

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**September 10, 2024**

*The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on September 10, 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 9:36 a.m. by leading the Board and audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.*

*Commissioner Dvorak read the following prayer:*

*Lord of Mercy, tomorrow is September 11<sup>th</sup>.*

*9-11 carries a heavy burden of memory. This day does not pass in the calendar without our remembering.*

*We remember images of death and destruction*

*We imagine the feeling of emptiness in the arms of children who at the end of the day could not find mom or dad for their welcome home hug. We remember our own feelings of emptiness as our own sense of security, as our own confidence in the predictable order of life and work was radically shaken.*

*We remember the heroism of the many that lost their lives in saving others.*

*We remember all these who suffered and died, we grieve for them still, friends and strangers alike, along with their families and friends.*

*And it is right, that it should not pass from our memory.*

*Lord we will always remember*

*Lord grant us peace.*

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

*County Administrator Gerard Morgan reported on what he approved on September 9, 2024 that included for the Department on Aging to accept the resignation of Nancy Niehus, Full-time Recreation and Education Assistant (#1005) to be effective September 18, 2024, Approved increasing the current posting for the position of Full-time Recreation and Education Assistant (#1005) from two to three positions. These positions will remain posted until filled; for the Building Department Approved hiring Frank Vargo to the position of Full-time Multi-Certified Inspector IV (#1112) to be effective September 30, 2024 at the rate of \$40.02 per hour (Grade 15, Step 11) with a one-year probationary period. This offer of employment is contingent upon the successful completion of the required pre-employment conditions; 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.*

**MEETING MINUTES**

*Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of July 23, 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**

*Mr. Gorton explained the financials for today as including Supplemental Appropriations for the Auditor's Office in their County Real Estate Tax Expense account for additional collection expenses, Cash transfer from the General Fund Commissioners Miscellaneous Levy Reimbursement account to the Job and Family Services Public Assistance Transfers in revenue account for the 2<sup>nd</sup> half Children's Services levy reduction payment, Cash transfer from the General Fund to Court Technology for a portion of their 2024 funding, a Then and Now from the Commissioners Office to the Geauga County Clerk of Courts for court costs related to the Chardon vs. County lawsuit that was not previously encumbered, Travel requests for the Probate and Juvenile Court, a payment for the auditor's Office ARPA fund to Agri-Sludge Incorporated for the Aquilla Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement Project in the amount of \$179,812.44, a payment for the Engineer's Office to Kalida Truck Equipment Incorporated for a 14' Swenson*

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**September 10, 2024**

*Municipal Dump Package in the amount of \$151,400.00 and a Revenue Certification for Mental Health in their Capital Reserve Fund for additional revenue to be received in 2024.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute Resolution #24-163 itemizing the financials for the meeting of September 10, 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>

*AIRPORT AUTHORITY – REQUEST FOR PARTIAL PAYMENT #3 – FINAL – KENNY HOAR CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INCORPORATED D.B.A. KENNY HOAR CONSTRUCTION COMPANY – AIRPORT HANGAR 1 IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT*

*Airport Manager Ric Blamer asked the Board to approve the request for partial payment #3 and final for Kenny Hoar Construction on the Hangar 1 Improvement project.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Request for Partial Payment #3 and Final for Kenny Hoar Construction Company, Incorporated d.b.a. Kenny Hoar Construction Company for the Geauga County Airport Hangar 1 Improvements Project in the amount of \$81,684.71.*

<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>

*AIRPORT AUTHORITY – ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF CERTIFICATE OF SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION – AIRPORT HANGAR 1 IMPROVEMENT PROJECT*

*Mr. Blamer asked the Board to acknowledge receipt of the certificate of substantial completion on the Hangar 1 project.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to acknowledge receipt of the Certificate of Substantial Completion for the Geauga County Airport Hangar 1 Improvement Project, executed by the Architect, Contractor and Airport Authority.*

<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. Blamer noted that they had received notice of the FAA Agreement on the parallel taxiway construction project, for a total of \$3.5 million dollars. Mr. Dvorak inquired about the certifications on the parallel project and the necessary process to ensure a drug free workplace. Mr. Morgan noted that it would fall on the project manager for the project.*

*COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – CHANGE ORDER #1 – FINAL – INCREASE CONTRACT – RONYAK PAVING, INCORPORATED – ASPHALT RESURFACING WILSON MILLS ROAD – CHESTER TOWNSHIP*

*Deputy Engineer Shane Hajjar asked the Board to execute the Change Order #1 and final, increasing the Contract with Ronyak Paving for the resurfacing of Wilson Mills Road. Mr. Hajjar explained that it was a mill and fill project and when it was milled, they discovered damage that required above average repairs, however with savings in other areas it helped keep the cost lower than it was.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute Change Order #1 and Final, increasing the Contract with Ronyak Paving, Incorporated for the Asphalt Resurfacing of Wilson Mills Road, (CH-0008, Sections D-F) in Chester Township in the amount of \$35,800.25.*

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**September 10, 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 JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – OHIO DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES IV-D CONTRACT – CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT AGENCY – PROSECUTOR’S OFFICE FOR LEGAL SERVICES AND COMMON PLEAS COURT FOR MAGISTRATE SERVICES*

*Division Director for Child Support Enforcement Services, Tracy Olszowy asked the Board to approve the Child Support IV-D contracts with the Prosecutor’s Office and the Common Pleas Court. These are allowable under Title IV-D Social Security Act which allows us to pay the County for the work completed and are reimbursed for the services provided.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services IV-D Contract between the Geauga County Child Support Enforcement Agency and the Geauga County Prosecutor’s Office for legal services for the period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 in the amount of \$72.51 per hour.*

<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 Ohio Department of Job and Family Services IV-D Contract between the Geauga County Child Support Enforcement Agency and the Geauga County Common Pleas Court for Magistrate Services for the period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 in the amount of \$92.13 per hour.*

<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 – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – PETERSEN EARTHWORX, LTD*

*Contract Coordinator Matt Sieracki asked the Board to approve a service Contract with Petersen Earthworx for brush clearing and excavation at various locations for a two year period. Mr. Dvorak inquired if Mr. Sieracki was aware of a rental program the Engineer’s office does with Townships, to which Mr. Sieracki noted he was not. Mr. Dvorak briefly explained the program that allows entities to utilize equipment for a less expensive option.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute a service Contract Agreement with Petersen Earthworx, LTD to perform brush clearing and excavation at various County locations per the Director for a two-year period, effective September 10, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$60,000.00.*

<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 – CONTRACT AGREEMENT - LOVE POWER WASHING, LLC*

*Mr. Sieracki asked the Board to approve a contract agreement with Love Power Washing to clean the stone and concrete at the safety center. Mr. Dvorak explained that the safety center does not have stone, but is split rock that holds moisture, asking what the process is going to be, to which Mr. Sieracki stated that they are not pressure washing the building, but are using chlorinated based cleaner and that he called the IMI and they advised against sealing it. Mr. Sieracki added that they are just going to clean it.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute the Contract Agreement with Love Power Washing, LLC to power wash the stone and concrete at the Geauga County Safety Center to be completed within 60 days of execution, effective September 10, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00.*

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**September 10, 2024**

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

MAINTENANCE – CONTRACT AGREEMENT – CT CONSULTANTS, INCORPORATED – PROFESSIONAL DESIGN AND CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION SERVICES – RECONFIGURE VISITATION CENTER SPACE AT SAFETY CENTER COMPLEX

Project Manager Charles Tkach asked the Board to execute a contract with CT Consultants to reconfigure the visitation center space at the safety center complex. It's about 325 square feet that will reduce visitation to about 100 square feet, the remaining space will be open office area, the windows will be removed.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute the Contract Agreement with CT Consultants, Incorporated to provide professional design and contract administration services to reconfigure the Visitation Center space at the Safety Center Complex into a stand-alone video visitation room and remainder of altered space converted into open office area in the amount of \$41,000.00, with a not to exceed amount of \$45,000.00.

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

Mr. Morgan added that the Sheriff's office requested this and once plans are drawn, we will need to have the meeting with same group that was done for the Courthouse, it is required for Jails as well.

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – ACKNOWLEDGE RECOMMENDATION OF COUNTY TREASURER – RESOLUTION DESIGNATING GEAUGA COUNTY PUBLIC DEPOSITORIES OF ACTIVE MONEYS

Mr. Morgan explained that this is the next step in the process for public depositories, asked the Board to designate the banks for the next four-year period.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to acknowledge the recommendation of the County Treasurer and approve and execute Resolution #24-164 Designating Geauga County's Public Depositories of Active Moneys for the Next Succeeding Four-Year Period, pursuant to O.R.C. 135.33.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Date: September 10, 2024  
Resolution: #24-164

*A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING GEAUGA COUNTY'S PUBLIC DEPOSITORIES OF ACTIVE MONEYS FOR THE NEXT SUCCEEDING FOUR-YEAR PERIOD PURSUANT TO O.R.C. 135.33*

WHEREAS, Chapter 135 of the Ohio Revised Code sets forth the procedure to establish public depositories; and

WHEREAS, the Geauga County Treasurer has estimated that the aggregate amount of One Hundred Million (\$100,000,000.00) Dollars is available for deposit as active moneys at any one time for the four (4) year period commencing October 12, 2024 through October 11, 2028, and there will be no inactive funds designated; and

WHEREAS, the Geauga County Board of Commissioners has received applications from eligible public depositories pursuant to the legal notice which was published in a newspaper of general circulation on July 11, 2024, and also mailed on July 11, 2024, to banking and financial institutions with principal or branch offices within the boundaries of the County, soliciting applications from financial institutions for public depositories for the County's active funds; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Geauga Board of County Commissioners hereby designates the following banks as public depositories for active moneys



**Commissioners' Journal**  
**September 10, 2024**

*There was a brief discussion about healthcare being a huge benefit for employees and appreciate that we continue to keep employees contributing towards the cost. Mr. Morgan noted that we had several years that we had decreases in just the last two years we had increases again.*

DISCUSSION – ADP / HEALTH DEPARTMENT SPACE

*Mr. Spidalieri expressed frustration about having to use outside representation, that we are working with everyone we can and that he doesn't want it to become a spend fest. Mr. Spidalieri mentioned that Mr. Dvorak and himself went over to the Health Department and ADP to look around at the space, that they went gathering information. Mr. Spidalieri stated that there are rumors out there, but they did not have an illegal meeting, they went to find out the department needs. Everyone was here, Mr. Antenucci, Mr. Litke and so they went over to do a walkthrough of the area. Mr. Spidalieri expressed his frustration over the rumblings, we need to get past all this, they need the space and is astounded by the amount of need that is required by ADP and how many people are having trouble with technology and can't say we are any better. Mr. Lennon noted that this all started with the phone install project, and they have been in that room since we moved in, the room was designed to be part of the overall conference room area, but not to be designed to be an office, or storage space. Mr. Spidalieri asked where the line gets drawn, that we continue to hear that they need this or that, that they want additional offices, to add more staff. Mr. Lennon added that his understanding was they needed some area of the health department to be able to set up workstations and add some doors to be able to access the stairwell and they would move out of the conference room. Mr. Spidalieri noted that there was mention of the bathrooms but am not sure of the result of that. Mr. Lennon explained that when the building was planned out it, the conference room was designed to be retractable to expand or decrease the size of the room, that there was to be three or four employees from ADP here, the rest were up town, and now I am not sure how many employees are here now, and all this extra space that is needed, and felt that it changed without discussion with the Commissioners, and that people just cannot take over spaces without discussion. Mr. Lennon continued that if you need something, we can attempt to accommodate requests, but there needs to be discussion on that.*

*Mr. Spidalieri asked where we are on the agreement with the Health Department. Assistant County Administrator Linda Burhenne stated that the Prosecutor declined to represent us that, so it was sent out to outside counsel to review. Mr. Dvorak expressed that the Prosecutor couldn't represent either the Board of Commissioners or the Health Department since he has been involved early on due to potential conflict.*

OTHER

*The Board reviewed upcoming events.*

MEETINGS

- Tue., 9/10 Planning Commission, 7:30 a.m., 12611 Ravenwood Drive, Room A334, Chardon*
- Tue., 9/10 ADP Meeting, 2:00 p.m. Appraisal Conference Room*
- Wed., 9/11 Board of Revision, 9:00 a.m. Auditor's Appraisal Conference Room*
- Mon., 9/16 One Ohio Region 13 Board meeting, 10:00 a.m.*
- 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.*
- Wed., 9/18 Board of Revision, 9:00 a.m. Auditor's Appraisal Conference Room*
- Tue., 9/24 Perry Nuclear Power Plant Drill – Exercise*
- Wed., 9/25 Board of Revision, 9:00 a.m. Auditor's Appraisal Conference Room*
- Wed., 9/25 NOC COG meeting, 12:00 p.m., 12611 Ravenwood Drive, Room 167-168 (first floor)*

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**September 10, 2024**

*Thu., 9/26 The Commissioners will hold session at 9:30 a.m. (moved from 9/24 due to Perry Drill)*

*Tue., 10/1 The Commissioners will hold session at 9:30 a.m.*

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

*Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to adjourn the meeting at 10:17 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*

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**September 10, 2024**

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