

The **Geauga County Automatic Data Processing Board** met on Monday, May 4, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. at 231 Main Street in the Appraisal Conference Room and via Microsoft Teams for a special meeting. **Members present:** Chuck Walder, County Auditor; Tyler Plants, Board of Elections Director; Thomas Rowan representing Scott Hildenbrand, County Sheriff; Sheila Bevington, Clerk of Courts; Jim Flaiz, County Prosecutor; C.P. Hitchcock, County Treasurer; Celesta Mullins, County Recorder; Ralph Spidaleri, County Commissioner; Nora McGinnis, Board of Elections Deputy Director; and Andrew Haupt, County Engineer.

Also present: Pam McMahan, Auditor's Office Chief Operations Officer; Frank Antenucci, Chief Deputy Administrator; Carolyn Brakey, County Commissioner; Adrian Gorton, BOCC Budget and Finance Manager; Carol Benton, League of Women Voters of Geauga; Katie Taylor, Health District; Akshay Raikar, ADP; Sarah Perry, GIS; Katelyn Cellitti, ADP; Diana Sanko, ADP; Anastasia Nicholas, CVT; Kathy Johnson and John Smith.

Absent: Common Pleas Court Judge and John Urbancic, M.D., County Coroner.

Approval of Sheriff's Reassurance Solutions, LLC

Motion: by Chuck Walder, seconded by C.P. Hitchcock, to approve Sheriff's Reassurance Solutions, LLC.

Chief Rowan explained that this is a communication system for the inmates. The sensors will be installed in the ceiling of the intake/booking facility. The system monitors the respiration and overall health of an inmate and then alerts the corrections officer if there are any issues. He believes the Geauga County Sheriff's Office will be the first jail in Ohio to use this technology.

Voice votes: 9 ayes, 3 absent, 0 abstain. **Motion carried.**

Executive Session

The Board moved into Executive Session for the purpose of considering the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official, or the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual, unless the public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual requests a public hearing, pursuant to O.R.C. 121.22(G)(1).

Motion: by Chuck Walder, seconded by C.P. Hitchcock, to go into Executive Session.

Voice votes: 9 ayes, 3 absent, 0 abstain. **Motion carried.**

Motion: by C.P. Hitchcock, seconded by Chuck Walder, to come out of Executive Session.

Voice votes: 9 ayes, 3 absent, 0 abstain. **Motion carried.**

Approval of new hire Anthony DeSalvo

Motion: by C.P. Hitchcock, seconded by Thomas Rowan, to approve the hiring of Anthony DeSalvo.

Frank stated that the action coming from Executive Session is the approval of hiring Anthony DeSalvo as a Service Desk Technician.

Voice votes: 9 ayes, 3 absent, 0 abstain. **Motion carried.**

Cybersecurity Insurance Update

Frank stated that the Commissioners approved a Corsa renewal for the entire County's insurance policy. Geauga County has now moved into the top tier of cybersecurity insurance.

Kathy Hostutler was asked to attend the ADP meeting, but her schedule did not allow it. Kathy did a tremendous job working with Corsa and obtaining the renewal. Corsa has three tiers of cybersecurity insurance coverage: \$500,000, \$1 million, and \$2 million. Geauga County now has a \$2 million policy.

Frank was looking to get clarity as to why Geauga County is now covered by a \$2 million policy, which is still good.

Celesta asked if this would cost the County more or less money.

Ralph stated that it has gone up by the percentage it increases every year. He will get more information and let everyone know at the next meeting.

Frank explained that the County does not have a \$2 million cybersecurity insurance policy under any other coverage because nobody wants to insure that level of risk anymore.

Chuck added that typically insurance companies do not insure a higher amount unless it's a low risk. They will drop your rating because it's a risk.

Chris stated that this speaks very well to ADP's diligence and vigilance regarding cybersecurity.

Regular Business

Approval of the ADP Budget draft

Motion: by Jim Flaiz, seconded by Celesta Mullins, to approve the ADP Budget draft.

Frank stated that this is the same as the previous year, with a 3% increase in salaries for 2026.

Pam explained that she reviewed the budget going back to 2022 and sifted through what is absolutely purchased every year. The vendor might change and pricing will vary, but these are the hard numbers for all the equipment requests and contracts.

Ralph discussed his concerns regarding ADP and the number of staff members and dollars compared to other counties.

Ralph added that a previous Commissioner had told him there would be a surge of dollars but ultimately there would be a reduction.

Frank stated that there was a reduction in 2024. The surge was the initial rebuild of the server infrastructure in 2023, and then a 30% reduction occurred the next year.

Looking at the total budget, Ralph did not believe ADP had a huge drop of 30%.

Frank disagreed and explained that they did have a 30% decrease in hardware and services.

Ralph questioned whether the Board approved the Cemetery project.

C.P. Hitchcock left the meeting at 11:18am.

Frank explained that the Board did not approve the Cemetery Mapping project. The Auditor's GIS department put out a cemetery application and had nothing to do with ADP.

Chuck added that the technology is handled by GIS employees and is paid for out of REAF.

Ralph stated that a couple of months ago, he needed ADP to do a password reset at his office, and there were seven ADP employees standing in the hallway.

Chuck explained that Ralph had been on the record as being critical of ADP since the beginning of time. Ralph had previously accused ADP of looking at his emails, for which there was no evidence to support the accusation.

Ralph questioned why there were seven people for a simple password reset. Chuck told Ralph, "Because if there was a problem, they wanted to fix it immediately because it was you. We don't send seven people to every password reset."

Chuck expressed that the union did not happen because of a step input. It was because of a series of motions that had occurred over the years. ADP employees had been threatened in their workspace and told to get out of the new building by a Commissioner. The Commissioners also added a huge load to ADP's budget in January 2024 by putting ADP in charge of Archives and Records but then complained when the budgetary elements increased by five employees.

Jim Flaiz joined the meeting at 11:27am.

Frank explained that the password reset was unique. For any employees that need a password reset, ADP pushes it out digitally and remotely. In Ralph's case, they sent several people because ADP employees were afraid to be alone with Ralph and were also there for strength in numbers.

Frank asked Ralph what other concerns he had with the ADP budget.

Ralph explained that he had spoken to the Sheriff's Department many times regarding Microsoft 365. It's not just the ADP budget that is costing money; it's the additional cost each department has to pay that is not included in the ADP budget.

Jim stated that Ralph funded the Probate/Juvenile outside IT, and they never showed up to a budget hearing. Jim suggested cutting Windstream, the internet service, from the ADP budget for the Commissioners' Office and everyone under its hiring authority. He stated they would save \$300,000.00 from the ADP budget.

Ralph stated that he was not trying to argue; he was curious if there were other options besides Microsoft 365 to reduce costs.

Frank explained that, aside from email, Microsoft 365 also supplies Word, Excel, and PowerPoint applications. The County also receives backups, Microsoft Defender, and backup storage. After ADP's assessment, Microsoft 365 is the only software that meets the County's government infrastructure. Each department pays \$420.00 per person, per year for Microsoft licensing.

Frank added that New World is almost 10% of the ADP budget. The Juvenile/Probate Department did not leave New World, as the cost of an ERP system is astronomical.

Chuck Walder left the meeting at 11:48am.

Celesta asked for Archives and Records not to be included in the budget as they are not IT.

Frank explained that they were not included in the ADP study salary, but they do affect the overall budget as ADP took over Archives and Records for the Commissioners, which was an approximate \$400,000.00 transfer. Wages were also increased for the Archives and Records staff as they were significantly underpaid compared to other professionals in the state. More importantly, all the technology was 10–15 years old and failing. The Archives and Records impact is about \$500,000.00 annually, including hardware, licensing, and pay increases for the five employees.

Jim questioned whether the cost would go down if the Commissioners closed the 470 Building.

ADP is currently supporting the 470 Building, including internet, hardware, switches, and servers.

Ralph stated that they are working with the Department on Aging to move it into the new building.

The 470 Building is approximately 80–90% vacant.

Frank explained that between the main ADP budget and the couple of people at the Sheriff’s Office and the Court, the County has full IT coverage.

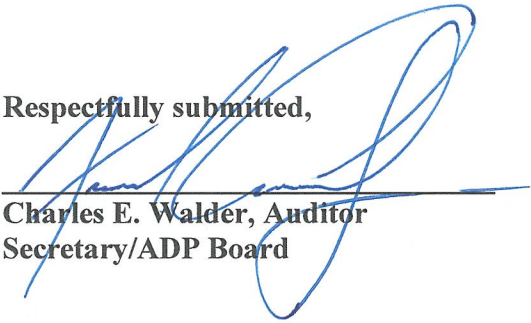
Frank added, “We’re one of the very best in the state, if not the best.”

Voice votes: 8 ayes, 3 absent, 1 abstain (Ralph). **Motion carried.**

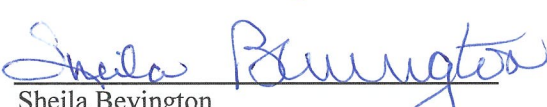
Public Comment

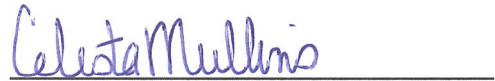
Carol stated, since the Board approved the Service Desk Technician, whether the Board had always approved positions at that level or whether this was something new. Frank explained that, with the ongoing union discussions, it seemed appropriate to have the Board make the decision outright.

BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, Celesta Mullins motioned to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles E. Walder, Auditor
Secretary/ADP Board

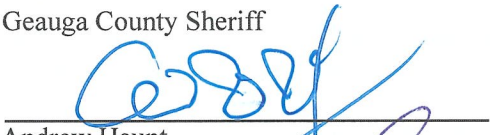

Tyler Plants
Board of Elections Director


Sheila Bevington
Clerk of Courts

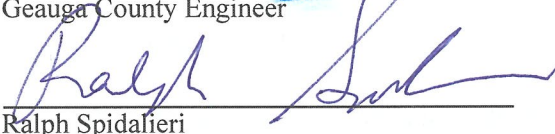

Celesta Mullins
Geauga County Recorder

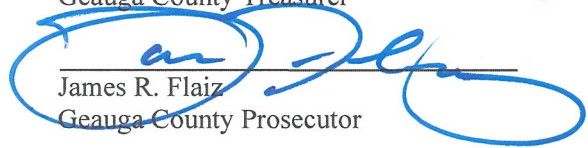

Scott Hildenbrand
Geauga County Sheriff

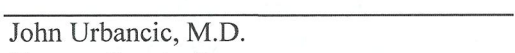

Nora McGinnis
Board of Elections Deputy Director


Andrew Haupt
Geauga County Engineer


Christopher Hitchcock
Geauga County Treasurer


Ralph Spidaleri
Geauga County Commissioner


James R. Flaiz
Geauga County Prosecutor


John Urbancic, M.D.
Geauga County Coroner

Common Pleas Court Judge