

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**August 20, 2013**

*The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on August 20, 2013 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 Vice President of the Board, Mary E. Samide opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. by leading the Board and audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.*

*\*Commissioner Jemison was absent from today's meeting.*

**APPROVE MINUTES**

*Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of August 15, 2013.*

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

**BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES – CONTRACT AGREEMENT –  
GOTTSCHALK BUILDING COMPANY**

*Don Rice stated that this was the next step in the process, that last week the Board awarded the Bid and that next week hope to do the Notice to Proceed to get Gottschalk started on the project.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and execute the Contract Agreement with Gottschalk Building Company for the Residential Unit Remodeling / Downsizing, Bessie Benner Metzenbaum Center in the amount of \$1,365,600.00.*

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

**APPROVE FINANCIALS**

*Budget and Finance Administrator Heidi Delaney explained the financials for today as including an Appropriation transfer from the Contingency Account to return appropriations to the Sheriff's Office for reimbursements deposited into the General Fund; Cash transfers out of the General Fund for portions of 2013 funding for the County Home and the Office of Community and Economic Development and for the debt payment on the various purpose notes; a Contract for Gottschalk Building Company for the Board of Developmental Disabilities residential unit remodeling /downsizing project in the amount of \$1,365,600.00; Travel requests for the Probate Court and the Treasurer's Office; and a payment to Junction Buick for the purchase of a 2013 GMC 1500 Pick-up truck for the Department on Aging in the amount of \$21,846.94.*

*Commissioner Spidalieri inquired what the Department on Aging was doing with the old vehicle, if it was traded in. County Administrator David Lair stated that he believed it was going to be put on the auction.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and execute Resolution #13-154 itemizing the financials for the meeting of August 20, 2013.*

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

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**August 20, 2013**

COUNTY HOME – INCREASE CURRENT POSTING – PART-TIME ATTENDANT (#1504-1)

Director Karen DeCola explained that they had posted for two Part-time Attendants on First and Third shift and we had hired one, and then Ms. McDougall passed away. Ms. DeCola stated that she would like to increase the current posting to two and then hire two Part-time Attendants, which would then close the posting.

*Motion:* by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Samide to increase the current posting for Part-time Attendant (#1504-1) from one to two positions and update the shift from First and Third, to read for all shifts.

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

COUNTY HOME – HIRE RITA COLON – PART-TIME ATTENDANT (#1504-1)

Ms. DeCola noted that Ms. Colon is a retired LPN and that this would be the second LPN on staff as Part-time Attendants.

*Motion:* by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve hiring Rita Colon to the position of Part-time Attendant (#1504-1) to be effective August 23, 2013 at a rate of \$9.12 per hour. After the successful completion of a 1,000 hour probationary period the rate will increase to \$9.60 per hour.

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

COUNTY HOME – HIRE MOLLY HEGNER – PART-TIME ATTENDANT (#1504-1)

Ms. DeCola stated that Ms. Hegner is a high school student and that this would be her first job, and that she will only be working from 4 or 5 to 9 p.m.

*Motion:* by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve hiring Molly Hegner to the position of Part-time Attendant (#1504-1) to be effective August 26, 2013 at a rate of \$9.12 per hour. After the successful completion of a 1,000 hour probationary period the rate will increase to \$9.60 per hour.

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

DOG WARDEN – RESOLUTION IN THE MATTER OF SETTING DOG LICENSE FEES AND KENNEL LICENSE FEES FOR GEAUGA COUNTY, OHIO

County Auditor Frank Gliha explained that half of what Mr. Granito does, he also does. Mr. Gliha stated that the State of Ohio has ordered them to make two additional dog tag types, one three year and one permanent (lifetime). All those require some additional program changes in order to identify who has what tag, and they have been discussing the costs to do that. Geauga County is one of the lowest counties out of the surrounding counties in the cost of tags. Mr. Gliha stated that we would like to increase from the current \$10.00 fee to \$15.00, which will offset some of the cost. Mr. Lair inquired about when the tags were last increased. Commissioners Clerk Christine Blair noted that it was last done in the year 2000. There was discussion about the lifetime tag being ten times the amount of the one year tag. Mr. Gliha stated that one additional requirement for the lifetime tag is a picture, the age and name of the dog. Some Auditors in the state are upset over this, due to the lifetime tag. Mr. Gliha noted that he would not order in lifetime tags until he knows how many he is going to need; a temporary will be given and a replacement will then be sent.

Dog Warden Matt Granito stated that there is no financial gain for the citizen or for the county. It's a break even, so unless your dog lives past ten years there is no advantage to the dog owner. Mr. Gliha added that he will be required to assist Mr. Granito manage the funds, and space distribution of funding out over three years and ten years based on how the tags are purchased. There was discussion about the funds being put into a fund that will show a carryover every year. Mr. Granito stated that the issue is convenience for the citizen, but it really has no benefit.

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**August 20, 2013**

*It would protect dog owners from a rate increase, but there hasn't been an increase since 2000. Mr. Gliha stated that it is going to cost the county more money, due to the tracking of the tags and the funds. Mr. Gliha noted that increasing the tags to \$15.00 will still keep us under the tag costs from the surrounding counties. Mr. Granito stated that the state average is \$15.28, and throughout northeast Ohio the average is \$16.33. Mr. Granito stated that he had requested a fee increase in 2009 because he knew he needed the extra funds, adding that last year he borrowed \$15,000.00 from the General Fund and paid it back with this year's tags, and is also requesting \$20,000.00 this year and will be about \$30,000.00 to \$35,000.00 from next year's tags to make it through. That increase was not done to because of the community. Mr. Lair stated that the push back in 2009 was also about the number of people who weren't buying tags, and felt that they shouldn't penalize those purchasing tags. Mr. Granito stated that you get one "get out of jail free" card by purchasing that license, explaining that if we have to pick up your dog, the first time is free, however if you don't purchase the tag what used to be \$70.00 will now be \$80.00 with the increase. Mr. Granito stated that this department does not receive funds from the General Fund and operates on dog license, donations, impounds and adoptions. Mr. Lair stated that the idea is that this operation should be paid for by the people who own dogs.*

*Mr. Spidalieri thanked Mr. Gliha for the recent letter that was sent out regarding the Homestead Program. Mr. Spidalieri stated that while he didn't want to put Mr. Granito on the spot, and that he has had this conversation with him, he feels that we are not utilizing fully Mr. Granito's position in this county, explaining that Mr. Granito should be sent to the Academy and get his certification for Ohio Peace Officer. Mr. Spidalieri stated that by having him commissioned under the Sheriff that he would be able to respond to animal calls and complaints, giving him the authority to take legal action and alleviate the Sheriff from responding to those calls. Mr. Spidalieri stated that this is a unique situation knowing Mr. Granito's character, his level of professionalism and how he does his job that he can say this, but there are often times that he is responding to a call, he finds negligence and has to call for assistance with from the Sheriff for authority. Mr. Spidalieri expressed that by making him a uniformed authority for law enforcement Mr. Granito would have increased visibility with his job and be able to handle more calls, along with representation in court. Mr. Spidalieri stated that he had spoken with Mr. Granito before and noted that Mr. Granito would be willing to do this, further expressing that he was not aware of what all needed to be done to do this, in regards to the academy and in speaking with the Sheriff.*

*Mr. Granito stated that Dog Wardens in the state only have so much legal ability for dog control, noting that a horse at large is not a jurisdictional authority that he can have; often times they are called, but there is a fine line. Mr. Granito stated that as a commissioned deputy he could handle other animal calls, like nuisance, livestock, and it would include additional authority. Mr. Granito stated that with doing this, he would be then calling for assistance instead of for authority. Mr. Spidalieri expressed that his also had concern because Mr. Granito is not armed, adding that situations can turn, and he has nothing to be able to take action if needed to protect himself along with the citizens. Mr. Spidalieri stated that this is something that we need to further explore, and this will give us an enforcement arm that will then free up other deputies.*

*Mr. Granito stated that when he started that they had gotten away from wearing uniforms, but this year will be going back to them, to give deputy dog wardens along with himself more perceived authority, and to give them more respect from the community. Mr. Spidalieri suggested that instead of Dog Warden that the department be taken to APU, Animal Protective Unit, that as the population grows, we are going to need this, adding that this only makes sense, the academy doesn't cost all that much, and it will increase Mr. Granito's credibility, integrity and training. Mr. Lair stated that he will speak with the Sheriff and the Prosecutor to see what can be done.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and execute Resolution #13-155 In the matter of Setting Dog License Fees and Kennel License Fees for Geauga County, Ohio.*

*Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio*

*Date: August 20, 2013  
Resolution: #13-155*

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**August 20, 2013**

**IN THE MATTER OF SETTING DOG LICENSE FEES AND KENNEL LICENSE FEES FOR  
GEAUGA COUNTY, OHIO**

*Whereas, On August 31, 2000 the Geauga County Board of Commissioners (the "Board") increased the dog license fee to Ten Dollars (\$10.00) for each individual dog license and increased the dog kennel license fee to Fifty Dollars (\$50.00); and*

*Whereas, the Geauga County Board of Commissioners desire an increase in the current dog license and kennel fees to offset all expenses incurred by the County for the administration of Chapter 955 of the Ohio Revised Code and to pay claims allowed for animals injured or destroyed by dogs.*

*Whereas, Sections 955.04 and 955.14 of the Revised Code requires owners of dog kennels to make application for the registration of such kennel, and pay to the county Auditor a registration fee; and*

*Whereas, Sections 955.01 and 955.14 of the Revised Code, as recently amended by 2013 HB59, effective on December 1, 2013, now permit dog owners to obtain three-year or permanent dog registrations; and*

*Whereas, a three- year dog registration shall be charged a fee equal to three times the annual dog registration fee, and*

*Whereas, a permanent dog registration shall be charged a fee equal to ten times the annual dog registration fee;*

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, State of Ohio:*

*Section 1. The Board, having estimated that the fees established in this Resolution are needed to pay all expenses for the administration of Chapter 955 of the Revised Code and to pay claims allowed for animals injured or destroyed by dogs, hereby establishes the following increased dog registration and kennel fees for Geauga County:*

<b><i>Registration Period</i></b>	<b><i>Fee</i></b>
<i>One Year Registration</i>	<i>\$15.00</i>
<i>Three Year Registration</i>	<i>\$45.00</i>
<i>Permanent Registration</i>	<i>\$150.00</i>
<i>Kennel License Fee</i>	<i>\$75.00</i>

*Section 2. The dog registration and kennel license fees established herein shall be effective on December 1, 2013.*

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

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

**DOG WARDEN – CASH ADVANCE #1 – DOG AND KENNEL FUND**

*Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve Cash Advance #1 in the amount of \$20,000.00 into the Dog and Kennel Fund to be repaid to the General Fund when the 2014 Dog License revenues become available, or by December 31, 2013.*

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

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**August 20, 2013**

**DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – DISCUSSIONS WITH CITY OF CLEVELAND  
DIVISION OF WATER – EXPAND MASTER METER AGREEMENT TO INCLUDE TWO  
PARCELS ON SAVAGE ROAD IN BAINBRIDGE TOWNSHIP**

Assistant Sanitary Engineer Gerry Morgan explained that this is for two parcels on Savage Road that run between Savage Road and Tulip Lane owned by Voproco Properties. These parcels were subject to some zoning issues with Bainbridge and under the settlement this would permit the water and sewer. The 208 plan has been amended to include those properties under the may be sewer designation; this is the process with Cleveland Water to amend the metered service area; all of the Bainbridge Water system and would then include these two properties. Mr. Spidalieri inquired if this would be good for the county, to which Mr. Morgan stated that it is in accordance with Bainbridge's agreement adding that there is a main line between Chagrin Road and Knowles Industrial Park that runs in the middle of these two properties. This will benefit us by giving us easier access to the line that was put in the early 90's. Commissioner Samide inquired about tie in fees, to which Mr. Morgan stated that yes whatever would go in on those properties would pay for the tie in to the line.

**Motion:** by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Samide to authorize the department to begin discussions with the City of Cleveland Division of Water for an expansion of the Master Meter Service Agreement to include Parcel #02-089000 and Parcel #02-088900 on Savage Road in Bainbridge Township. This expansion is in accordance with the settlement agreement between Bainbridge Township and Voproco Properties Limited dated January 19, 2013.

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

**COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – ADOPT REVISIONS TO HEALTH CARE COVERAGE AND  
LIFE INSURANCE – CHANGING WAITING PERIOD**

Benefits Specialist Kathy Hostutler explained that to remain in compliance with Health Care reform, the Affordable Care Act we need to change the waiting period for new employees to come onto the health care plan to sixty (60) days. Ms. Hostutler stated that currently the date for employees to come on the plan is the first of the month following ninety (90) days, but according to the Affordable Health Care Act employees have to be on the health care plan by the 90<sup>th</sup> day. Under the current plan if an employee becomes employed in the middle of the month and waits to the first of the month following 90 days they will then be over 100 days and will not be in compliance. This is one part of the Affordable Care Act that has not been delayed and will be in place January 1, 2014. With all the communication, the government has delayed the penalty phase for employers till 2015, but has not delayed the individual mandate that everyone have health insurance. This gives us an additional year to make sure that we have everything in place that is needed, and that the tracking processes are in place.

**Motion:** by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and adopt the revisions to the Health Care Coverage (O.R.C. 305.171) and Life Insurance Section 5. Benefits, page 5.1, 5.2 and 5.11, changing the waiting period to the first of the month following a 60 day waiting period (previously the first month following a 90 day waiting period) for necessary compliance with the Affordable Care Act to be effective September 1, 2013.

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

Ms. Hostutler added that on September 18, 2013 we will be finding out the 2014 renewal rate from CEBCO regarding our Health Care Plans, with the possibility of adding a third plan to cover those employees working 30 hours a week. There was some discussion about the expectation of the rate increase, and it was noted that 12% was budgeted, with the hope that it will be less. Ms. Hostutler noted that CEBCO relates that 2.6% of the 2014 renewal increase will be a direct result of the Affordable Health Care Act.

Ms. Hostutler stated that the Affordable Health Care Act created a Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) to help patients, clinicians, payers and the public to make informed health decisions by comparing effectiveness research, which is funded in part by us through a fee

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**August 20, 2013**

*of \$2.00 per person covered (belly button fee) and this provision is also not being delayed. Currently co-pays are not included in our out of pocket maximum and next year they will be included in that, along with some contraception being free, with all of these changes being due to the Affordable Care Act and contributing to the 2.6% increase forecast by CEBCO.*

**COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – RE-APPOINT INDIVIDUALS TO GAPP AREA 19  
WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD (WIB)**

*Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Samide to re-appoint the following individuals to the GAPP Area 19 Workforce Investment Board (WIB) for a term ending June 30, 2014:*

<i>John Granny, Kent State University</i>	<i>Education</i>
<i>Karen DeCola, Pleasant Hill County Home</i>	<i>Community Organization</i>
<i>Tim Taylor, Job and Family Services</i>	<i>TANF</i>
<i>Thomas Michel, TAG Media, Ltd.</i>	<i>Business</i>
<i>Anita Stocker, Stockers on the Park</i>	<i>Business</i>
<i>Danialle Lynce, Geauga Medical Center</i>	<i>Business</i>
<i>Lee Imhoff, Troy Chemical Industries, Incorporated</i>	<i>Business</i>
<i>Thomas Spann, Duramax Marine, LLC</i>	<i>Business</i>

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

*Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Samide to appoint Brian Mallory to the GAPP Area 19 Workforce Investment Board (WIB) for a term ending June 30, 2014.*

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

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- a) Geauga County Single Audit for the Year Ended December 31, 2012, submitted by the Geauga County Auditor*

**OTHER**

*The Board reviewed upcoming events.*

**MEETINGS**

*Thu., 8/22 The Commissioners will hold regular session.*

*Mon., 8/26 Board of Revision, 8:00 a.m. Auditor's Office*

*Tue., 8/27 The Commissioners will hold regular session.*

*Thu., 8/29 **The Commissioners will hold regular session at 10:00 a.m. at the Geauga County Fairgrounds, Junior Fair stage. NOTE DIFFERENT LOCATION.***

*Ms. Samide stated that anyone who wished to attend needs to tell them at the gate that you are there for the Commissioners meeting and you should not be charged to attend.*

*8/29 – 9/2 Great Geauga County Fair, Burton*

*Mon., 9/2 County offices will be closed for general business due to the Labor Day holiday.*

*Tue., 9/3 **The Regularly scheduled Commissioners' meeting is cancelled.***

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**August 20, 2013**

**OTHER**

*Mr. Spidalieri inquired about the planned September 5, 2013 evening session regarding Habitat for Humanity, to which Ms. Blair stated that until she hears back from Ms. Kimbrew on confirmation on the date due to a conflict, it was pulled. Ms. Samide added that it will still be in the evening, but we just need to confirm which evening. Mr. Spidalieri asked if anyone in the audience had any questions.*

***BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, COMMISSIONER SPIDALIERI ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 10:38 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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*Ralph Spidalieri*

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*Christine Blair, Commissioners' Clerk*

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**August 20, 2013**

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