

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**May 23, 2017**

*The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on May 23, 2017 at 9:00 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, Ralph Spidalieri opened the meeting at 9:07 a.m. by leading the Board and audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.*

**COMMISSIONERS OFFICE - COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

*Director of Administrative Services Linda Burhenne reported on the items approved May 22, 2017 by the County Administrator, including the Department on Aging 2017 Senior Farm Market Agreements for 11 vendors; for the Department of Job and Family Services he acknowledged two new hire appointments that included Rachel Crittle, Social Service Worker I (replacement) effective April 17, 2017 and Hallie Vollmar, Social Service Worker II (replacement) effective May 8, 2017; concurred with Auburn Township Trustees in not requesting a hearing on the liquor license for Local Spirits, LLC d.b.a. Sirnas Pizza; and for the Department of Water Resources a service Contract Agreement with National Pump and Process, Incorporated for pump maintenance in the wastewater facilities for the Year 2017 in the amount of \$3,000.00, authorized by Resolution #17-006 under the direction and supervision of the County Commissioners that was approved January 9, 2017 pursuant to O.R.C. 305.30.*

**MEETING MINUTES**

*Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Claypool to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of May 16, 2017.*

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Claypool</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>

**APPROVE FINANCIALS**

*Fiscal Specialist Deborah Ashburn explained the financials for today as including a Supplemental Appropriation request for the Building and Improvement Fund for Elevator Repairs. Budget Director Anne Rasic noted that the amount was for \$150,000.00 for the Opera House, adding that the final cost was not yet known; this is just the supplemental. There was discussion in regards to the cost of repairs done on the elevator for the last 5 to 10 years and whether the repair was necessary. Director Glen Vernick stated that they were having an Engineer design the elevator in addition to the repair estimates so that they could look at all the options and costs before making a decision. It was noted that the elevator is currently shut down and everyone is required to use the stairs. Mr. Vernick added that the elevator will be down for about four months.*

*Ms. Ashburn continued explaining that the financials included a Cash transfer from the General Fund to the Airport Construction Fund for the Engineering Fees for the ODOT project; a Travel request for the Juvenile Court; a Contract with Geauga Mechanical for Maintenance for the HVAC Unit in the Telco Room in the amount of \$15,250.00; a purchase order for Concord Road Equipment for the Department of Water Resources for a 10 1/2 foot dump truck bed in the amount of \$33,901.97; a purchase order for Junction Auto Sales for the Department of Water Resources for a 2017 GMC 3500 pickup with tow package in the amount of \$39,751.30; and a payment to Cable Communications for the Engineer's Office for Access Control System Upgrades in the amount of \$13,651.23.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Claypool to approve and execute Resolution #17-068 itemizing the financials for the meeting of May 23, 2017.*

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Claypool</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**May 23, 2017**

VETERAN'S SERVICE COMMISSION – ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION OF GRAVE SPACE FOR U.S. VETERAN – TRANSFER PROPERTY TO GEAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

*It was noted that this was a donation of a grave space to be transferred to the Board of Commissioners to be used for a U.S. Veteran.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Claypool to accept a donation made by Edward G. Delfs and Family of one grave space with two (2) interment rights located at Western Reserve Memorial Gardens (current value of \$1,470.00 for the grave space and \$900.00 for the second right of burial, for a total of \$2,370.00). The donation is accepted with the express understanding that the donation will be held by the Geauga County Board of Commissioners for the sole purpose of donating the plot to a U.S. Veteran.*

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Claypool</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>

*Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Claypool to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Quitclaim, Release and Transfer of Interest in Cemetery Interment Rights and / or Merchandise form acknowledging and accepting the transfer of ownership of the plot to the Geauga County Board of Commissioners.*

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Claypool</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>

DEPARTMENT ON AGING – UNPAID PERSONAL LEAVE – NATHAN GORTON

*Ms. Burhenne stated that Mr. Gorton has not been here for a year and does not have vacation time, and is requesting the time off without pay.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Claypool to approve an unpaid personal leave of absence for Nathan Gorton, Part-time Assistant Recreation and Education Coordinator for the period July 17 - July 21, 2017. This will extend his probationary period by twenty-seven and half hours (27.5).*

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Claypool</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – ADVERTISE TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARING #2 – 2017 – 2018 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ALLOCATION GRANT

*Program Administrator Joni Stusek explained that Public Hearing #1 was held to cover any programs that could be applied for, that this hearing, #2 was specific for the project applications that have been submitted for the Allocation grant and the applications that have been received that meet the ADA, public, and low to moderate income requirements. Ms. Stusek stated that they did not have the grant funding amount yet for the new two year grant period but should know the amount sometime soon.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Claypool to grant permission to advertise to hold Public Hearing #2 for the 2017-2018 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) available grant programs to be held on Tuesday, June 6, 2017 at 9:15 a.m. Notice of this Public Hearing will be advertised on May 25, 2017 and on the county website.*

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Claypool</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**May 23, 2017**

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – NOTICE OF AWARD – AGREEMENT – NOTICE TO PROCEED – SMOLEN ENGINEERING, LIMITED – KIWANIS LAKE COMMUNITY CENTER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Ms. Stusek explained that this project is for the current allocation grant that we are working on. These items are for the Engineer, Smolen, to do the specifications for the furnace and windows for the structure. Commissioner Spidalieri briefly explained the Allocation program and some of the projects that have been completed with these funds. Ms. Stusek noted that the funds are federal dollars and do not require a local match. This year they changed to a two year cycle. Primarily the funds are used for ADA and low to moderate income recipients, and has restrictions on the use of the funding. A discussion took place regarding whether the program could be used for the Opera House elevator.

*Motion:* by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Claypool to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Notice of Award to Smolen Engineering, Limited for the Kiwanis Lake Community Center Improvements Project, under Grant #B-F-16-1AZ-1 in the amount of \$4,400.00.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	Commissioner Lennon	Aye
	Commissioner Claypool	Aye
	Commissioner Spidalieri	Aye

*Motion:* by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Claypool to approve and execute the Agreement between the Geauga County Board of Commissioners and Smolen Engineering, Limited for Professional Services to Geauga County for the Kiwanis Lake Community Center Improvements Project, under Grant #B-F-16-1AZ-1 in the amount of \$4,400.00.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	Commissioner Lennon	Aye
	Commissioner Claypool	Aye
	Commissioner Spidalieri	Aye

*Motion:* by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Claypool to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Notice to Proceed to Smolen Engineering, Limited for the Kiwanis Lake Community Center Improvements Project, under Grant #B-F-16-1AZ-1 in the amount of \$4,400.00.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	Commissioner Lennon	Aye
	Commissioner Claypool	Aye
	Commissioner Spidalieri	Aye

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – SATISFACTION OF MORTGAGE – LORNE AND KATHY WALLACE

Ms. Stusek stated that this mortgage is the third that is being paid off as part of the clients refinance.

*Motion:* by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Claypool to approve and execute a Satisfaction of Mortgage for Lorne and Kathy Wallace for property located at 12648 Auburn Road, Chardon as the mortgage in the amount of \$2,870.00 has been satisfied, under Grant #B-C-05-026-2.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	Commissioner Lennon	Aye
	Commissioner Claypool	Aye
	Commissioner Spidalieri	Aye

MAINTENANCE – APPROVE HIRING CURT SHINE – SUMMER HELP (#010)

Director Glen Vernick asked the Board to approve hiring Mr. Shine as Summer Help, noting that this is his second year with the county.

*Motion:* by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Claypool to approve hiring Curt Shine to the position of Summer Help (#0101) to be effective May 30, 2017 through September 30, 2017 (or the start of school, whichever comes first) at the rate of \$10.25 per hour for up to twenty-one weeks (maximum of 840 hours).

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**May 23, 2017**

Roll Call Vote:           Commissioner Lennon           Aye  
                                  Commissioner Claypool       Aye  
                                  Commissioner Spidalieri     Aye

MAINTENANCE – ADVERTISE FOR BIDS – SNOWPLOWING, SALT AND / OR CINDERING OF GEAUGA COUNTY PARKING LOTS, GROUP #1-#4

MR. Vernick asked the Board to approve going out for bids for the snowplowing and salting of the county parking lots.

Motion:           by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Claypool to grant permission to advertise for Bids for the Snowplowing, Salt and /or Cinderling of Geauga County Parking Lots, Group #1 - #4, for the 2017-2019 seasons to be held on Wednesday, June 21, 2017 for Group #1 Chardon Square at 2:00 p.m., for Group #2 24 Hour Service Area at 2:05 p.m., for Group #3 470 Center Street at 2:10 p.m. and for Group #4 Safety Center at 2:15 p.m. Notice of these Bid Openings will be advertised on June 1, 2017, June 8, 2017 and on the county website.

Roll Call Vote:           Commissioner Lennon           Aye  
                                  Commissioner Claypool       Aye  
                                  Commissioner Spidalieri     Aye

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – RE-APPOINT JOSHUA HUTCHINSON – GEAUGA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Motion:           by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Claypool to re-appoint Joshua Hutchinson to the Geauga County Public Library Board of Trustees for the term July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2024.

Roll Call Vote:           Commissioner Lennon           Aye  
                                  Commissioner Claypool       Aye  
                                  Commissioner Spidalieri     Aye

DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING JUNE 2017 AS ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH

Executive Director Craig Swenson asked the Board to raise awareness of Elder Abuse, adding that this is an increasing concern for the aging population. Mr. Swenson stated that the Protective Services division includes both child and adult protective services. Mr. Swenson briefly talked about a change coming to the law that will change the word “caretaker” to “person”, which will change the dynamic of the scope of work that they will need to respond to because it will encapsulate anyone that can be abusing or taking advantage of a senior.

Program Specialist Gina Schultz invited the Board to attend their Elder Abuse Awareness kick off on June 1<sup>st</sup> and that on the 15<sup>th</sup> they were asking everyone to wear purple to show support. Ms. Schultz added that the staff in this division is very dedicated to helping the seniors and that Geauga County services have a good reputation.

Motion:           by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Claypool to approve and execute Resolution #17-069 Recognizing June 2017 as Elder Abuse Awareness Month.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Resolution:   #17-069  
Date:           May 23, 2017

**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING JUNE 2017 AS ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS, We know that our seniors (age 60 and older) have helped contribute greatly to our Geauga County community and to the development of our current and future generations;

WHEREAS, As a community Geauga County values the importance of protecting and supporting our seniors and ensuring that they live in a safe and secure environment without fear of abuse, neglect, and/or exploitation; and

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**May 23, 2017**

*WHEREAS, Geauga County has a large senior population that has growing needs, but the rising incidence of elder maltreatment has generally remained hidden from the public view; and*

*WHEREAS, While as a community we are blessed to have many wonderful, nurturing families that take care of our elders, we must recognize that Geauga County is not immune from the reality that some elders in our county endure abuse, neglect, and/or exploitation; and*

*WHEREAS, In the United States an estimated 1 in 10 Americans have suffered some form of elder maltreatment. In 2016, the Geauga County Adult Protective Services Team investigated ninety (98) separate reports of elder maltreatment in the county.*

*WHEREAS, As a caring community we must not only respond to and stop the elder maltreatment where it exists, but we must also be diligent in our efforts to ensure that our community is aware of its role in recognizing and preventing such maltreatment going forward.*

*THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Geauga County Board of County Commissioners recognize June 2017 as Elder Abuse Awareness Month in 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 Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Claypool</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>

*There was a brief discussion in regards to the topic of euthanasia / physician assisted suicide and the current laws being introduced and approved in other states.*

**DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Claypool to move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the discipline of a public employee.*

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Claypool</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>

*Commissioner Spidalieri noted that Mr. Swenson, Ms. Schultz and Ms. Burhenne would be joining the Board in executive session. The Board went in to Executive Session at 9:42 a.m. and returned at 10:04 a.m. and as a result the following action was taken:*

*Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Claypool to accept the disciplinary recommendation of the Director of Job and Family Services, as contained in the "Notice to Employee of Proposed Discipline" dated May 23, 2017, to suspend Kathi Serafino, Social Services Worker II, for twenty-four hours (3 working days) without pay for violation of Section 3 of the Geauga County Job and Family Services Personnel Policy and Procedure Manual.*

*And further approve and authorize the Board to execute the Order of Removal, Reduction, Suspension, Involuntary Disciplinary Separation form per O.R.C. 124.34 for three working days (twenty-four hours).*

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Claypool</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**May 23, 2017**

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – AMEND LEGAL NOTICE FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) TO INCLUDE COMMISSIONERS APPLICATION FOR PUBLIC FACILITIES

*Motion:* by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Claypool to approve the amended legal notice for Public Hearing #2 in regards to the Community Development Block Grant available grant programs to include the application for the Board of Commissioners, Public Facilities.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Claypool</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – CLOSE OFFICES – FOURTH OF JULY HOLIDAY

*Commissioners' Clerk Christine Blair inquired if the Board wished to proceed with closing the offices on Monday July 3<sup>rd</sup> in addition to Tuesday July 4<sup>th</sup> in honor of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday.*

*Motion:* by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Claypool in light of the Fourth of July Holiday, the Geauga County Commissioners announce that the Geauga County Offices, under the hiring authority of the Board of Commissioners, will be closed on Monday, July 3, 2017. Twenty-four hour operations will continue to operate as normal. Further, in order to maintain operations, the employees under the hiring authority of the Board of Commissioners required to work on July 3, 2017 will be entitled to over-time rate in addition to their regular pay. (Bargaining unit employees are governed by provision of their collective bargaining agreement).

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Claypool</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>

OTHER

*The Board reviewed upcoming events.*

MEETINGS

*Tue., 5/23 Investment Advisory Committee, 8:45 a.m., Chambers*

*Mon., 5/29 **The County Offices will be closed in honor of Memorial Day. Twenty-four Hour Operations will continue to operate as usual.***

*Thu., 6/1 The Commissioners will hold regular session at 9:00 a.m.*

*Fri., 6/2 Perry Emergency Operations Facility Open House, Concord at 10:30 a.m.*

*Tue., 6/6 The Commissioners will hold regular session at 9:00 a.m.*

*Thu., 6/8 Illuminating Company, Northern Region Distribution Center - Public Officials Tour, Brecksville, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.*

*Fri., 6/9 NOACA Board of Directors Meeting, Cleveland at 9:00 a.m.*

*Tue., 6/13 Planning Commission meeting at 7:30 a.m. in the Planning Commission meeting room, Bldg. #1C, 470 Center Street, Chardon*

*Tue., 6/13 The Commissioners will hold regular session at 9:00 a.m.*

*Fri., 6/16 NOACA Air Quality, 9:00 a.m., Water Quality, 12:00 p.m.*

*Mon., 6/19 Family First Council, Mental Health Offices at 1:30 p.m.*

*Tue., 6/20 The Commissioners will hold regular session at 9:00 a.m.*

*Tue., 6/20 ADP Meeting, Auditor's Office, 2:00 p.m.*

*Tue., 6/27 The Commissioners will hold regular session at 9:00 a.m.*

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**May 23, 2017**

NOACA – WATER QUALITY

Commissioner Claypool stated that he would be forwarding the plan to the Board that included notes from Mr. Weisdack, Mr. Morgan and Ms. Shale.

GEAUGA TRUMBULL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT –

Mr. Claypool updated the Board regarding the bins located at the end of Building 7, and that he had spoken with Mr. Decatur regarding cameras to be put in at the locations. Mr. Claypool talked about a few items that will need to be decided upon at the upcoming meeting.

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – CLARIFICATION – RESPONSE TO ARTICLE IN GEAUGA COUNTY MAPLE LEAF REGARDING DESTINATION GEAUGA

Commissioner Spidalieri wanted to clarify that an article was published online by the Maple Leaf that stated that the Geauga County Commissioners were not providing funding to Destination Geauga because they were instead purchasing Narcan. Commissioner Lennon wanted to make sure that the public was aware that Destination Geauga is not under control of the Commissioners, that they have their own Board and that separate Board makes the decisions regarding their employees. Mr. Claypool made a motion to authorize the President of the Board to submit a letter of clarification as a response from the Board. Mr. Spidalieri stated that they also did not fund the Historical Society, and had asked the question on whether the two agencies could collaborate and work together since they were providing similar services and no response was received on that question so they chose not to fund either agency.

*Motion:* by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Claypool to authorize the President of the Board to submit a letter of response on behalf of the Board to the Maple Leaf in regards to Destination Geauga article.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Claypool</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – PLANNING COMMISSION

Mr. Spidalieri asked about the Memorandum of Understanding and Mr. Claypool stated that he had spoken with Mr. Stevens about some additional changes that were made that included a two week training period. The Board talked about having Ms. Lane start training under Ms. Baptie and make final decisions at a later date, but that we need to move forward with the agreement. Ms. Burhenne inquired if the Board wanted to move forward as long as all the other parties have executed the final version. It was noted that the Board had taken previous action to revise the Organizational chart to include a position of Planner and advertise, but no action in regards to the MOU. Discussion took place on moving forward with an action to have the MOU signed outside of session as long as all parties were in agreement and executed the final version.

*Motion:* by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Claypool to approve and authorize the President and / or Vice President of the Board to execute the Memorandum of Understanding between the Geauga County Board of Commissioners and the Planning Commission.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Claypool</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</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 May 10, 2017 as required by O.R.C. 955.12.

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**May 23, 2017**

***BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD***

*Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Claypool to adjourn the meeting at 10:23 a.m.*

*Geauga County Board of Commissioners*

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*Ralph Spidalieri*

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*Walter M. Claypool*

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*Timothy C. Lennon*

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*Christine Blair, Commissioners' Clerk*

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**May 23, 2017**

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