

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**September 26, 2024**

*The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on September 26, 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 9:34 a.m. by leading the Board and audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.*

*\*Commissioner Lennon was absent from today's meeting.*

*Commissioner Dvorak read the following prayer:*

*God*

*Heal me*

*Heal my memories*

*Heal my heart*

*Heal my emotions*

*Heal my spirit*

*And heal my body.*

*Amen*

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

*County Administrator Gerard Morgan reported on what he approved on September 24, 2024 for the Department on Aging that included to Approve hiring Jeanne Molzon to the position of Full-time Recreation and Education Assistant (#1005) to be effective October 15, 2024 at the rate of \$16.84 per hour with a one-year probationary period. This offer of employment is contingent upon the successful completion of the required pre-employment conditions, for Maintenance that included to Approve hiring Richard Cox to the position of Full-time Maintenance Worker (#1904) to be effective October 15, 2024 at the rate of \$19.28 per hour (Grade 6, Step 5) with a one-year probationary period. This offer of employment is contingent upon the successful completion of the required pre-employment conditions, Approved hiring Sarah Heffter to the position of Part-time General Communications Clerk / Switchboard Operator (#1912) to be effective September 30, 2024 at the rate of \$15.13 per hour (Grade 3, Step 7) with a one-year probationary period. This offer of employment is contingent upon the successful completion of the required pre-employment conditions, Accepted the resignation of David Schecter, Custodian (#1906) to be effective September 17, 2024, and Granted permission to advertise for the position of Custodian (#1906). This position will remain posted until 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.*

**APPROVE FINANCIALS**

*Budget and Finance Manager Adrian Gorton explained the financials for today as including Appropriations transfer from the Commissioners Office in the Capital Reserve Fund Phase 2 moving the remaining appropriations in Land Purchase to Contract Services in order to cover an encumbrance increase, Supplemental appropriations in the Dog Warden Fund to true up payroll and hospitalization accounts to year end, Cash transfers for Water Resources from the Sewer and Water Funds to their debt retirement and County Sewer Improvements funds, Travel requests for the Common Pleas Court, Engineer's Office, Job and Family Services and Probate Court, a payment for Community Development to the Educational Service Center of the Western Reserve for the final installment payment #3 of the ACE Community Education Grant in the amount of \$30,000.00, a payment for the Sheriff's Office to Motorola Solutions Incorporated for the Vesta 911 dispatch emergency call handling software in the amount of \$153,171.01, noting that this is the same as last year, and a Revenue Certification for the Commissioners' Office in the Airport Construction Fund for additional revenue received in 2024 in conjunction with the Parallel Taxiway Project.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Resolution #24-169 itemizing the financials for the meeting of September 26, 2024.*

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

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – AMEND MOTION – APRIL 11, 2023 - ADJUST DOLLAR AMOUNT OF CHANGE ORDER

Mr. Gorton explained that we received the final pay request from Donley's and discovered a \$10.00 discrepancy and in going back through, discovered an error in Change Order #17, so we are asking to amend that motion to correct the amount in order to finalize the last payment.

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to amend the motion from April 11, 2023 to adjust the dollar amount of the change order in the motion to be the correct amount, to read: approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute Change Order #17 increasing the Contract with Donley's Independence, LLC for the Geauga County Office Building, GMP Phase #1 and #2 for miscellaneous changes made throughout the building, that was not covered in the original contract, in the amount of \$277,887.00.

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

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR

Mr. Gorton asked the Board to approve the resolution that accepts the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorize the necessary tax levies and certify them to the Auditor. Mr. Gorton explained that the Board was in attendance at the Budget Commission meeting that they approved the Budget for 2025, and in that meeting they did approve the reduction to the Job and Family Services levy by one million dollars and that is contained in this resolution.

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Resolution #24-170 Accepting the Amounts and Rates as Determined by the Budget Commission and Authorizing the Necessary Tax Levies and Certifying them to the County Auditor.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Date: September 26, 2024  
Resolution: #24-170

Tax Year 2024 (2025 Collection Year)

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**<sup>1</sup>RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR**

**(BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS)**  
Revised Code, Secs.5705.34, 5705.35

The Board of County Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio, met in regular session on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2024 at offices of the Board of County Commissioners, located at 12611 Ravenwood Drive, Room B303, Chardon, Ohio, with the following members present:

Ralph Spidalieri	James W. Dvorak	Timothy C. Lennon
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Commissioner Dvorak moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners in accordance with the provisions of law has previously adopted a Tax Budget for the next succeeding fiscal year commencing on January 1, 2025; and



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SCHEDULE B LEVIES OUTSIDE 10 MILL LIMITATION, EXCLUSIVE OF DEBT LEVIES			Maximum Rate Authorized to be Levied	County Auditor's Estimate of Yield of Levy (Carry to Schedule A, Column II)
FUND				
Road & Bridge	1986	levy authorized by voters on: <u>November 2, 2021</u>	2.50	\$3,559,442.00
	not to exceed	5 years		
Mental Retardation	2004	levy authorized by voters on: <u>November 4, 2008</u>	3.30	\$10,120,569.00
	not to exceed	Continuing years		
Mental Health	2008	levy authorized by voters on: <u>November 8, 2022</u>	0.50	\$1,617,578.00
	not to exceed	5 years		
Health District	2009	levy authorized by voters on: <u>November 7, 2023</u>	0.20	\$647,030.00
	not to exceed	5 years		
Mental Health	2009	levy authorized by voters on: <u>November 7, 2023</u>	0.70	\$2,264,608.00
	not to exceed	5 years		
Senior Citizens	2010	levy authorized by voters on: <u>March 17, 2020</u>	1.00	\$3,235,156.00
	not to exceed	5 years		
Childrens Services	2011	levy authorized by voters on: <u>November 3, 2020</u>	0.70	\$2,264,608.00
	not to exceed	5 years		
Mental Retardation	2015	levy authorized by voters on: <u>November 5, 2019</u>	1.00	\$3,249,075.00
	not to exceed	Continuing years		
Childrens Services	2015	levy authorized by voters on: <u>3/17/20 BC reduced TY24C</u>	0.20	\$649,817.00
	not to exceed	5 years		
Geauga Library	2007	levy authorized by voters on: <u>November 6, 2007</u>	1.00	\$2,968,760.00
	not to exceed	Continuing years		
Geauga Library	2010	levy authorized by voters on: <u>November 2, 2010</u>	1.00	\$2,968,760.00
	not to exceed	Continuing years		
Geauga Library	2017	levy authorized by voters on: <u>November 7, 2017</u>	0.24	\$1,011,520.00
	not to exceed	30 years		
		levy authorized by voters on: _____		
	not to exceed	years		

and be it further *RESOLVED* That the Clerk of this Board be and is hereby directed to certify a copy of this Resolution to the County Auditor of said County.

Commissioner Spidalieri seconded the motion and the roll being called upon its adoption the vote resulted as follows:

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

**COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT – REJECT ALL BIDS SUBMITTED – CHAGRIN FALLS PARK COMMUNITY CENTER – ROOF REPLACEMENT AND MAPLE LEAF RESIDENCES – ROOF REPLACEMENT**

Director Gina Hofstetter asked the Board to reject all bids submitted for the Chagrin Falls Park Community Center Roof Replacement and the Maple Leaf Residences – Roof Replacement. Ms. Hofstetter explained that due to some clerical issues with the bid specifications, bid forms not being filled out properly, and in consultation with the Prosecutor’s Office it is in the best interest to reject them all. These projects will be re-bid, but not until spring.

*Motion:* by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to reject all bids submitted for the Chagrin Falls Park Community Center – Roof Replacement Project under Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) #B-F-23-1AZ-1.

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

*Motion:* by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to reject all bids submitted for the Maple Leaf Residences – Roof Replacement Project under Community Development Block Grant (CDBG #B-F-23-1AZ-1).

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

**DOG WARDEN – AUTHORIZE DOG WARDEN TO ACCEPT AND EXECUTE WAIVER OF NOTICE OF HEARING ON INVENTORY – NECESSARY DOCUMENTS RELATED TO BEQUEST FROM BEVERLE MAY KRUEGER**

*Dog Warden Matt Granito explained that Beverle May Krueger passed away and left some funds in her estate to the dog shelter. Mr. Granito explained that it will be a significant amount of money, around \$70,000.00 or more. Mr. Granito explained that he would like to use it to add doors to the outside cages and give the dogs more flexibility to go in and outside. This would be done in her memory. Mr. Granito asked the Board to authorize him to execute the documents necessary that will allow them to waive the hearing on inventory and other documents that may be necessary to finish this before the end of the year.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and authorize Matt Granito, Dog Warden to accept and execute the Waiver of Notice of Hearing on Inventory and other necessary documents related to a bequest from the Estate of Beverle May Krueger to the Geauga County Dog Warden to help the dogs at the Dog Shelter and to deposit all funds received into the Dog and Kennel Fund.*

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

**MAINTENANCE – ADVERTISE FOR STATEMENTS OF INTEREST AND QUALIFICATIONS FOR PROFESSIONAL DESIGN SERVICES – SAFETY CENTER ROOF**

*Project Manager Charles Tkach asked the Board to advertise for Statement of Interest and Qualifications for professional design services and contract administration for the Safety Center Roof project.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to grant permission to advertise for Statements of Interest and Qualifications for Professional Design Services related to the Design and Contract Administration to upgrade the Safety Center Roof located at 12450 Merritt Road with responses due on Thursday, October 17, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. Notice of this request for Statements of Interest and Qualifications for Professional Design Services will be advertised on September 27, 2024, October 4, 2024 and on the county website.*

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

**DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – CONTRACT MAINTENANCE FORM #1 – EXTEND CONTRACT – GOODYEAR TIRE AND RUBBER COMPANY**

*Fiscal and Personnel Specialist Kathleen Miller asked the Board to approve a Contract Maintenance Form #1 to extend the contract with Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company for one year, as we didn't need to use them, this will be in the same amount of funds in the original contract.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Contract Maintenance Form #1 to extend the Contract with Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company for an additional year through June 22, 2025 in the original contract not to exceed amount of \$10,000.00.*

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

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DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – CONTRACT MAINTENANCE FORM #1 – INCREASE CONTRACT – GENERATOR SYSTEMS, LLC

*Ms. Miller asked the Board to approve a Contract Maintenance Form #1 increasing the Contract with Generator Systems, LLC to include repairs as needed for an additional amount of \$12,000.00 over the remainder of 2024 and 2025.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Contract Maintenance Form #1 increasing the Contract with Generator Systems, LLC to include repairs as needed in the amount of \$12,000.00 (\$7,000.00 in 2024 for a total of \$9,538 and \$5,000.00 in 2025 for a total of \$7,543) for a revised contract total of \$20,296.00.*

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

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – GIANT EAGLE, INCORPORATED VACCINATION AGREEMENT – GEAUGA COUNTY EMPLOYEES ON HEALTHCARE TO RECEIVE INSURANCE COVERED FLU SHOT

*Human Resources Specialist Kelly Bidlack asked the Board to approve an Agreement with Giant Eagle, Incorporated to be able to host a Flu Shot Clinic in October her in the County Office Building. This clinic would be available to those employees on healthcare to receive the insurance covered vaccine.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Giant Eagle, Incorporated Vaccination Agreement for Geauga County Employees on Healthcare to receive an insurance-covered flu vaccine at the Geauga County Office Building during the Month of October 2024.*

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

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – REQUEST FOR PARTIAL PAYMENT #12 – INFINITY CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INCORPORATED – COURTHOUSE EXPANSION GMP PHASE #1 AND #2

*Mr. Morgan asked the Board to approve the request for partial payment #12 for Infinity Construction Company for the Courthouse Expansion project.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Request for Partial Payment #12 for Infinity Construction Company, Incorporated for the Geauga County Courthouse Expansion GMP Phase #1 and Phase #2 expenses in the amount of \$499,468.57.*

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

HERSHEY MONTESSORI – ARPA FUNDS REQUEST

*Director of Development Yvonne Delgado Thomas from Hershey Montessori School explained that back in 2022 they had put a request in for ARPA funds. Ms. Thomas explained that to her knowledge there are some funds still available, the request they had put in for was for infrastructure projects at the Huntsburg campus. Ms. Thomas noted that Hershey Montessori School is a world-renowned Montessori model school, that holds certifications for special independent schools and hosts an International Montessori Training Institute that brings over 40 students from all over the world in the summer at the Huntsburg campus. Ms. Thomas asked for ARPA funds, initially they asked for \$150,000.00 and since then they have made some headway on the projects but am still asking for whatever amount that could be approved. The Huntsburg campus is also a farm school, that includes all the agricultural activities for entrepreneurial business models. They would appreciate the Boards support on their infrastructure projects.*

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AGING – DISCUSSION ON SURVEY REQUEST FROM NOACA FOR SENIORS ON TRANSPORTATION

Director Jessica Boalt explained that they had received a survey from NOACA about transportation needs and was asked to share it with the seniors in Geauga County. Ms. Boalt provided a copy to the Board of the survey and expressed that she wanted their approval on the survey before she provided it to them. Ms. Boalt noted that a third-party vendor is handling this on NOACA's behalf as they are working on developing their transportation plan. Ms. Boalt added that they often do surveys with the seniors about the services that are provided through the Department on Aging, but not with outside sources.

Mr. Spidalieri briefly looked at the survey and responded no, that the questions contained in the survey have nothing to do with transportation, noting that asking if they identify as Hispanic or Latino is looking for something other than about transportation. Mr. Dvorak also looked at the survey and expressed that it is a blanket questionnaire and that they appear to be looking for more than transportation needs. Both Mr. Spidalieri and Mr. Dvorak expressed that they had no interest in providing the survey to the seniors and that she could let NOACA know that.

DISCUSSION

Mr. Morgan wanted to make sure that the Board knows that the Job and Family Services Levy that the Board approved to be on the ballot, was removed by the Board of Elections due to some issues with language in the resolution. The levy was a year early and can be done again next year.

Mr. Morgan explained that they had received a request from Next Step for some environmental studies that are required for a grant they are applying for funding. Mr. Morgan noted that it is not required as part of the lease, it is just something they are doing, it includes things like Radon, however, I need to know how you want to proceed, as it is an old building and wasn't sure how much environmental testing we want to do. Mr. Dvorak agreed to let them know that the Commissioners are not interested in providing the environmental studies for them.

RIBBON CUTTING AT AIRPORT AUTHORITY – HANGAR ONE IMPROVEMENT

Mr. Morgan explained that there has been some interest in doing a ribbon cutting ceremony for the renovations that were done on hangar one and it was suggested to maybe hold session then at the airport. Mr. Spidalieri noted that it would be the easiest to do. Mr. Dvorak asked if would be kept at the same time. Clerk Christine Blair added that it would probably remain at 9:30 and include the ribbon cutting as part of the agenda.

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to move and hold regular session on Tuesday, October 22, 2024 at the Geauga County Airport at 9:30 a.m.

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

PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS – TERM EXPIRATION

Mr. Morgan brought up that there will be three members of the Planning Commission that will be expiring at the end of the year and whether you want to advertise to accept applications. They noted that they would like to accept applications, and a brief discussion was had about when the re-appointments would be made.

YOUTH CENTER GRANT – DESIGNATE AUTHORIZED SIGNERS

Mr. Morgan explained that the State has asked for designated signers for the Youth Center Grant documents and am asking the Board who they would like to designate to handle that. Mr. Dvorak is more readily available, and Mr. Spidalieri then made a motion for Mr. Dvorak and Mr. Morgan.

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to designate Commissioner James W. Dvorak and County Administrator Gerard Morgan as authorized signers on the Youth Center Grant, to meet the requirements of the Grant Agreement.

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

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- a) *Geauga County Board of Developmental Disabilities Meeting Minutes for July 17, 2024.*
- b) *A weekly report filed by the County Dog Warden of all dogs seized, impounded, redeemed or destroyed for the weeks ending September 11, 2024 and September 18, 2024 as required by O.R.C. 955.12.*
- c) *The Monthly Inventory Report, Consolidated Investment Portfolio and Obligations and Securities monthly reports filed by the Treasurer's Office for Geauga County for the Month of August 2024 pursuant to ORC 135.35(L).*

**OTHER**

*The Board reviewed upcoming events.*

**MEETINGS**

- Thu., 9/26 Investment Advisory Committee, 9:00 a.m. Room B303*
- Tue., 10/1 The Commissioners will hold session at 9:30 a.m.*
- 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*
- 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.*
- 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 Dvorak to adjourn the meeting at 10:04 a.m.*

*Geauga County Board of Commissioners*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*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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