

Commissioners' Journal
December 3, 2009

The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on December 3, 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 10:09 a.m. by requesting Diane Arp from the Maintenance Department lead 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 December 1, 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>

APPROVE FINANCIALS

Budget Specialist Heidi Delaney explained the financials as including an appropriation transfer for the Prosecutor's Office for payroll and a voucher payment to United Way.

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Young to approve and execute Resolution 09-216 itemizing the financials for the meeting of December 3, 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 he abstained from voting as he is Chairman of United Way this year.*

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT – ACCEPT PERFORMANCE BOND – RELEASE BID BOND – LILLIBRIDGE LANDSCAPING INCORPORATED – SNOWPLOWING AND SALTING SITE GROUP #1 – CHARDON SQUARE

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to accept the Performance Bond from Lillibridge Landscaping, Incorporated for the 2009-2011 Snowplowing and Salting of the County-owned Site Group #1: Chardon Square (Courthouse, 208 E. Park Street and Courthouse Annex), and to further release the bid bond.

<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>

MAITNENANCE DEPARTMENT – ACCEPT PERFORMANCE BOND – RELEASE BID BOND – LILLIBRIDGE LANDSCAPING INCORPORATED – SNOWPLOWING AND SALTING SITE GROUP #2 – 24 HOUR SERVICE AREA

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to accept the Performance Bond from Lillibridge Landscaping, Incorporated for the 2009-2011 Snowplowing and Salting of the County-owned owned Site #2: The 24-Hour Service Area (DES, Transit, Dog Warden, County Home), and to further release the bid bond.

<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>

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MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT – ACCEPT PERFORMANCE BOND – RELEASE BID BOND
– LILLIBRIDGE LANDSCAPING INCORPORATED – SNOWPLOWING AND SALTING SITE
GROUP #4 – SAFETY CENTER

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to accept the Performance Bond from Lillibridge Landscaping, Incorporated for the 2009-2011 Snowplowing and Salting of the County-owned Site Group #4: Safety Center, and to further release the bid bond.

<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>

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE INTENT TO DISPOSE
OF UNNEEDED, OBSOLETE OR UNFIT COUNTY PROPERTY – INTERNET AUCTION OR
GOV DEALS INCORPORATED

Fiscal Specialist Diane Arp stated that in her first five weeks doing the auction they sold \$32,000.00, which included the sale of some Sheriff's vehicles.

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and execute Resolution 09-210 Authorizing the Intent to Dispose of Unneeded, Obsolete or Unfit County Personal Property Via Internet Auction in the Calendar Year 2010 on the Geauga County Website or with Gov Deals Incorporated and to further authorize the advertisement of such internet auction on December 10, 2009 and December 21, 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>

OTHER

Director Glen Vernick updated the Board on the work being done at the Records Office. Mr. Vernick stated that it will cost \$7,500.00 to do a new ceiling grid, the doorway and expand Ms. Gingerich's office.

The Board reviewed their calendars and upcoming events.

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – RESOLUTIONS HONORING MATT DOLENCE, ALLEN
SHERMAN GARLAND, AUBREY SHANER, JOSEPH MICHAEL SMITH AND JOHN EUGENE
TERBIZAN – ACHIEVING RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and execute Resolution 09-211 honoring Matt Dolence on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Resolution: 09-211
Date: December 3, 2009

**A RESOLUTION HONORING MATT DOLENCE FOR ACHIEVING EAGLE SCOUT
THE HIGHEST AWARD OF ADVANCEMENT BESTOWED UPON A BOY SCOUT**

WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts is a nationally acclaimed organization known for training young men to build character, citizenship, and leadership; and

WHEREAS, each scout must prove to his adult leaders the basics of outdoor survival including nature study, first aid, life saving and other activities that provide leadership qualities; and

WHEREAS, the Eagle Scout Rank is an accomplishment that only four percent of all those who start Boy Scouting ever attain; and

WHEREAS, Matt Dolence is a member of Boy Scout Troop 99, Newbury, Geauga County, and has excelled in his search for knowledge, leadership, planning and community support; and

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WHEREAS, Matt Dolence provided leadership at meetings and on campouts and has done an excellent job in all aspects of scouting; and

WHEREAS, Matt's Eagle Scout project consisted of resurfacing two miles of a hiking trail, adding interpretive signs, repairing washed out areas, replacing a bridge and adding a new trail head sign at Punderson State Park; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Geauga County Board of Commissioners salutes Matt Dolence for service to his community and the 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 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 approve and execute Resolution 09-212 honoring Allen Sherman Garland on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Resolution: 09-212
Date: December 3, 2009

A RESOLUTION HONORING ALLEN SHERMAN GARLAND FOR ACHIEVING EAGLE SCOUT THE HIGHEST AWARD OF ADVANCEMENT BESTOWED UPON A BOY SCOUT

WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts is a nationally acclaimed organization known for training young men to build character, citizenship, and leadership; and

WHEREAS, each scout must prove to his adult leaders the basics of outdoor survival including nature study, first aid, life saving and other activities that provide leadership qualities; and

WHEREAS, the Eagle Scout Rank is an accomplishment that only four percent of all those who start Boy Scouting ever attain; and

WHEREAS, Allen Sherman Garland is a member of Boy Scout Troop 99, Newbury, Geauga County, and has excelled in his search for knowledge, leadership, planning and community support; and

WHEREAS, Allen Sherman Garland provided leadership at meetings and on campouts and has done an excellent job in all aspects of scouting; and

WHEREAS, Allen's Eagle Scout project consisted of building an eight foot by ten foot outdoor cage for displaying animals and the work they do at Penitentiary Glen. The park has used this addition to house a water snake, box turtle and woodchucks; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Geauga County Board of Commissioners salutes Allen Sherman Garland for service to his community and the 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 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 approve and execute Resolution 09-213 honoring Aubrey Shaner on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Resolution: 09-213

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Date: *December 3, 2009*

*A RESOLUTION HONORING AUBREY SHANER FOR ACHIEVING EAGLE SCOUT
THE HIGHEST AWARD OF ADVANCEMENT BESTOWED UPON A BOY SCOUT*

WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts is a nationally acclaimed organization known for training young men to build character, citizenship, and leadership; and

WHEREAS, each scout must prove to his adult leaders the basics of outdoor survival including nature study, first aid, life saving and other activities that provide leadership qualities; and

WHEREAS, the Eagle Scout Rank is an accomplishment that only four percent of all those who start Boy Scouting ever attain; and

WHEREAS, Aubrey Shaner is a member of Boy Scout Troop 99, Newbury, Geauga County, and has excelled in his search for knowledge, leadership, planning and community support; and

WHEREAS, Aubrey Shaner provided leadership at meetings and on campouts and has done an excellent job in all aspects of scouting; and

WHEREAS, Aubrey's Eagle Scout project was to tear out an existing emergency exit stairway and install a new exit landing and stairs, the original railing was sandblasted, painted and reinstalled at Riverview Church in Novelty; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Geauga County Board of Commissioners salutes Aubrey Shaner for service to his community and the 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 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 approve and execute Resolution 09-214 honoring Joseph Michael Smith on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Resolution: 09-214

Date: December 3, 2009

*A RESOLUTION HONORING JOSEPH MICHAEL SMITH FOR ACHIEVING EAGLE SCOUT
THE HIGHEST AWARD OF ADVANCEMENT BESTOWED UPON A BOY SCOUT*

WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts is a nationally acclaimed organization known for training young men to build character, citizenship, and leadership; and

WHEREAS, each scout must prove to his adult leaders the basics of outdoor survival including nature study, first aid, life saving and other activities that provide leadership qualities; and

WHEREAS, the Eagle Scout Rank is an accomplishment that only four percent of all those who start Boy Scouting ever attain; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Michael Smith is a member of Boy Scout Troop 99, Newbury, Geauga County, and has excelled in his search for knowledge, leadership, planning and community support; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Michael Smith provided leadership at meetings and on campouts and has done an excellent job in all aspects of scouting; and

WHEREAS, Joseph's Eagle Scout project was to design and procure the materials, coordinate and build the stabilization of the hillside located at the east end of the Saint Helen's parking lot; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Geauga County Board of Commissioners salutes Joseph Michael Smith for service to his community and the Scouts of America;

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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 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 approve and execute Resolution 09-215 honoring John Eugene Terbizan on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Resolution: 09-215
Date: December 3, 2009

**A RESOLUTION HONORING JOHN EUGENE TERBIZAN FOR ACHIEVING EAGLE SCOUT
THE HIGHEST AWARD OF ADVANCEMENT BESTOWED UPON A BOY SCOUT**

WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts is a nationally acclaimed organization known for training young men to build character, citizenship, and leadership; and

WHEREAS, each scout must prove to his adult leaders the basics of outdoor survival including nature study, first aid, life saving and other activities that provide leadership qualities; and

WHEREAS, the Eagle Scout Rank is an accomplishment that only four percent of all those who start Boy Scouting ever attain; and

WHEREAS, John Eugene Terbizan is a member of Boy Scout Troop 99, Newbury, Geauga County, and has excelled in his search for knowledge, leadership, planning and community support; and

WHEREAS, John Eugene Terbizan provided leadership at meetings and on campouts and has done an excellent job in all aspects of scouting; and

WHEREAS, John's Eagle Scout project was to replace the emergency exit ramp at Saint Luke Episcopal Church in Chardon; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Geauga County Board of Commissioners salutes John Eugene Terbizan for service to his community and the 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 Jemison</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Samide</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Young</i>	<i>Aye</i>

**OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – LETTER OF
CONFIRMATION – KINETICO INCORPORATED**

Commissioner Jemison explained that Kinetico is looking at selling products in China and to do that need a government agency to vouch that they actually sell products in the United States. Director of Community and Economic Development Anita Stocker drew up the paperwork to move the process forward as there was a December 7 deadline. Commissioner Jemison thanked Ms. Stocker and Commissioners' Clerk Claudine Kozenko for getting this paperwork completed at the last minute. Commissioner Jemison added that we need to support our local businesses as they will be creating jobs due to this letter of confirmation.

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the letter of confirmation in regards to Kinetico, Incorporated U.S. product list.

<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>

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OTHER

Ms. Kozenko inquired if the Board had read the notice from the Auditor's Office regarding the increase in the population of Geauga County. Commissioner Jemison commented that it increased by 4,000 people.

Ms. Kozenko reviewed more upcoming events and meetings with the Board and the agenda for the Portage-Gauga Joint Detention Board meeting this afternoon. The Board discussed a request to hold a commissioners meeting in Chagrin Falls Park and discussed doing it in 2010 and also tour South Franklin at the same time.

Commissioner Young reported on NOPEC, for which he serves on the Board. NOPEC has saved Northeast Ohio about \$80 million dollars and has reduced electric rates. They had a deal worked out with a company in Florida for a savings on electricity. NOPEC had some challenges with First Energy but were able to negotiate a deal with First Energy with the help of Executive Director Leigh Harrington. They have entered into an agreement with First Energy Solutions allowing for reduced rates in 2011 to 2019 with about a savings of \$19 million dollars a year to residents within the eight counties participating in Northeast Ohio. The rate will be a 6% reduction for that period and 4% savings for small businesses. There will also be additional money to be distributed to upgrade local communities to use less power in a more efficient way. First Energy has to reduce the amount of energy that is produced from coal. Commissioner Young added that NOPEC is a non-profit organization.

LAW LIBRARY DISCUSSION

Jan Blair, Chairperson of the Geauga County Law Library Resources Board and Law Librarian Susan McGrew were present for the discussion. Ms. Kozenko stated that a packet was passed out to the Board last week. Ms. Blair explained some of the activities that were going on with the Law Library and how to reduce their budget. They are still looking at the renovation of the Law Library. Ms. Blair stated that they have been looking at lower cost for materials, changes that needed to be made rather than "wanted" upgrades. Ms. Blair stated they first identified the money they will have to operate the Law Library and they created a five year plan to show how the law library finances will work with the renovation. The Courts have offered some small IT support but they also need coverage for equipment problems and larger in scope. Ms. Blair is looking from support from the Auditor's Office which would save about \$6,000.00 a year. They would appreciate the Boards' support in acquiring this IT support. County Administrator Dave Lair suggested they do a contract through the ADP Board for these services. In 2010 the Law Library will join a consortium to generate a savings in the packages they would purchase to get better control and value. Commissioner Jemison inquired as to why the library fines are going down. Ms. McGrew stated they are down 17% and her understanding is the fines are less as the court costs have increased and the court costs are collected first, which the Law Library does not get, they only get the fine money. Mr. Lair added that the court costs go up and so to be easy on the people the judge reduces the fine. Ms. McGrew added that in the past there has not been much effort by the courts in collecting the fines. Fines are not collected before the people leave the court, they must pay the court costs however. Ms. Blair added they are looking at charging fees for Ms. McGrew's time for research, copies, faxing and email which is now being done for free. Ms. Blair stated they are considering doing some marketing to let the public know the Law Library is open to them. They are also looking at a membership fee. Commissioner Young suggested security needed to be added to that area as well, especially if there is after hour use of the library. Ms. McGrew commented that the Law Library currently spends \$40,000.00 on other agencies, mostly Municipal Court and Common Pleas Court, for their legal purchases. They are not obligated to do that, they have just been doing it as good will. If they cannot afford to continue this practice the Law Library won't and those agencies will have to put it in their budgets, but Ms. McGrew hopes not to do that. Commissioner Jemison responded that the Board is not charging rent on the Law Library space so for that they should be able to reciprocate for the County General Fund departments. The Board could charge rent and then the Law Library can charge back. The practice should stop of everyone having their own copy of the Ohio Revised Code. Ms. Blair discussed the renovation and reported that they need to look and the needs such as windows, and a functional privacy room for the lawyers to have conversations with their clients. They need to not have state of the art materials. All of these changes brought down the renovation to \$169,815.00 rather than the original \$216,333.00. They eliminated work in the hallways, keep existing doors to the hallway and change light fixtures type to standard acrylic lens fluorescent lights. Maintenance Director Glen Vernick said the only area he did not want them to cut was on the quality of the carpet. Ms. Blair stated that the library area really is a dark, dingy place. Commissioner Samide stated that the concern is

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where the money goes and how it is perceived as the county is holding down salaries. It is laid out clearly that this renovation is possible, especially with the reduction in the cost estimate and the five year plan to live within their budget. Ms. Kozenko inquired as to who is doing the renovation project – the Maintenance Department or the Law Library. Mr. Lair replied he believed it was the Maintenance Department who will have the contract, as the building belongs to the Commissioners. Ms. Blair added that architect fee is included in the renovation estimate. Ms. Blair will contact the architect and see if she can get a reduction in the fee as the Board felt it was high. Ms. Blair will come before the Board again after the RFP.

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to authorize the Library Board to move forward and issue a Request for Proposal for the Law Library Renovation Project.

<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>

Commissioner Jemison briefly reported on the Zoning Board of Appeals hearing regarding the proposed 800 MHZ towers in Troy Township. Commissioner Jemison reported that Sheriff McClelland had spoken individually with a lot of the neighbors regarding the location. After deliberation the Trustees approved the tower placement.

The Board briefly discussed budget appropriations and giving only 80% of the budget (for salaries, Medicare and PERS) and in January, when we know the exact numbers, adjustments can be made. Commissioner Jemison stated that the county has taken a \$2 million dollar hit from what the certificate was on January 1st – no one got laid off and no budgets were cut. The problem is that the county cannot keep taking the hit. The Board discussed investment income, transfer tax and sales tax all being lower than anticipated. The Building Department will be cut 25% which would mean two people will be laid off. Planning Commission has already been cut 35%. Travel budget for the general fund is also being cut. The County Home was discussed as far as not taking residents who are not paying and perhaps raise the rates. The County Home is being cut 35% also. Soil and Water Conservation District has already laid people off. Commissioner Jemison added that we may never “get back to normal”. The Board also discussed furloughs such as taking away ten or twenty paid days. This could be done in several ways such as not paying for holidays or working fewer hours per day. Commissioner Jemison added that the consumers need to start spending money. Many people have to be put back to work so they can spend money again and the sales tax could be increased. Commissioner Samide added that bigger departments need to make cuts and adjustments not just the smaller departments. Commissioner Jemison stated that if the Board considers furlough it would be everyone in the general fund.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- a) Annual Monitoring Reports for the Year 2009 for the Binnig Farm (AEPP 2005) and the O'Reilly Farm (AEPP 2003) from the Planning Commission.
- b) The Monthly Financial Report from the County Building Department for the month of October 2009.

MEETINGS

- Thu., 12/3 Portage/Geauga Joint Detention Center meeting in Chambers at 1:30 p.m.
- Thu., 12/3 Chagrin River Watershed Partners Board of Trustees meeting at 4:00 p.m. at Willoughby Hills Community Center.
- Fri., 12/4 CIC “Take your Assistant to Lunch” meeting at the Club at Hillbrook at noon.
- Sat., 12/5 Geauga County Fair Board dinner at the school building at 6:45 p.m.
- Mon., 12/7 thru Wed., 12/9 CCAO Winter Conference

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Tue., 12/8 Regularly scheduled Commissioners' meeting is cancelled as the Board will be attending the CCAO Winter Conference.

Thu., 12/10 The Commissioners will hold regular session.

Fri., 12/11 NOACA

Tue., 12/15 The Commissioners will hold regular session.

Thu., 12/17 The Commissioners will hold regular session.

Mon., 12/21 Family First meeting at Mental Health.

Tue., 12/22 The Commissioners will hold regular session.

Thu., 12/24 The Regularly scheduled Commissioners' meeting is cancelled.

Thu., 12/24 The County Offices, under the hiring authority of the Board of Commissioners, will be closed at noon (half day).

Fri., 12/25 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., 12/29 The Commissioners will hold regular session.

Thu., 12/31 The Regularly scheduled Commissioners' meeting is cancelled.

BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, COMMISSIONER YOUNG ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 12:00 P.M.

Geauga County Board of Commissioners

Tracy A. Jemison

Mary E. Samide

William S. Young

Claudine Kozenko, Commissioners' Clerk