

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**March 8, 2022**

*The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on March 8, 2022 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, James W. Dvorak opened the meeting at 9:39 a.m. by leading the Board and audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.*

*Commissioner Dvorak read the following prayer:*

*Dear God,*

*I pray that you grant President Volodymyr Zelenskyy boldness, as his portion as he stands up to forces of wickedness in high places and as he stands up for the beloved country of Ukraine and her people, by the power of blood of the lamb. I pray that God gives you grace to overcome these forces. I pray that you grant peace and safety for Ukraine and the country's people. Lord, I give you all the glory, honor and praise.*

*Amen*

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

*County Administrator Gerard Morgan reported on the items approved by the County Administrator on March 3, 2022 that included concurring with the Bainbridge Township Trustees in not requesting a hearing on the Liquor License being requested by ARDZ 2, Incorporated located at 17800 Chillicothe Road, Suite 108B, Bainbridge, Ohio (C NEW 0258199-0005) and for Water Resources approved hiring Joshua Smock to the position of Construction Inspector (#2322) at the rate of \$21.17 per hour to be effective March 14, 2022 with a one-year probationary period. This offer of employment is contingent upon the successful completion of the required pre-employment conditions; Approved hiring Gerald Whalen to the position of Design Engineer (#2305) at the rate of \$29.44 per hour to be effective March 21, 2022 with a one-year probationary period. This offer of employment is contingent upon the successful completion of the required pre-employment conditions, and Approved and executed the service Contract Agreement with Harper Well and Pump, Incorporated to perform well and well pump services as needed at various locations within the department for a two-year period, 2022 and 2023 in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00 (\$5,000.00 per year); as authorized by Resolution #22-004 under the direction and supervision of the County Commissioners that was approved January 4, 2022 pursuant to O.R.C. 305.30.*

**APPROVE FINANCIALS**

*Budget and Finance Manager Adrian Gorton explained the financials for today as including a Cash transfer from the General Fund to the Court Technology to provide the funds necessary in 2022 to hire an additional systems specialist, a Cash transfer from the General Fund to the Victim's Witness Assistance Fund to provide resources needed until their reimbursement from the State comes in, a Travel request for the Department of Emergency Services, a payment from the Commissioners' to Bainbridge, Chardon, Russell and Thompson Townships as well as Destination Geauga for the 2021 distribution of the bed tax as prescribed in Section 5739.09 of the O.R.C. in the amount of \$14,331.13, a payments for the Juvenile/Probate Court to various vendors, some of which are being paid by the Auditor under protest due to the service dates being prior to the encumbrance date in the amount of \$1,874.52.*

*Commissioner Lennon inquired if they had reached out to the Clerk of Courts office in regards to aiding in the Court Technology new position.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and execute Resolution #22-026 itemizing the financials for the meeting of March 8, 2022.*

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

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*Mr. Morgan explained that the department is doing some clean up and is asking to approve Satisfaction / Release of Mortgages on loans that have been paid in full.*

**DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT (COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC) – EXECUTE A SATISFACTION / RELEASE OF MORTGAGES FOR JILCIN LLC / NELSKI, INCORPORATED – LOCAL REVOLVING LOAN FUND LOAN**

*Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and execute a Satisfaction/ Release of Mortgage for Jilcin, LLC/Nelski, Incorporated, as the mortgage filed in November, 2008 under the Local Revolving Loan Fund in the amount of \$150,000.00 has been satisfied.*

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

**DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT (COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC) – EXECUTE A SATISFACTION / RELEASE OF MORTGAGE – KAMAN PROPERTIES, LTD – REVOLVING LOAN FUND LOAN**

*Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and execute a Satisfaction / Release of Mortgage for Kaman Properties, Ltd, as the mortgage filed in August 2004 under the Revolving Loan Fund in the amount of \$60,000.00 has been satisfied.*

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

**DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT (COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC) – EXECUTE A SATISFACTION / RELEASE OF MORTGAGE – LAUDATO AND COMPANY, INCORPORATED / 150 COURT STREET, LLC – REVOLVING LOAN FUND LOAN**

*Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and execute a Satisfaction / Release of Mortgage for Laudato and Company, Incorporated / 150 Court Street, LLC as the mortgage filed in July 2011 under the Revolving Loan Fund in the amount of \$65,600.00 has been satisfied.*

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

**DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – OHIO WATER DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, APPLICATION FOR RELEASE OF RETAINER FUNDS – TRAX CONSTRUCTION COMPANY – CHARDON TOWNSHIP WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT AND SEWER PROJECT**

*Fiscal and Personal Specialist Kathleen Miller asked the Board to execute the Ohio Water Development Authority release of Retainer Funds for TRAX Construction Company for the Chardon Township project. Commissioner Lennon inquired about the project being complete, to which Ms. Miller stated that this is just a portion of the retainage, that there is another pay request and less than \$100,000.00 less on the retainage after this portion.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Ohio Water Development Authority, Application for Release of Retainer Funds for TRAX Construction Company for the Chardon Township Wastewater Treatment Plant and Sewer Project in the amount of \$150,000.00.*

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

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COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – REJECT BID SUBMITTED BY RCF GROUP IN RESPONSE TO MOVING SERVICES RELATED TO THE OFFICE BUILDING – NO REQUIRED STATUTORY BID GUARANTY WAS PROVIDED

Mr. Morgan asked the Board to reject the only bid that was received as it did not meet the bid requirements or contain a bid bond.

*Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to reject the Bid submitted by RCF Group in response to the competitive bid solicitation for Moving Services related to the Geauga County Office Building Project, as no required statutory bid guaranty was provided with the bid. No other bids were received in response to the County's bid solicitation.*

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

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – RE-ADVERTISE FOR COMPETITIVE BIDS – MOVING SERVICES RELATED TO COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING PROJECT

Mr. Morgan asked the Board to grant permission to re-advertise for bids for the Moving Services related to the County Office Building project.

*Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to Re-Advertise for Competitive Bids for Moving Services Related to the Geauga County Office Building Project to be held on Wednesday, March 30, 2022 at 2:15 p.m. Notice of this Bid Opening will be advertised on March 10, 2022 on the County website and on March 11, 2022 (News-Herald).*

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

OSU EXTENSION – 4-H WEEK

*Extension Education, 4-H Youth Development, Alisha Faudie thanked the Board for the time this morning to talk about Ohio 4-H week, and that she had brought some 4-H kids with her to talk about what that means, noting that the clubs are sharing their pride about 4-H with displays throughout the County.*

*Britten Logan, with Sew Sew Sweet 4-H Club started us off with the 4- pledge:*

*I pledge my head to clearer thinking, my heart to greater loyalty, my hands to larger service, and my health to better living for my club, my community, my country and my world.*

*The 4-H kids introduced themselves, explaining what club they belonged to and how long they have been in 4-H.*

*Britten Logan is a member of the Sew Sew Sweet Club and has been in 4-H for 4 years, and joined because she wanted to learn how to sew, and her favorite part is being around the other people in her club.*

*PJ Graley has been in 4-H for seven years, is a member of the County Coyotes Shooting Sports Club and is a Geauga Trumbull 4-H Camp Counselor for the last year. Mr. Lennon inquired about the Shooting Sports club, to which Mr. Graley explained that it mainly focuses on archery, but once you reach a certain age, you can expand to hand guns, rifles and shot guns. They mainly practice at Great Lakes Outdoor Supply and at Punderson.*

*Samantha Bergansky has been a member for ten years in the Greener Fields 4-H Club, starting with a rabbit and now has moved into the market animals.*

*Megan Pleva has been in 4-H for six years and is a member of the Sew Sew Sweet and Flockmasters Clubs.*

*Ben Pleva is a member of the Flockmasters 4-H Club and has been a member for six years, it has taught him great responsibility in taking care of animals. Mr. Lennon asked him what his*

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*favorite part is, to which he replied, it is making sure they stay alive.*

*Jacob Thompson is a member of the Feathers and Fleece 4-H Club and has been a member for 8 years, currently at home they have chickens and ducks.*

*Mr. Dvorak asked the 4-H kids what the most important nutrient is for their animals? Water*

*Mr. Dvorak asked what they do to market their animals? Ms. Bergansky explained that she likes to talk to people, it's more a hands-on approach, thank people for bidding even if they don't win the animal, and send letters out. Mr. Dvorak added that he feels 4-H is the greatest small business in the county, having to learn expenses, care of the animal, budgeting and the sale.*

*Mr. Thompson thanked the Board for allowing them to express what value 4-H has brought to their life, for him it's opportunity, the opportunities to learn new skills and improve existing ones, hands on experiences through our animals, the opportunity to learn things to help him in the future, like public speaking and participation. That his word means something, that at club meetings and like today, pledged his allegiance to our republic and its flag, like in the 4-H pledge my hand, head, heart and health to others and to make the best better.*

*Mr. Thompson spoke about the opportunities they have through community projects and fundraising, along with learning opportunities through presentations, field trips, helping others and is all shown and celebrated at the Great Geauga County Fair, giving him great pride and satisfaction to his project finished and presented. Mr. Thompson was able to represent Geauga County last year at the Ohio State Fair, winning the Clock Trophy for his creative costumes project. It goes beyond practical Community service, it is bringing up the next generation of citizens, preparing us for service, to be caring and productive members of society. Thank you for you continued support and for the opportunities it gives to us all.*

*Ben Pleva has been in 4-H since he was seven years old, is a member of the Flock Masters, following his brother Sam, currently in college who was in 4-H along with his mom and uncle. Mr. Pleva has learned what the 4-H pledge means, that his head is activity engaged in learning skills to help him later in life, my heart is loyal and helps others, my hands help my community, and my health is important as he wants to age well and be active. Taking care of animals has given him great responsibility and will help him in the future.*

*Ms. Berganski thanked the Board for allowing them to be there, she started 4-H at the age of seven with a small little bunny that has turned in many other larger projects. Ms. Berganski thanked 4-H for opening their arms to the once scared 7-year-old girl that has taught her to lead a group, to grow up and continue to teach her time management. Ms. Berganski has learned how to give back to the community through volunteering, and her projects have taught her how to deal with problems, and that her projects have taught her how to represent herself, by stepping out of your comfort zone and be the best you can. Ms. Berganski thanked the Board for their continued support.*

*Mr. Graley explained why 4-H is important in his life, explaining that when he was nine years old, his mom had learned about the Coyote Club being a shooting sport club and asked him if he wanted to join. Since joining seven years ago, it has given him the opportunity to meet new friends and learned about the Geauga Trumbull Camp. Mr. Graley stated that being a part of this club has really pushed him outside of his comfort zone, getting him to be more of an outdoor person, and the opportunities it has opened up for him.*

*Ms. Faudie presented a token of appreciation to the Board. Commissioner Spidalieri expressed that he is always humbled by what 4-H does, and it's not just the kids, it's also the parents, that it is a big commitment on all sides. The value of 4-H is incredible, it teaches so much, builds character, and exposes them to more opportunity. Mr. Lennon added that it renews his faith in humanity and the next generation. Mr. Dvorak added that 4-H kids are the future leaders.*

**COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING 4-H WEEK IN GEAUGA COUNTY**

*Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to approve and execute Resolution #22-027 Recognizing 4-H Week in Geauga County, March 6 – March 12, 2022.*

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*Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio*

*Date: March 8, 2022*  
*Resolution: #22-027*

**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING 4-H WEEK IN GEAUGA COUNTY**  
**MARCH 6 – MARCH 12, 2022**

*WHEREAS, 4-H began in Ohio, back in January 1902, in Clark County, when Albert Belmont Graham organized a meeting for boys and girls as a way to learn more about harvesting corn, planting a garden, testing soils, tying knots and identifying wildlife like weeds and insects, eventually becoming an “Agricultural Club”; and*

*WHEREAS, the first “Agriculture Club” in Geauga County was held in Thompson Township, with twenty-seven members and they met to discuss corn and tomato crops; and*

*WHEREAS, in 1914 Geauga County had its first sponsored clubs, with corn for boys and tomato’s for girls, ten years later in 1924 seven townships organized seven clubs with a focus on poultry, calves, canning and clothing projects, in 1929 they organized the first forestry club. In 1938 they had the first Junior Fair Board and by 1939 there were fifty (50) clubs with 745 members; and*

*WHEREAS, the first 4-H camp was held in 1928 on the Grand River in Ashtabula County, and in 1948 Camp Whitewood was established by county agents in Geauga and Ashtabula; and*

*WHEREAS, 4-H in Geauga County in 2021 was represented across thirty-two (32) clubs with 671 members, 139 volunteers helped oversee the clubs and assisted at camp, there were eleven educational clinics held, and 112 4-H club members were able to attend Camp; and*

*NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Geauga County Board of Commissioners hereby recognize and celebrate 4-H week in Geauga County, and Ohio, March 6 through March 12, 2022; 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 Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>

*The Commissioners presented the resolution to the 4-H kids and posed for a few pictures.*

**COMMISSIONERS’ OFFICE – PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENT**

*Mr. Dvorak explained that he wanted to complete the vacant position for the Planning Commission and nominated Mr. Lausin. Mr. Lennon and Mr. Spidalieri felt that they wanted to nominate Mr. Claypool and re-appoint him. A motion was made by Mr. Spidalieri, seconded by Mr. Lennon and as a result the vote was as follows:*

*Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to re-appoint Walter (Skip) Claypool to the Planning Commission for a three-year term ending December 31, 2024.*

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Dvorak</i>	<i>No</i>

*Mr. Lennon added that this has no bearing in endorsing a candidate, that he respects both Mr. Dvorak and Mr. Claypool. Mr. Spidalieri stated that you have to take the politics out of it, that Mr. Claypool sometimes asks the hard questions.*

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**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- a) *The Monthly Financial Report from the County Building Department for the month of February 2022.*
- b) *Board of Developmental Disabilities Board minutes for January 19, 2022*
- c) *A weekly report filed by the County Dog Warden of all dogs seized, impounded, redeemed or destroyed for the weeks ending February 16, 2022 and February 23, 2022 as required by O.R.C. 955.12.*
- d) *Receipt of and acceptance by the Common Pleas Court, Probate Division of the Resignation of Donna Carson from the Russell Township Park District*

**OTHER**

*The Board reviewed upcoming events.*

**MEETINGS**

- Tue., 3/8 Planning Commission, 7:30 a.m. 470 Center Street, Building 8 meeting room*
- Fri., 3/11 NOACA Legislative Meet and Greet 8:00 a.m., Board of Directors Meeting 9:00 a.m., Cleveland*
- Mon., 3/14 Board of Revision, 9:00 a.m. Auditor's Office*
- Tue., 3/15 Investment Advisory Committee, 8:45 a.m., Chambers*
- Tue., 3/15 The Commissioners will hold regular session at 9:30 a.m.*
- Tue., 3/15 Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste Management District, Board of Directors meeting, 1:00 p.m. Warren, District Office*
- Tue., 3/15 ADP Meeting, 2:00 p.m. Auditor's Office*
- Fri., 3/18 NOACA Subcommittee meetings, beginning at 9:00 a.m., Cleveland*
- Mon., 3/21 Family First Council, 1:30p.m. Mental Health Offices*
- Tue., 3/22 The Commissioners will hold regular session at 9:30 a.m.*
- Mon., 3/28 Board of Revision, 9:00 a.m., Auditor's Office*
- Tue., 3/29 The Commissioners will hold regular session at 9:30 a.m.*

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

*Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to adjourn the meeting at 10:08 a.m.*

*Geauga County Board of Commissioners*

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*James W. Dvorak*

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*Timothy C. Lennon*

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*Ralph Spidalieri*

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*Christine Blair, Commissioners' Clerk*

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