

Commissioners' Journal
August 29, 2024

The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on August 29, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. at the Great Geauga County Fair, Junior Fair Stage, located at 14373 North Cheshire Street, Burton, 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 10:06 a.m. by leading the Board and audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Dvorak read the following prayer:

Dear Lord,

Please Bless and Protect our 202nd Great Geauga County Fair, the oldest Fair in the State of Ohio.

This year is a year of remembrance of two Fair Board members, these people are serrate leaders, the late Fair Secretary Paul Harris and Board member Vicki Koller, both served for many years. Paul Harris passed this June and Vicki Koller in October of 2023.

Death leaves a heartache, no one can heal. Love leaves a memory, no one can steal.

When someone you love becomes a memory, that memory becomes a treasure.

Our County Fair is so important to so many people.

All the Fair Board members only want all of us to have Great Memories at the Fair.

And yes, our County Fair is a lasting treasure!

In Jesus Name,

Amen

Agricultural Society /Fair Board President Doug Logan welcomed everyone to the fair, thanking the Board for their continued support. Mr. Logan expressed that during a recent work session the Board got to see all the hard work they do to keep the fairground up to date. Mr. Logan mentioned that he felt it was going to be a great fair and that this year they have the largest ever Junior Fair Auction with over 750 lots, adding that the Junior Fair program continues to grow.

Mr. Spidalieri made note of all the Elected Officials in attendance at the meeting, including Prosecutor Flaiz, Sheriff Hildenbrand, Auditor Walder, Recorder Mullins and Clerk of Courts Bevington, along with Department Directors, Nicholas Gorris and Glen Vernick. Fair Board member and former Fair Board President Dave Parker. Mr. Spidalieri complimented them on picking up the pieces and everything they do in maintenance and upkeep on the all the buildings and acres here at the fair. Mr. Spidalieri expressed that he missed Paul Harris, adding that you either loved him or hated him and he loved him, and Paul Harris loved him and they had a great relationship and he will be missed this year by many.

COMMISSIONERS OFFICE - COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

County Administrator Gerard Morgan reported on what he approved on August 21, 2024 that included for Maintenance to Approve hiring Dave Schecter to the position of Full-time Custodian (#1906) to be effective September 16, 2024 at the rate of \$17.61 per hour (Grade 5, Step 5) with a one-year probationary period. This offer of employment is contingent upon the completion of the required pre-employment conditions and for the Department of Water Resources, Accepted the Retirement Resignation of Brian Loza, Water Systems Supervisor (#2327) to be effective October 10, 2024, Accepted the Retirement Resignation of James Iams, Wastewater Operator I (#2326) to be effective August 30, 2024 and Granted permission to advertise for the position of Wastewater Operator I (#2326), internally for a period of five (5) days, if no qualified candidate is found, then advertise externally until the position is filled; as authorized by Resolution #24-011 under the direction and supervision of the County Commissioners that was approved January 8, 2024 pursuant to O.R.C. 305.30.

FINANCIALS

County Administrator Gerard Morgan reported on financials from August 27, 2024 Resolution #24-157 that among other items included Appropriations transfers to the Sheriff for a CORSA insurance check that was received and deposited into the General Fund, Cash transfer to the Sheriff to the unemployment rotary fund, Travel from the Common Pleas Court, a Then and Now for the Juvenile Court to Court View Justice Solutions for Court view 3 migration software and

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services from 2023 that were not previously encumbered, a payment for Maintenance to Gable Elevator, Incorporated for the Opera House Elevator repairs in the amount of \$36,200.00 and a payment for the Sheriff's Office to Tim Lally Chevrolet Incorporated for two 2024 Chevy Tahoe 4x4 Police Pursuit Vehicles; as approved by the County Administrator pursuant to Resolution #24-011 approved January 8, 2024 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 2024, as authorized by O.R.C. 305.30.

MEETING MINUTES

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of July 2, 2024.

<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>

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of July 9, 2024.

<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>

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of July 16, 2024.

<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 #1 – INCREASE CONTRACT – AGRI-SLUDGE, INCORPORATED – AQUILLA WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Director Nicholas Gorris asked the Board to approve Change Order #1 which is an increase to the contract with Agri-Sludge on the Aquilla Wastewater Treatment Plant improvement project as they added in a maintenance bypass.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute Change Order #1 increasing the Contract with Agri-Sludge, Incorporated for the Aquilla Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement Project in the amount of \$11,080.56.

<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 – AUTHORIZE JAMES W. DVORAK, BOARD MEMBER AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO EXECUTE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION DISBURSEMENT REQUEST FORM AND CERTIFICATION #1 – RELEASE FUNDS FOR THE AQUILLA WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Mr. Gorris asked the Board to approve Mr. Dvorak as a board member and the Chief Executive Officer on the project to execute the Ohio Public Works Commission disbursement request form #1 to release funds for the Aquilla Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement project.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and authorize James W. Dvorak, Board member and Chief Executive Officer to execute the Ohio Public Works Commission Disbursement Request Form and Certification #1 in order to release funds from the state portion of our OPWC grant for the Aquilla Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement Project in the amount of \$73,801.72.

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

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – MURPHY TRACTOR AND EQUIPMENT COMPANY

Mr. Gorris asked the Board to approve a service contract agreement with Murphy Tractor and Equipment for on-site service and repairs.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute the service Contract Agreement with Murphy Tractor and Equipment Company to perform on-site service and repairs to equipment as needed at various locations within the department for a period of one-year, effective August 29, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00.

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

MAINTENANCE – LEASE AGREEMENT – FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES, INCORPORATED D.B.A. NEXT STEP

Director Glen Vernick asked the Board to approve a Lease Agreement with Family and Community Services, d.b.a. Next Step for a two-year agreement to lease the space known as the Pleasant Hill Director's House on Aquilla Road.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute the Lease Agreement between the Geauga County Board of Commissioners and Family and Community Services, Incorporated d.b.a. Next Step for use of the Pleasant Hill Director's House, located at 13211 Aquilla Road, including the first and second floors, designated parking area and grounds for the period September 1, 2024 through August 31, 2026 with an automatic renew for a successive one year term and shall not exceed three years in length in the amount of \$28,800.00 per year, (payable in equal installments at \$2,400.00 per month).

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

MAINTENANCE – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – SCHINDLER ELEVATOR CORPORATION – PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE AND INSPECTIONS TO ELEVATORS – COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING

Contract Coordinator Matt Sieracki asked the Board to approve a service Contract Agreement with Schindler Elevator Corporation for maintenance and inspections on the elevators at the County Office Building.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute the service Contract Agreement with Schindler Elevator Corporation to perform preventative maintenance and inspections to the elevators at the Geauga County Office Building, and further authorize the President of the Board to execute the Schindler Preventative Maintenance Program Terms and Conditions, for a three-year period, effective August 29, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$55,000.00.

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

MAINTENANCE – CONTRACT AGREEMENT – TEC INCORPORATED – PROFESSIONAL DESIGN AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT – GENERATOR UPGRADE – DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Mr. Sieracki asked the Board to approve a contract agreement with TEC Incorporated for professional design and project management services on the generator upgrade at the

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Department of Emergency Services.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute the Contract Agreement with TEC Incorporated to provide professional design and project management services for the generator upgrade at the Department of Emergency Services, per the specifications for a one-year period, effective August 29, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$38,000.00.

<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>

MAINTENANCE – AWARD BID – DELTA INDUSTRIAL SERVICES, INCORPORATED

Mr. Sieracki asked the Board to award the bid to Delta Industrial Services, Incorporated for window and glass cleaning services for a three-year period and will cover all the buildings in the county.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to award the Bid to Delta Industrial Services, Incorporated for the Geauga County Window and Glass Cleaning Services for 2024-2027 in the amount of \$123,084.00 (2024-2025 - \$41,028.0, 2025-2026 - \$41,028.00, and 2026-2027 - \$41,028.00) as they represented the lowest and best bid.

<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>

MAINTENANCE – CONTRACT AGREEMENT – BARBICAS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INCORPORATED – GEAUGA COUNTY PARKING LOT REPAIRS

Mr. Sieracki asked the Board to execute the Contract Agreement with Barbicas Construction Company for the Geauga County parking lot repairs, which includes sealcoating, patchwork and line-striping.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute the Contract Agreement with Barbicas Construction Company, Incorporated for the Geauga County Parking Lot Repairs, including Patchwork (\$55,630.00), Sealcoating (\$56,182.00) and Line-Striping (\$16,500.00) at various Geauga County Parking Lots in the amount of \$128,312.00. The Bid Bond submitted shall be held to serve as the Performance Bond for this project.

<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>

MAINTENANCE – EXECUTE NOTICE TO PROCEED – BARBICAS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

Mr. Sieracki asked the Board to execute the Notice to Proceed for Barbicas Construction Company, which will allow work to get started in the next couple weeks.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Notice to Proceed for Barbicas Construction Company for the Geauga County Parking Lot Repairs Project.

<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>

APPROVE FINANCIALS

Budget and Finance Manager Adrian Gorton explained the financials for today as including a formal Contract Encumbrance for Maintenance to Barbicas Construction Company, Incorporated for patchwork, sealcoating and line striping at various Geauga County parking

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lots and a Revenue Certification for the Sheriff for additional revenue to be received in the Fair Police Rotary Fund to pay for extra deputies.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute Resolution #24-158 itemizing the financials for the meeting of August 29, 2024.

<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>

Mr. Lennon asked the Board to appoint Ms. Carolyn Brakey as his alternate for the Family First Council, to which Clerk Christine Blair explained that according to Mr. Swenson and Mr. Kehres that any alternate for the Family First Board has to be a seated commissioner. Ms. Blair noted that she had inquired about this earlier in the year when Mr. Lennon asked about appointing an alternate.

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – ACCEPT AND APPROVE RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO THE 2025 TAX BUDGET – ADDING A LINE TO THE 2024 APPROPRIATIONS – ESTIMATED UNUSED APPROPRIATIONS – 10% OF THE GENERAL FUND EXPENSE TOTALS TO ADJUST ENDING BALANCE OF 2024 AND BEGINNING BALANCE OF 2025

Mr. Morgan explained that the Commissioners Office has had meetings with the Budget Commission and the Budget Commission has denied the Budget. Mr. Morgan explained that he asked Mr. Gorton to look back at the appropriations that have not been used over the years and it is roughly about ten percent and are asking to make an adjustment to the starting balance number by including the ten percent as our carryover. This would be an estimated amount based on experience which will make the carryover higher to make it more inline from what is has been. Mr. Gorton noted that the estimated amount of unused appropriations would be \$5,375,658.79 with added in would make the ending balance for 2024 \$9,876,924.10 and also then be the starting balance for 2025. Mr. Lennon added then it could be potentially more or less since it is an estimated amount. Mr. Gorton agreed that it could go higher or lower. Mr. Gorton read proposed language for a motion, and as a result the following action was taken:

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to accept and approve the recommended changes to the 2025 Tax Budget adding a line to the end of the 2024 appropriations titled "Estimated Unused Appropriations" in the amount of 10% of the General Fund expense totals to make the ending 2024 balance and the beginning 2025 balance \$9,876,924.10.

<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>

Mr. Spidalieri asked about what would happen next, to which Mr. Gorton explained that this will be submitted and to his knowledge a Budget Commission meeting is scheduled for tomorrow at 3:30 p.m. Mr. Spidalieri until this gets cleaned up, we won't know but feel confident on the estimated amount, and as a county we are blessed to have a carryover but should look at how we can give some of that back to the taxpayers. Mr. Spidalieri continued to express his feeling of wanted to make sure that the residents are taken care of, and mentioned trying to also find a way to assist townships if they could.

Mr. Spidalieri mentioned that Mr. Lennon has been a commissioner for eight years and its always hard when someone comes to the end of their term and thank you for your service and that its good that you have been here for the tough conversations and Ms. Brakey will come in help fill those shoes next year. Mr. Lennon expressed that the fair is the enjoyable part, being in the county with the people and looks forward to spending more time with his kids and maybe come back and sit in the audience. Mr. Dvorak expressed that it has been a pleasure working with him and thanked him for asking the tough questions and make them think.

Mr. Spidalieri told everyone to enjoy the fair and pray for the law enforcement to keep everyone safe at the fair and let's have some fun.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- a) *A weekly report filed by the County Dog Warden of all dogs seized, impounded, redeemed or destroyed for the week ending August 14, 2024 as required by O.R.C. 955.12.*

OTHER

The Board reviewed upcoming events.

MEETINGS

- Mon., 9/2 **County Offices will be closed in honor of the Labor Day holiday, Twenty-four-hour operations will continue to operate as normal***
- Thu., 9/5 The Commissioners will hold session at 9:30 a.m.*
- Tue., 9/10 Planning Commission, 7:30 a.m., 12611 Ravenwood Drive, Room A334, Chardon*
- Tue., 9/10 The Commissioners will hold session at 9:30 a.m.*
- Wed., 9/11 Board of Revision, 9:00 a.m. Auditor's Appraisal Conference Room*
- Mon., 9/16 Family First Council, 1:30 p.m. Geauga County Office Building*
- Tue., 9/17 The Commissioners will hold session at 9:30 a.m.*
- Thu., 9/26 The Commissioners will hold session at 9:30 a.m. (moved from 9/24 due to Perry Drill)*

BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to adjourn the meeting at 10:32 a.m.

Geauga County Board of Commissioners

Ralph Spidalieri

James W. Dvorak

Timothy C. Lennon

Christine Blair, Commissioners' Clerk

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