

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**December 3, 2024**

*The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on December 3, 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:*

*Heavenly Father*

*Make this month of December a month of healing and good health.*

*Bless them with your peace of mind.*

*Heal and calm the troubled mind*

*This month marks the end of another year – a year filled with both challenges and blessings.*

*I thank you for your faithfulness through it all.*

*In Jesus name*

*Amen*

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

*County Administrator Gerard Morgan reported on what he approved on November 26, 2024 for the Maintenance Department that included to Approve hiring Robert Hausen to the position of Full-time Senior Maintenance Technician (#1905) to be effective January 21, 2025 at the rate of \$21.54 per hour (Grade 7, Step 6) 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 Nathan Munn, Maintenance Supervisor (#1913) to be effective December 6, 2024 and Granted permission to advertise for the position of Grounds Maintenance Supervisor (#1913). 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**

*Mr. Gorton explained the financials for today as including a Travel request for the Commissioner's Office, a payment for Job and Family Services to ThenDesign Architecture LTD for design services related to the new Youth Center project in the amount of \$55,125.00, and a Revenue Certification for Mental Health in their ADAMH Board Fund for additional unbudgeted revenue in 2024.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute Resolution #24-201 itemizing the financials for the meeting of December 3, 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> |

**COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – ACKNOWLEDGE AND POST LOAD LIMITS ON STAFFOARD ROAD – TROY TOWNSHIP**

*Deputy Engineer Jacob Scotese asked the Board to post load limits on Stafford Road in Troy Township, that will only limit a hauling vehicle on this road.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to acknowledge the recommendation and post load limits on Stafford Road GEA-T0187-0769(2830515) in Troy Township for a weight limit of a single unit as follows: 2 AXLE – 15T, 3 AXLE – 23T, 4 AXLE – 27T, 5 AXLE – 31T, 6+ AXLE – 34T and Tractor Trailer – 40T, pursuant to O.R.C. 5577.071.*

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

*COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – CHANGE ORDER #2 FINAL – DECREASE CONTRACT WITH OHIO BRIDGE CORPORATION – REPLACEMENT OF ROBINSON ROAD BRIDGE*  
*Mr. Scotese asked the Board to approve Change Order #2 and final which is a reduction on the Contract with Ohio Bridge Corporation for the replacement of the Robinson Road Bridge.*

*Motion:*            *by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute Change Order #2, Final, decreasing the Contract with Ohio Bridge Corporation (U.S. Bridge Division) for the Replacement of the Robinson Road Bridge (Structure #GEA-0076-0188) in Chardon Township in the amount of \$35,056.84.*

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

*PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE – RE-APPOINT CHARLES WALDER AND SCOTT HILDENBRAND – VOLUNTEER PEACE OFFICERS' DEPENDENTS FUND BOARD*

*Prosecutor Jim Flaiz asked the Board to re-appoint Mr. Walder and Mr. Hildenbrand to the Volunteer Peace Officers' Dependents Fund Board, noting that this is newly formed board and fortunately, we haven't had anyone pass away and haven't needed to use the Board.*

*Motion:*            *by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to re-appoint Auditor, Charles Walder to the Volunteer Peace Officers' Dependents Fund Board for the term ending December 31, 2025, pursuant to O.R.C. 143.02.*

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

*Motion:*            *by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to re-appoint Sheriff, Scott Hildenbrand to the Volunteer Peace Officers' Dependents Fund Board for the term ending December 31, 2025, pursuant to O.R.C. 143.02.*

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

*PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE – DISCUSS REQUEST FOR SECURITY ENHANCEMENTS AND RENOVATIONS AT THE PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE*

*The Prosecutor's Office is requesting the Board discuss the request for Security Enhancements and Renovations at the Prosecutor's Office.*

*Mr. Flaiz explained that he had provided a request for action for approval to do a project at his office to do some security enhancements and renovations to add two offices. Mr. Flaiz explained that about twenty years ago Prosecutor David Joyce at the time had the office renovated and the lobby area is all open with tempered glass. Mr. Flaiz stated that they do not have any building security, there is only security for the court on the second floor. Mr. Flaiz stated that they did some enhancements to the key card system and cameras and monitoring in the office the last few years. Mr. Flaiz stated that they don't work with some happy customers and feels they need to change the lobby by changing the wall configuration and add an office area, minimizing the glass space and having ballistic glass put in place, along with Kevlar paneling. Mr. Flaiz stated that the other wall is masonry, and the two-foot brick is secure. Additionally, the rendering from TDA shows adding some additional office areas, with the addition of 4 new employees it takes existing space and making additional office space. Mr. Flaiz explained that the estimate looked at the floor plan and rendering from TDA and came up with \$204,000.00 to complete those and if there are any cost overruns and change orders, that Mr. Flaiz would cover the costs out of existing funds from his office.*

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Commissioner Lennon asked if we hired TDA to do the design work or have them on contract to do work on this project, to which Mr. Flaiz stated that he had hired TDA to do the rendering and floor plan, but no construction drawings until he had a commitment on the funds. Mr. Flaiz asked TDA what they could do with the existing space to meet the needs and the security enhancements on the lobby. Mr. Flaiz noted there is an employee at TDA that worked on the renovation project and remembered the office and that helped. Mr. Flaiz stated that he is paying for ThenDesign and the Estimating company out of his existing office funds. Mr. Lennon asked about the project requiring to go out for bid, to which Mr. Flaiz stated that he asked for authorization to do the project, the \$204,000.00 in his contract services that he would open a blanket before the end of the year, carry it over and then tell TDA to move forward on the construction drawings. Mr. Lennon asked why it wouldn't go through the Commissioners' office since it's on the building. Mr. Flaiz stated that he would put it in his contract services line item. Mr. Lennon isn't opposed to the project, however asked why it wouldn't go through the Commissioners' Office. Mr. Flaiz stated that they would handle the paperwork, but the bids would be opened through the Commissioners' Office. Mr. Gorton asked why we wouldn't put it through the Building Improvements Fund, that's what it is in place for and this falls in line with that. Mr. Dvorak made a motion to approve the security enhancements and renovations and be paid through the Building Improvements Fund, to which Mr. Spidalieri seconded. Mr. Flaiz asked for clarification on the project being paid through the Building Improvements Fund, to which Mr. Gorton agreed and that would be his suggestion on how to handle the funding.

*Motion:* by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve the Prosecutor to move forward with the security enhancements and renovation of existing space in the amount of \$204,000.00 and be paid through the Building Improvements Fund.

|                        |                                |            |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| <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 ON AGING – RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AN ARPA / SLFRF INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT

Director Jessica Boalt explained that she has a resolution and an agreement for the use of ARPA / SLFRF funds and has the ability to assist seniors that qualify to assist them with critical home repair and weatherization through the chore and home safety program.

*Motion:* by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute Resolution #24-202 Approve an ARPA/SLFRF Interagency Agreement between the Geauga County Board of Commissioners and the Geauga County Department on Aging for the Provision of Critical Home Repair/Weatherization Services by the Department on Aging for Low and Moderate Income Seniors, obligating \$199,486.00 of ARPA funds.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

*Date:* December 3, 2024

*Resolution:* #24-202

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AN ARPA/SLFRF INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GEAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND THE GEAUGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT ON AGING FOR THE PROVISION OF CRITICAL HOME REPAIR/WEATHERIZATION SERVICES BY THE DEPARTMENT ON AGING FOR LOW- AND MODERATE-INCOME SENIORS**

*WHEREAS, The President of the United States signed into law the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) on March 11, 2021; and*

*WHEREAS, ARPA provides money to States, Counties and Municipalities to address the continuing impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals and businesses; and*

*WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has received a distribution of monies from the ARPA of 2021; and*

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*WHEREAS, the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF)-Final Rule provides for ARPA funds to be used to respond to the negative economic impacts of the public health emergency by the provision of home repair and home weatherization services to low-and moderate income Seniors in Geauga County, a population presumed to be impacted. 31CFR 35.6 (b)(2)(i) and (b)(3) (ii) (A) (1); and*

*WHEREAS, the Geauga County Department on Aging has the capacity to provide critical home repair and home weatherization services to this impacted Geauga County population through the Geauga County Chore & Home Safety Program.*

*WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners desire to enter into an Interagency Agreement ("Agreement") with the Department on Aging prior to December 31, 2024 in order to obligate the ARPA/SLFRF funds necessary for the Department on Aging to provide critical home repair and home weatherization services to impacted low-and moderate income Seniors in Geauga County in 2025 and 2026.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners approves the use of ARPA/SLFRF funds by the Department on Aging for the above referenced purposes to be obligated by December 31, 2024 and expended in its entirety by December 31, 2026 through an ARPA/SLFRF Interagency Agreement with the Department on Aging.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners requests the County Auditor to obligate \$199,486.00 from the ARPA/SLFRF fund for the Geauga County Department on Aging to provide the critical home repair and weatherization services to low-and moderate income senior Geauga seniors*

*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> |

**DEPARTMENT ON AGING – ARPA / SLFRF INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT**

*Ms. Boalt explained that the amount available is \$199,486.00 of the remaining ARPA funds and we are obligating those funds prior to December 31, 2024 and can use those funds with the program through December 31, 2026.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute the ARPA / SLFRF Interagency Agreement between the Geauga County Board of Commissioners and the Geauga County Department on Aging, obligating \$199,486.00 of ARPA funds to provide critical home repair and / or weatherization services to eligible seniors through the Chore and Home Safety Program, beginning on or after December 9, 2024 and continue through December 31, 2026. All funds must be expended before December 31, 2026.*

|                        |                                |            |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| <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 – THE CLEVELAND VICON COMPANY, INCORPORATED**

*Contract Coordinator Matt Sieracki asked the Board to approve a service contract agreement with Cleveland Vicon to do some handicapped door openers on the hallway doors, including the hallway here and at Board of Elections. Mr. Sieracki noted that the system runs about \$6,500.00 a piece and they plan to do 4 areas, and they did all the installs on the doors within the building.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute the service Contract Agreement with The Cleveland Vicon Company, Incorporated to install handicap door operators at the Geauga County Office Building with work to be completed within ninety (90) days of December 3, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$31,500.00.*



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COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – RESOLUTION REQUESTING TO ESTABLISH A NEW FUND – COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY FUND

Mr. Morgan explained that this resolution is to establish a new fund for the construction of the new Poultry Barn, that in accordance with the O.R.C. we have to establish a new County Agricultural Society Fund, where the funds can be transferred and then the Agricultural Society can pull from the fund for the project. Mr. Spidalieri asked timing and next steps, to which Mr. Morgan explained that the next action is the resolution to transfer the funds to the new fund once established and the correct bond is provided to the Auditor.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute Resolution #24-203 Requesting to Establish a New Fund called the County Agricultural Society Fund, pursuant to O.R.C. 1711.15 and 1711.16.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Date: December 3, 2024

Resolution: #24-203

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING TO ESTABLISH A NEW FUND**

WHEREAS, the Geauga County Commissioners (“Commissioners”) are requesting that a new special fund be established and called the “County Agricultural Society Fund”; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of this new fund is for the appropriation made by the Commissioners pursuant to R.C. 1711.15 and R.C. 1711.16 for the purpose of providing funds for the construction of a 14,000 SF poultry barn by the Geauga County Agricultural Society; and

WHEREAS, the sources of revenue for the appropriation by the Commissioners will include but are not necessarily limited to funds from 452 – Other and 499 – Transfers in, with anticipated expenditures that include but are not limited to fund 807 – Building and Improvement and 999 – Transfers Out; and

WHEREAS, the funds shall remain in the new special fund until they are applied for by the treasurer of the County Agricultural Society and the bond is given, or as otherwise provided by R.C. 1711.16.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Commissioners do hereby request the Geauga County Auditor establish a new fund entitled: County Agricultural Society Fund, for the purposes described herein.

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

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING GEAUGA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY TO CONSTRUCT A NEW POULTRY BARN ON THE GEAUGA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS – APPROVE APPROPRIATION OF \$750,000.00 FROM GENERAL FUND TO FUND FOR PURPOSE OF CONTRIBUTING FUNDING TOWARDS CONSTRUCTION OF POULTRY BARN

Mr. Morgan asked the Board to approve the resolution authorizing the construction of the new Poultry Barn on the Fairgrounds and to approve the appropriation of \$750,000.00 from the General Fund to the County Agricultural Society Fund for the purpose of contributing towards the construction of a Poultry Barn. Clerk Christine Blair briefly explained that bond has to be in twice the amount of the appropriation, so \$1.5 million and be held by the Auditor's Office.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute Resolution #24-204 Authorizing the Geauga County Agricultural Society to Construct a New Poultry Barn on the Geauga County Fairgrounds and to Approve an Appropriation of \$750,000.00 from the General Fund to the County Agricultural Society Fund for the purpose of Contributing Funding towards the Construction of a Poultry Barn.

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*Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County Ohio*

*Date: December 3, 2024*

*Resolution: #24-204*

*A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE GEAUGA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY TO  
CONSTRUCT A NEW POULTRY BARN ON THE GEAUGA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS AND  
TO APPROVE AN APPROPRIATION OF \$750,000.00 FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE  
COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY FUND FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONTRIBUTING  
FUNDING TOWARDS THE CONSTRUCTION  
OF A POULTRY BARN*

*WHEREAS, Geauga County has a duly organized County Agricultural Society which manages and controls real estate (the "Fairgrounds") on which it holds agricultural fairs pursuant to O.R.C. 1711.15; and*

*WHEREAS, as owner of the Fairgrounds, the Geauga County Board of Commissioners ("Commissioners") is authorized to erect buildings on the Fairgrounds property; and*

*WHEREAS, the County Agricultural Society has expressed a desire to construct a larger more suitable 14,000 SF poultry barn on the Fairgrounds; and*

*WHEREAS, the Director of the Ohio Department of Agriculture issued a certificate of compliance to the Commissioners that the County Agricultural Society has complied with all laws of the state and rules of the department governing the operation of county agricultural societies, as required by R.C. 1711.15; and*

*WHEREAS, the Commissioners wish to allow the County Agricultural Society to contract for the erection of a 14,000 SF poultry barn on the Fairgrounds at an estimated project cost of \$ 792,000.00, and the Commissioners also approve an appropriation from the County's General Fund of \$750,000.00 to the newly established fund called the County Agricultural Society Fund in order to contribute funding to the construction of the new poultry barn; and*

*WHEREAS, the County Agricultural Society is required to provide the Auditor with a bond, as required by R.C. 1711.16.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Geauga County Board of County Commissioners that:*

*The Commissioners, pursuant to O.R.C. 1711.15 and 1711.16, hereby approve and authorize the County Agricultural Society to contract for the erection of a new 14,000 SF poultry barn on the Fairgrounds.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commissioners approve an appropriation of \$750,000.00 from the General Fund to the new County Agricultural Society Fund for the purpose of contributing funding towards the construction of a the new poultry barn on the Fairgrounds.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Agricultural Society shall provide the Auditor with the appropriate bond required under R.C. 1711.16.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution becomes part of the permanent record of the Board of Commissioners, 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> |

*There was a brief discussion about the audio/visual equipment in the room that is not working and why it wasn't working and the process they are going through working with ADP on trying to get it working again, there has also been issues in the Conference Rooms as well. Approval is need by ADP for a new company to come and update the existing equipment and it is supposed to*

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*be on the ADP Agenda on December 10<sup>th</sup>. It was noted that we have requested to not use the same company to install equipment in the Courthouse addition. Mr. Spidalieri expressed his frustration over the building being new and having equipment that doesn't work.*

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – PERMANENT (ANNUAL) APPROPRIATIONS

*Budget and Finance Manager Adrian Gorton thanked all those that contribute to the budget process, including the Board of Commissioners, Elected Officials, Department Directors and staff in the Commissioners' Office.*



## 2025 Permanent Appropriations

December 3, 2024

Gerard Morgan, County Administrator  
Adrian Gorton, Budget & Finance Manager



## 2025 Permanent Appropriations Budget Process

- Budget Commission certifies the revenues expected to be received for the year, along with the unencumbered fund balance identified at the beginning of the year. Together, revenues + beginning balance = Resources
- County Commissioners appropriate funds to county departments. The total amount of the appropriations by fund cannot exceed the certified amount of resources as determined by the Budget Commission.

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*Mr. Gorton explained a lot of this will look familiar from the Tax Budget Hearing in July, stating that in August, following the Tax Budget submission, the Budget Commission certified the 2025 revenues by Fund. Appropriations by fund cannot exceed the certified resources for that fund.*



## 2025 Permanent Appropriations General Fund Certified Resources

|                                     |                     |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Minimum Estimated Carryover Balance | \$9,876,924         |
| 2025 Revenues                       | <u>\$47,223,674</u> |
| Total Resources                     | \$57,100,598        |

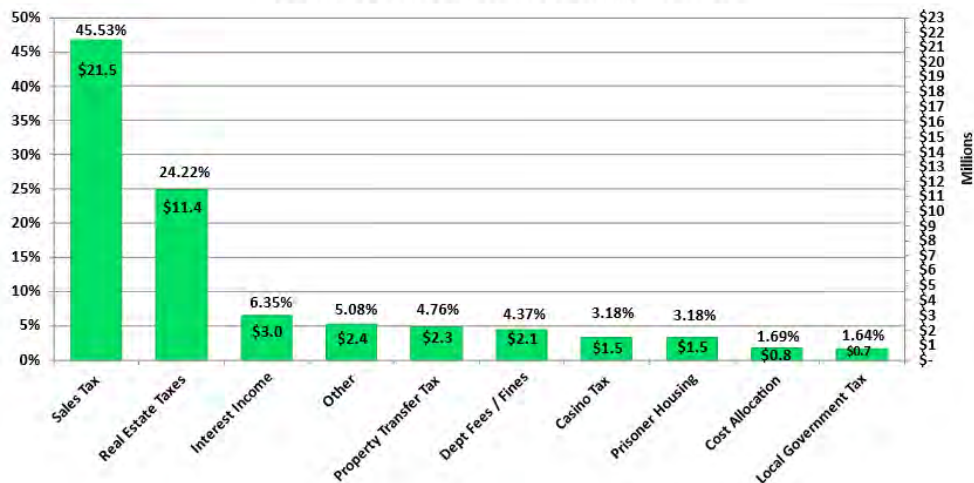
3

Mr. Gorton explained for the 2025 Permanent Appropriations, the Budget Commission certified \$57,100,598.00 of resources for the General Fund. The minimum carryover is expected to be a lot higher, close to \$10 million due to the diversion of payroll expenses from the General Fund to the ARPA fund back in August. Major increases from this year's adopted revenue budget for 2025 include \$2.2 million in additional property taxes due to the re-evaluation of properties, \$500,000.00 in the County Sales Tax, and \$300,000.00 in the State Reimbursement for Real Estate and \$700,000.00 in Prisoner Housing. Mr. Gorton stated that some notable decreases are \$250,000.00 in the Property Transfer Tax, \$50,000.00 in Recorder Fees and \$34,000.00 in the Local Government Tax. During the County's final budget hearing the Budget Commission unilaterally reduced one of the Job and Family Services Children's levies by \$1 million, thus forcing the County to budget for a \$1 million levy reimbursement transfer. That is not reflected here but did result in quite a few changes on the expense side.



## 2025 Permanent Appropriations General Fund Revenue Sources

2025 General Fund Revenue by Source



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Mr. Gorton stated that the 2025 General Fund Revenue is estimated at \$47.2 million, the chart above shows the breakdown of this amount. A majority (\$21.5 Million, a little over 45.5%) of the revenue is estimated to come from Sales Tax. This is the 1% county portion of the 6.75%



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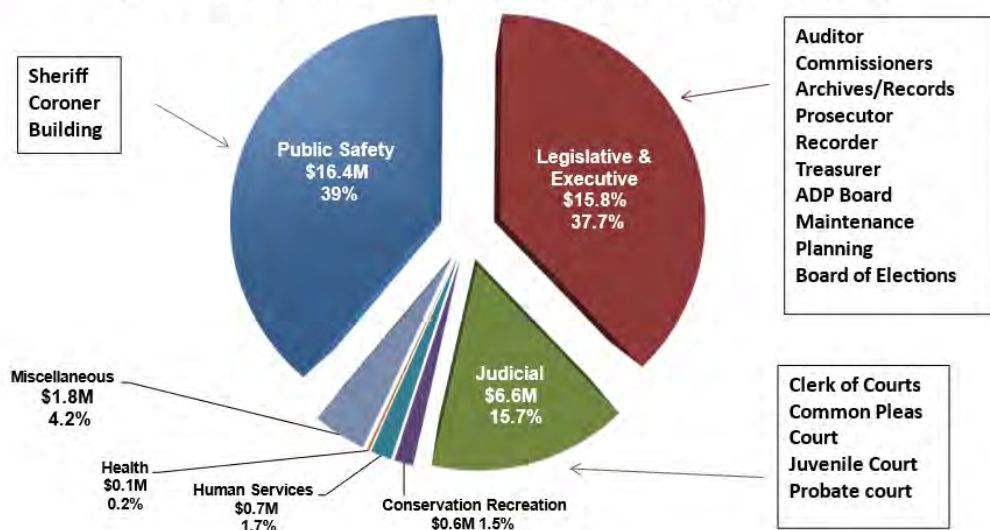
\$475,000.00 from Auditor/ ADP for removing wages above the 3% increase as well as lowering their equipment requests and a maintenance worker position and office remodel work, \$89,000.00 for Board of Elections for equipment (new vehicle, mail extractor and rolling ladder), \$1.3 Million for Commissioners' Contingency and Operating Transfers Out accounts as well as our Contract Services, Other and Postage accounts. Mr. Gorton explained that \$809,000.00 was for Maintenance for reduced equipment requests (mower, 2 vans, bobcat and floor scrubber), grounds and building maintenance, software and electric services as well as some vacant positions that were not yet advertised.

Mr. Gorton stated that \$3,800.00 was from Planning Commission for removal of equipment request as well as reducing the Travel and Dues, Licenses and Subscriptions back down to their 2024 level. \$709,000.00 was from the Sheriff for a corrected fuel request as well as a trimmed down equipment amount and removal of vehicle request. If the money is available these items will be considered for funding after the new year.



## 2025 Permanent Appropriations

**2025 General Fund Operating Expenses by Category**



Mr. Gorton explained that this pie chart shows the 2025 General Fund operating expenses by category. The numbers shown here are net of the Commissioners transfer out accounts which total just about \$5.2M that support various departments outside of the General Fund including 9-1-1, 800 Communications, Court Technology, Debt Service, Capital Transfers, Grant Matches, etc.

The chart shows the split of the General Fund Spending (less Operating Transfers Out) explaining that 39% of the budget goes to Public Safety, which is the Sheriff, Coroner and Building Department, that 37.7% of the budget goes to Legislative & Executive, which is the Other Elected Officials including Auditor, Treasurer, Prosecutor, Commissioners, Recorder as well as Board of Elections, ADP Board, Planning and Maintenance. Mr. Gorton stated that the Judicial makes up almost 15.7% of the budget and includes the Courts and Public Defender. The remaining categories are small. Mr. Gorton explained that Conservation and Recreation is the OSU Extension and Soil & Water which is 1.5% of the budget. Human Services is the Veterans Service Commission, which is 1.7% of the budget, Health is the Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps requirement that the county fund .1 mill to treat handicapped children in the county and Major Miscellaneous items include the following: Juvenile Detention Centers (Lake & Richland Counties) - \$50,000.00, Youth Center Funding - \$416,000.00, Annual Insurance Liability - \$425,000.00, Postage \$200,000.00, Legal Fees including Appointed Counsel - \$200,000.00 and the Court of Appeals at \$60,000.00.



## 2025 Permanent Appropriations Supplemental Appropriation Process February 2025

| Description  | Estimated Amount |
|--|------------------|
| Estimated 1/1/25 Cash Balance                                      | \$18,500,000     |
| Reduce for Carryover Encumbrances                                  | (\$2,500,000)    |
| Net Resources Available 1/2025                                     | \$16,000,000     |
| Plus Certified Revenue for 2025                                    | \$47,223,674     |
| Less 2025 Appropriations   | (\$47,128,230)   |
| Actual General Fund Unappropriated Balance                         | \$16,095,444     |
| \$10M transfer to Capital Reserve Fund for Courthouse construction | (\$10,000,000)   |
| Pending General Fund Requests                                      | (\$3,362,334)    |
| Estimated Unappropriated General Fund Balance remaining            | \$2,733,110      |

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*Mr. Gorton stated that currently we are estimating that the cash balance on January 1<sup>st</sup> will be \$18.5 million dollars. It is this high because payroll from the General Fund was diverted to ARPA. It is our intention to transfer \$10M out of the General Fund and into the courthouse project fund. We are estimating our carryover encumbrances at around \$2.5M, leaving a \$16 million unencumbered balance. The certified revenue for 2025 is \$47.2M less appropriations of \$47.1M leaving \$16M for the courthouse project and unfunded requests. The Commissioners will evaluate current and future projects in order to determine the best use for the remaining unappropriated balance.*



## 2025 Permanent Appropriations Pending Requests for Funding

| Department            | Requests               |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Auditor/ADP           | \$ 475,633.00          |
| Commissioners         | \$ 1,275,520.00        |
| Elections             | \$ 89,100.00           |
| Maintenance           | \$ 809,015.00          |
| Planning Commission   | \$ 3,800.00            |
| Sheriff               | \$ 709,266.00          |
| <b>Total Requests</b> | <b>\$ 3,362,334.00</b> |

| Department                         | Requests             |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| ADP (Computer Equipment Imp. Fund) | \$ 415,950.00        |
| Court Technology (Common Pleas)    | \$ 50,520.00         |
| Sheriff (911 and 800Mhz)           | \$ 75,000.00         |
| <b>Total Requests</b>              | <b>\$ 541,470.00</b> |

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*Mr. Gorton explained that the pending requests above are all from the General Fund. The pending requests below are from funds outside the General Fund and get their spending money from the General Fund. In order for them to show revenue he has to show an expense in the General Fund. These are not the only funds that get at least a portion of their money from the General Fund. Once the actual amounts are known after the start of the new year all these requests will be evaluated and considered for funding.*



## 2025 Permanent Appropriations General Fund Debt

- General Fund will continue to try and complete the various projects that we have without the issuance of any additional debt.

9

*We are in the process of setting aside the remaining funds to complete the expansion of the County Courthouse.*



## 2025 Permanent Appropriations Future Items

- Portion of inside millage increase offset by reduction to JFS levy
- Evaluating all options regarding our properties and buildings

10



## 2025 Permanent Appropriations

# Questions ?

11

*\*Commissioner Lennon left the meeting during the presentation*

*Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Resolution #24-205 Approving the (Permanent) Annual Appropriation for 2025 in Accordance with O.R.C. 5705.38 and 5705.40.*

*Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio*

*Date: December 3, 2024*

*Resolution: #24-205*

**GEAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
(PERMANENT) ANNUAL APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH O.R.C. SECTIONS 5705.38, and 5705.40**

*The Board of County Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio met in regular session on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of December, 2024 at the office of the Board of County Commissioners with the following members present:*

*Ralph Spidalieri    James W. Dvorak    Timothy C. Lennon*

*Commissioner Dvorak presented the following resolution and moved the adoption, which motion was duly seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri:*

***BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of County Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio, that to provide for the current expenses and other expenditures of said County, during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2025, the following sums be and the same hereby set aside and appropriated for the several purposes for which expenditures are to be made for and during said fiscal year, as follows, viz:*

***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that this resolution become part of the permanent record of the Board of County Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio.*

|                        |                                |               |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| <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>    |

*\*\*A complete copy of the Permanent Annual Appropriation will follow these minutes.*

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**December 3, 2024**

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – EXECUTIVE SESSION

*Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the employment and compensation of a public employee in the Building Department.*

|                        |                                |               |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| <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>    |

*The Board moved into Executive Session at 10:36 a.m. with Mr. Morgan, Assistant County Administrator Linda Burhenne and Director Dan Spada. The Board returned at 11:02 a.m. and no action was taken.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- a) Geauga County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Board Meeting Minutes for October 16, 2024.*
  
- b) A weekly report filed by the County Dog Warden of all dogs seized, impounded, redeemed or destroyed for the weeks ending November 13, 2024, November 20, 2024 and December 28, 2022 as required by O.R.C. 955.12.*

OTHER

*The Board reviewed upcoming events.*

MEETINGS

*12/4 – 12/6 CCAO Winter Conference, Columbus, Ohio*

*Tue., 12/10 Planning Commission, 7:30 a.m. 12611 Ravenwood Drive, Room A334, Chardon*

*Tue., 12/10 The Commissioners will hold session at 9:30 a.m.*

*Tue., 12/10 ADP Regular meeting, 11:00 a.m. Auditor's Appraisal Conference room*

*Tue., 12/10 Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste Management District, Board of Directors meeting, 2:00 p.m. Warren, District Office*

*Tue. 12/17 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 11:04 a.m.*

*Geauga County Board of Commissioners*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Ralph Spidalieri*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*James W. Dvorak*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Timothy C. Lennon*  
*Carolyn Brakey, Esq.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Christine Blair, Commissioners' Clerk*