

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**December 23, 2010**

*The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on December 23, 2010 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, Mary E. Samide opened the meeting at 10:08 a.m. by leading the Board and audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.*

**APPROVE MINUTES**

*Motion: by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Jemison to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of December 21, 2010.*

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

**COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – WILLIAM S. YOUNG - PUBLIC OFFICIALS BOND AND OATH OF OFFICE**

*Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and accept Commissioner, William S. Young's Public Official Bond in the amount of \$5,000.00 and Oath of Office.*

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

*Commissioner Samide administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner William S. Young.*

*Ms. Samide stated that it was an honor to work with Mr. Young and Mr. Jemison, a pleasure to work with professionals. Mr. Jemison stated that it was a privilege to work with both Mr. Young and Ms. Samide. Mr. Young explained that it would be wonderful to spend four years with Ms. Samide and Mr. Jemison. The plan in two years is for them to get re-elected so the three of them can continue to operate, and do it efficiently. Mr. Young explained that he has learned a lot from Ms. Samide as she is a strong person who has helped him better understand the county and technology. Mr. Young explained that he was married to a women who is incredibly strong with technology, along with his son. Mr. Young explained that as he got to know Mr. Jemison from the very beginning when he was Auditor he has been very strong in the technical side but has a broad range of knowledge in other areas as economic development, and that he has certainly been a great addition to this organization. Mr. Young explained that he has been very happy to work with both Ms. Samide and Mr. Jemison and that they make his life easier. Ms. Samide stated that Mr. Young is very knowledgeable with employee benefits. Mr. Young stated that he has helped saved the county a few dollars over the years and that he hopes that will continue. Mr. Young explained that he felt that they worked very well together and that as they don't always agree on things, and they shouldn't but in terms of what is best for the county, he feels that they do what is in the best interest for the county and haven't done things that have been really negative. Mr. Young explained that he felt that they had done very good things for the county, and that he recognizes that in areas where Mr. Jemison and Ms. Samide may have more knowledge than him, he doesn't take exception and stands behind them. Mr. Jemison explained that there have been many times during talks that Mr. Young always comes out as a wise man, and you step back and say wait a minute, that's right. Mr. Jemison feels that they are good team and that he enjoys working with both of them.*

*County Administrator David Lair stated that on behalf of all the employees that work under their hiring authority that it's a pleasure working with the three of them. They are professional, reasonable, compassionate and that they really care about their employees, and the county. The proof of that is in the lack of opposition, and that those that may make negative comments don't fully understand the process of how county government works. Those that do understand how things have to be done, the legal requirements and limitations under the Ohio*

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*Revised Code make no adverse comments. Mr. Lair feels that the three of them do it about as well as it could possibly be done given the limitations of resources we have to work within. Mr. Lair stated they have to live like the taxpayers and any ideas of increasing revenue is not going to happen on the backs of the taxpayers. Mr. Lair explained that he felt that they think philosophically as one on the important things and that they operate as one and that makes for a very effective, efficient government.*

*Ms. Samide explained that none of it ever happens unless the people who are working for you step up and do their part. Ms. Samide explained that they see that through the Directors and the different departments that try to find ways to make it a little less expensive, a little tighter. Ms. Samide explained that their collective bargaining unions have come to the table and gone along with them and trusted them to be fair. Mr. Jemison stated that even their fellow Elected Officials and Department Heads that come in for their Budget Hearings brought ways to save money and do more with less, that it was a great cooperative, collaborative environment right now.*

*Mr. Lair explained that it would not be possible without the creditability that the three Commissioners bring to the table. There is a trust now amongst the Elected Officials. Mr. Lair stated that they say everyone is being treated the same, the money is being handled as carefully as possible and people believe because they haven't done anything to break that trust. That is so important and can be so easy to lose for a number of reasons. Often times the easy way out can cause the trust to be broken, but these Commissioners don't take the easy way out, they maintain the trust and that is what makes it work. Ms. Samide stated that they were there for all the residents of Geauga County to listen to their concerns. She stated that she always remembers Mr. Lair's comment when they first came in, "Leave your ego at the door because there is no room for it here" and that they have tried to follow that.*

**OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – PROMISSORY NOTE AND MORTGAGE – ANGELA R. VARNER**

*Program Coordinator Rhea Benton explained that this was a Habitat for Humanity project that is part of their formula grant. Ms. Benton stated that during construction they place a mortgage with Habitat on the property for \$20,000.00 and once that construction is complete they cancel that mortgage out and place that \$20,000.00 with the Homeowner. Mr. Lair stated they this money does not come out of the General Fund, and that often people get confused by that. Comments are made regarding making cut backs and then money is given out for projects like this. Ms. Benton explained that this is federal money that is taken out of a Block Grant. Ms. Samide commented that the people who get this money for their home have to put in five hundred to a thousand hours of sweat equity into building it. Mr. Jemison referred back to Forbes ranking Geauga County as the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) best places to live and part of what they look at is home ownership. The home ownership rate for Geauga is 86-87%. Mr. Jemison stated that they need to encourage more people to own homes, that communities are much stronger. Mr. Jemison stated that we are fortunate to have grants available to do this. Ms. Benton explained that each Habitat client goes through a Financial Fitness program with Habitat for Humanity and then their office does a income verification. Ms. Benton explained that these are hard working people that are employed and providing for their families.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Jemison to to approve and execute a Promissory Note and Mortgage with Angela R. Varner in connection with Habitat for Humanity for providing new construction assistance for property located at 16690 Dayton Street, Chagrin Falls in the amount of \$20,000.00 under Grant #B-F-09.*

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

**OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – SATISFACTION OF MORTGAGE(S) – THOMAS J. ROSS, JR**

*Ms. Benton explained that Mr. Ross went through their "CHIP program" back in 2001 and now is paying off the loans. These loans reduce by a percentage every year and when the home is sold they pay us back the remainder. That money can then be used to lend out again.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Jemison to approve and execute a Satisfaction of Mortgage for Thomas J. Ross, Jr. for property located at*

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*14758 South Cheshire Street, Burton in the amount of \$20,550.00 under Grant #B-C-01-021.*

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

*Motion: by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Jemison to approve and execute a Satisfaction of Mortgage for Thomas J. Ross, Jr. for property located at 14758 South Cheshire Street, Burton in the amount of \$9,000.00 under Grant #B-C-01-021.*

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

**DOG WARDEN – RECLASSIFY PART-TIME ATTENDANT #1607 – KATHERINE EASTERDAY**

*Dog Warden Matt Granito explained that Katherine has been with their office for the last two years as temporary, summer and seasonal help. She is a certified vet technician that loves the job, working with the homeless animals, and working for the county. Mr. Granito explained that it's important to have a certified vet technician caring for the animals. Mr. Granito explained that Ms. Easterday makes less here then she could working for a private practice, but she just enjoys working with the dogs, the staff and the whole environment of the county government of Geauga County. Mr. Granito also explained that Ms. Easterday was excited to be on part-time at this point on a permanent basis and that she is grateful to have the position. Mr. Jemison asked Mr. Granito to clarify that this fits into the budget. Mr. Granito explained that they have had her in the budget for the last two years and they have been able to increase the dog license sales by having Ms. Easterday there to take care of the dogs allowing the rest of the staff to get out on the road more. With the classification of shelter attendant Ms. Easterday will be able to make phone calls for dog license non-renewals and continue to increase their revenue.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Jemison to to approve reclassifying Katherine Easterday to the position of Part-time Shelter Attendant (#1607) to be effective December 27, 2010 at a rate of \$9.63 per hour, after the successful completion of a 180 day probationary period, the rate will increase to \$10.14 per hour.*

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

**DOG WARDEN – COST ANALYSIS STUDY**

*Mr. Granito presented the Commissioners with a cost analysis study that he put together regarding the fees pertaining to the impounding and housing of stray dogs pursuant to O.R.C. 955.12, 955.15 and 955.16. Mr. Granito explained that the average cost to pick up a stray dog is \$66.66, and the average daily board cost to house that dog is \$25.19. The costs that are currently being charged are lower then the cost to catch and house them. The Shelter is funded through dog registrations. The proposed price increases reflect the price difference between dogs that are current without penalty, and have a valid license against those individuals that don't register their dogs and continue not to help fund the shelter should be required to pay more then those individuals that do by paying their registration fees.*

***Cost Analysis Study for Impounding Dogs***

<i>Average Mileage per call</i>	<i>40</i>
<i>Average Hours per call for employees</i>	<i>1.5</i>
<i>Average food per call</i>	<i>1 can</i>
<i>Equipment expense per year</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>
<i>Repairs expense per year</i>	<i>\$5,000</i>
<i>Phone usage per year</i>	<i>\$2,400</i>
<i>Office Supplies</i>	<i>\$1,500</i>

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<b>Cost Associated with above figures</b>	
<b>40 miles at a price of \$0.50 per mile</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>
<i>(Based on federal mileage rate)</i>	
<b>1.5 hours per call for employees at a price of \$19.78</b>	<b>\$29.67</b>
<i>(Based on the average salary per employees doing the calls. This rate includes hourly salary average, hospitalization, medicare, OPERS, and workers compensation</i>	
<b>1 can of food per call at \$0.50</b>	<b>\$0.50</b>
<b>50% of equipment expenses (\$7,500) divided by 700 dogs</b>	<b>\$10.71</b>
<i>Equipment such as leashes, collars, snares, catch poles, gloves, dog traps, medications such as Tranquilizers.</i>	
<b>50% of repairs expenses (\$2,500) divided by 700 dogs</b>	<b>\$3.57</b>
<i>This includes repairs to some of the above equipment as well as the cages in the vehicles.</i>	
<b>1/3 phone usage (\$800) divided by 700 dogs</b>	<b>\$1.14</b>
<b>50% of Office Supplies (\$7,500) divided by 700 dogs</b>	<b>\$1.07</b>
<i>This includes paperwork for going on call, warning tickets when necessary, citations when necessary, pens, clipboards and impound forms</i>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$66.66</b>

**Cost Analysis Study for Housing Dogs**

Average Hours per call for employees	0.75
Average Food per call	1 can / dry food
Equipment expense per year	\$15,000
Repairs expense per year	\$5,000
Phone usage per year	\$2,400
Office Supplies	\$1,500
Cleaning Supplies	\$2,400
Utilities – Gas	\$2,400

**Cost Associated with Above Figures**

<b>0.75 hours per dog for employees at a price of \$12.16</b>	<b>\$9.12</b>
<i>Based on the average salary per employees doing the calls. This includes hourly salary average, hospitalization, medicare, OPERS, and workers compensation</i>	
<b>1 can of food / 3 cups dry food per day</b>	<b>\$1.25</b>
<b>50% of equipment expenses (\$3,000) divided by 700 dogs</b>	<b>\$4.28</b>
<i>Equipment such as cages, bowls, leashes, collars, snares, catch poles, gloves, medications such as Tranquilizers.</i>	
<b>50% of repairs expenses (\$2,000) divided by 700 dogs</b>	<b>\$2.85</b>
<i>This includes cages and structural repairs to shelter</i>	
<b>1/3 phone usage (\$800) divided by 700 dogs</b>	<b>\$1.14</b>
<b>50% of Office Supplies (\$7,500) divided by 700 dogs</b>	<b>\$1.07</b>
<i>This includes paperwork for going on call, warning tickets when necessary, citations when necessary, pens, clipboards, and impounding forms.</i>	
<b>80% of cleaning supplies (\$1,920) divided by 700 dogs</b>	<b>\$2.74</b>
<i>Includes Bleach, parvosol, dish soap and other chemicals to clean cages and bowls.</i>	
<b>80% gas bill (\$1,920) divided by 700 dogs</b>	<b>\$2.74</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$25.19</b>

	<u>Current Fees</u>	<u>Proposed Fees</u>
Impound fees with License**	\$20.00	Free First Offense \$25.00 2 <sup>nd</sup> Offense \$50.00 each offense after
Impound fees with License with penalty	\$20.00	\$25.00 first /second offense \$50.00 each offense after

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<i>Impound fees without license**</i>	\$30.00	\$50.00 first offense / \$20.00 license 2 <sup>nd</sup> will be above prices since the Dog will have a license
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*\*\* These prices are reflective only on impound of the dogs. Housing the dogs would be separate pricing. Additionally citations required by the courts or by the Dog Warden will still be applicable.*

	<u>Current Fee</u>	<u>Proposed Fee</u>
<i>Housing</i>	\$5.00 per day	\$10.00 per day

*Motion: by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Jemison to approve and accept the updated fee schedule for each calendar year for the Impounding and Housing of Dogs as listed below:*

<i>*Impound fees with license</i>	First offense free \$25.00 2 <sup>nd</sup> offense \$50.00 each offense after
<i>Impound fees with license with penalty</i>	\$25.00 first offense / second offense \$50.00 each offense after
<i>*Impound fees without license</i>	\$50.00 first offense / \$20.00 for license 2 <sup>nd</sup> offense will be priced as impound fees with license with penalty
<i>Housing</i>	\$10.00 each day for the first two days \$15.00 for the third \$20.00 for the fourth \$25.00 for the fifth and any consecutive days following

*\*These prices only reflect the impounding of dogs. Housing the dogs is a separate price with any additional citations issued as required by the courts or by the Dog Warden will still be applied.*

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

**COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – CANCEL SESSION**

*There was some discussion about canceling session after the Martin Luther King Holiday and it was added along with the day after the re-organizational session on January 10, 2011.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Jemison to cancel session for Tuesday, January 11, 2011 and Tuesday, January 18, 2011.*

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

**OTHER**

*The Board reviewed upcoming events.*

**MEETINGS**

*Fri., 12/24 **The County Offices, under the hiring authority of the Board of Commissioners, will be closed for the Christmas Holiday. Twenty-four hour operations will continue to operate as normal.***

*Tue., 12/28 The Commissioners will hold regular session.*

*Thu., 12/30 The Commissioners will hold regular session.*

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Fri., 12/31 **County offices will be closed for general business due to the New Year's holiday. Twenty-four hour operations will continue to operate as usual.**

Tues., 1/4 The Commissioners will hold regular session.

Thu., 1/6 The Commissioners will hold regular session.

Mon., 1/10 The Commissioners will hold the **Re-organizational meeting at 10:00 a.m.**

Tues., 1/11 **The Regularly scheduled Commissioners' meeting is cancelled.** (See pending motion above).

Thu., 1/13 The Commissioners will hold regular session.

**BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, COMMISSIONER SAMIDE ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 10:48 A.M.**

*Geauga County Board of Commissioners*

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*William S. Young*

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*Tracy A. Jemison*

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*Mary E. Samide*

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*Christine Blair, Acting Commissioners' Clerk*