

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**October 1, 2024**

*The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on October 1, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' Offices located at 12611 Ravenwood Drive, in 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 9:35 a.m. by leading the Board and audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.*

*Commissioner Dvorak read the following prayer:*

*Please pray for those affected by Hurricane Helene in Florida and the surrounding states.*

*The Lord speaks to us!*

*Always pray to have eyes that see the best in people,*

*A heart that forgives the worst,*

*A mind that forgets the bad,*

*And a soul that never loses faith in God.*

*Amen*

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

*County Administrator Gerard Morgan reported on what he approved on September 27, 2024 for the Department of Water Resources, Approved the promotion of Danna Nottingham to the position of Wastewater Operator I (#2326) to be effective September 15 2024 at the rate of \$25.67 with a 120 day probationary period, which is accordance with the CWA Union Contract includes a thirty day (30) determination period, a Liquor License that Concurred with the Bainbridge Township Trustees in not requesting a hearing on the liquor License being requested by Beer Run and Some LLC d.b.a. Beer Run and Some located at 17800 Chillicothe Road, Chagrin Falls, Ohio (C NEW 0574746) and on September 30, 2024 for Maintenance that was to Rescind the motion from August 30, 2024 to approve hiring Joshua Marinelli to the position of Senior Maintenance Technician (#1905), for failure to successfully complete the required pre-employment conditions, to be effective September 24, 2024; 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 September 30, 2024, Resolution #24-171 that included a Cash transfer for Job and Family Services from their Workforce Investment Fund to Public Awareness for costs owed to it by the Workforce fund that needed to be transferred before the end of September; 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 30, 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 August 6, 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>

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*Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of August 13, 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 August 20, 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 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>

**APPROVE FINANCIALS**

*Budget and Finance Manager Adrian Gorton explained the financials for today as including an Appropriation transfer for the Commissioners' Office Contingency to the Coroner's contract services account, Travel request for the Auditor's Office, Common Pleas Court, Community and Economic Development Department, County Engineer's Office and Public Defender, a Then and Now for the Juvenile Court to Court View Justice Solutions for Case Management, OCN Extract Support, Document management, Portal and Edition Support services that were not previously encumbered, a payment for Aging to Junction Buick GMC Incorporated for the purchase of two 2024 model year GMC Terrains to be used for in County and out of County medical transports in the amount of \$69,590.00, a payment for Maintenance to Barbicas Construction Company, Incorporated for the patchwork, sealcoating and line striping of various county parking lots in the amount of \$128,312.00 and a payment for the Sheriff's Office to Motorola Solutions, Incorporated for the Spillman Flex 911 service and support in the amount of \$101,829.30.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute Resolution #24-172 itemizing the financials for the meeting of October 1, 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>

**SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT – OHIO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE – OFFICE OF FARMLAND PRESERVATION LOCAL SPONSOR CERTIFICATION APPLICATION – LOCAL AGRICULTURAL EASEMENT PURCHASE PROGRAM 2025**

*Director / Engineer Carmella Shale explained that this is the application to continue the local sponsor certification of the local agricultural easement purchase program for 2025. Ms. Shale noted that they do have an application in for 2024 that they are working on. Ms. Shale noted that they have interest in the next application period already, that there seems to be more interest in light of the increases in property valuations.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Ohio Department of Agriculture – Office of Farmland Preservation Local Sponsor Certification Application for the Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program 2025, as outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding from October 13, 2016.*

<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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DEPARTMENT ON AGING – WESTERN RESERVE AREA AGENCY ON AGING  
MODIFICATION OF SFY2023-2024 MEDICARE IMPROVEMENTS FOR PATIENTS AND  
PROVIDERS ACT (MIPPA) MEDICARE SAVINGS PROGRAMS AND STATE HEALTH  
INSURANCE PROGRAM (SHIP) GRANT AGREEMENT – DECREASING THE AWARD

Administrative Services Manager Reba Dykes asked the Board to approve a modification to the MIPPA and SHIP grant agreement.

*Motion:* by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging Modification of SFY 2023-2024 Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) Medicare Savings Programs, Low-income Subsidy and Prescription Drug Assistance through the Aging Network, State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) and Aging and Disability Resource Centers Grant Agreement to decrease the award in the amount of \$1,132.98 for a revised total award amount of \$4,639.39.

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

MAINTENANCE – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – LIFE SAFETY SYSTEMS, LLC

Contract Coordinator Matt Sieracki asked the Board to execute the service contract agreement with Life Safety Systems to install a notification system in the lobby of the county office building. Mr. Sieracki briefly explained what will be included with the notification system.

*Motion:* by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute the service Contract Agreement with Life Safety Systems, LLC to install a notification system in the lobby of the Geauga County Office Building to be effective October 1, 2024 with work to be completed within sixty days in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00.

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

MAINTENANCE – CONTRACT AGREEMENT – MCPHILLIPS PLUMBING, HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING COMPANY

Mr. Sieracki asked the Board to execute the contract agreement with McPhillips Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning to replace three wall units at the Courthouse Annex.

*Motion:* by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute the Contract Agreement with McPhillips Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning Company to replace three (3) CW/HW wall units at the Geauga County Courthouse Annex to be effective October 1, 2024 with work to be completed within 150 days in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00.

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

MAINTENANCE – ACKNOWLEDGE THAT FEWER THEN THREE QUALIFIED FIRMS  
SUBMITTED STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS – PROFESSIONAL DESIGN AND  
CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION SERVICES – REPLACE BARN ROOF – AQUILLA ROAD –  
RANK FIRMS THAT SUBMITTED QUALIFICATIONS

Project Manager Charles Tkach asked the Board to acknowledge that only two firms submitted statement of interest and qualifications for professional design and contract administration services for the replace barn roof – Aquilla Road project. Mr. Tkach asked them to then rank the two firms in order of most qualified. Mr. Lennon inquired about the type of roof they were planning to replace it with. Mr. Tkach explained that it currently is a slate roof, and are looking to replace with either a slate or similar type product that looks like slate, as a more cost effective option but to keep the ascetic, to maintain similar appearance.

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*Motion:* by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to acknowledge that fewer than three qualified firms submitted Statements of Qualifications for Professional Design and Contract Administration services for the Replace Barn Roof – Aquilla Road project and are available for ranking for this project, and to further approve the following design firm rankings, in accordance with O.R.C. 153.69(A), in the order of most qualified, Technical Assurance, Incorporated and second most qualified, CT Consultants, Incorporated.

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

**MAINTENANCE – AUTHORIZE CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS – TECHNICAL ASSURANCE, INCORPORATED – PROFESSIONAL DESIGN AND CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION SERVICES – REPLACE BARN ROOF – AQUILLA ROAD PROJECT**

*Mr. Tkach asked the Board to begin contract negotiations with Technical Assurance as the most qualified firm for the project.*

*Motion:* by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to authorize the Department to begin Contract negotiations with Technical Assurance, Incorporated, as the most qualified firm to provide professional design and contract administration services for the Replace Barn Roof – Aquilla Road project, in accordance with O.R.C. 153.69 (B).

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

**COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – CHANGE ORDER #4 – INCREASE CONTRACT – INFINITY CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INCORPORATED – COURTHOUSE EXPANSION PROJECT, GMP PHASE #1 AND #2 – ADDITION OF CELLULAR AMPLIFIER SYSTEM**

*Mr. Morgan explained that this change order #4 is for Infinity on the Courthouse project to install a cellular amplifier unit in the building, similar to what had to added into the county office building. Mr. Morgan noted that the cell service inside the building is not good, and they want to do it during construction as it is less expensive.*

*Motion:* by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute Change Order #4, increasing the Contract with Infinity Construction Company, Incorporated for the Courthouse Expansion Project, GMP Phase #1 and Phase #2 for the addition of a cellular amplifier system in the amount of \$36,448.00.

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

**COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING LOCATION AND TIME OF OCTOBER 22, 2024 MEETING – HELD AT 9:30 A.M. – GEAUGA COUNTY AIRPORT, MIDDLEFIELD, OHIO**

*Mr. Morgan asked the Board to approve the resolution to establish the time and location of the October 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting at the Airport Authority and include the ribbon cutting on the hangar one project.*

*Motion:* by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute Resolution #24-173 Establishing the Location and Time of the October 22, 2024 Regular Meeting of the Board of County Commissioners to be held at 9:30 a.m. at the Geauga County Airport, Middlefield, Ohio. This meeting will include a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony of the newly renovated Hangar One.

*Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio*

*Date:* October 1, 2024  
*Resolution:* 24-173

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*RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE LOCATION AND TIME OF THE OCTOBER 22, 2024  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO BE HELD AT  
9:30 A.M. AT THE GEAUGA COUNTY AIRPORT, MIDDLEFIELD, OHIO*

*WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners wishes to hold their regular meeting at the Geauga County Airport and will include a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the newly renovated Hangar One; and*

*WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners desires to hold this regular meeting at the location of the Geauga County Airport, located inside Hangar One at 15421 Old State Road in Middlefield Township, Geauga County, Ohio; and*

*WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Board to increase public awareness and access to the meetings of the Board of County Commissioners; and*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board will hold this regular meeting on Tuesday, October 22, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. at the location of the Geauga County Airport, inside Hangar One located at 15421 Old State Road, Middlefield, Ohio for the purpose of holding the regular meeting which will include a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the newly renovated Hangar One; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board will provide reasonable public notice, including advance notice to the news media, of this regular meeting; 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 Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>

*COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT OF THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES COMMUNITY CAPITAL PROJECT AND HEREBY DESIGNATE AND AUTHORIZE JAMES W. DVORAK AND GERARD MORGAN, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE APPLICATION / CONTRACT FOR STATE ASSISTANCE – CONSTRUCTION OF GEAUGA YOUTH CENTER*

*Mr. Morgan explained that last week the Board designated Mr. Dvorak and himself to execute the documents for the Youth Center Project, this resolution is the formal action for the State regarding that designation.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute Resolution #24-174 of Support for the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services Community Capital Project and Hereby Designates and Authorizes James W. Dvorak, Commissioner and Gerard Morgan, County Administrator to execute the necessary documents related to the Application /Contract for State Assistance in Construction, Purchase or Renovation of the Geauga Youth Center.*

*Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio*

*Date: October 1, 2024*

*Resolution: #24-174*

*RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND  
ADDICTION SERVICES COMMUNITY CAPITAL PROJECT AND HEREBY DESIGNATES  
AND AUTHORIZES JAMES W. DVORAK, COMMISSIONER AND GERARD MORGAN,  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS RELATED TO  
THE APPLICATION / CONTRACT FOR STATE ASSISTANCE IN CONSTRUCTION,  
PURCHASE OR RENOVATION OF THE GEAUGA YOUTH CENTER*

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*WHEREAS, the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) Community Capital Project Funds are available to be used for purchase, construction, professional design services, furnishings/equipment; and*

*WHEREAS, the OhioMHAS Community Capital Assistance funding will be provided as reimbursement and requires substantial local matching funds; and*

*WHEREAS, the Geauga County Department of Job and Family Services in conjunction with Ravenwood Health are working together to construct a new Geauga Youth Center; and*

*WHEREAS, the Geauga County Department of Job and Family Services will be providing the local match requirements along with other funding on this project; and*

*WHEREAS, the Geauga County Board of Commissioners supports this construction project and provides the property for construction to be located at 13300 Aquilla Road, Chardon, Geauga County, Ohio; and*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio approves this project with an assurance of intent to support and to fund the applicants program consistent with the application and, in addition, to annually monitor the program and operations of the facility to assure compliance.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board designates and authorizes James W. Dvorak, Commissioner and Gerard Morgan, County Administrator to execute all necessary documents related to the application / contract for the Community Capital Project for the Geauga Youth Center.*

*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 Lennon</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>

**PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE – EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Imminent Litigation.*

<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>

*The Board moved into Executive Session at 9:51 a.m. with Mr. Morgan, Prosecutor Jim Flaiz, and Assistant County Administrator Linda Burhenne. The Board returned at 10:38 a.m. and no action was taken.*

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- a) Court of Common Pleas, Probate Division, Re-Appointment of Steven Averill to the Chester Township Park District for the term, January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2027.*

**OTHER**

*The Board reviewed upcoming events.*

**MEETINGS**

*Tue., 10/8 Planning Commission, 7:30 a.m. First Floor Conference Room, B168, Chardon*

*Tue., 10/8 The Commissioners will hold session at 9:30 a.m.*

*Wed., 10/9 Geauga County Township Association Dinner, Centerville Mills Dining Hall, Bainbridge, 6:00 p.m.*

*Thu., 10/10 Soil and Water Conservation Dinner, 6:00 p.m. Legacy Woods Tribute Lodge*

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Mon., 10/14 County offices will be closed for general business due to Columbus Day.  
Twenty-four hour operations will continue to operate as usual.

Thu., 10/17 The Commissioners will hold session at 9:30 a.m.

Mon., 10/21 Family First Council, 1:30 p.m. County Office Building

Tue., 10/22 The Commissioners will hold session at 9:30 am. at the Geauga County Airport,  
Hangar One, Middlefield, Ohio

Tue., 10/29 The Commissioners will hold session at 9:30 a.m.

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

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to adjourn the  
meeting at 10:40 a.m.

Geauga County Board of Commissioners

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Ralph Spidalieri

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James W. Dvorak

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Timothy C. Lennon

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Christine Blair, Commissioners' Clerk

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