

Commissioners' Journal
September 17, 2019

The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on September 17, 2019 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, Timothy C. Lennon opened the meeting at 9:04 a.m. by leading the Board and audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

FINANCIALS

County Administrator Gerard Morgan reported on financials from September 10, 2019, Resolution #19-110, as including an Appropriation transfer for the Sheriff's Office in the General Fund from contract services to supplies; a Cash transfer from Aging to Transit for senior transportation; a Contract increase for Water Resources with Cleveland Division of Water; a Travel request for the Commissioner's Office; a payment for the County Engineer's Office to Grade Line Incorporated for drainage improvements to Clay Street and Wilson Mills Road in the amount of \$95,804.75; a payment for the Treasurer's Office to Meeder Public Funds, Incorporated for final investment services payment in the amount of \$5,086.00; and a Revenue Certification for the Sheriff's Office in the Fair Police Fund to recognize additional fees collected during the fair and from Common Pleas to recognize fees revenue being received by one of their Special Projects funds; as approved by the County Administrator pursuant to Resolution #19-006 approved January 8, 2019 to authorize the County Administrator to execute, in the case of a lack of quorum of Commissioners and / or if session is cancelled on a regular financial day or on a day when financials need to be approved, the required approvals for county financials on behalf of the Board during the Year 2019, as authorized by O.R.C. 305.30.

COMMISSIONERS OFFICE - COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

County Administrator Gerard Morgan reported on the items approved by the County Administrator on September 10, 2019 that included concurring with Chester Township Trustees in not requesting a hearing on the Liquor License requested by Perky Kettle Limited d.b.a. Perky Kettle located at 12661 Chillicothe Road, Chesterland, Ohio (C NEW 6831545) and for Water Resources to approve hiring Benjamin Webster to the position of Maintenance Worker (#2330) to be effective September 23, 2019 at the rate of \$17.86 per hour with a one year probationary period. This offer of employment is contingent upon the successful completion of the required pre-employment conditions; and on September 11, 2019 that included for the Department of Development (Building) to approve an unpaid personal leave of absence for Tricia Hajma for thirty days, for the period September 12, 2019 through October 12, 2019, and further authorize the employee to be COBRA served in accordance with Section 5 of the Geauga County Personnel Policy and Procedure Manual, due to inactive pay status as of September 30, 2019; as authorized by Resolution #19-006 under the direction and supervision of the County Commissioners that was approved January 8, 2019 pursuant to O.R.C. 305.30.

Clerk Christine Blair added that Liquor License for Perky Kettle had a request from the Township for a thirty day hold on the permit being issued due to zoning issues that needed corrected.

MEETING MINUTES

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of August 27, 2019.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Abstain*</i>
	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of August 29, 2019.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Abstain*</i>
	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>

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**Commissioner Spidalieri was absent from these meetings.*

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of September 5, 2019.

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

APPROVE FINANCIALS

Budget and Finance Manager Adrian Gorton explained the financials for today as including an Appropriations transfer for a Common Pleas Court reimbursement deposited into the General Fund from a Mental Health SORS grant; an Appropriation transfer for the Sheriff's Office for miscellaneous fees deposited into the General Fund; an Appropriation transfer for the Board of Elections to cover an Equipment line deficit left after a recent adjustment; a Cash transfer from Job and Family Services to cover Child Welfare expenses that are owed to Public Assistance; Then and Now from the Commissioner's Office to Paul J. Mooney for appointed counsel fees from 2018; Then and Now from Community Development to Housing Research and Advocacy Center for the Analysis of Impediment study expenses; Then and Now from the Sheriff's Office to Geauga Hospital for inmate medical care expenses; Travel requests from the County Engineer's Office and Water Resources; a payment from the Commissioner's Office to NOACA for the county dues payment in the amount \$33,987.00; a payment from the Commissioners' Office to the Airport Authority for the runway lighting project in the amount of \$20,322.58 and a Revenue Certification for the Juvenile Court for additional State receipts in the Care and Custody fund.

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Resolution #19-111 itemizing the financials for the meeting of September 17, 2019.

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

COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – CHANGE ORDER #1 FINAL – DECREASE – GRADE LINE, INCORPORATED – WILSON MILLS DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

Deputy Engineer Nick Gorris explained that this is the final change order, noting that it is a decrease with Grade Line for the Wilson Mills Drainage Improvements.

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Change Order #1 Final, decreasing the Contract with Grade Line, Incorporated for the Wilson Mills Drainage Improvements in the amount of \$2,616.90.

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

CASA (COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES)

Mary Ruth Shumway explained that as of last year there was over 85,000 CASA's nationally serving over 260,000 children. Things have changed over the years, noting that Job and Family Services now does alternative response, so CASA no longer gets every case like they used to, instead only the worst cases that they can't work out themselves come to the court. In 2016 they served 165 children, closed 83 of the cases and reunited 35 children with families at a 42% reunification rate. Thus far this year, they have served 159 children, noting that in 2018 they only served 166 children. Ms. Shumway stated that they closed 69 cases and reunited 56 children with families at a 82% reunification rate. The national average for reunification is about 46%.

Commissioner Lennon asked Ms. Shumway to explain what CASA is and does. Ms. Shumway explained that CASA stands for Court Appointed Special Advocates, it's a national program, they are trained to act in the best interest of the child in the court. All volunteers are trained, they gather facts not give information, they have access to the child's personal information, they speak to the parents and find out what is going on in the case. The Judge doesn't have time to do

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this. Our CASA's visit twice a month, overall just look at what is going on in the child's life, reporting grades. Ms. Shumway stated that when she started 2 years ago they had 42 active CASA's, currently she has 61 active, with 75 sworn in, noting that some are on medical. Those 61 active volunteers are serving 159 children, they are under superintendents rule 48 which comes with continuing education. Ms. Shumway stated that they are partnering with the agencies they are working with to work on resources which is helping the reunification rate.

Ms. Shumway stated that her and Judge Grendell created the launch pad program, explaining that she was probably the reason for the program, in 2005 she had a child that aged out of care under Chip Henry, he was living in a homeless shelter in Mansfield and knew that there would be no supportive care, she requested to stay on the case as a CASA, and worked with the coordinator at the shelter, he completed high school and went on to college. This program is for kids in care that are most likely going to age out of it. Ms. Shumway stated that in her opinion Next Step means that JFS and CASA didn't do their job, while there are some kids that we cannot help or bring around, but Next Step is for kids that are homeless that have nowhere to go and nothing to fall back on. Launch pad program gives the kids opportunities, college and vocational visits, find them exposure to a job that they are interested in. In addition we are working on host families for the kids to call if they need something or the family that checks in on them, giving them a place to go for the holidays. This is really serving the best interest in the child. You really need to have a hand and hand working relationship, you have to not take things personally with cases. The goal of the court is to reunite families. They are seeing an increase in domestic violence cases and can be very difficult to work the case.

Ms. Shumway stated that CASA is 100% VOCA grant funding currently, and there are rumors that the State is going to cut funding. Ms. Shumway stated that at some points this year Supervisors were handling more than 48 cases at a time, which is a huge case load. Sarah Lennon noted that the limit is 30. Ms. Shumway added that it is usually on average 43 cases. Ms. Lennon added that sometimes the Supervisors have to take on their own cases in addition to assisting the CASA on their cases. The office has a team of 5 employees right now.

Ms. Shumway stated that they were trying to get public awareness to educate the residents of Geauga County as to what a CASA is. There is an application, references, background checks and training before a CASA can be sworn in.

PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE – RESOLUTION OPPOSING A STATE TAKEOVER OF OPIOID LAWSUITS BY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Prosecutor Jim Flaiz explained that this resolution is to oppose a state takeover of the opioid lawsuits, which is in essence a money grab. The County filed a lawsuit in federal court in March of 2018 against the drug manufacturers and pharmaceutical distributors over them causing the opioid epidemic that they have put a lot of funds towards fighting. Next month there are a few cases set to begin in Cuyahoga and Summit Counties as a test trial. As we are getting closer to the trial, things are happening to try and stop them, noting that companies are filing bankruptcy and cases are trying to be settled. There is some real money on the table, and a resolution could bring some money to the county, the State Officials and Legislature are trying to pass a law that takes over all of our claims and gives to the Attorney General and the Officials the money to distribute, of that we will get 20% and they take the rest. Sheriff Scott Hildenbrand explained that we are incurring the expenses not the State, adding that when they are successful in bringing the case off the street it then goes to the Prosecutor's Office. Commissioner Lennon added that it affects everything, the Courts and Job and Family Services. The county stepped up and took the risk to file the lawsuit, adding that he is opposed to the State taking this over and by the time it would get filtered down to us, there won't be anything left. He will stand by the Sheriff, the Prosecutor and the Commissioners that he opposes what is trying to be pushed through.

Commissioner Dvorak agreed with Mr. Lennon on fighting back against the opioid, drugs and alcohol and that we need funds to continue to the fight the fight and asked what is the next step? Mr. Flaiz stated that while the epidemic was going on, agencies were stretched thin, the Board at that time, where Commissioner Spidaleri really pushed to fund those agencies to fight back on this. Mr. Lennon stated that this resolution is a start that we are not happy about this.

Mr. Flaiz stated that they would like to see the test trials move forward and while the cases have been sealed, there will be information that will come out that will be eye opening. Mr. Lennon noted that he had seen Purdue pharmaceutical filed bankruptcy because that is easier than

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trying to settle with multiple counties. As a team we stand up as one voice and fight, it will make a statement. Commissioner Spidalieri stated that we stepped up and tried to make a difference.

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Resolution #19-112 Opposing a State Takeover of Opioid Lawsuits brought by Local Governments.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Date: September 17, 2019

Resolution: #19-112

*A RESOLUTION OPPOSING A STATE TAKEOVER
OF OPIOID LAWSUITS BROUGHT BY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS*

WHEREAS, the Geauga County Commissioners filed a lawsuit on behalf of our county on March 15, 2018 against certain drug manufacturers and pharmaceutical distributors being Geauga County v. Amerisourcebergen Drug Corporation, et al., U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio, Case No. 1:18-op-45256; and

WHEREAS, the Geauga County Commissioners have filed the above-referenced complaint against various drug manufacturers and distributors for their wrongful conduct in causing the opioid crisis which has ravaged our community; and

WHEREAS, the Geauga County Commissioners and the Geauga County Prosecuting Attorney have been fighting to bring dollars back to our community to compensate Geauga County for monies our taxpayers have expended on the effects of the opioid crisis and for future costs associated with the crisis; and

WHEREAS, Geauga County, along with other counties and municipalities across Ohio are currently negotiating what would be a historic settlement of these claims; and

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio is seeking to introduce and pass legislation in the General Assembly which would eliminate Geauga County's claims in the opioid litigation and give state government the exclusive right to litigate, settle, and distribute proceeds from the litigation; and

WHEREAS, it has been widely reported that the proposed legislation would only guarantee local governments like Geauga County twenty percent (20%) of the settlement proceeds; and

WHEREAS, Geauga County, has been damaged by the aforementioned pharmaceutical distributors and drug manufacturers and Geauga County residents have a constitutional right to seek redress for these wrongs; and

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation is an unconstitutional and outrageous overreach by state government to take away local control over this litigation and divert money that rightfully belongs to the citizens of Geauga County; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners does hereby express its strong opposition to any attempt by state officials and/or the Ohio General Assembly to take over the opioid litigation that the Geauga County Commissioners have brought on behalf of our county; and the Commissioners' Clerk shall forward a copy of this resolution to the Governor of State; Ohio Attorney General; Speaker of the Ohio House; President of the Ohio Senate; and all legislative representatives of Geauga County.

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

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SHERIFF'S OFFICE – RESOLUTION HONORING DEPUTY JAKE SMITH FOR HIS COURAGE AND HEROISM

Sheriff Hildenbrand explained that in March there was page for a house fire and Deputy Smith responded because he was close, and when he arrived at the house found that a resident was trapped inside and worked to get her out and ultimately saved her life before the fire department arrived. Sheriff Hildenbrand explained that they wanted to recognize Deputy Smith for his efforts and that they don't go unnoticed.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Resolution #19-105 Honoring Deputy Jake Smith for his Courage and Heroism.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Date: September 17, 2019
Resolution: 19-105

RESOLUTION HONORING DEPUTY JAKE SMITH FOR HIS COURAGE AND HEROISM

WHEREAS, on March 6, 2019 at 9:21 p.m. a 9-1-1 call came in for a possible house fire on Hotchkiss Road in Newbury, the dispatcher reported that someone was possibly trapped inside; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Jake Smith saw the call come up on the in car computer and responded to the address where he found smoke pouring from the house and a male resident rushing in and out, trying to bring items out of the house. Deputy Smith directed him to remain outside and went to work trying to reach the female resident still trapped inside; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Jake Smith attempted to break down the front door, which was solid and wouldn't budge, he was continuing to communicate with the female resident trying to guide her away from the fire in the kitchen and to the front window that he had knocked out, while shining a flashlight to try and cut through the smoke. Deputy Smith was able to get the female to the window and when able to reach her, he pulled her through the window carrying her to safety; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Jake Smith is a hero in the eyes of many, but will claim that he was just doing his job, the job of a law enforcement officer, where every day they find the courage to put themselves in harm's way so the rest of us stay safe; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Jake Smith graduated from Chardon High School, holds an Associate's degree in Criminal Justice/ Law Enforcement, served as a Full-time Security Officer for Case Western Reserve University, and began his career in 2007 with the Geauga County Sheriff's Office, first as a Part-time Deputy, then promoted to Full-time in 2009 and since 2012 has been a K-9 handler with his partner Spirit; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Geauga County Board of Commissioners do hereby recognize and honor Deputy Jake Smith for his courage and heroism in helping save a residents life; and

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 Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>

The Board presented the resolution to Deputy Smith and posed for a few pictures, thanking him for all he does.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT (COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC) – CONTRACT AGREEMENT – JUNIPER CRE SOLUTIONS, LLC

Executive Director Dave Favorite asked the Board to continue their support to advocate for business in this county and approve a contract with Juniper Solutions to develop a strategic plan and long term vision for economic development in Geauga County. This has been a yearlong process with interviews to choose the best company. This company will collaborate with the company chosen by the Planning Commission on their plan. Mr. Favorite stated that this will provide us with a guide on making decisions to advocate for business and to assist with retaining business in this County. Mr. Favorite added that they will bring reports to the Board on the progress and will take about seven months to complete. Mr. Lennon expressed the importance of this and that he and Commissioner Spidalieri have been advocating for a plan like this since the beginning, and that it goes along with the Planning Commission and getting that back up and on its feet again. Mr. Lennon is excited on seeing these plans come together, it's a big investment. Commissioner Dvorak added that he is comfortable with this company, and the process.

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the Contract Agreement with Juniper CRE Solutions, LLC to develop a Strategic Plan for Economic Development (the Plan) and long-term vision for economic development in Geauga County for a period of up to one year (completion of plan) in an amount not to exceed \$75,000.00.

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

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES

Executive Director Craig Swenson expressed some concern over a few statements that were made, adding that JFS makes the recommendation to reunify a child and that each child and each case is different, his staff works very hard on these cases with the best interest for the child.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – OHIO DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES IV-D CONTRACT – COMMON PLEAS COURT AND PROSECUTOR'S

Director of Child Support Tracy Olszowy explained that these IV-D Contracts are for Common Pleas and the Prosecutor's Office for magistrate and legal services and allow them to pay for the services. Mr. Swenson explained that we can't work without partnering with them and so as the recipient of the IV-D funds we can then use those funds to pay for the services that are being provided by Common Pleas and the Prosecutor. Mr. Lennon inquired about the amounts, to which Ms. Olszowy stated that the amount for Common Pleas is \$42,658.00 and for the Prosecutor's Office \$88,719.00. Mr. Flaiz added that this is good for the County. Ms. Olszowy explained that the funding comes from Federal Government and the contract is paid at actual cost and the county is reimbursed a portion of the cost to keep the program moving. Mr. Flaiz stated that the funds go into the General Fund which they use as an offset of what the Commissioners are contributing to the Prosecutor's Office.

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services IV-D Contract between the Geauga County Child Support Enforcement Agency and the Geauga County Common Pleas Court for magistrate services for the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 in the amount of \$106.65 per hour.

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

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services IV-D Contract between the Geauga County Child Support Enforcement Agency and the Geauga County Prosecutor's Office for legal services for the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 in the amount of \$55.45 per hour.

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

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JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR SOCIAL WORKER, ALLISON STOUT FOR RECEIVING THE NATIONAL SPIRIT OF NAPSA AWARD

Mr. Swenson introduced Allison Stout and explained that she was the recipient of a National Award last month, noting that she is one of two Adult Protective Services Workers. Mr. Swenson stated that he wanted the Board to be aware of the amazing work she does, and recognize her for those accomplishments. Kristina Miller explained that Ms. Stout works daily with older adult population on cases of abuse and neglect exploitation and self-neglect, where she investigates the matters, working with the Department on Aging and other agencies to find services that will allow them to stay in their homes or find a safe location for them. Ms. Miller noted that meals on wheels or assistance with daily living programs are the primary programs that we utilize from them. Gina Schultz added that the Department on Aging is a supportive role, but sometimes the social workers take on the role of engagement to see if there is some preventative work they can do, but primarily they help find the services that they need. Ms. Schultz added that this isn't the only award Ms. Stout has received that she was the employee of the year last year, but overall goes above and beyond to make connections and the relationships she has built. Ms. Stout has been with the County for twelve years.

Clerk, Christine Blair read the following resolution:

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Resolution: 19-113

Date: September 17, 2019

A RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR GEAUGA COUNTY JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES SOCIAL WORKER ALLISON STOUT FOR RECEIVING THE NATIONAL SPIRIT OF NAPSA AWARD

WHEREAS, the Geauga County Job and Family Services (GCJFS) Adult Protective Services Team (APS) is administrated by Gina Schultz and Kristina Miller, under Executive Director Craig Swenson and includes two outstanding and dedicated social workers; and

WHEREAS, GCJFS provides Adult Protective Services to the elderly in Geauga County who are in danger of harm, unable to protect themselves, and/or have no one else to assist them. The APS team is mandated to investigate and evaluate all reports of suspected abuse, neglect and exploitation of vulnerable adults age sixty (60) and over; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Council on Aging approximately one in ten Americans aged sixty (60) and over have experienced some form of elder abuse. Some studies estimate that as many 5 million elders are abused each year in the United States. Research has further provided that only one in fourteen cases of elder abuse are reported to authorities; and

WHEREAS, in 2018 the GCJFS APS team investigated one hundred and fifty (150) cases of suspected elder abuse, neglect, and/or exploitation. As of the end of August 2019 the APS team has investigated one hundred and twenty (120) such cases; and

WHEREAS, on August 20, 2019 GCJFS APS social worker, Allison Stout, was honored at the National Adult Protective Services Association (NAPSA) Conference by receiving the Spirit of NAPSA Award for going above and beyond in the call of duty in helping the adults and families she serves. Ms. Stout's exemplary casework demonstrates the requisite passion, empathy, creativity, collaboration, and resilience that Geauga County's seniors deserve; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Geauga County Board of Commissioners do hereby recognize and honor GCJFS APS social worker, Allison Stout, for this remarkable achievement and noteworthy contribution to the Geauga County community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution becomes part of the permanent record of the Board of Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Resolution #19-113 to Recognize and Honor Geauga County Job and Family Services Social Worker, Allison Stout for receiving the National Spirit of NAPSA Award.

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

The Commissioner's presented Ms. Stout with her resolution and posed for a few pictures.

**DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – APPROVE PROMOTION TODD PALIVEC –
ELECTRICIAN I (#2316)**

Executive Director Steven Oluic asked the Board to approve the promotion of Todd Palivec to Electrician. Mr. Dvorak inquired if they needed to be licensed, to which Dr. Oluic stated that Electrician I does not, but Electrician II does.

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve the promotion of Todd Palivec to the position of Electrician I (#2316) to be effective September 8, 2019 at the rate of \$22.53 per hour with a 120 day probationary period.*

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

**Missing from the original motion when the effective date.*

**DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – APPROVE HIRING VERONICA BRYANT –
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT (#2345)**

Mr. Oluic asked the Board to approve hiring Ms. Bryant to the position of Administrative Assistant.

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve hiring Veronica Bryant to the position of Administrative Assistant (#2345) to be effective September 23, 2019 at the rate of \$14.54 per hour with a one year probationary period. This offer of employment is contingent upon the successful completion of the required pre-employment conditions.

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

**COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – COUNTY EMPLOYEE BENEFIT CONSORTIUM OF OHIO
(CEBCO) PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT – THREE YEARS**

Human Resources Specialist Kelly Bidlack asked the Board to approve the participation agreement with CEBCO for our healthcare for the next three years.

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the County Employee Benefit Consortium of Ohio, Incorporated (CEBCO) Participation Agreement for the period January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2022.

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

**COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – CEBCO RATE RENEWAL ACCEPTANCE FOR 2020 –
ANTHEM HEALTHCARE, ANTHEM RX PRESCRIPTION, DELTA DENTAL RENEWAL
PLANS AND RATES – EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTION RATES – EXECUTE PLAN 1C AND 4D
PLANS**

Ms. Bidlack asked the Board to accept the renewal rates for Healthcare, Prescriptions and Dental. Ms. Bidlack stated that it was a reduction of 1.6%, both healthcare and dental saw a reduction. There was a brief discussion about what affects the reduction, the number of counties in the pool that saw reductions and if the wellness program contributes to the reductions.

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Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the CEBCO Geauga County Rate Renewal Acceptance for 2020.

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

It was noted that the employee contribution will remain the same but that County will see a reduction on the their contribution, giving the example of \$26.00 per month per family plan. Ms. Bidlack added that one change will be that CEBCO went out to bid this year and the prescription will change from Express Scripts to Anthem RX.

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and accept the 2020 Geauga County CEBCO/Anthem Healthcare, Anthem RX prescription and Delta Dental Renewal Plans and Rates, the County and Employee Contribution Rates and to further approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the CEBCO Geauga County (1C and 4D Plans) Summary of Benefits Forms to be effective January 1, 2020.

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

There was a brief discussion on the recent dependent verification audit, which was being done to update addresses, correct dependents to reduce costs in paying for dependents that don't qualify.

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – 2020 EMPLOYEE WAIVER RATES

Ms. Bidlack noted that the waiver will remain the same as last year.

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and accept the 2020 Geauga County Employee Waiver Rates to be effective January 1, 2020.

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

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – RESOLUTION HONORING OWEN CHARLES MALAK FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Resolution #19-114 Honoring Owen Charles Malak for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest award in Boy Scouts.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Resolution: #19-114

Date: September 17, 2019

***A RESOLUTION HONORING OWEN CHARLES MALAK 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 progress through the ranks in order, earn twenty-one (21) merit badges (that include first aid, citizenship in the community, nation and world, communication, environmental science, fitness, camping, family life, management, emergency preparedness or lifesaving, and cycling, hiking or swimming), serve six months in a leadership position within in the troop, plan and complete a service project, participate in a scoutmaster conference and complete an Eagle Scout Board of Review; and

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

WHEREAS, Owen Charles Malak is a member and current Junior Assistant Scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop #193, Russell Township, Geauga County, and has excelled in his search for knowledge, leadership, planning and community support; and

WHEREAS, Owen Charles Malak provides leadership at meetings, on campouts and has done an excellent job in all aspects of scouting; and

WHEREAS, Owen Charles Malak's Eagle Scout project included organizing, securing the materials and then working with his fellow scouts to complete, they rehabilitated the player benches at the Clay Eddy Kiwanis Field making them ADA compliant, they then leveled the fan bleachers and cleaned up and edged the flower beds; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Geauga County Board of Commissioners salutes Owen Charles Malak for service to his community and to the Boy Scouts of America;

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 Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>

OTHER

The Board reviewed upcoming events.

MEETINGS

<i>Wed., 9/18</i>	<i>Department on Aging Annual meeting, 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Notre Dame Education Center Auditorium</i>
<i>Fri., 9/20</i>	<i>NOACA, Air Quality 9:00 a.m., Transportation 10:30 a.m., and Water Quality 12:00 p.m. Cleveland</i>
<i>Mon., 9/23</i>	<i>Board of Revision, 9:00 a.m. Auditor's, Appraisal Conference room</i>
<i>Tue., 9/24</i>	<i>The Commissioners will hold regular session at 9:00 a.m. in Chambers with a Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m. for the Proposed Chardon Township Wastewater Treatment Plant and Sewer Project to Improve the Berkshire Heights Subdivision being held at 470 Center Street, Building #8 Conference room</i>
<i>Tue., 9/24</i>	<i>Budget Hearings, 11:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.</i>
<i>Thu., 9/26</i>	<i>Budget Hearings, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.</i>
<i>Fri., 9/27</i>	<i>NOACA, Business Advisory 9:00 a.m., Community Advisory 10:30 a.m., and Rural Advisory 1:00 p.m., Cleveland</i>
<i>Tue., 10/1</i>	<i>The Commissioners will hold regular session at 9:00 a.m.</i>
<i>Tue., 10/1</i>	<i>Budget Hearings 11:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.</i>
<i>Thu., 10/3</i>	<i>Budget Hearing, 1:00 p.m.</i>

There was a brief discussion regarding meeting with the members of the Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services and if they wanted to include it on the 24th with the Public Hearing or schedule on a different day. Mr. Lennon stated that he had some questions and that the residents need to be brought up to speed and understand what took place at the last Mental Health Board meeting. Mr. Spidalieri added that having that many people there may help with the number of

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residents, and inquired about moving up the public hearing. It was noted that there was no way to reschedule the hearing due to advertising and notification requirements. There is a Board of Mental Health meeting on the 18th. Mr. Lennon brought up several Board members that are not meeting the requirements and wants to move on having those members removed so we can get some solid representation on the Board. The Board looked at the ending of the 26th to hold the discussion.

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – SCHEDULE EVENING MEETING – DISCUSS BOARD OF MENTAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY SERVICES

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to schedule an evening meeting on Thursday, September 26, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. to be held in the meeting room at 470 Center Street, Building #8, Chardon.

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

Discussion continued about their building, vehicle use and the expenses versus the services being provided and the differences between employees from Mental Health and those employees under their hiring authority.

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to move into Executive Session on or about 10:30 a.m. for the purpose of considering the employment of a public employee at the Department of Transit.

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

The Board moved into Executive Session at 10:35 a.m. with Human Resources Administrator Kathy Hostutler. The Board returned at 12:33 p.m. and the result was no action was taken.

Ms. Blair explained that she had some additions for the Department on Aging that were being added to try and keep one of the awards a secret since it is an employee and if she knew she might not attend.

DEPARTMENT ON AGING – RESOLUTIONS HONORING 2019 AWARD RECIPIENTS FOR HOME DELIVERED MEALS VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR, VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR, SENIOR SUPPORTER OF THE YEAR, SENIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AND ROSE MOTLEY SENIOR ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Resolution #19-115 Honoring the Rotary Club of the Chagrin Valley for being the Department on Aging 2019 Home Delivered Meals Volunteer of the Year.

Board of Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Resolution: #19-115

Date: September 17, 2019

*Honoring the Rotary Club of the Chagrin Valley for being the
Department on Aging 2019 Home Delivered Meals Volunteer of the Year*

WHEREAS, the Home Delivered Meals Volunteer of the Year Award is given to an individual or group, who by example and accomplishment has provided outstanding volunteer service to Geauga County Seniors and the Department on Aging program during the last year; and

WHEREAS, the Rotary Club of the Chagrin Valley has been established and providing services within their community for approximately 50 years; and

WHEREAS, the Rotary Club of the Chagrin Valley has been volunteering with Home Delivered Meals for over eighteen (18) years and has made an astounding impact on the lives of

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homebound seniors in the community by being a group who continuously helps others in need; and

WHEREAS, the Rotary Club of the Chagrin Valley has provided coverage for 2 Home Delivered Meal routes per week for the Geauga County Department on Aging, handling one route from the Chardon Senior Center and one route from the West Geauga Senior Center; and

WHEREAS, the Rotary Club of the Chagrin Valley has consistently advocated for the Home Delivered Meals program in their community and within their group, recruiting, training and scheduling members to provide continuous coverage for their route commitments throughout the year; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Geauga County Board of Commissioners hereby recognizes the Rotary Club of the Chagrin Valley for their dedication, service and time to the Seniors in Geauga County, and is honored for being the Department on Aging 2019 Home Delivered Meals Volunteer of the year; and

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 Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Resolution #19-116 Honoring Sue Rooth for being the 2019 Department on Aging Volunteer of the Year.

Board of Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Resolution: 19-116

Date: September 17, 2019

*Honoring Sue Rooth for being the 2019
Department on Aging Volunteer of the Year*

WHEREAS, The Volunteer of the Year Award is presented to recognize a Volunteer who, through example and accomplishment has provided outstanding service to Geauga County Seniors during the past year; and

WHEREAS, Sue Rooth is an outstanding volunteer that has donated her time to the Geauga County Department on Aging's Home Delivered Meals program, has assisted with the annual Shindig & Schnitzel Fundraiser, handles administrative tasks with a positive attitude, along with great accuracy and detail. Sue Rooth is dependable, self-motivated and has compassion for the senior community and programs that are beneficial to them; and

WHEREAS, Sue Rooth has a history of volunteering, with her church on their fair board, finance committee and parish council, has served on the Hiram Township Zoning Board of Appeals for ten (10) years, volunteered with Red Cross blood drives, has helped with other fundraising tasks including community meals and with the Knights of Columbus holiday meals; and

WHEREAS, Sue Rooth retired from a global manufacturing firm as an Insight Strategist, she spends time caring for her elderly father, enjoys being active and busy, and gives back to her community through volunteerism, where she is able to benefit others; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Geauga County Board of Commissioners hereby recognize Sue Rooth for her dedication, service and time to the Seniors in Geauga County, and is honored for being the 2019 Department on Aging Volunteer of the Year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution becomes part of the permanent record of the Board of Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio.

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

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Resolution #19-117 Honoring Liese Toohig as the 2019 Geauga County Senior Supporter of the Year.

Board of Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Resolution: #19-117
Date: September 17, 2019

*Honoring Liese Toohig as the 2019 Geauga County
Senior Supporter of the Year*

WHEREAS, the Senior Supporter of the Year Award recognizes an individual or agency who has demonstrated extraordinary commitment and dedication to helping seniors maintain independence, dignity and respect through services and support; and

WHEREAS, Liese Toohig grew up in Geauga County, stayed and raised her family, including her three children and is enjoying that her eleven (11) grandchildren are also growing up in the community; and

WHEREAS, Liese Toohig has worked over the years cleaning homes and has spent over thirty years as a Property Manager, overseeing seventy (70) properties, screening applicants for housing and often looked beyond the housing barriers that often would disqualify them for mainstream housing opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Liese Toohig has demonstrated extraordinary compassion for disadvantaged senior citizens who have faced multiple housing barriers including limited income, eviction, homelessness, and mental health issues that have negatively impacted their housing stability; and

WHEREAS, Liese Toohig believes that “everyone deserves a second chance” and is an inspiration to the Geauga community for her approach to providing support that preserves independence, respect and dignity for the senior applicants she houses; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Geauga County Board of Commissioners recognizes and honors Liese Toohig for her compassion and dedication to the Seniors in Geauga County, and name her the 2019 Geauga County Senior Supporter of the year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution becomes part of the permanent record of the Board of Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio.

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

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Resolution #19-118 Honoring Dorothy Stinchcomb as the 2019 Geauga County Senior Citizen of the Year.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Resolution: #19-118
Date: September 17, 2019

**RESOLUTION HONORING DOROTHY STINCHCOMB AS THE 2019
GEAUGA COUNTY SENIOR CITIZEN OF YEAR**

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WHEREAS, The Geauga County Board of Commissioners take this opportunity to declare Dorothy Stinchcomb as the Geauga County Senior Citizen of the Year for 2019 for her accomplishments and her years of service to our community. By the decision of her peers, Dorothy Stinchcomb has been chosen to be honored at the Geauga County Department on Aging's Annual meeting and by Resolution from this Board; and

WHEREAS, Dorothy Stinchcomb was born and raised in Cleveland in 1936, and moved to Chardon in 1946, where she graduated from Chardon High School in the class of 1954, then attended Miami University for three years until she married Paul Moore, USAF in July 1957 at which point she moved with her husband to Anchorage Alaska, where they lived until June 1958 when her husband was killed in a flying accident. Dorothy moved back to Geauga County where she had her daughter, Sue, in July of 1958. Dorothy remarried in 1961, and had a son, Daniel in 1962. Dorothy also has two step-daughters, 6 grandchildren, 14 great grandchildren and 2 great-great grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Dorothy Stinchcomb is a senior who takes care of other seniors. She has always been a caregiver to her parents, to her two husbands, to her children as well as her friends. More than 10 years ago, Dorothy became involved with an organization called "Feed my People" a free faith based food ministry which began giving donations of clothing and household items as an offshoot of its meals program. With Dorothy's help the program has grown! Today, Dorothy's Front Porch offers items to those in need for FREE, up to four times a year, helping hundreds; and

WHEREAS, Items not taken at one of the Dorothy's Front Porch Days don't go to waste, those goods are given to other organizations in and out of the state, such as St. Mary's in Painesville, St. Francis Outreach in Flint, Michigan, the McKinley Center in Lake County, the Fort Wayne Zoo in Indiana, and Rescue Village in Geauga County; and

WHEREAS, Dorothy Stinchcomb belongs to Age Well Be Well at University Hospital Geauga Medical Center and Senior Connection at Lake Health, and encourages other seniors to join those organizations; and

WHEREAS, Dorothy Stinchcomb has been a member of the Celebration Lutheran Church for 25 years and volunteers or "fills in" where ever she is needed. She participated in the Stephen Ministry Classes at St. Luke's Episcopal Church where she learned the importance of listening to people and that has stayed with her over the years. Dorothy is a dedicated friend to so many and appears to have a never ending supply of energy; and

NOW, THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Geauga County Board of Commissioners does hereby honor Dorothy Stinchcomb for her dedication and service to Geauga County and the Department on Aging, and declare that she be named the Geauga County Senior Citizen of the Year for 2019; and

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 Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Resolution #19-119 Honoring Sandy McLeod as the 2019 Rose Motley Senior Advocate of the Year.

Board of Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Resolution: 19-119

Date: September 17, 2019

*A RESOLUTION HONORING SANDY MCLEOD
AS THE 2019 ROSE MOTLEY SENIOR ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR*

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WHEREAS, Named for Rose Motley, the Senior Advocate of the Year award is given to the person who most shares the first recipient's invaluable contributions, lifetime commitment and advocacy for older persons. The Geauga County Board of Commissioners takes this opportunity to declare Sandy McLeod, as the Geauga County 2019 Rose Motley Senior Advocate of the Year for her accomplishments, whose guidance, work and volunteer efforts have helped support positive aging, maintained dignity and respect for all senior citizens and has served as a guardian of the rights of older Americans; and

WHEREAS, Sandy McLeod is a lifelong resident of Geauga County, growing up with her two sisters and three brothers, she attended St. Mary's Elementary and Notre Dame High School, before attending the Ohio State University. Sandy met and married her loving husband Dan, they remained in Geauga County where they raised their two children, Erin and Keith; and

WHEREAS, Sandy McLeod has served in many roles within the community at various organizations, including 4H, is a past Geauga County Fair Queen and currently a judge in the Domestic Arts, is a Leader of Life Teen Youth Group Bible Study at St. Mary's, is a Book Club Host, an alumni of Leadership Geauga, and her favorite role is Grandmother to Tommy, Maddie and Cameron; and

WHEREAS, Sandy McLeod began working in public service at the Lake County Metroparks before joining the Department on Aging in May of 1998. Sandy's hard work and dedication has made a tremendous impact on the quality, diversity, outreach and accessibility of recreation and education programs offered along with contributing to the growth and success of the Department; and

WHEREAS, Sandy McLeod strives to advocate for the seniors in Geauga County, by helping them restore confidence, remain independent, helping to identify needs and fill in gaps by finding the resources and making the connections to provide them with the information and services they need; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Geauga County Board of Commissioners hereby honor Sandy McLeod for her continued dedication, compassion and devotion to the Seniors in Geauga County, and is honored for being the 2019 Rose Motley Senior Advocate of the Year; and

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 Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>

HEALTH DEPARTMENT / AUDITOR'S OFFICE

There was a brief discussion about a request from the Health Department for the establishment of 4 new funds. Request is being held while waiting for a clarification of the Auditor's office and for additional information on what the funds were to be used for.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- a) The Monthly Financial Report from the County Building Department for the month of August, 2019.*
- b) A weekly report filed by the County Dog Warden of all dogs seized, impounded, redeemed or destroyed for the week ending August 21, 2019 as required by O.R.C. 955.12.*
- c) The 2018-2019 Criminal Report filed by County Prosecutor James R. Flaiz as required by O.R.C. 309.16.*

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BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD

Motion: *by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to adjourn the meeting at 12:45 P.m.*

Geauga County Board of Commissioners

Timothy C. Lennon

Ralph Spidalieri

James W. Dvorak

Christine Blair, Commissioners' Clerk

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