

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**May 14, 2019**

*The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on May 14, 2019 at 9:30 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 9:36 a.m. by leading the Board and audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.*

**MEETING MINUTES**

*Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of May 7, 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>

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

*County Administrator Gerard Morgan reported on the item approved May 10, 2019 by the County Administrator that included for the Airport Authority to acknowledge and approve Reimbursement Request #6 for FAA Grant Project (#39-0054-020-2018) to Install Runway 11/29 Lighting, Taxiway Connector Lighting, Install Runway 11/29 End Identifier Lights, Install Precision Approach Path Indicator and Install Beacon and Lighted Wind Cone in the amount of \$113,311.91 (\$101,981.00 FAA portion, \$5,665.00 ODOT portion and \$5,665.91 local County match); and for a Liquor License, concurred with the Claridon Township Trustees in not requesting a hearing on the Liquor License being requested by Sonya Retail LLC d.b.a. Country Style Drive In located at 15052 Mayfield Road, East Claridon (Claridon Township) (C TRFO 8353355); 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.*

**APPROVE FINANCIALS**

*Budget and Finance Manager Adrian Gorton explained the financials for today as including Appropriation transfers for the Sheriff's Office for reimbursement of fees deposited into the General Fund; a Supplemental Appropriation transfer from the Building Improvement Fund into the Professional Services account; a Cash transfer out of the General Fund to Airport Construction for the county match on the Obstruction Removal (#19-10); Cash transfers from various funds including the General Fund for the April 2019 Windstream bill; Travel requests for the Auditor's Office, Department of Development (Building), Commissioners Office and the Common Pleas Court; a Purchase order for Water Resources to NOACA for the 2019-2020 dues; a payment to the City of Chardon for the Police Prosecutor and Pretrial Release officer in the amount of \$20,328.63; a payment for the County Engineer's Office to Ronyak Paving for payment #1 on the asphalt resurfacing of Rapids Road in the amount of \$251,629.80; a payment for Job and Family Services to Junction Buick for a 2019 Dodge Caravan for Children's Services home and court visits in the amount of \$21,750.00 and a Revenue Certification for Job and Family Services for their Workforce Investment Fund for additional Federal grant revenue.*

*There was a brief discussion on the funding to the City of Chardon for the Police Prosecutor and Pretrial Release Officer.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Resolution #19-058 itemizing the financials for the meeting of May 14, 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>

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COMPMANAGEMENT, LLC – GROUP RETRO PROGRAM

Human Resources Administrator Kathy Hostutler and Todd Kesperich, Client Services Manager from CompManagement presented information to the Board regarding the Group Retrospective Rating. Ms. Hostutler explained that this program is offered through CCAO and that the County is still eligible to be part of the program, adding that we have been in this program since its inception in 2010, noting that we are included in a pool with 54 other counties and to date the County has received over \$976,000.00 in rebates. Ms. Hostutler stated that we are on target for a 23% refund off the paid premium. Ms. Hostutler stated that the County has requirements to remain in compliance, noting that Human Resources Specialist Kelly Bidlack handles the claims and that we continue to do salary continuation, that she is handling the safety and that they continue to meet with CompManagement quarterly. Ms. Hostutler explained that due to some severe claims in 2015 and 2016 we have slipped to a penalty rating, and if it wasn't for being in the pool, the County would not be in the position we are in.

Mr. Kesperich explained basically with workers compensation, this is an insurance policy that employers are required to have and when claims are filed, they impact the amount of premium that has to be paid. Mr. Kesperich explained that the Bureau uses a rolling 4 year claim history, so for 2020 those claim years are 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017 and 15 and 16 are the bad years that are affecting the County currently. Mr. Kesperich explained that a policy year is based on a calendar year and that there are three evaluations done on each policy year, noting that if we are looking at the upcoming year of 2020, the first 12 month evaluation would take place on December 31, 2021, the second will be in 2022 and the third will be in 2023. Based on the claims during the policy year, the opportunity is there to receive a refund or an assessment. Since the County is in a pool with other counties the percentage of refund is based on the groups performance. It was noted that the 2 years that County had two bad claims, eventually they will roll out of the evaluations but they stick with us for several years.

Mr. Kesperich presented a history of the County's rebates from 2010 through 2014 and that the County has not dipped below 23% on a rebate. If you have a year that doesn't perform well within the three years of evaluations, they kind of provide a buffer. Commissioner Spidalieri inquired about who establishes the rules and timelines for the program, explaining that companies on their own that have even a small claim get put into "bad boy school" overnight and you feel like they are looking for a way to hammer you. Mr. Spidalieri asked if CompManagement engaged to change some of the policies. Mr. Kesperich expressed that they like to try and express ideas on programming to them and provide feedback and input on changes to how the programs are run. Mr. Kesperich explained some of the differences between private versus public and the types of programs that are available and the challenges that are out there. There was discussion about the types of programs available and that the County takes advantage of the programs that they can.

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the 2020 County Commissioners' Association of Ohio Workers' Compensation Group Retrospective Rating Plan Agreement and the Bureau of Worker's Compensation Employer Statement between the Geauga County Board of Commissioners and the CCAO Service Corporation.

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

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT (COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC) – COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ALLOCATION PROGRAM APPLICATIONS

Executive Director Dave Favorite introduced new Program Administrator Jessica Kaluga and Presented the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Allocation Program Applications received for the 2019-2020 grant period. Ms. Kaluga explained that they have closed the 2019 applications on Friday. Ms. Kaluga stated that they have been awarded \$284,000.00 and can use 20% for administrative and fair housing costs which leaves us with \$227,000.00 and can award up to five projects. Ms. Kaluga stated that we had received 14 applications and only 10 qualified. To qualify based on benefitting low to moderate income residents or to prevent slum and blight, can also qualify on urgent need but are usually related to a disaster. In the past we have qualified based on LMI and done public service projects relating to ADA compliance. Ms. Kaluga briefly explained the ten projects that qualified:

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**Claridon Community Helps, Summer Lunch Program**, is a non-profit faith based organization started in 2009 with the mission of neighbors helping neighbors. They partner with local agencies to fill financial gaps in the community. Ms. Kaluga explained that they are requesting to purchase a refrigerator, freezer and oven to prepare lunches for students during the summer. The students qualify through the Berkshire Schools for free/reduced lunch during the school year and would qualify or can apply for the lunches during the summer. They are requesting \$18,077.00 and qualify as a LMI, public service.

**DDC Clinic**, was founded in 1998 and is a non-profit primary care and research facility serving people with special needs caused by rare genetic disorders. The DDC Clinic moved into its state-of-the-art facility in Middlefield in October of 2009. Ms. Kaluga explained that the DDC received a 2017 CDBG grant award to pave the main clinic parking lot, phase 1. The 2019 request is to widen the driveway to allow for wheelchair accessible vans and passenger cars to pass comfortably. They are requesting \$52,967.00 and qualify as a LMI, limited clientele, and public service.

**Geauga County Department on Aging's** mission is to support positive aging through programs, services and resources that promote health, wellness, safety, independence and dignity. Ms. Kaluga explained that they are requesting to purchase two (2) Jeep Compass 4x4 vehicles to support in home services staff to provide care coordination and support to homebound seniors in Geauga County. It is estimated that each vehicle will permit a minimum of 321 client home visits to be done per year. They are requesting \$40,723.00 and qualify as LMI, limited clientele and public service.

**Womensafe, Incorporated**, is a non-profit domestic violence shelter and resource center, founded in 1980 offering an array of free, comprehensive services with 283 individuals having benefited from their programs during 2018. Ms. Kaluga explained that they are requesting funding towards the construction and supply costs to remove mold in an accessory building where donated items are stored for clients like clothing, hygiene, bedding, and furniture, etc., and to install interior panels to complete the drywall. This will prevent the future formation of mold and damage. They are requesting \$23,611.60 and qualify as LMI, limited clientele and public facilities.

**Geauga County Agricultural Society (Fairgrounds)**, is one of the nation's oldest agricultural organizations in existence, still organizing and hosting the annual county fair. The first fair was held in Geauga County in 1823. Ms. Kaluga explained that they would like to pave the walkways around the small grandstand that will allow for access to ADA restrooms. The request is for \$32,243.00 and qualify as LMI, limited clientele and public facilities.

**Village of Middlefield**, is requesting funding for the purchase and installation of three (3) ADA door operator kits, that will be installed at the entrances to the Village Hall, Police Department and Senior Center/ Community Building. Ms. Kaluga stated they are requesting \$10,000.00 and qualify as LMI, limited clientele and public facilities.

**Middlefield Fire Department**, established in 1928, serves the residents in the Village of Middlefield and the Township. Ms. Kaluga noted that they had submitted two applications. The first request is for funding for a 60KW generator for the fire station so they may accommodate the necessary power load to operate the station during an emergency. The fire station is designated an Emergency Shelter by Emergency Management services. This request is for \$31,500.00 and qualifies as LMI and public facilities.

Ms. Kaluga explained that the second request is for funding to replace the concrete around the building, including both the fire and police stations. This request is for \$278,000.00 and qualifies as LMI and public facilities.

**Maple Leaf Community Residences, Incorporated** is a non-profit dedicated to providing and maintaining high quality, safe, affordable residential housing for people with disabilities since 1991. Maple Leaf owns twenty-one (21) homes and one former assisted living facility, all in Geauga County. Ms. Kaluga explained that they also submitted two applications. The first is requesting funding to cover the cost of equipment for fire suppression hood systems, plan reviews, permits and installation in the twenty-one homes. This request is for \$68,391.54 and qualifies as LMI, limited clientele, and private rehabilitation.

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*Ms. Kaluga explained that the second request is for funding to cover the cost for 2 retrofitted sprinkler systems, certified drawings, permits and installation. These sprinkler systems will meet the 2015 International Building Code requirements. This request is for \$80,300.00 and qualifies as LMI, limited clientele, and private rehabilitation.*

*Commissioner Spidalieri inquired about the commitment coming from the applicant. Ms. Kaluga stated that a commitment letter is part of the application, so if not all of the project can be funded; they state the amount that they are able to put towards it. There was discussion about larger projects being broken down into phases. Commissioner Lennon stated that you really have to look at the need and who it's going to benefit.*

*Mr. Spidalieri inquired about the school lunch program, to which Ms. Kaluga explained that Claridon Community Helps is stepping up to continue the school lunch programs being offered by the school, noting that the school has stricter requirements than HUD, noting that the students currently receiving the lunch program can apply for this program in order to get lunches through the summer. This is a new program that this volunteer group is looking to do.*

*There was discussion about the grant period now being two years, and once the programs are awarded, we have two years to get them completed. A new option is to use Revolving Loan Funds for projects that may qualify under a waiver, as a way to use the funds.*

*Ms. Kaluga explained that they would be submitting their recommendation to the Board, and advertise next week for the public hearing, but we will need to make a decision from the ten down to five.*

**DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT (COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC) – APPLICATION FOR AUTHORIZATION TO PERMIT USE OF CREDIT CARD**

*Mr. Favorite asked the Board to approve the application for use of the credit card to include himself, Ms. Kaluga and Ms. Lewis.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the updated Application for Authorization to Permit the Use of a County Credit Card, per O.R.C. 301.27 for the Year 2019 for a Geauga Credit Union Visa, not to exceed \$1,500.00 per month, including David Favorite, Cristine Lewis and Jessica Kaluga.*

<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 – ACCEPT RESIGNATION - PLANNING COMMISSION**

*Mr. Morgan stated that the office had received a letter of resignation from Mr. Rogish and the Board has the option leave open or appoint until the end of his term this year. Mr. Spidalieri noted that they had also accepted his resignation at the Planning Commission meeting.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to acknowledge and accept the resignation of Robert Rogish, Jr. from the Planning Commission effective May 7, 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>

**COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – APPOINT JAMES McCASKEY – PLANNING COMMISSION**

*Mr. Spidalieri made the recommendation of Mr. McCaskey to fill the remainder of Mr. Rogish's term which is through the end of this year, 2019.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to appoint James McCaskey to the Geauga County Planning Commission to fill the unexpired term of Robert Rogish, Jr. ending December 31, 2019.*

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

**BOARD APPOINTMENTS EXPIRING THE REMAINDER OF 2019**

*Ms. Blair briefly went over the remaining appointments that will expire this year. Those included three appointments for the Mental Health and Recovery Services Board at the end of June, Public Defender in October with two appointments; LEPC / SERC in August with a recommendation from DES and the remaining are the end of the year.*

**COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – MOVE REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING FROM TUESDAY TO THURSDAY**

*Clerk, Christine Blair inquired of the Board their schedule for next Tuesday, noting the Mr. Dvorak had informed her of his planned absence, it was discovered that there was going to be a lack of quorum and it was suggested to move the meeting to Thursday. Both Mr. Lennon and Mr. Dvorak are able to attend on that day. The Board noted that financials could still be approved on Tuesday, by the County Administrator.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to move the regular meeting scheduled from Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup> 2019 to be held on Thursday, May 23, 2019 at 9:00 a.m., due to a lack of quorum.*

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

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- a) A monthly report filed by the Geauga County Sheriff's Office of an account of expenses for the inmate meals for the month ending April 2019.*
- b) A monthly report filed by the Geauga County Sheriff's Office of an account of expenses for the prisoner transport for the month ending April 2019 as required by O.R.C. 325.07.*

**OTHER**

*The Board reviewed upcoming events. There will be a Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste Policy Committee meeting on Monday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.*

**MEETINGS**

- Tue., 5/14 The Commissioners will meet with the Prosecutor for legal advice.*
- Tue., 5/14 Planning Commission meeting will reconvene at 10:30 a.m. in the Commissioners Chambers*
- Tue., 5/14 Ohio Sunshine Laws Training, 1:00 p.m., Lakeland Main Campus, Health Tech Bldg.*
- Wed., 5/15 Commissioners will attend the Great Lakes Cheese Hiram Campus Groundbreaking, 10:30 a.m. Hiram*
- Fri., 5/17 NOACA Committees, Transit 9:00 a.m., Bicycle 10:30 a.m. and Safety 1:00 p.m. Cleveland*
- Fri., 5/17 Commissioners will attend the Blazin Bills Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, 11:30 a.m., Hiram*
- Mon., 5/20 Family First Council, 1:30 p.m. at Job and Family Services*
- Tue., 5/21 The Commissioners will hold regular session at 9:00 a.m.*
- Mon., 5/27 **The County Offices will be closed in honor of Memorial Day. Twenty-four Hour Operations will continue to operate as usual.***

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*Thu., 5/30 The Commissioners will hold regular session at 9:00 a.m.*

**COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – AUTHORIZE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO ADVERTISE  
FOR PUBLIC HEARING #2 – CDBG ALLOCATION PROGRAM**

*Ms. Blair brought up the time frame for the CDBG advertisement. Mr. Morgan explained that the five applications being considered for the Allocation need to be included in the advertisement for the upcoming public hearing, the deadline for that is Tuesday by noon, and asked the Board to consider authorizing him to approve the advertisement in order to meet the deadlines.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and authorize County Administrator, Gerard Morgan to grant permission to advertise for Public Hearing #2 for the CDBG Allocation Program on May 23, 2019 to be held June 4, 2019 and include the selection of the five applications.*

<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>

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

*Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to adjourn the meeting at 10:35 a.m.*

*Geauga County Board of Commissioners*

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*Timothy C. Lennon*

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*Ralph Spidalieri*

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*James W. Dvorak*

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*Christine Blair, Commissioners' Clerk*

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