

Commissioners' Journal
January 24, 2023

The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on January 24, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' Offices located at 12611 Ravenwood Drive, Room B303 in Chardon, Ohio.

It is declared and determined that all formal actions of the Board of County Commissioners concerning and relating to the adoption of all resolutions that were adopted in this meeting, and that all deliberations of the Board of County Commissioners that resulted in such formal action were open to the public and were in compliance with all legal requirements, including section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

The President of the Board, Ralph Spidalieri opened the meeting at 9:40 a.m. by leading the Board and audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Dvorak read the following prayer:

"Heavenly Father"

With all this snow and cold weather in Geauga County

Holy one, warm our hearts with Acts of Kindness.

Inspire us with the Beauty of your creation,

And watch over those who work to keep us safe and well!

Amen

APPROVE FINANCIALS

Mr. Gorton explained the financials for today as including a Supplemental appropriation for the Sheriff's Office in their 800 Communications Fund equipment account for the purchase of new replacement radios, Supplemental appropriation from the Commissioners in the ADP General Fund payroll accounts to provide additional appropriations to cover filling their vacant positions, Cash transfer for Water Resources from the operating fund to their debt retirement fund, Cash transfer from the Board of Developmental Disabilities from the Metzenbaum Fund to the MR/DD Residential Services fund, Travel requests for ADP, County Engineer's Office and Maintenance, a payment for the Auditor's Office to Manatron for 2023 maintenance and support for MVP the County's Real Estate taxing system in the amount of \$110,797.00 (\$107,497.00 in 2022), a payment for the Sheriff's Office to Smart Furniture LLC for new replacement chairs for the 9-1-1 operators in the amount of \$6,576.00 and a payment for Water Resources to the Cleveland Division of Water for master meter bulk water purchases in the amount of \$36,026.82.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute Resolution #23-010 itemizing the financials for the meeting of January 24, 2023.

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

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – REVISE REQUEST TO COUNTY AUDITOR – DISTRIBUTE BALANCE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FUND TO WOMENSAFE – INCREASED AMOUNT

Mr. Gorton asked the Board to revise the previous request for Womensafe as the amount in the account at the end of December did not reflect some additional items added to the account.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to revise the request to the County Auditor to distribute the balance in the Domestic Violence Fund (2070) to Womensafe, the local agency designated by the Commissioners to receive such monies. This allocation is to be paid pursuant to Section 3113.34 of the O.R.C. for the 2022 year, in the amount of \$15,214.70 (previous amount \$14,958.70 on January 10, 2023).

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

COMMON PLEAS COURT – RESOLUTION REQUESTING TO ESTABLISH A NEW FUND – AUTOMATED OUTBOUND TEXT MESSAGE REMINDER SYSTEM

Mr. Gorton asked the Board to approve the resolution requesting to establish a new fund for the Common Pleas Court for a grant that was received through OCJS for an automated outbound, text message system that reminds people about their upcoming court dates.

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Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute Resolution #23-011 Requesting to Establish a New Fund called the Automated Outbound Text Message Reminder System.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Date: January 24, 2023

Resolution: #23-011

RESOLUTION REQUESTING TO ESTABLISH A NEW FUND

WHEREAS, the Geauga County Commissioners are requesting that a new fund be established and called the Automated Outbound Text Message Reminder System; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of this new fund is for the deposit of all revenue and expenditures associated with the Subgrant Award Agreement made between the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services and the Geauga County Common Pleas Court, General Division; and

WHEREAS, the accounts will include revenue line and expense line item Other. revenue from the Automated Outbound Text Message Reminder System awarded to the Geauga County Common Pleas Court, General Division; and

WHEREAS, the accounts will include standard expense accounts including but not limited to those for other expenses only; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of County Commissioners does hereby request the Geauga County Auditor to establish a new fund entitled: Automated Outbound Text Message Reminder System.

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

DEPARTMENT ON AGING – WAIVE 200 HOUR MAXIMUM ACCRUAL – SANDY MCLEOD
County Administrator Gerard Morgan asked the Board to waive the 200-hour maximum accrual for vacation for Sandy McLeod, the Senior Center Supervisor as they are short on staff and this will allow them time to hire additional staff for the centers.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to waive the 200-hour maximum accrual for Sandy McLeod, Senior Center Site Supervisor beginning December 25, 2022 (Payroll #1) through June 24, 2023 (Payroll #13).

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

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – APPLICATION FOR AUTHORIZATION TO PERMIT USE OF COUNTY CREDIT CARDS FOR 2023 – ADDITIONAL EMPLOYEES

Clerk Christine Blair asked the Board to approve additional employees for use of the County Credit Card for the Year 2023, as they were not able to sign the original form.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Application for Authorization to Permit the Use of County Credit Cards (O.R.C. 301.27) for the Year 2023 for additional employees' authorization to use Walmart Community Card (limit of \$3,000.00 per month) and the Wright Express (WEX) Fleet Card (limit of \$5,000.00 per month) for Allie Hulsmann, Sarah Ricart (Odenweller) and Julie Seline (Dwyer).

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

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MAINTENANCE – ADVERTISE BIDS – SHERIFF'S OFFICE SECURITY CAMERAS

Sheriff Scott Hildenbrand asked the Board to grant permission to advertise for Bids for the Security Cameras, explaining that the first bids were all over the place and they have since revised the bid specifications. There was a brief discussion on when the pre-bid walk through was scheduled.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to grant permission to advertise for Bids for "Geauga County Sheriff's Office Security Cameras" to be held on Wednesday, March 15, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. Notice of this Bid Opening will be advertised on February 2, 2023, February 9, 2023 and on the county website.

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

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – CHANGE ORDER #- FINAL AND ADJUSTED – DECREASE CONTRACT WITH TRAX CONSTRUCTION COMPANY – CHARDON TOWNSHIP WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT AND SEWER PROJECT

Director Steven Oluic asked the Board to approve the final adjusted change order which is a decrease in the contract with TRAX Construction.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute Change Order # - Final and Adjusted decreasing the Contract with TRAX Construction Company for the Chardon Township Wastewater Treatment Plant and Sewer Project in the amount of \$165,790.97.

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

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – REQUEST FOR PARTIAL PAYMENT #16 – OHIO WATER DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY – CONTRACTOR'S ESTIMATE #16 AND FUND PAYMENT REQUEST #16 – TRAX CONSTRUCTION – CHARDON TOWNSHIP WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Dr. Oluic asked the Board to approve the Ohio Water Development Authority request for Partial Payment #16, Contractor's estimate and fund payment request for TRAX Construction, which included start up and travel, along with final checks.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Request for Partial Payment #16, Ohio Water Development Authority Contractor's Estimate #16 and the Ohio Water Development Authority Fund Payment Request #16 for TRAX Construction Company for the Chardon Township Wastewater Treatment Plant and Sewer Project in the amount of \$8,526.91.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Spidalieri stated that they would not be offering Public Comment this year, however, is allowing a group that attended recent NOACA meetings choose two representatives to speak for five minutes each.

Local resident Walter "Skip" Claypool explained that recently NOACA held meetings at local libraries in each of the five counties to discuss a program regarding Climate Change and stated that between 50-100 people attended. Mr. Claypool expressed that residents are not happy with this and feel that the data they are using is bad science. Mr. Claypool stated that residents from five counties attended the Board of Directors meeting and were treated poorly. Lake County Commissioner John Plecnik asked the Board to allow the public to speak. Mr. Claypool asked the Board to ask their alternates to support the residents that are in attendance and allow them

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to defend their case, adding that NOACA will not allow them to present, so that no one speaking can challenge the climate action plan they are presenting.

Jonathon Broadbent, resident of Newbury expressed that he can't touch the information that Mr. Claypool has, however feels that NOACA is another unelected body that is seeking to influence his life and the residents of Geauga County and that does not sit well with him. Mr. Broadbent expressed that the power and money that they (NOACA) exert is undue and does not represent the will of we the people and no ability to redress. Mr. Broadbent expressed that he wants to be given a chance to be heard.

Mr. Spidalieri stated that the Board pays dues to be a member and they work for their Constituents and offered the idea to maybe reach out to Ms. Galucci about having a meeting that would allow the residents to speak and be heard, but that it needed to be done in a respectful manner. Mr. Spidalieri stated that he would reach out to Commissioner Plecnik about Lake County being a part of the meeting. Mr. Spidalieri stated that even when Commissioner Lennon was President, we were a small voice in a big room. Mr. Spidalieri expressed that if she says no, then there is an answer.

Local resident Howard Newell made comment about NOACA getting involved in climate control in South Russell village. Local resident Katie Claypool inquired about if there was a number that if they put something together that would represent the opposition of the residents, to which Mr. Spidalieri noted that he did not have an answer to that. Munson resident Kristine Stenzel stated that if you went out and asked 100 people what NOACA was, 99 wouldn't know, so there needs to be education about what NOACA really is and suggests that getting a round table together to talk about what it is and represent both sides. Mr. Spidalieri stated that he would reach out to Lake County and see if something can be put together.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- a) *Gauga County Board of Developmental Disabilities Board Minutes December 14, 2022*
- b) *A weekly report filed by the County Dog Warden of all dogs seized, impounded, redeemed or destroyed for the week ending January 11, 2023 as required by O.R.C. 955.12.*

OTHER

The Board reviewed upcoming events.

MEETINGS

Mon., 1/23 Family First Council, 1:30 p.m. Mental Health Offices

Tues., 1/24 The Commissioners will hold regular session at 9:30 a.m.

Tues., 1/31 The Commissioners will hold regular session at 9:30 a.m.

Tue., 2/7 The Commissioners will hold regular session at 9:30 a.m.

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BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to adjourn the meeting at 10:01 a.m.

Geauga County Board of Commissioners

Ralph Spidalieri

James W. Dvorak

Timothy C. Lennon

Christine Blair, Commissioners' Clerk

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