

Commissioners' Journal
July 11, 2013

The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on July 11, 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 President of the Board, Tracy A. Jemison opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. by leading the Board and audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVE MINUTES

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of July 9, 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>Aye</i>

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2014 TAX BUDGET

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and execute Resolution #13-135 adopting the 2014 Tax Budget in accordance with O.R.C. Sections 5705.28 and 5705.29.

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

**The complete tax budget will be included at the end of the minutes.*

PROBATE / JUVENILE COURT – VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT (VOCA) AND STATE VICTIMS ASSISTANCE ACT (SVAA) CASA FOR KIDS GRANT APPLICATION

Program Director Chris Steigerwald introduced Beth Fatero who is an intern with the program this summer. Ms. Fatero is President of her FETA sorority at Case, noting that FETA's national philanthropy is CASA. Ms. Steigerwald explained that VOCA which stands for Victims of Crime Act is Federal money funneled through the State Attorney General's Office. Ms. Steigerwald continued to state that the VOCA act was passed around 1984 and specifies that all money confiscated from crime must be funneled back to serve victims of crime; this money is not tax payer money. The SVAA, which stands for State Victim Assistance Act is also money confiscated from crime but only comes from Ohio. The types of programs typically funded are the entire range of victim services, including Rape Crisis counseling, Domestic Violence shelters, and helps with the salaries of Tracy Jordan, Cindi Haycox and Tracy Fronk, whom are Victims' Advocates. Ms. Steigerwald stated that CASA for Kids qualifies for funding because any children coming into the public system, public children's agency and for being part of the court system are automatically considered to be victims of crime because most often they are found to be abused or neglected. Ms. Steigerwald added that individuals in the community can also apply for these funds if they are a victim of crime, whether someone has been killed due to domestic violence or sexually molested but VOCA funds are often the last payee over what insurance does not cover. Ms. Steigerwald explained that CASA has been receiving this grant since 1998 and it has been renewable every year, adding that it pays for some of the staff time. Over the years they have been given opportunities to use it for other purposes including a legal consultant for advice on juvenile cases.

Ms. Steigerwald expressed some frustration about how every year there are attempts made to have Congress, whom decides the cap on releasing the funds and can modify the distribution formula, since billions are being held, regarding the amounts of funds to release and be distributed to each state. Ms. Steigerwald stated that at this time the State of Ohio had not yet received confirmation of the amount of funds that would be received, so we were advised to apply for the same amount as in the past. Ms. Steigerwald stated that years ago these funds received reflected a third of CASA's budget, last year it reflected a quarter of the budget, because our costs are going up and the needs continue to grow, the funds however are not keeping up with the growth in need.

Commissioners' Journal
July 11, 2013

Commissioner Samide expressed gratitude for what CASA and all the volunteers do. Ms. Steigerwald added that they are amazing and the quality of the volunteers over the years is incredible. Ms. Steigerwald expressed that CASA was asking for the same amount as in the past, as it is all they are allowed to request.

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute Geauga County's Victims of Crime Act (VOCA #2014VADSCE480) and State Victims Assistance Act (SVAA #2014VADSCE480) CASA for Kids Grant Application in the amount of \$35,011.00. This grant will receive a total of \$24,758.00 from the Office of the Attorney General including \$8,253.00 local match from the Geauga County General Fund. The VOCA Grant will provide \$1,500.00 to cover fees for Legal Consultation, which requires a \$500.00 in-kind match in the form of volunteer hours, and includes \$4,735.00 in SVAA funds with no local match. This grant is for the period of October 1, 2013 through September 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>Aye</i>

PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE / VICTIM WITNESS – VICTIM OF CRIM ACT (VOCA) AND STATE VICTIM ADVOCACY ACT (SVAA) 2013-2013 GRANT APPLICATION FOR VICTIM/WITNESS PROGRAM

Victims Advocate Cindi Haycox explained that five agencies in Geauga County receive VOCA funding which include the Prosecutor's Office Victim Witness program, Tracy Fronk represents Chardon Municipal Court and the Police Prosecutor program, along with the Sheriff's Office, WomenSafe and CASA, adding that it has to have a local match from somewhere in order to receive the funding. Ms. Haycox expressed that she had heard an 8% cut in funding was likely due to the sequestration.

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute Geauga County's Victim of Crime Act (VOCA #2013VAGENE005) and State Victim Advocacy Act (SVAA #2013SAGENE005) 2013-2014 Grant Application for the Victim / Witness Program in the amount of \$62,790.00. As part of this grant, \$43,747.00 is being requested from Federal VOCA funds with \$14,582.00 local match from the County General Fund and \$4,461.00 from SVAA with no local match. This grant is for the period of October 1, 2013 through September 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>Aye</i>

Local resident Walter "Skip" Claypool stated that last year during a Budget Hearing that former Prosecutor David Joyce suggested consolidating the services, as they do similar services and that there is a disconnect in the services between one agency to the next. Mr. Claypool expressed that he is going to continue to suggest until it is considered that the services be combined under one umbrella rather than having independent management of all these grants. Commissioner Jemison suggested to Ms. Haycox that she take this back to the new Prosecutor, Mr. Flaiz and see if he shares the same opinion, since there is a lot more than the Prosecutor involved in making that decision. Ms. Haycox noted that Geauga County is unique, as most counties have one general victim advocacy group, but somehow Geauga County was segregated. Ms. Haycox added that Ms. Fronk handles misdemeanor crimes, Ms. Haycox handles felony level crimes and Ms. Jordan handles crime but also fatality accidents, suicides, and assisting families of these crimes and incidents.

TRANSIT DEPARTMENT – UNPAID PERSONAL LEAVE OF ABSENCE – MARVIN SPRINGER

Director Kristina Reider explained that Mr. Springer has two vacations planned, one in July and one in August, noting that he has enough to cover the one in July and some of the one in August, and that this request is to cover the rest of the time he doesn't have vacation time to cover.

Commissioners' Journal
July 11, 2013

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve an unpaid personal leave of absence for Marvin Springer for time not covered by vacation time, per Section 6.12 of the Geauga County Personnel Policy for the period August 5, 2013 through August 9, 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>Aye</i>

TRANSIT DEPARTMENT – AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009 (ARRA) GRANT CONTRACT AMENDMENT

Ms. Reider stated that all the contracts have been awarded under the ARRA Grant and this is just to reduce the amount of the grant to reflect those awards.

Motion: by Commissioner Samide, seconded by Commissioner Jemison to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) Grant Contract Amendment (Project #RPTS-0028-001-093) decreasing the contract amount \$2,110.00 based on actual contract award amounts and expenses for the technology projects under this grant.

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

TRANSIT DEPARTMENT – OHIO MOTOR FUEL TAX REFUND CLAIM FOR TRANSIT BUSES

Ms. Reider stated that this is the quarterly fuel tax refund for the second quarter.

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Ohio Motor Fuel Tax Refund Claim for Transit Buses for the period April 1, 2013 through June 30, 2013 in the amount of \$2,918.54.

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

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – RESOLUTION HONORING GEAUGA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY CELEBRATING THE 'GOLDEN' 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF READING, LEARNING AND GROWING

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Samide to approve and execute Resolution #13-136 Honoring Geauga County Public Library on Celebrating the "Golden" 50th Anniversary of Reading, Learning and Growing.

Mr. Jemison read the following resolution:

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Resolution: 13-136
Date: July 11, 2013

A RESOLUTION HONORING GEAUGA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY ON CELEBRATING THE "GOLDEN" 50th ANNIVERSARY OF READING, LEARNING AND GROWING

WHEREAS, In 1848 the Chardon Public Library became established and in 1898 a group of Chardon women who were holding a reading group became the forerunner for a county library; and

WHEREAS, a Library Board was established in 1913 that consisted of Rev. H.F. Miller, Fred Goodrich, Lillian Cook, Florence Presley and Mary Radcliffe; and

Commissioners' Journal
July 11, 2013

WHEREAS, Over the course of years the Middlefield Public Library was established in 1942, then Chesterland Public Library was established in 1957, followed by Bainbridge Public Library in 1963; and

WHEREAS, In 1963 Library Board Member Larry Dolan made a motion to create a county wide library system, which on July 9, 1963 established the Geauga County Public Library and combined Bainbridge, Chardon, Chesterland and Middlefield Libraries; and

WHEREAS, Geauga County Public Library continued to grow with the establishment of the Thompson Library Station in 1979, the experiment of a "Bookmobile" happened with the help of Federal funding in 1986, the Geauga West Library opened in 1989 and the Newbury Public Library Station was established in 1993; and

WHEREAS, Geauga County continues to be the highest in the State of Ohio for per capita library circulation; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Geauga County Board of Commissioners do hereby honor and celebrate Geauga County Public Library on the "Golden" 50th Anniversary of Reading, Learning and Growing with service to the residents of Geauga County.

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>Aye</i>

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – APPOINT NICK GORRIS – ALTERNATE FOR TRACY A. JEMISON – NOACA MEETING JULY 12, 2013

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Samide to appoint Nick Gorris as Alternate for Tracy A. Jemison for the Northeast Ohio Area Coordinating Agency (NOACA) meeting on Friday, July 12, 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>Aye</i>

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- a) A weekly report filed by the County Dog Warden of all dogs seized, impounded, redeemed or destroyed for the week ending June 26, 2013 as required by O.R.C. 955.12.*

OTHER

The Board reviewed upcoming events.

MEETINGS

Fri., 7/12 NOACA, 10:00 a.m. Cleveland

Fri., 7/12 Geauga County Public Library 50th Anniversary Celebration, 3:00 – 9:00 p.m., Chardon Square

Mon., 7/15 Board of Revision, 9:00 a.m. Auditor's Office

Mon., 7/15 Family First Council, 2:00 p.m. Job and Family Services

Tue., 7/16 The Commissioners will hold regular session.

Thu., 7/18 The Commissioners will hold regular session.

Tue., 7/23 The Commissioners will hold regular session.

Commissioners' Journal
July 11, 2013

Tue., 7/23 Some of the Commissioners will attend the OPWC District 7 Local Subcommittee meeting, 11:00 a.m., Engineer's Office

Thu., 7/25 The Commissioners will hold regular session during which Commissioner Spidalieri will give a presentation regarding the Heroin Issues in Geauga County.

Thu., 7/25 The County Home Annual Meeting, 12:00 p.m. at the Pleasant Hill County Home

Mon., 7/29 Board of Revision, 9:00 a.m. Auditor's Office

Tue., 7/30 The Commissioners will hold regular session.

BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, COMMISSIONER SPIDALIERI ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 10:24 A.M.

Geauga County Board of Commissioners

Tracy A. Jemison

Mary E. Samide

Ralph Spidalieri

Christine Blair, Commissioners' Clerk

Commissioners' Journal
July 11, 2013

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