that fund started out with \$650,000.00 and then in May or June we had to payback of \$250,000.00 required from sales tax that came to Geauga that should have gone to Portage. When the state found it, they immediately made Portage whole but gave Geauga twenty-four (24) months at \$27,000.00 a month deduct to pay it back. Last year we de-appropriated the contingency fund down to \$400,000.00, this year we took that back up to \$750,000.00 knowing that there will be contingencies throughout the year that will typically use \$2-300,000.00 of that on things that happen we might not have planned for. Another thing we have start looking at is what happens if we lose that \$1 million dollars. It won't be an entire \$1 million this year because that state runs on a fiscal year of July 1 through June 30<sup>th</sup>, but it would be \$500,000.00 this year if it's total. We really don't have any idea. Mr. Jemison stated that when they first came into this year he was thinking 20%, then maybe 50%, that he was not sure if they could take the local undivided funds completely out in the biennium. Mr. Jemison feels that they need to do it gradually, plus having other departments that rely on state revenues and we don't know where they are. Our financial condition, for being down 20% over the last four years is good to the

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*point that we balanced the budget, frozen salaries and we are doing the things we need to, reducing employment, regrettably but necessary to live within our means.*

*The local resident inquired about the number of employees that worked for the county and how many of them were union. Mr. Jemison stated that we have approximately eleven hundred (1100) including Full and Part time. Mr. Jemison explained that Water Resources, the Engineer's office and the Sheriff's department were union making up about 140-150 employees. Metzenbaum is also unionized but has changed quite a bit. Mr. Jemison explained that last year two of the union contracts were up and came in almost unanimously to ratify with zero percent and that they were still negotiations going on for this year.*

*The resident then raised the question about the benefits for public employees and not paying enough for their healthcare and retirement. Mr. Jemison stated that it was an area that they struggled with, that the employees pay about 2.5% for the Basic plan and 9-9.5% for the Enhanced Plan. Mr. Jemison stated that it was something they have to work on, but it's hard to do when you haven't given employees a raise in two years. Healthcare costs in 2005 were about \$1.2 million; we are at \$2.2 million now, just six years later. Mr. Young stated that compared to other areas, our costs have not gone up nearly as much. We have a good strong plan for our employees. The cost of our plan is lower than the real business world. Mr. Young stated that we have been very good in terms of determining what kind of coverage and who we should be working with to do well. Mr. Jemison stated that Mr. Young getting the county into the CEBCO consortium formed by the County Commissioners Association of Ohio has been great for us. Private industries in other pools are seeing an increase of about 15%, we saw an increase of 9%. That pool helps buffer those higher increases. Mr. Young stated the county does have a fair amount of focus on wellness, and having people get into a wellness program can save money over time, stats show that you can gain \$3 for every \$1 you spend. Our rate increase was 9%, but we reduced the benefits and the plan strength 3% and absorbed the 5%. Mr. Jemison stated that one thing they did was change the Emergency Room co-pay, it used to be \$75, making that \$150 makes it less likely to be used as a clinic; the other benefit that they changed was the prescription drug plan.*

*The resident inquired about education and teachers in the county level. Mr. Jemison stated that the Educational Service Center has specialists but they are not under the county umbrella. The Metzenbaum center has teachers but Mr. Rice has worked to negotiate no longer having step increases in pay in the last contract.*

*Mr. Young stated that some people may or may not know but the Park District is independent from us, that we have no control over what they do or how they do it. They will come to a meeting from time to time and update us on what they are doing and for the most part do a very good job.*

*Commissioners' Clerk Christine Blair mentioned that on March 24<sup>th</sup> the Auditor will be presenting the Economic State of Geauga and that the meeting will be held in Building 8.*

**MEETINGS**

Mon., 2/28     Family First Council meeting at 2:00 p.m.

Tues., 3/1     The Commissioners will hold regular session.

Tues., 3/1     A Public Hearing to acknowledge Receipt of Plans for the Replacement of the Taylor Wells Road Bridge (Structure #113-2.03) in Claridon Township at 10:10 a.m.

Tues., 3/1     A Public Hearing to acknowledge Receipt of Plans for the Asphalt Resurfacing of Chardon Windsor Road (CH 13, Sections A-D) in Hambden and Claridon Townships at 10:15 a.m.

Tues., 3/1     A Public Hearing to acknowledge Receipt of Plans for the Asphalt Resurfacing of Fairmount Road (CH 16, Sections F & G) in Newbury Township at 10:20 a.m.

Thu., 3/3     The Commissioners will hold regular session.

Tues., 3/8     The Commissioners will hold regular session.



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Tues., 3/8 The Planning Commission meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Planning Commission meeting room, Bldg. #1C, 470 Center Street

Thu., 3/10 The Commissioners will hold regular session.

Fri., 3/11 NOACA meeting at 10:00 a.m.

***BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, COMMISSIONER YOUNG ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 10:46 A.M.***

*Geauga County Board of Commissioners*

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*Tracy A. Jemison*

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*William S. Young*

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***ABSENT***  
*Mary E. Samide*

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*Christine Blair, Commissioners' Clerk*