

Commissioners' Journal
July 3, 2012

The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on July 3, 2012 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 10:02 a.m. by leading the Board and audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Commissioner Young retired as of June 30, 2012.*

APPROVE MINUTES

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of June 28, 2012.

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

APPROVE FINANCIALS

Budget Administrator Heidi Delaney explained the financials for today as including Cash transfers out of the General Fund for portions of 2012 funding for the Youth Center and Court Technology; a Travel request for the Office of Community and Economic Development; and a payment to Jack Gibson Construction in the amount of \$168,607.25 for the Infirmary Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Construction project.

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and execute Resolution #12-004 itemizing the financials for the meeting of January 12, 2012.

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

DEPARTMENT ON AGING – AGREEMENT – PAUL HARRIS; HOWARDS APPLES – 2012 SENIOR FARM MARKET

Director Sally Bell explained that this was an additional contract for the Farm Market, noting that they had distributed all the coupons for the Federal program and were working on identifying seniors who qualify for the Geauga program. Ms. Bell noted that Howards Apples is located in Bainbridge Township and gives coverage over most of the county for farm markets.

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and execute the Agreement with Paul Harris; Howards Apples for the 2012 Senior Farm Market for the period June 1, 2012 through October 31, 2012.

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

Ms. Bell added that she appreciated the farmers in Geauga County for their participation in this program. Those farms hold the coupons collected and send them in once a month and then wait for payment.

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – BID AWARD – INFINITY PAVING COMPANY – CHAGRIN FALLS PARK COMMUNITY CENTER PARKING LOT IMPROVEMENTS

Program Coordinator Rhea Benton explained that this was to award the bid for Infinity Paving Company for the Chagrin Falls Park Community Center Parking Lot improvements that is through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). Commissioner Jemison inquired about the estimated date of completion. Ms. Benton stated that they have a start date for the

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project as August 13th due to community center having children's programs scheduled until then. Ms. Benton added that they are giving six weeks for completion but it shouldn't take that long.

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute a Bid Award to Infinity Paving Company for the Chagrin Falls Park Community Center Parking Lot Improvements, (Grant #B-F-11-1AZ-1) in the amount of \$65,492.85, as they represented the lowest and best bid.

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

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – OHIO WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND HOME SEWAGE TREATMENT SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PRINCIPAL FORGIVENESS PAYMENT REQUEST #1

Program Administrator Joni Stusek explained that this was for the new EPA grant, and that they are required to submit a payment request each time funds are needed to pay a contractor.

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Ohio Water Pollution Control Loan Fund Home Sewage Treatment System Improvements Principal Forgiveness Payment Request Form #1 for the installation of a replacement septic system at 13213 Marilyn Drive, Chesterland under the EPA Water Pollution Control Loan Fund Household Sewage Treatment System Program in the amount of \$8,160.00.

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

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – THREE-PARTY CONTRACT – AUBURN BAINBRIDGE EXCAVATING AND JAMES J. AND MARIA BROWER – INSTALL SEPTIC SYSTEM

Ms. Stusek stated that this three-party contract is for the second septic system being installed under the new EPA grant, and this system qualified for a 100% grant.

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and execute a Three-Party Contract between the Geauga County Board of Commissioners, Auburn Bainbridge Excavating, and James J. Brower and Maria Brower for installation of a septic system at 14654 Brightwood Drive, Newbury under the EPA Water Pollution Control Loan Fund Household Sewage Treatment System Program in the amount of \$12,900.00.

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

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – NOTICE TO PROCEED – AUBURN BAINBRIDGE EXCAVATING – INSTALL SEPTIC SYSTEM

Ms. Stusek stated that this was a notice to proceed for the same system being installed in Newbury.

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute a Notice to Proceed to Auburn Bainbridge Excavating for installation of a septic system at 14654 Brightwood Drive, Newbury under the EPA Water Pollution Control Loan Fund Household Sewage Treatment System Program.

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

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OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – RESOLUTION TO RE-ALLOCATE PREVIOUSLY OBLIGATED REVOLVING LOAN FUNDS

Ms. Stusek explained that the State was asking to further qualify the use of certain funds that were approved by Resolution in 2010. Ms. Stusek stated that currently there are no funds in the line item for Emergency Repair and that they have quite a few seniors that are in need of some emergency work on roofs and furnaces. Ms. Stusek explained that they were asking to re-allocate the funds that have previously been approved adding \$100,000.00 into Emergency Repair and requesting a re-allocation of \$3,000.00 into the Restful Lake project. This project has been completed but fell short by about \$3,000.00. Commissioner Samide asked what happens to the emergency repair money if it is not used. Ms. Stusek stated that it stays in the fund, noting that they hope to have it there for several years. Mr. Jemison inquired about the criteria for emergency repair. Ms. Stusek noted that it is for very low income, but not at poverty level. Mr. Jemison asked about the maximum amount that would be expended for repairs and if this was a grant or loan. Ms. Stusek noted that the maximum amount is \$8,000.00 and is all grant, but added that they are allowed to place a five year mortgage on the property to protect the funds. This mortgage can be placed so that someone receiving the funding doesn't get the repair and then sell the property. It is a five year totally forgivable loan, but it is up to the Board to place the mortgage. Both Mr. Jemison and Ms. Samide agreed that it is a good idea to place the mortgages.

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and execute Resolution #12-124 to Re-allocate previously obligated Revolving Loan Funds that were approved June 10, 2010 in Resolution #10-121 to Emergency Repair for Senior Citizens and the Restful Lake Community Center.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

*Date: July 3, 2012
Resolution: 12-124*

RESOLUTION

This Resolution, made by Geauga County Board of Commissioners, Ohio, A County government with its main offices at 470 Center Street, Building Four, Chardon, Ohio (herein referred to as the "County").

WITNESSETH;

WHEREAS, The County passed Resolution #10-121 June 10, 2010 obligating up to \$750,000 as a reserve within the T02 Fund to be used as needed to complete CDBG eligible activities including neighborhood facilities, rehabilitation, sewer facilities, new construction, demolitions, etc. and

WHEREAS, The County recognizes the need in Geauga County to assist senior citizens with emergency repairs to owner occupied homes, and

WHEREAS, The County wishes to obligate \$100,000 of the previously obligated \$750,000 to upgrade, on an emergency basis, homes of senior citizens, and

WHEREAS, The County wishes to obligate \$3,000 of the previously obligated \$750,000 to complete rehabilitation of Restful Lake Community Center in Newbury, Ohio,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Geauga, State of Ohio, obligates \$103,000 to Emergency Repair and Restful Lake Community Center and has caused this instrument to be executed this 3rd day of July, 2012.

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

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JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – MUTUAL FUNDING AGREEMENT – GEAUGA FAMILY FIRST COUNCIL

Nancy Seelbach stated that this was a renewal of the mutual funding agreement to support the activities of the Family First Council. Ms. Seelbach noted that it was the same amount as in the past.

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and execute a Mutual Funding Agreement between the Geauga County Board of Commissioners, the Geauga County Job and Family Services, the Geauga County Board of Developmental Disabilities, the Geauga County Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services and Geauga County Juvenile Court for funding of the Geauga County Family First Council for the period July 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012. This Agreement commits the Board of County Commissioners to providing a support payment of \$20,434.00 from the General Fund.

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

Ms. Seelbach thanked the Board for their continued support.

PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE – OHIO OFFICE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES QUARTERLY SUBGRANT REPORT

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services Quarterly Subgrant Report (Grant #2011-JG-A02-6468) for the Geauga Prosecutor's Detective Karen Sweet, for the period ending June 30, 2012 in the amount of \$16,736.86.

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

COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION PROJECT AGREEMENT – ASPHALT RESURFACING OF MUNN ROAD AND REPLACEMENT OF THE BURTON WINDSOR ROAD BRIDGE

Engineer Mike Stone explained that the next four requests were tied together with the Ohio Public Works Commission grants. Mr. Stone noted that they were asking that Tracy A. Jemison, who was President of the Board last year and is the Chief Executive Officer to execute the grants. Mr. Stone explained that the grants are not released until July 1st due to the State Fiscal Year.

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and authorize Commissioner Tracy A. Jemison, Chief Executive Officer to execute the Ohio Public Works Commission Project Agreement (Project #CGX08) for the Asphalt Resurfacing of Munn Road (CH 32, Sections E & F) in Auburn and Newbury Townships.

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

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and authorize Commissioner Tracy A. Jemison, Chief Executive Officer to execute the Ohio Public Works Commission Project Agreement (Project #CGX09) for the Replacement of the Burton Windsor Road Bridge (Structure #14-6.14) in Huntsburg Township.

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

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COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – AWARD BID – RONYAK PAVING, INCORPORATED – ASPHALT RESURFACING MUNN ROAD – REPLACEMENT OF BURTON WINDSOR ROAD BRIDGE

Mr. Stone explained that both projects previously went to bid and now are able to be awarded bids. Mr. Stone noted that both projects came in under the estimate that was originally sent in. Mr. Stone noted that each project will be 80% grant for the bid prices. Mr. Stone noted that Munn Road is the county section from Stafford Road up to Bell Road. Ms. Samide inquired about how much lower the projects came in than what was estimated last year. Mr. Stone noted that the estimate for the Burton Windsor Road Bridge was \$100,000.00 and that Munn Road was \$350,000.00.

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to award the bid to Ronyak Paving, Incorporated for the Asphalt Resurfacing of Munn Road (CH 32, Sections E & F) in Auburn and Newbury Townships in the amount of \$327,268.74, as they presented the lowest and best bid.

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

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to award the bid to Winters and Lewis Excavating, Incorporated for the Replacement of the Burton Windsor Road Bridge (Structure #14-6.14) in Huntsburg Township in the amount of \$79,536.80, as they presented the lowest and best bid.

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

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSAL TO VACATE THE REMAINDER OF WEST STREET (TR 142) BURTON TOWNSHIP

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to waive the reading of the legal notice.

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

Commissioner Samide opened the public hearing at 10:20 a.m. and asked Mr. Stone to explain about West Street. Mr. Stone stated that Burton Township has never received any money from registration fees for West Street. A section of the law allows for the Township to begin the vacation proceedings, but we want to make sure that the neighboring residents are ok with this action. Mr. Stone noted that in his report that in 1980 proceedings had been started but residents at that time were not happy. Mr. Stone explained that the road was originally thirty feet wide and during two separate actions by Burton Village, fifteen feet of that road has already been vacated. Only fifteen feet of West Street remains on paper, which currently serves as a parking lot for Preston. There are many reasons why this should be done. Local resident Ms. Jones asked for a definition of the term "vacate". Mr. Stone explained that the road was dedicated in 1810 on a plat when Burton Village was first laid out, that established a highway easement. The government didn't own the land but had an easement to put the road on it. Vacating means to remove that easement from the land and underlying owners get the use of their land back, except for a few things needed for public utilities that are already in place. To vacate means to remove the road rights from the land. Ms. Jones inquired if this action is normally undertaken by the property owner or if it is a mutual joint action by government entities. Mr. Stone explained that to vacate a road, the Board of County Commissioners has the only power to do it, that Township Trustees can start the proceedings but the County still has vested dedication authority over the roads. Mr. Jemison added that there has never been any attempt to ever complete the road and now it would be a moot point as there is no place for it to go. Local resident Ms. Cavanaugh inquired if this would be forfeiting any repairs to that portion of the road. Mr. Stone stated that there is no physical road there, that it is a driveway. Pat Preston stated that he has maintained and done all the improvements to the road. Mr. Stone also added that they are required by law to notify the neighbors of the surrounding property.

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Being no comments from the public Commissioner Samide closed the public hearing at 10:24 a.m. Mr. Stone stated that they prepared a resolution if the Board would be in agreement to move forward to vacate the remainder of West Street.

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and execute Resolution #12-125 to Order the Vacation of the Remainder of West Street (Tr142) in Burton Township, Geauga County, Ohio.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Resolution: 12-125

Date: July 3, 2012

**RESOLUTION TO ORDER THE VACATION OF THE REMAINDER OF
WEST STREET (TR 142)
IN BURTON TOWNSHIP, GEAUGA COUNTY, OHIO**

WHEREAS, the Burton Board of Township Trustees in Resolution #2012-1 petitioned the Geauga County Board of Commissioners for the vacation of the remainder of West Street, TR 142 from Kinsman Road, SR 87 to the northerly terminus of West Street (said terminus location being undetermined); and

WHEREAS, the Village of Burton has taken previous actions to vacate all of West Street located within the village leaving only a fifteen foot (15') wide right-of-way to remain within Burton Township; and

WHEREAS, no physical road exists today or has existed for at least twenty-one years; and

WHEREAS, the County Engineer issued to the Geauga County Board of Commissioners a written report similar in content to reports required under Ohio Revised Code Section 5553.06 stating that the Engineer believes the vacation is for the public convenience and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the Geauga County Board of Commissioners held a public hearing regarding the vacation of the remainder of West Street and heard no objections; and

WHEREAS, the portion of unimproved road under consideration for vacation is not used to calculate distributions of the auto registration funds under division (E) of Section 4501.04 of the Ohio Revised Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Geauga County Board of Commissioners that the remainder of West Street is hereby ordered vacated in accordance with Section 5553.045 of the Ohio Revised Code.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board finds that the vacation of the remainder of West Street is for the public convenience or welfare.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the vacated portion of road shall pass in fee to abutting landowners subject to the rights of any public utility, electric cooperative or other entity as more specifically set forth in O.R.C. Section 5553.045(E).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board acknowledges that a plat depicting this vacation is not required by law and has not been prepared.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Geauga County Board of Commissioners is hereby instructed to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Burton Township Board of Trustees, the Geauga County Auditor, the Geauga County Recorder and the Geauga County Engineer.

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

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OTHER

The Board reviewed upcoming events.

MEETINGS

- Wed., 7/4 **County offices will be closed for general business due to the Fourth of July holiday. Twenty-four hour operations will continue to operate as usual.***
- Thu., 7/5 **The Regularly scheduled Commissioners' meeting is cancelled.***
- Tues., 7/10 The Commissioners will hold regular session.*
- Tues., 7/10 The Planning Commission meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Planning Commission meeting room, Bldg. #1C, 470 Center Street, Chardon*
- Wed., 7/11 Township Association Dinner, 6:30 p.m. Middlefield Fire Department*
- Thu., 7/12 The Commissioners will hold regular session.*
- Fri., 7/13 NOACA, 10:00 a.m., Cleveland*
- Sat., 7/14 Health and Safety Fair, University Hospitals and Department on Aging, 10:00 a.m through 2:00 p.m.*
- Mon., 7/16 Family First Council, 2:00 p.m. at Job and Family Services*
- Tues. 7/17 The Commissioners will hold regular session.*
- Thu., 7/19 The Commissioners will hold regular session.*

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED 2013 TAX BUDGET

Motion: by Commissioner Jemison, seconded by Commissioner Samide to waive the reading of the legal notice.

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

County Administrator David Lair gave a little background on the Tax Budget, explaining that the County is on a calendar fiscal year and what is being looked at today is a proposed tax budget to cover next year's operations with the county. In local government of townships and counties there is a tax budget that is considered in late June or early July that has to be submitted to the County Auditor by July 15th, where it is then reviewed by the Budget Commission, which certifies estimated revenues for the upcoming year. This tax budget is based on input from all departments who submit for what they think they will need, along with submitting revenue estimates of receipts they are responsible for and how much they think will come in. The Commissioners then look at what is asked for, adding that departments don't always get what they want because often the money is not there to give them, but they are always free to ask. Mr. Lair explained that in September / October budget hearings are held, which are public meetings where each of the departments come in and talk with the Commissioners about what they have requested, and about what their operations need for the coming year. Then, in early December based on that input and being close enough to the end of the year there is some idea of what resources are going to be in terms of how much money will be available to start the beginning of the year with, the term for which is called carryover the Commissioners will adopt a permanent appropriation, which is the real budget. The Tax Budget is preliminary, most of it will stay the same, however based on needs and estimated revenues it may change. Mr. Lair noted that he is often asked what is in the Commissioners' budget, and that the easiest way to tell you is by telling you what is not in the budget, and that is set by the Ohio Revised Code and that is the Health District, the Park District and the County Library System are not included in the Commissioners' budget. Other entities that the Board has little dealings with but are included are Mental Health and the Board of Developmental Disabilities (Metzenbaum).

Mr. Lair then opened the public hearing at 10:30 a.m. and explained that the General Fund Budget is around \$27 Million and the whole budget is over \$100 Million but what would mostly

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be discussed to today is the General Fund that the Commissioners can make decisions on. Budget and Finance Administrator Heidi Delaney went on to explain the following:

2013 Tax Budget

Tax Budget Guidelines:

Planning Tool

Demonstration of Need

Conservative Estimate

Final Appropriation Variable

Total 2013 Tax Budget - \$102.5 mm

General Fund Budget - \$27.1 mm

General Fund Requests - \$28.8 mm

2013 Estimated Available Resources

Carryover Balance \$3,500,000.00

2013 Revenues \$23,579,593.00

Total Resources \$27,079,593.00

A local resident inquired if there was a rainy day fund or savings account or if they had to spend everything they receive a year. Mr. Lair explained that certainly we don't have to spend what is appropriated, noting that the departments are given an appropriation that is realistic and ask them not to spend it all. The carryover is bigger is they don't spend all of the appropriation and /or if we get in more money than the conservative estimate says we will get. Mr. Jemison added that we do not subscribe to the mentality to spend it or lose it. Ms. Samide added that if there is any additional funds the policy has been to pay down debt. Ms. Delaney added that there is a line item for contingency that is no more than 3% as prescribed by law. Ms. Cavanaugh inquired about the \$3.5 million and if that was available funds or if that was money waiting to be collected. Mr. Lair stated that it was the cash balance, using a checkbook as an example, that if the checkbook says we have \$4.1 million and there are \$600,000.00 in Purchase Orders out, then the net money available is the \$3.5 million, the rest of the resources are estimated of what we will get over the year. A person with a salary of \$50,000.00 per year, can't buy a car for \$20,000.00 with cash in January because you won't have the funds.

General Fund Revenue Sources by Category

Sales Tax 45%

Real Estate Tax 31%

Charges for Services 9%

Other Revenue 6%

Property Transfer Tax 4%

Investment Income 2%

Prisoner Housing 2%

Local Government Tax 1%

Fines & Forfeitures <1%

Mr. Lair noted that the Access Geauga website shows a pie chart of where your taxes go, and the 31% of the General Fund is the part that is referred to in the pie chart as "County General".

Ms. Cavanaugh inquired about the revenue sources. Mr. Lair noted that they were anticipating revenues that are in the budget that we expect to collect. Ms. Cavanaugh asked what the dollar amount was for court costs. Ms. Delaney stated that it was \$115,852.00 which includes Clerk of Courts, Probate Court, Juvenile Court, Municipal Court and the Prosecuting Attorney.

Ms. Cavanaugh asked if there was a sliver of the pie that showed the court costs. Ms. Delaney noted that the Clerk of Courts fees are found in the Charges for Services. Discussion continued regarding a figure of 1.4 million in court costs and fines for Common Pleas Court that if collected would help to pay down debt. Clerk of Courts Denise Kaminski noted that those funds collected would not all go into the General Fund that they would be dispersed accordingly to the entities that they would need to go to. It was noted that the Treasurer does a good job at trying to earn money on all of the county funds, noting that it earns some money but with the current rates it's very small.

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*General Fund Revenue Sources by Major Categories from 2006 – 2013
Includes Real Estate Taxes, Sales Tax, Investment Income, Other, Real Estate Taxes Millage Shift, Property Transfer Tax, and Prisoner Housing*

2006	\$26.4 Million
2007	\$29.9 Million
2008	\$28.4 Million
2009	\$24.5 Million
2010	\$25.4 Million
2011	\$26.2 Million
2012	\$23.7 Million (Estimated)
2013	\$23.6 Million (Estimated)

In 2010 through 2013 these totals include a Millage Shift of Real Estate Taxes from the Debt Retirement Fund into the General Operating Fund to cover the differences.

Changes to Available Resources from 2010 – 2013

	<i>Actual</i> 2010	<i>Actual</i> 2011	<i>Estimated</i> 2012	<i>Estimated</i> 2013
<i>Unencumbered Carryover Balance</i>	\$3,679,626	\$3,777,903	\$4,229,176	\$3,500,000
<i>CY Revenue</i>	\$25,368,695	\$26,167,209	\$23,670,704	\$23,579,593
<i>Total Resources</i>	\$29,048,321	\$29,945,112	\$27,899,880	\$27,079,593
 <i>\$ Decrease by Year</i>				 \$ (820,287)
<i>% Decrease by Year</i>				-2.9%
<i>Decrease from 2010-2013</i>				-6.8%

2013 Resource Estimate down \$820k, based on conservative estimates

<i>Carryover Balance down by</i>	\$(730,000.00)
<i>Local Government Fund Revenue</i>	\$(380,000.00)
<i>State Reimb Personal Property Tax</i>	\$(70,000.00)
<i>Prisoner Housing</i>	\$ 345,000.00
<i>Gas Well Revenue</i>	\$ 15,000.00
<i>Net Change in Estimated Resources</i>	\$(820,000.00)

*General Fund Operating Expenses: \$27.1 mm
Increase Net of Transfers: \$65k
(2012 CY budget vs. 2013 budget) (.28%)*

*Overall Factors: 2% wage increases budgeted for 2013
5% increase to hospitalization costs budgeted for 2013
Equipment / vehicle request reductions
Personnel reductions – Engineer / Muni Court
Election cost reductions – Board of Elections
Juvenile Detention Center cost reductions*

*General Fund Operating Expenses: \$27.1 mm
Increase Net of Transfers: \$65k
(2012 CY budget vs. 2013 tax budget) (.28%)*

Increases:

<i>Salary-Medicare-OPERS-2%</i>	\$260,000
<i>Hospitalization cost increases – 5%</i>	\$130,000
<i>Sheriff's Office – add'l costs – prisoner housing</i>	\$ 18,000

Decreases:

<i>Juvenile Detention Center cost reduction</i>	\$(67,000)
<i>Engineer – personnel cost reduction</i>	\$(50,000)
<i>Bd of Elections – election cost decrease</i>	\$(90,000)
<i>Municipal Court – personnel cost reduction</i>	\$(20,000)
<i>Sheriff – vehicles not funded</i>	\$(27,000)
<i>Equipment request reductions</i>	\$(45,000)

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<i>Other – miscellaneous</i>	<u>\$(44,000)</u>
<i>Total</i>	\$ 65,000

Ms. Cavanaugh inquired about increases in staff to the Clerk of Courts office. Mr. Lair noted that the Commissioners do not micro-manage elected officials, that they are given an appropriation and are staying within their budget. Ms. Jones then inquired about the Treasurer's Office and an increase in their salary line. It was discussed that they have two funds, and along with the 2% increase in April some funds to cover that increase may not be in place. Mr. Jemison noted that 5% of delinquent real estate taxes collected go into that fund, and as of 2012 it was split with the Prosecutor's Office. With higher delinquencies and foreclosures they may have had to hire additional help.

Ms. Cavanaugh noted that she heard that there could be a savings to the County with postage if the departments and offices handle their mail in a different manor. Ms. Cavanaugh noted that these offices were told that by the post office and are still not doing it. Mr. Lair stated that it would be a topic of discussion during this year's budget hearings and departments would be asked to look at ways to save in this area.

General Fund Operating Expenses by Category (net of transfers out)

	2012	2013
<i>Legislative & Executive</i>	\$7,921,604	\$7,864,703
<i>Judicial</i>	\$3,394,741	\$3,423,924
<i>Public Safety</i>	\$9,324,741	\$9,498,768
<i>Public Works</i>	\$ 157,075	\$ 103,536
<i>Health</i>	\$ 313,871	\$ 311,750
<i>Human Services</i>	\$ 453,405	\$ 475,372
<i>Conservation / Recreation</i>	\$ 522,365	\$ 530,789
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	\$1,253,447	\$1,197,871
<i>Total</i>	\$23,341,224	\$23,406,713

Difference \$ 65,489

General Fund Operation Expenses by Category

<i>Public Safety</i>	40%
<i>Legislative & Executive</i>	34%
<i>Judicial</i>	15%
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	5%
<i>Conservation / Recreation</i>	2%
<i>Human Services</i>	2%
<i>Health</i>	1%
<i>Public Works</i>	1%

<i>Current Tax Budget requirements</i>	\$27,079,593
<i>2013 Estimated Revenues</i>	\$23,579,593
<i>Carryover Requirement</i>	\$3,500,000*

**Actual carryover has ranged from \$3.6 million to \$4.7 million in the last 5 years*

Increases to carryover funds are accomplished through a combination of spending less than current appropriations and exceeding revenue estimates.

Overall Goal:

Fund general increases at or below 2012 levels where possible.

Limit new initiatives to those which show an immediate return on investment and added value to Geauga taxpayers.

There was discussion regarding the transfer tax rate and if we lowered this rate if we could be more competitive to bringing business into the County. Mr. Jemison stated that 1/10 of 1% is mandatory on the price, the county levied an additional 3/10 of 1% making it a permissive total of 4/10 of a percent on the sale price. Properties on Homestead are not included. This discussion continued with reasons why business moves into an area, and that they look at the work force, logistics, location, transportation, and the cost of utilities. The Commissioners

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invested in the Revolving Loan Fund and the Local Revolving Loan Fund as a tool to help businesses.

Ms. Jones inquired about the utility rates of transportation in the budget and it was discussed that departments are appropriated amounts and are asked to spend less than what is appropriated and that is how we get a carryover, so what is appropriated is not what is actually spent.

Ms. Cavanaugh inquired about the Transit system and if weekend service would be started again. Ms. Cavanaugh noted that Geauga County has a large community of elderly people who don't have transportation and felt that they would use it to take them to the store and to church on the weekends. It was discussed that in Geauga County there is no local transit tax. That the Transit department is funded mostly from Federal and State funding, and that the Department on Aging is on a contract basis for transportation. It was noted that the weekend service stopped because the amount of usage didn't warrant having the staff on duty for the small amount of service being used. It was noted that Transit is not in the General Fund. Some further discussion was had regarding the amount of funds in the budget, and that there are 106 funds included, but that the General Fund is where the Commissioners have discretion on spending. A fund is a dedicated allotment of money that can only be spent for specific purposes, meaning, for example you can't spend road money on the elderly. Ms. Cavanaugh inquired about how money can get into those funds, and the response was that you would have to add a tax. Ms. Cavanaugh stated that we have enough tax now. Mr. Lair noted that his concern was in trying to keep the younger generation in the county, so that it doesn't become an entirely aging community. Ms. Cavanaugh thanked Mr. Lair and Ms. Delaney on the presentation and for answering questions.

Being no comments from the public Commissioner Samide closed the public hearing at 11:14 a.m.

MENTAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY SERVICES – LEVY DISCUSSION

A discussion was held with members of the Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services regarding the meeting held the night before that Ms. Samide attended to express the Commissioners view on how the levy should be split into two issues to allow the voters to decide how much funding they want to provide to the agency. It was noted that the Board of Mental Health did not wish to change the issues, and felt strongly on keeping the two issues together as .5 mill renewal with an additional .25 increase. Their feeling it that this is not new money or a new levy that this is replacing what they have lost in funding over the last three years. It was pointed out that three years ago Mental Health was handling 57,000 claims and this year they will handle 118,000, this is being done with a decrease in funding of over 23%. The Commissioners expressed their concern over splitting the issue and letting the voters decide, and thanked Mental Health for what they do and what they stand for, but that they feel it should be split. Executive Director Jim Adams noted that the Board appreciated the line of communication between them and that they would accept the decision of the Commissioners and do the best they could to educate the public about what they are doing and the number of people they are serving, noting the additional 20% a month in caseload since they Chardon shooting while seeing a reduction in funding. Local resident Chris Hippely added that as a tax payer who five years ago was working a full time job now is barely getting three hours a month, and could not afford the increase in taxes, that they simply don't have the money and would vote no for any increase. Ms. Samide noted that it's not very often the Board says no to something, but that they feel strongly about the tax payers in this economic time. Mr. Jemison noted that he understood their concern but that he felt they had to be split into two issues. Mr. Adams thanked the Board and asked to come back before them with the two issues in the next week.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- a) *The Geauga County Court of Common Pleas, Probate and Juvenile Division 2011 Annual Report.*

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***BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, COMMISSIONER
JEMISON ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 11:39 A.M.***

Geauga County Board of Commissioners

Mary E. Samide

RETIRED

William S. Young

Tracy A. Jemison

Christine Blair, Commissioners' Clerk