

Commissioners' Journal
April 16, 2009

The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on April 16, 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 10:04 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 April 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>Abstain*</i>

** Commissioner Young was absent from this session.*

APPROVE FINANCIALS

Fiscal Specialist Heidi Delaney explained the financials as including a cash transfer for the March 2009 Windstream charges; purchase order totaling \$331,945.48 for CORSA for the 2009 County building, property, burglary and liability insurance premiums; and voucher payments to United Way for luncheon meeting reservations.

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Young to approve and execute Resolution 09-059 itemizing the financials for the meeting of April 16, 2009.

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

**Commissioner Jemison explained his vote as the financials contain an item related to United Way and he is the Chairman this year.*

ENGINEER'S OFFICE – RONYAK PAVING INCORPORATED CONTRACT – RECONSTRUCTION AND RESURFACING OF NELSON ROAD – PARKMAN TOWNSHIP

County Engineer R.L. Phillips reported that the department secured concrete from a Route 422 project and used it to stabilize the slope (bank) by about fifteen feet and they moved the guardrail back.

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to execute a Unit Price Contract with Ronyak Paving Incorporated for Asphalt Reconstruction and Resurfacing of Nelson Road (CH 2) in Parkman Township, in the amount of \$399,998.94.

<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 - RONYAK PAVING INCORPORATED CONTRACT – ASPHALT RESURFACING OF BASS LAKE ROAD – NEWBURY TOWNSHIP

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to execute a Unit Price Contract with Ronyak Paving Incorporated for Asphalt Resurfacing of Bass Lake Road (CH 23, Section A) in Newbury Township, in the amount of \$162,993.32.

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

OTHER

Mr. Phillips, in responding to questions from the Board, explained that the upcoming Kenston Lake Ditch Petition hearing is to decide if the Board is going to do the project. If it is decided that it is a project then the Board will order Mr. Phillips to prepare plans and specifications for the project and prepare an assessment list. Another hearing will then be held for the assessments. Commissioner Young stated he believed they needed a commitment from the Township as to how much money they are going to make available for their portion of this project. Commissioner Jemison stated that the township previously stated an amount. Mr. Phillips replied that the township has lost control of that number as the project has been put in the hands of the Commissioners. There is a culvert at the site that needs to be maintained by the township which they have an obligation to deal with. Between Mr. Phillips' recommendation and the Board's decision the amount will be determined for the townships obligation. Part of the issue is that there is money in the grant for culvert work. It has to be decided if the township will use that money or apply it to the entire project to help any of those people who will be assessed or if the township give it all to the people for the project as a whole. It is the decision of the Board and Mr. Phillips to set the figure for the obligation of the township. The question is if the township will use the grant money to reduce their obligation or will it be given to the people being assessed for the project. There is actually about \$110,000.00 in the grant for culvert work, and the township has control of that grant. There was a brief discussion on the process of the viewing. Mr. Phillips stated that the viewing is for the Board to view the site and comments should be made at the public hearing. The Board is to view what the potential improvement would be. Commissioner Samide asked what would happen if the Board chose to leave the project up to ODNR. Mr. Phillips replied that he assumes ODNR would just put in a culvert and eliminate the lake and not build an emergency spillway and charge the four property owners of the dam, which is on their report. The EPA grant could be used on the restoration if everyone acted in time as there is a time limit on the grant. Commissioner Samide asked if the Board could be held responsible if something bad should happen, such as a flood, and the Board decided to put this project back in the hands of ODNR. Mr. Phillips replied that that is part of the deliberation of the Board knowing that the condition now is not working. His report states that it is not working and must be addressed in a timely manner. Mr. Phillips commented that this project is based on O.R.C. 6131, a watershed issue. Mr. Phillips also discussed the financing of this project as far as selling bonds to fund the project (until all the assessment funds are received) as the amount may not be big enough to entice a purchaser of the bond. It may end up the county will fund this project until the assessments are received, or the township could fund this project. There is also some concern on the value of some of the four properties, identified by ODNR, with the assessment. If ODNR does this project and the assessment they will be the ones to collect the money for the assessment for this project. If the land is vacated it would still be attached to the property with a lien. It is a substantial burden for the four properties, even though they have known about this project for years. Mr. Phillips is of the opinion that it is better to control the situation than let someone else do the project. If the project is done locally there would be contact with the residents and sympathy for what is going on. Mr. Phillips added that ODNR's goal is to remove this problem, it does not necessarily mean that it meets the goals of all the citizens or the township.

On another note, Mr. Phillips reported that the department is salvaging the guardrails from the old jail site to be reused elsewhere in the county and he will have it removed from the site.

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – HIRE SUMMER HELP - ELIZABETH POWERS

Director Anita Stocker reported this hiring was built into her budget and Ms. Powers worked in her department last year as summer help.

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to hire Elizabeth M. Powers as Summer Help (#0101) in Office of Community and Economic Development for the period May 13, 2009 through August 14, 2009 at the rate of \$8.50 per hour (second year rate).

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COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK

Commissioner Jemison stated that he does not want his comments to appear that he does not appreciate the efforts of the county employees but he is uncomfortable with supporting the fifteen dollars for every employee. Commissioner Jemison added that if we did that for every employee that would be over \$15,000.00 and he feels there are other things that could be done to show appreciation without it being monetary. Commissioner Samide stated that she does not have a problem with it as we do not spend that much money and it is a small amount for what they do for us. Commissioner Young stated that he feels the employees are doing very well as they were given no increase in health insurance and have made 3% increases available for pay increases. County Administrator Dave Lair added that they have been given the health club \$30.00 reimbursement. Commissioner Young stated that with all this the county has already tremendously recognized the employees. Commissioner Young added that the county has not laid anyone off and that they should be happy to be here working. Commissioner Young stated that he has concerns on how much was being spent and asked how much was spent last year. Commissioners' Clerk Claudine Kozenko stated that she believes that the Commissioners' Office doesn't even use that money as allowed in the resolution. The office staff brings in the food and provide for special events. Commissioner Samide said that the Commissioners, personally, have paid for the recognition picnic for the employees. Mr. Lair stated that he believes some of larger offices use this option. Commissioner Jemison stated that having been a county employee previously for thirteen years, he believes it would have meant more to him if his supervisor brought him before the Commissioners and explained what he did for the county and acknowledge his efforts. Commissioner Jemison believes there are other ways to show appreciation other than spending \$15.00 per person. Ms. Kozenko asked if the Board wanted to remove the fifteen dollars from the resolution. Commissioner Jemison stated he would support the resolution then. Commissioner Samide said that it is the symbolism to the employees that this resolution represents, that it is the small things like this that employees remember and appreciate. Mr. Lair added that, as Commissioner Jemison suggested that the department directors bring employees to the Board for recognition for 'going above and beyond' what was expected of them. Commissioner Jemison responded that this could be done throughout the year. Ms. Kozenko asked if the Board would consider a lesser amount such as \$5.00 per person. Commissioner Jemison said that there are so many things that could be done without monetary value. Commissioner Jemison said he would like to make a motion to pass the resolution with the \$15.00 line stricken from the resolution. Commissioner Samide commented that she would like to vote on the current resolution. Ms. Kozenko stated that the original motion was put before the Board and she believed the Board should take some action on it before moving on to the next motion. Commissioner Jemison stated that he would like to modify the motion but added that Commissioner Samide would like to vote on the resolution as it stands, therefore he will not make the motion; Commissioner Samide made the motion to approve and execute Resolution 09-060 Proclaiming May 4, 2009 through May 8, 2009 as Public Service Recognition Week for 2009 (with the inclusion of the monetary expenditure). Commissioner Young replied he will not second this motion. Ms. Kozenko stated the motion died for a lack of a second. Commissioner Jemison stated he would like to vote on the new motion with the monetary value removed.

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Young to approve and execute Resolution 09-060 Proclaiming May 4, 2009 through May 8, 2009 as Public Service Recognition Week for 2009 (without the inclusion of the monetary expenditure).

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Date: April 16, 2009

Resolution: 09-060

**RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MAY 4, 2009 THROUGH MAY 8, 2009
AS PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK FOR 2009**

WHEREAS, In honor of the men and women who serve America every single day as public servants at the federal, state, county and city levels. The vast array of services provided by the government is an integral part of our lives. Every day of our lives we depend upon the work of public employees; and

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WHEREAS, Public service is a public trust, a high calling and an expression of responsible citizenship; and

WHEREAS, A job in public service will impact the lives of many people, through public policy, education, law enforcement, and the environment; and

WHEREAS, Without these dedicated government employees at every level, continuity would be impossible in a democracy that regularly changes its leaders and elected officials; and

WHEREAS, We, the Geauga County Board of Commissioners, do proclaim that annually the first week of May to be Public Service Recognition Week in Geauga County and call upon all citizens to recognize the contributions made by public employees at all levels who help ensure the quality of our lives in this great country and in this great county in the state of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, O.R.C. 325.25 specifically authorizes employee recognition programs; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio wish to utilize this authority to recognize the employees of Geauga County government on an annual basis during the first week of May during Public Service Recognition week .

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT 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 Jemison</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Samide</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
	<i>Commissioner Young</i>	<i>Aye</i>

CANCEL SESSION

The Board cancelled the following sessions as there will not be a quorum. The question arose regarding doing the financials on Thursday, May 26th. We will check with the Auditor's Office if they will do financials on that Thursday instead of Tuesday.

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to cancel session for Thursday, April 30, 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>

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to cancel session for Thursday, May 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>

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to move into executive session for the purpose of discussing the employment of a public employee.

<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>

The Board returned from executive session at 11:38 a.m. No action was taken as a result of this executive session.

OTHER

The Board briefly reviewed their calendars.

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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 March 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 M 2009 as required by O.R.C. 325.07.*

MEETINGS

- Fri., 4/17 TAC meeting*
- Tues., 4/21 The Commissioners will hold regular session.*
- Tues., 4/21 Public Viewing for the Petition for Ditch Improvement under Kenston Lake Drive viewing at 6:30 p.m.*
- Tues., 4/23 The Commissioners will hold regular session.*
- Thu., 4/23 Public hearing in connection with the Maple Hill Drive Improvement and the sanitary sewer district at Gurney School in Chagrin Falls at 7:00 p.m.*
- Fri., 4/24 United Way Annual meeting at noon at St. Mary's Banquet Room*
- Tue., 4/28 The Commissioners will hold regular session.*
- Thu., 4/30 The Commissioners will hold regular session.*
- April 30th through May 3rd Geauga County Maple Festival*

BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, COMMISSIONER YOUNG ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 11:38 A.M.

Geauga County Board of Commissioners

Tracy A. Jemison

Mary E. Samide

William S. Young

Claudine Kozenko, Commissioners' Clerk