The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on December 17, 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 9:32 a.m. by leading the Board and audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Dvorak read the following prayer:

Light of the World

Jesus, the Light of the World, as we celebrate your birth, may we begin to see the world in the light, of understanding you give us. You are close to the challenged, the outcasts and the poor to receive the greatest news the world had ever known, so may we worship you in meekness of the heart.

May we also remember our brothers and sisters in this season of giving less fortunate than ourselves.

Amen.

FINANCIALS

County Administrator Gerard Morgan reported on financials from December 12, 2024, Resolution #24-209 that included Appropriation transfers from the Juvenile Court to cover a hospitalization waiver payment, from the Auditor's office in ARPA to move funds to cover General Fund payroll payments and from the Planning Commission to true up their OPERS account for year-end payments; 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 November 26, 2024.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Aye Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

<u>COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – APPROVE TRANSFER OF FUNDS – REQUEST OF</u> <u>PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE FROM GENERAL FUND TO VICTIM WITNESS ASSISTANCE</u> FUND

Budget and Finance Manager Adrian Gorton asked the Board to approve a request from the Prosecutor's Office for additional funding from the General Fund for the Victim Witness Assistance Fund. Mr. Gorton noted that we have been providing additional funding for the last few years due to cuts in funding from the state, and that the original request was for \$46,600.00 and after he looked at the funding that came out of ARPA, he made an adjustment of about \$12,000.00 leaving a balance to transfer of \$34,484.60.

Motion:

by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve a transfer of funds per the request of the Prosecutor's Office from the General Fund into the Victim Witness Assistance Fund for additional funding for the Victim Witness Program for the grant period of October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025 in the amount of \$34,484.60.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Aye Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

Mr. Spidalieri asked if there was anything on the financials for the airport funding and year end timing, to which Mr. Gorton explained that today was the last day to make any adjustments or payments on encumbrances, so we would have had to do any action on this project a few weeks ago, so the action presented today is to lay the ground work for the encumbrance and expenditure for January.

APPROVE FINANCIALS

Mr. Gorton explained the financials for today as including Various Appropriations transfers and supplemental appropriations and de-appropriations to adjust accounts and funds to balance for final invoices and year end, Cash transfer from the General Fund to the Victim Witness Assistance Fund to pay the local match for VOCA grant period October 2024 through September 2025 grant #2025-VOCA-135901839 as well as an additional request for \$34,484.60 for a total of \$51,036.60. The additional amount requested was reduced by \$12,115.40 in order to return the amount that was used from APRA (originally \$46,600.00), a payment for the Commissioners' Office to Destination Geauga for 3rd Quarter 2024 Bed Tax Distribution in the amount of \$24,478.90 (in the last year we have distributed almost \$65,000.00 to Destination Geauga to promote tourism for the County), a payment for Emergency Services to Daystar Ford for a 2024 Ford Ranger replacement vehicle in the amount of \$37,068.26. They are assessing their current fleet and will auction one of them at a later time, a payment for the Sheriff's Office to Tim Lally Chevrolet Incorporated for a 2024 Chevy Tahoe Police Pursuit Vehicle to replace the one that was recently totaled in the amount of \$49,122.00 and Revenue De-Certification from Community Development in their Demolition and Site Revitalization fund for budgeted revenue that they did not receive in 2024 in order to balance out the fund for year end.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and

execute Resolution #24-210 itemizing the financials for the meeting of December

17, 2024.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Aye Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

<u>AIRPORT AUTHORITY – APPROVE ENCUMBRANCE AND EXPENDITURE FOR JANUARY</u> 2025 - \$1,330,000.00 – CONSTRUCTION OF NEW T HANGAR FACILITY AND UPGRADES TO EXISTING FACILITIES

Airport President Chip Hess and Airport Manager Ric Blamer came before the Board. Mr. Hess explained some history, that over a year ago the FAA let them know that funding would be available through the Bi-Partisan Infrastructure Legislation to fund buildings. Which up until this point, the FAA would not provide funding for buildings. Mr. Hess explained that now, the FAA could under this new Bi-Partisan Infrastructure funding for a building, noting that they had completed a preliminary application and were notified that funding would be available. Mr. Hess stated that they submitted a letter to the Board about the funding that would be available to build a new T Hangar. Mr. Hess stated that they did preliminary documents for bidding and then they learned that they have to use FAA standards, so they had to hire the Airport Engineer Micheal Baker to make those documents meet those standards, they just got those back in the last month, which is causing them to be up against yearend and a new amount for the building. Mr. Morgan created a simple agreement between the Commissioners and the Airport about the funding that was reviewed with their Attorney and hoped to get that done before the end of the year, however timing didn't make it, it was too late. Mr. Hess continued by explaining that it was suggested that they are able to keep some of the funding to complete some of the projects that need done, including roofs and updating the living quarters for the helicopter crew. Mr. Hess stated that they are ready to bid the project, asking the Board to appropriate the funds and move forward with the project in the spring of next year. Mr. Hess noted that several Airport Board Members and those that are part of the airport community, the EAA Chapter that are here in attendance today.

EAA Chapter member Tim Conner, explained that Mr. Blamer is staff but has no one to help him take care of the things like the buildings, so members of the chapter do everything, change toilet paper rolls, assist with the fuel truck, assist with incidents like a flat tire on an aircraft, assist with moving aircraft and sending out notices like ice on the runway. The group does a lot to help the citizens of the county as a whole, and since flying is technology based, they help ISTEM schools and bring groups out to the airport. They also do angel flights, that will fly patients at no cost and do about 3 flights like that a month out of the Geauga Airport. Mr. Hess explained

that the Parallel Taxiway project will be happening, and they want to get the Hangar project out to bid as soon as possible and start knocking down the list of things that they need to fix. Mr. Dvorak asked about a waiting list for hangars, to which Mr. Blamer explained that the new Hangar that they are discussing to be built is already full, and deposits have been paid, but they also have a waiting list of about thirty people. Commissioner Lennon asked about the first hangar. Those were pre-sold as well and the project was completed in April 2022, fully occupied since, and the rates are middle of the road, some older buildings are lower than others, however, the new T Hangar is the highest rates and are about 32 cents a square foot. Mr. Lennon expressed that if there is demand, the hangar rates could be charged at a top dollar. Mr. Hess added that they just did a comparison to other airports and review them annually, as they want to make sure they are able to pay their bills. Mr. Lennon expressed that this should allow the airport to get projects completed that need to be done and allow them to not have to continue to come back and ask for additional funding. Mr. Blamer expressed that without the Commissioners support, the Airport Board and the EAA Chapter they would not have the airport they have. Mr. Hess added that they are looking to get buildings on a maintenance schedule. Mr. Spidalieri thanked the Airport Board and said that this has been a long time coming.

Motion:

by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve an encumbrance and expenditure for January 2025 in the amount of \$1,330,000.00 for the construction of a new T Hangar facility and upgrades to existing facilities at the Airport pending the execution of the Agreement for Capital Improvement Funding.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Aye Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

Mr. Spidalieri expressed that this is more than \$1.33 million, that with the extra money coming back it will be more like \$1.8 million. Mr. Hess asked what the next steps are on the agreement, and asked if they could move forward with the bid, to which it was noted that the agreement has to be completed and the encumbrance in place before they can move forward.

<u>DISCUSSION – DOG WARDEN'S OFFICE</u>

Commissioner Dvorak asked to have a public discussion about the Dog Warden's office. Mr. Dvorak expressed that the Dog Warden isn't in session very often, but in April he had attended a meeting with Mr. Morgan, the Sheriff and himself about some communication issues that they had been having. Dog Warden Matt Granito explained that in the past year, there have been changes, some started with COVID when they shut down, more recently they are dealing with dog cases, like car crashes or DUI incidents, where there is a dog in the car during the incident and the Sheriff needs access or the ability to remove the dog from the vehicle and to a facility. In the past Rescue Village used to assist, but not as much now, as they don't do 24-hour staffing, and they, the dog warden's office, have been assisting more often. Mr. Granito explained that one thing that they have to deal with is that a dog is private property. Mr. Granito used an example of an incident that involved a homeowner that had passed away, and it wasn't discovered for a few days, and in the time in between the dog had been eating its owner for several days. Law enforcement called them as they needed to get into the home, so they could remove the dog to allow them to gain access to assist the homeowner, however they don't' have the authority in accordance with the ORC 959 to remove the dog from the house, as it is private property. There is a question of whose job is it? They just recently received a legal opinion that will now allow them to remove the dog, however there are questions that they still have to determine, like who owns the dog while it is in their custody, how much money are they going to spend on the dog, how much time does an owner have to reclaim the dog. Mr. Granito expressed that they want to care for the dog as much as possible. It is a hard thing that will need to be discussed. If someone is taken to the hospital or passes away, that is their personal property. Do we wait for the will to determine if the dog is included in it? Are we going to request the owner to cover bills while they were in the shelter care? Mr. Granito brought up additional questions that they will have to determine, do we put a cap on the amount of money to spend, should they be walked, as it isn't our dog, noting how other counties handle some of these situations. Mr. Granito had an idea that he wanted to propose to the Auditor about having a next of kin line on the dog license application.

Mr. Dvorak asked Mr. Granito if they go out at ten o'clock at night? Mr. Granito explained that it depended on the situation. Mr. Dvorak brought up an incident several weeks ago in Troy that

someone dropped off a Pit Bull at the Dollar General and people were freaking out. Mr. Spidalieri asked Mr. Dvorak where he had obtained this information to which he replied it came from a Trustee. Mr. Granito stated that the Sheriff's Office paged him this morning, a resident called and said he found a dog; they contacted the caller, and he said that he found the dog's owner, so they didn't have to respond. Mr. Granito explained that they got a call last Thursday, for a dog left outside with no food or shelter, and they explained to the Sheriff's Office that is cruelty and goes to the Humane Society. Mr. Granito explained that the Sheriff's Office pages the Dog Warden and they either contact the Sheriff's Office or contact the caller direct and depending on the situation respond accordingly. Mr. Granito said if it's an aggressive dog attacking something they will respond, however, they don't have radios, so the only person that knows he is going on that call is his wife. Recently he had spoken with Chief Rowan about them, and were included in the recent radio request that was denied, so it's not a police radio, but more of an emergency radio. There are issues, however we were not having the issues we are dealing with now, and the number of dog bites is increasing. They need to address how things are being handled and make some changes that include additional safety measures, more cages, radios, tracking devices for staff.

Mr. Dvorak asked about dogs being brought in from Tennessee and how often we spend \$800 on an emergency vet bill. Mr. Granito talked about Thyme, who is a dog that was literally dropped off at the shelter. They have video of him being dumped and still have not found the owner. The dog was diagnosed with heart worm and Lyme disease. The bill will be about \$900.00 and the adoption on him is \$100. The dogs that are taken in from other counties, the local APL's must be vet checked and fixed. They just did an event over the weekend for 25 dogs that were brought in from Tennessee that were going to be euthanized, and over the course of two days, 12 dogs were adopted. The adoption of those dogs is profit for the dog shelter. The dogs are given loving homes, saved from being put down, and bring in revenue into the Shelter. It's a win all around.

Mr. Dvorak asked the Sheriff if he had any suggestions to make the communication failure better and any other options for other things. Sheriff Scott Hildenbrand explained that the Dog Warden is correct, they have not been happy and there have been several meetings. Sheriff Hildenbrand explained that if you look at stats from the last 21 weeks, 60% of the dogs are imported into the county and not from our county, and the people of this county are not getting the service they deserve. Sheriff Hildenbrand stated that there is a provision in the law that allows the Commissioners to enter into a contract with the Sheriff's Office to run the Dog Warden's office. Thirteen other Sheriffs in the state of Ohio do that and he feels that his office can do it cheaper and provide better service to our citizens, with availability all the time. Sheriff Hildenbrand stated that Dog Warden Staff often don't respond, or he leaves a message. Sheriff Hildenbrand expressed that there are many examples, and mentioned a call at his Fire Station in Hambden were a resident stopped with the dog in the car, he was having a heart attack, and the dog was left in the car and not picked up for 24 hours. Sheriff Hildenbrand stated that it has affected his office, the Prosecutor's Office and added that it's an option the Board could consider. It is a two-year contract, and they feel they could do it cheaper. Sheriff Hildenbrand explained that they would not import all these dogs in from out of state and that they would work much better with the Human Society, and that he has already spoken to the Director, and they are excited, noting that they have veterinarians on staff. Sheriff Hildenbrand added that they could contract with them and that it could be done cheaper, if the Board decides to do this, it will need to be done next week at the first meeting in January, and needs to be renewed every two years. It is designed to be done when a new Commissioner is elected or begins a term, and allows the Board to change their mind.

Prosecutor Jim Flaiz expressed that he has had conversations with the Dog Warden. He is supposed to come get the dogs, to handle dogs at large, they are not someone else's property, if a dog is eating someone or attacking someone, he needs to take control of the dog, that is his job. Mr. Flaiz brought up a dog bite is Russell that took off part of the face. The Dog Warden refused to go out and would not call the victim's family back. The wife showed up in the Prosecutor's Office lobby hysterical because she didn't know what to do. Mr. Flaiz explained that his investigator called the Dog Warden. He was confrontational on the phone. He admitted that he didn't go out, didn't designate the dog a vicious dog, and this was two weeks before Halloween and it could have mauled kids. Mr. Flaiz explained that they were on a search warrant on a suspected homicide and he wouldn't come out and take the dog. Mr. Flaiz stated that on multiple occasions that Mr. Granito wouldn't respond. He brought up that he had a spreadsheet of the Dog Warden's expenses on his phone and that he spent \$11,000.00 in vet bills and he

would love to know how much of that has been spent on dogs from Ashtabula and Tennessee. Mr. Flaiz stated that the taxpayers deserve better, that the Sheriff is doing a lot of the work, the residents deserve to be safe, save money and the job might get done.

Mr. Lennon asked what the ORC says about the Dog Warden, to which Mr. Flaiz responded that we could review it, but he is supposed to be patrolling the county looking for dogs. If someone gets arrested for OVI with a kid in the car, we call JFS and if someone gets arrested for OVI with a dog in the car, we call the dog warden to take custody of the dog. We didn't want to come to a commissioners' meeting to do this, and five months ago since that meeting took place, things have gotten worse. Mr. Lennon expressed that it sounded like different avenues that this comes into play, emergency removable of an aggressive dog, and then there are stray dogs and runaways. It would seem logical to have a mesh between the two, the Sheriff should be able to handle it immediately, but does the shelter have the ability to handle these things?

Mr. Granito asked to respond, and that he has only spoken to Mr. Flaiz once and was told do his f'in job and that you were going to bring me up here and get me fired and you are looking at anything to get me fired. Mr. Flaiz stated that he had spoken to him several times. Mr. Granito mentioned an email from Ms. LaChapelle from April, when he asked for a legal opinion about the Humane Society that used to take dogs from the sheriff's office based on certain circumstances. Mr. Granito has ideas but needs legal advice, adding that he would like to address this as soon as possible. A response from Ms. LaChapelle received in response stated that she would not be able to provide the dog warden with any opinion on his request and to contact Mr. Flaiz directly. Mr. Granito brought up a text when he asked if there was something they could do, and Mr. Flaiz refused to assist or discuss what is going on. Mr. Granito mentioned that he reached out to the new Director of the Humane Society about getting together to discuss things, he offered to take him to lunch and got no response at all. Mr. Granito expressed that he has been with the county for twenty-two years, doing humane work for 30 some years, regarding the incident about the dog in the car in Hambden, the dog warden was contacted and told the Sheriff's Office to contact the humane officer at Rescue Village, but the humane officer said that's not our job. If a dog is in the car for twenty-four hours, that is animal abuse, and that is the responsibility of the humane officer. Mr. Granito stated that they did end up taking the dog to the shelter. Mr. Granito brought up the incident with the dog eating someone. They contacted the humane agent saying the case needed to be investigated, and they weren't sure if someone would take the dog. The dog warden did end up taking it. Mr. Granito stated that he would willing to take over all of it and do 24 hour, make him the humane agent, he would be more than glad to protect these animals and protect them. Some people just want to take other people's jobs as a political stunt, so "if you want to let me go, I understand and won't argue, but if you think the community is going to be better off, protecting and saving animals lives give it to Mr. Flaiz". Mr. Granito apologized for being upset, because after twenty-two years they are saying he isn't doing his job. Mr. Flaiz stated that the Sheriff came here and made the request, and the Sheriff asked Mr. Flaiz to come here because his office has had to deal with some of these issues. Mr. Granito brought up the case with the dog bite, that happened on October 12th, and the lady came into the Prosecutor's office on October 31st. She came to my office on October 29th, two days before Mr. Flaiz says I didn't talk to her, and Tracy Fronk, in an email, stated that the Prosecutor misclassified the dog. "Russell Police charged with a 4th degree misdemeanor, and Steve Patton who works in the Prosecutor's Office downgraded the case, and it was now charged like a speeding ticket, a minor misdemeanor, and now no longer has to appear in court. Mr. Granito expressed that what Mr. Flaiz is stating is wrong. Mr. Granito showed a picture of the victim and expressed that he has been contacted several times and feels the dog should have been euthanized but that hasn't been done due to the minor misdemeanor charge. Mr. Granito stated that he understands the Sheriff's office and he has been trying to get that fixed. Do they go out 24 / 7? Yes, but in situations that it is illegal to enter a person's property and take their dog, Mr. Flaiz says its legal. Mr. Granito had to go to an outside counsel and pay for the opinion that he couldn't get about it. Mr. Granito expressed that if the Board wants to fire him or give it to the Sheriff, that is up to them, but he is frustrated. He has worked here for twenty-two years, and the shelter needs work, expressing that the cages are in bad shape and asking if any of them had ever been there and seen the shelter.

Mr. Lennon asked Mr. Granito about the Humane Society officer. Mr. Granito stated that the humane officer's role is to protect dogs, and they work through the Geauga Humane Society. He read from the policy that they provided to him, that says injured domestic animals, other than dogs, severe cruelty and neglect, where there are injured or deceased animals, and emergency responders assistance where an animal other than a dog needs to be removed or detained for the

safety of the officer, which means, "Sheriff, we will help you with any other animal, except a dog". Mr. Granito stated that under 955 ORC, he doesn't have the authority to do what the humane officer does. Mr. Granito stated that the Executive Director is Kenneth Clark and Rescue Village operates Tuesday to Saturday. Mr. Lennon asked if the Sheriff should call them. Mr. Granito stated that yes, they should, and now they changed it, and we are going to fix it and help the Sheriff out, but apparently that's not good enough. Mr. Spidalieri stated that if it says other than dogs, who is going to do the correction? The Sheriff stated that they would respond out, hold the dog for 3-4 days and then the humane society would take them. Mr. Granito added that his deputy went and checked on the dog, provided food and water. Sheriff Hildenbrand asked why they didn't take the dog. Mr. Granito stated that after 24 hours if no one provides it food, water and shelter you can take it. Sheriff Hildenbrand asked how Mr. Granito had all those emails with him today. Mr. Granito stated that "it's because you threatened my job, months ago". Mr. Lennon asked if they have a policy about the process. Sheriff Hildenbrand stated that it's common sense, and a judgment call by the officer. Mr. Granito provided an example of a call that they received on Christmas day at 10 pm of a dog that someone had, and the officer didn't want to respond, so the dog warden's office contacted the person who had called about the dog and he said that it was back with the owner and to call the dog warden's office in the morning.

Mr. Lennon noted that this will need to be reviewed, and no decision will be made today. Mr. Granito stated that he will respond 24/7 because it's about the animal, but if we are changing to things that are not going to benefit the animal, then he will move on.

<u>AUDITOR / ADP – RESOLUTION TO GRANT APPROVAL TO GEAUGA COUNTY</u> <u>AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING BOARD TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH</u> <u>VILLAGE OF BURTON</u>

Administrator Frank Antenucci explained that the ADP Board was created in 1973 and the Board expanded the Board back in January 2024. With that came a section of the ORC 307.847 says that any contracts that ADP enters into, the Board of Commissioners need to authorize that. Mr. Antenucci stated that the assistance is mainly technology, communication, data processing, not really the record side of it. There is a pricing schedule that they will be charged for services. Mr. Spidalieri expressed that the Commissioners can't get the TVs in this room to work, they are so backed up but yet we want to take more on. Mr. Antenucci stated that they are not backed up, that he handles the tickets himself, but for the TVs it's been an ongoing discussion about bringing in an outside agency, to which Mr. Spidalieri stated that it was turned down. Mr. Antenucci stated the need to determine if what was to be provided by Intertech was done under the original contract. Mr. Spidalieri asked if the TVs are part of the IT in this building. ADP was not involved. Mr. Lennon asked if that was the problem. Mr. Antenucci stated that they don't understand what Intertech provided, but they need to determine if we got what we paid for. Mr. Lennon asked if we could get them working. Mr. Dvorak asked if the Prosecutor could send the contractor to come back and fix it, and communicate with IT that is going to take it over how it works.

Mr. Antenucci stated that this contract is to extend Office 365 to about four employees and is a light lift for ADP.

Motion:

by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute Resolution #24-211 to Grant Approval to the Geauga County Automatic Data Processing Board to Enter into an Agreement with the legislative authority of the Village of Burton, Geauga County, Ohio to provide microfilming, automatic data processing or other imaging processing or electronic data processing or recording services.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Date: December 17, 2024

Resolution: #24-211

Resolution by the Geauga County Board of Commissioners to Grant Approval to the Geauga County Automatic Data Processing Board to Enter into an Agreement with the Legislative Authority of the Village of Burton pursuant to R.C. 307.847(E)

WHEREAS, pursuant to R.C. 307.847(E), with the approval of the Board of County Commissioners, the Geauga County Automatic Data Processing Board may enter into a contract with the legislative authority of any municipal corporation, township, port authority, water or sewer district, school district, library district, county law library association, health district, park district, soil and water conservation district, conservancy district, other taxing district, or regional council established under Chapter 167. of the Revised Code, or with the board of county commissioners or the automatic data processing board or microfilming board of any other county, or with any other federal or state governmental agency, and such authorities may enter into contracts with the Geauga County Automatic Data Processing Board to provide microfilming, automatic data processing, or other image processing or electronic data processing or record-keeping services to any of them; and

WHEREAS, the Geauga County Automatic Data Processing Board seeks to enter into a contract for services with the legislative authority of the Village of Burton, Geauga County, Ohio ("the Village") to provide microfilming, automatic data processing, or other image processing or electronic data processing or record-keeping services to the Village; and

WHEREAS, a copy of the proposed contract between the Geauga County Automatic Data Processing Board and the Village is attached hereto as Exhibit A to this Resolution.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to R.C. 307.847(E) the Geauga County Board of Commissioners hereby grant approval to the Geauga County Automatic Data Processing Board to enter into a contract for services with the Village to provide microfilming, automatic data processing, or other image processing or electronic data processing or record-keeping services to the Village; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution becomes a part of the permanent record of the Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Aye Commissioner Spidalieri Abstain

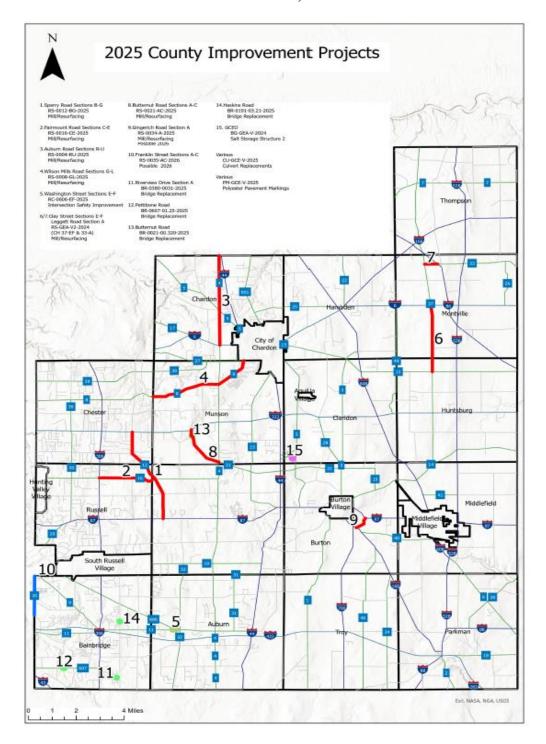
Discussion continued regarding bringing in outside vendors to look at AV equipment and get it fixed, but ADP feels they need to bring Intertech back in. Mr. Antenucci stated that he feels it was not configured properly. Mr. Lennon asked Mr. Dvorak if he asked questions at the ADP meeting, to which Mr. Dvorak stated that the contract was only for one year of service, and that the original people who put it in need to come in and help ADP understand what they did.

Assistant County Administrator Linda Burhenne explained that the system was up and working but, with lots of people using the conference rooms, even with signs on the wall, they don't follow directions and if something gets plugged in it messes with the programming.

*Commissioner Dvorak left the meeting

<u>COUNTY ENGINEER – 2025 PROJECTS</u>

Deputy Engineer Shane Hajjar explained that before the Board is a presentation map of the projects planned for 2025, that includes a number of resurfacing projects, a reconstruction on Butternut Road, several bridges and the traditional line striping program. Mr. Lennon asked about Fairmount Road. Mr. Hajjar explained that we did G-H, Sperry to Auburn, and at one point it was going to be one project but it was split into two. This will be West of Sperry to State Route 306. There are a few projects marked, including Franklin Street that involves multiple communities and Cuyahoga County to get that project together in hopes of getting it completed in 2026. Mr. Hajjar explained that Gingerich Road is a potential 2025-2026 project. Though it was done about 12 years ago, a lot of truck traffic uses it to bypass the Burton square and it is starting to show wear.



<u>COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – RESOLUTION TO IMPROVE FAIRMOUNT ROAD – RUSSELL AND NEWBURY TOWNSHIPS</u>

Mr. Hajjar asked the Board to approve and execute Resolution to improve Fairmount Road.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and

execute Resolution #24-212 to Improve Fairmount Road (CH-0016, Sections C-F)

in Russell and Newbury Townships.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Date: December 17, 2024

Resolution: #24 - 212

RESOLUTION TO IMPROVE FAIRMOUNT ROAD (CH-0016), SECTIONS C-E IN RUSSELL AND NEWBURY TOWNSHIPS

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Geauga County (Board) has determined the public convenience and welfare requires the improvements of Fairmount Road (CH-0016) Sections C-E, from Chillicothe Road (SR 306) to Sperry Road (CH 12) in accordance with Section 5555.022 of the Ohio Revised Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board that the public convenience and welfare requires the improvements by constructing and reconstructing culverts, performing drainage improvements, subgrade stabilization, asphalt resurfacing, shoulder, and related improvements, as necessary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Geauga County Engineer is hereby directed to complete necessary surveys, plans, profiles, cross sections, estimates of cost and specifications as required for the improvement and to transmit copies of the same to this Board at the time such plans are completed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no special assessments to real estate will be assessed to cover the damages, costs, and expenses of constructing this improvement and that the compensation, damages, costs, and expenses of constructing said improvement shall be appointed as follows:

The engineering and right of way costs shall be paid from local roadway improvement funding sources. The construction costs shall be paid from local roadway improvement funds and any federal and/or state grants and/or loans that may be secured for the project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if preliminary designs show that the project cannot be built within the current right of way, pursuant to Section 5555.09 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Geauga County Engineer is granted permission to negotiate with owners to secure the lands, right-of-way, easements, or work agreements required for the improvement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Clerk is hereby directed, upon the filing of the plans, specifications, estimates, etc., for the improvement by the County Engineer, to schedule a time at a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners for the Board to review the copies of the surveys, plans, profiles, cross sections, estimates and specifications for the improvement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Clerk is hereby instructed to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Russell Township and Newbury Township Boards of Trustees and the Geauga County Engineer.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

<u>COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – RESOLUTION TO IMPROVE SPERRY ROAD – CHESTER, NEWBURY AND RUSSELL TOWNSHIPS</u>

Mr. Hajjar asked the Board to approve and execute Resolution to improve Sperry Road.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and

execute Resolution #24-213 to Improve Sperry Road (CH-0012, Sections B-G) in

Chester, Newbury and Russell Townships.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Date: December 17, 2024

Resolution: #24 - 213

RESOLUTION TO IMPROVE SPERRY ROAD (CH-0012), SECTIONS B-G IN CHESTER, NEWBURY AND RUSSELL TOWNSHIPS

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Geauga County (Board) has determined the public convenience, and welfare requires the improvements of Sperry Road (CH-0012) Sections B-G, from Kinsman Road (SR 87) to Mayfield Road (US 322) in accordance with Section 5555.022 of the Ohio Revised Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board that the public convenience and welfare requires the improvements by constructing and reconstructing culverts, performing

drainage improvements, subgrade stabilization, asphalt resurfacing, shoulder, and related improvements, as necessary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Geauga County Engineer is hereby directed to complete necessary surveys, plans, profiles, cross sections, estimates of cost and specifications as required for the improvement and to transmit copies of the same to this Board at the time such plans are completed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no special assessments to real estate will be assessed to cover the damages, costs, and expenses of constructing this improvement and that the compensation, damages, costs, and expenses of constructing said improvement shall be appointed as follows:

The engineering and right of way costs shall be paid from local roadway improvement funding sources. The construction costs shall be paid from local roadway improvement funds and any federal and/or state grants and/or loans that may be secured for the project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if preliminary designs show that the project cannot be built within the current right of way, pursuant to Section 5555.09 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Geauga County Engineer is granted permission to negotiate with owners to secure the lands, right-of-way, easements, or work agreements required for the improvement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Clerk is hereby directed, upon the filing of the plans, specifications, estimates, etc., for the improvement by the County Engineer, to schedule a time at a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners for the Board to review the copies of the surveys, plans, profiles, cross sections, estimates and specifications for the improvement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Clerk is hereby instructed to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Chester Township, Newbury Township and Russell Township Boards of Trustees and the Geauga County Engineer.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

<u>COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – RESOLUTION TO IMPROVE GINGERICH ROAD –</u> BURTON TOWNSHIP

Mr. Hajjar asked the Board to approve and execute Resolution to improve Gingerich Road.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and

execute Resolution #24-214 to Improve Gingerich Road (CH-0034, Section A) in

Burton Township.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Date: December 17, 2024

Resolution: #24 - 214

RESOLUTION TO IMPROVE GINGERICH ROAD (CH-0034), SECTION A, IN BURTON TOWNSHIP

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Geauga County (Board) has determined the public convenience and welfare requires the improvements of Gingerich Road (CH-0034) Section A, from Tavern Road (SR 168) to Kinsman Road (SR 87) in accordance with Section 5555.022 of the Ohio Revised Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board that the public convenience and welfare requires the improvements by constructing and reconstructing culverts, performing drainage improvements, subgrade stabilization, asphalt resurfacing, shoulder, and related improvements, as necessary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Geauga County Engineer is hereby directed to complete necessary surveys, plans, profiles, cross sections, estimates of cost and specifications as required for the improvement and to transmit copies of the same to this Board at the time such plans are completed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no special assessments to real estate will be assessed to cover the damages, costs, and expenses of constructing this improvement and that the compensation, damages, costs, and expenses of constructing said improvement shall be appointed as follows:

The engineering and right of way costs shall be paid from local roadway improvement funding sources. The construction costs shall be paid from local roadway improvement funds and any federal and/or state grants and/or loans that may be secured for the project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if preliminary designs show that the project cannot be built within the current right of way, pursuant to Section 5555.09 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Geauga County Engineer is granted permission to negotiate with owners to secure the lands, right-of-way, easements, or work agreements required for the improvement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Clerk is hereby directed, upon the filing of the plans, specifications, estimates, etc., for the improvement by the County Engineer, to schedule a time at a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners for the Board to review the copies of the surveys, plans, profiles, cross sections, estimates and specifications for the improvement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Clerk is hereby instructed to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Burton Township Board of Trustees and the Geauga County Engineer.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

<u>COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – RESOLUTION TO IMPROVE THE REPLACEMENT OF</u> <u>HASKINS ROAD BRIDGE – BAINBRIDGE TOWNSHIP</u>

Mr. Hajjar asked the Board to approve and execute Resolution to improve the Replacement of the Haskins Road Bridge.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and

execute Resolution #24-215 to Improve the Replacement of the Haskins Road

Bridge (Structure BR-0191-03.21) in Bainbridge Township.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Date: December 17, 2024

Resolution: #24 - 215

RESOLUTION TO IMPROVE THE REPLACEMENT OF THE HASKINS ROAD BRIDGE, STRUCTURE BR-0191-03.21 (SFN 2830736) IN BAINBRIDGE TOWNSHIP

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Geauga County (Board) has determined the public convenience and welfare requires the reconstruction of the bridge over the McFarland Creek on Haskins Road (TR-0191), at mile marker 03.210, and the grading, paving, widening, and draining of a portion of Haskins Road in the immediate vicinity of the bridge in accordance with Section 5555.022 of the Ohio Revised Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board that the public convenience and welfare requires the replacement and reconstruction of the bridge, by the removal of the existing bridge structure, installation of a new bridge structure and the grading, paving, widening, and draining of the road in the immediate vicinity of the bridge as required.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Geauga County Engineer is hereby directed to complete necessary surveys, plans, profiles, cross sections, estimates of cost and specifications as required for the improvement and to transmit copies of the same to this Board at the time such plans are completed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no special assessments to real estate will be assessed to cover the damages, costs and expenses of constructing this improvement and that the compensation, damages, costs and expenses of constructing said improvement shall be appointed as follows:

The engineering and right of way costs shall be paid from local roadway improvement funding sources. The construction costs shall be paid from local roadway improvement funds and any federal and/or state grants and/or loans that may be secured for the project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if preliminary designs show that the project cannot be built within the current right of way, pursuant to Section 5555.09 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Geauga County Engineer is granted permission to negotiate with owners to secure the lands, right-of-way, easements, or work agreements required for the improvement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Clerk is hereby directed, upon the filing of the plans, specifications, estimates, etc., for the improvement by the County Engineer, to schedule a time at a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners for the Board to review the copies of the surveys, plans, profiles, cross sections, estimates and specifications for the improvement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Clerk is hereby instructed to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Bainbridge Township Board of Trustees and the Geauga County Engineer.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

<u>COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – RESOLUTION TO IMPROVE VARIOUS SECTIONS OF</u> <u>COUNTY ROADS BY APPLYING PAVEMENT MARKINGS, YEAR 2025</u>

Mr. Hajjar asked the Board to approve and execute Resolution to improve Various Sections of County Roads by applying Pavement Markings.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and

execute Resolution #24-216 to Improve Various Sections of County Roads by

Applying Pavement Markings, Year 2025.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Date: December 17, 2024

Resolution: #24 - 216

RESOLUTION TO IMPROVE VARIOUS SECTIONS OF COUNTY ROADS BY APPLYING PAVEMENT MARKINGS, YEAR 2025

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Geauga County (Board) has determined that the public convenience and welfare require safety improvements on various county roads in accordance with Section 5555.22 of the Ohio Revised Code; and

WHEREAS, this Board acknowledges that pavement markings must be maintained on county highways in Geauga County for safety reasons.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board that the public convenience and welfare require an improvement to various highways by applying pavement markings to county highways within the County as determined necessary by the Geauga County Engineer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Geauga County Engineer is hereby directed to

complete necessary surveys, plans, profiles, cross sections, estimates of cost and specifications as are required for the improvement and to transmit copies of the same to this board at the time such plans are completed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that special assessments to real estate will not be assessed to cover the damages, costs and expenses of constructing this improvement and that the compensation, damages, costs and expenses of constructing said improvement shall be appointed as follows:

The engineering and right of way costs shall be paid from local roadway improvement funding sources. The construction costs shall be paid from local roadway improvement funds and any federal and/or state grants and/or loans that may be secured for the project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if preliminary designs show that the project cannot be built within the current right of ways of the county highways, pursuant to Section 5555.09 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Geauga County Engineer is granted permission to negotiate with owners to secure the lands, right-of-way, easements or work agreements required for the improvement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Clerk is hereby directed, upon the filing of the plans, specifications, estimates, etc., for the improvement by the County Engineer, to schedule a time at a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners for the Board to review the copies of the surveys, plans, profiles, cross sections, estimates and specifications for the improvement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Clerk is hereby instructed to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Geauga County Engineer.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

<u>SHERIFF'S OFFICE – EXECUTE COMBINED PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS, LLC, INMATE TELECOMMUNICATIONS GENERAL SERVICES AGREEMENT, ADDENDUM C</u>

Chief Deputy Tom Rowan explained that this is an upgrade to the equipment in the jail and they use it to video visitation with family and they maintain the systems, and this is to update the operational hardware.

Motion:

by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Combined Public Communications, LLC, Inmate Telecommunications General Services Agreement, Addendum C to provide, install and maintain the operational hardware on eleven (11) in-pod, wall mounted AXXS view devices, along with upgrading and replacing the technology inside the currently installed kiosks within in the jail. This is for Remote Video Visitation along with Online Video Visitation.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

<u>SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT – EXECUTE LEASE AGREEMENT – SPACE</u> <u>IN THE COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING</u>

Executive Director Carmella Shale explained that this is the lease agreement for the space they occupy in the new building space on the 2^{nd} floor and basement.

Motion:

by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Lease Agreement between the Geauga County Board of Commissioners and Geauga Soil and Water Conservation District for space in the county office building defined as office number 240 on the second floor and room B002 in the basement for the term of three years, beginning January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2027 with an automatic renewal for a three year period, in the amount of \$25,000.00 per year for the initial term and then upon renewal in the amount of \$27,500.00 per year.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT – ADVERTISE PUBLIC HEARINGS – ADOPTING THE UPDATED "WATER MANAGEMENT AND SEDIMENT CONTROL REGULATIONS", AMENDED 2025

Ms. Shale explained that they have made some revisions to the regulations, which haven't been updated since 2020 and need to be done. They have to publish and hold public hearings, so this is to get those advertised.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to grant

permission to advertise to hold Public Hearings for the consideration of Adopting the Updated "Water Management and Sediment Control Regulations, Amended 2025. The Public Hearings will be held on Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at 9:45 a.m. and on Tuesday, January 28, 2025 at 9:45 a.m. Notice of these Public Hearings will be advertised on December 19, 2024, December 26, 2024 and on

the county website.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

<u>MAINTENANCE – AWARD BID – MAJOR WASTE DISPOSAL SERVICES, INCORPORATED – 2025-2028 NON-HAZARDOUS WASTE REMOVAL SERVICES</u>

Contract Coordinator Matt Sieracki asked the Board to award the Bid to Major Waste Disposal Services for the Non-Hazardous Waste Removal Services. Mr. Lennon asked if this was for all county offices and how it compared to previous pricing. Mr. Sieracki note that it was the same vendor and is a slight increase of about 3 percent.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to award the Bid

to Major Waste Disposal Services, Incorporated for the 2025-2028 Non-

Hazardous Waste Removal Services in the not to exceed amount of \$118,766.60 (\$22,140.00 2025-2026, \$23,025.60 2026-2027, \$23,601.00 2027-2028 and up to \$50,000.00 for roll-off dumpsters based on cost per ton rate bid) as they

represented the lowest and best bid.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

There was a brief discussion about the waste removal and recycling containers at the 470 Center Street location. The recycling containers are still there but the agreement is that they can be removed at any time. Mr. Sieracki noted that there are waste containers at 470 that can be removed if needed.

<u>MAINTENANCE – AWARD BID – AIR FORCE ONE, INCORPORATED – 2025-2028 "HILL"</u> <u>HVAC MAINTENANCE</u>

Mr. Sieracki asked the Board to award the Bid to Air Force One for the 2025-2028 Hill HVAC maintenance services.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to award the Bid

to Air Force One, Incorporated for the 2025-2028 "Hill" HVAC Maintenance Services in the not to exceed amount of \$156,154.00 (\$28,718.00 2025-2026, \$28,718.00 2026-2027, \$28,718.00 2027-2028 and up to \$70,000.00 for service at labor rates bid for 2025-2028) as they represented the lowest and best bid.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

<u>DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – AGREEMENT – UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL</u> <u>GEAUGA MEDICAL CENTER - TIE INTO COUNTY SERVICES CENTER WATER SYSTEM – IN EXCHANGE FOR UH WELL NUMBER FOUR AND EQUIPMENT</u>

Director Nicholas Gorris explained that he was asking the Board to approve an agreement with UH Geauga Medical Center for them to Tie-Into the County Services Center Water System and waive tap in fees and in exchange for providing UH well number 4 and equipment. Mr. Gorris stated that well 4 is a good producing well and will add to our system. Mr. Lennon expressed that this is a great solution to a problem the hospital was having with iron that caused issues with the sterilization process and this will improve on that solution. Mr. Gorris added that UH has recently switched facilities management companies, and feel good about how the partnership will work. Our system was designed to include the hospital, and everyone will benefit from this. Mr. Lennon expressed that the idea for this area was eventually to become a corridor and has potential for growth.

Motion:

by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the Agreement between the Geauga County Board of Commissioners and University Hospital Geauga Medical Center accepting the terms that hereby permits the Hospital to tie into the County Services Center Water System for domestic water service and fire service at four separate points and agrees to waive the tap-in fees for the four connections and in return receive through bill of sale, the existing UH Well Number Four and associated mechanical equipment upon completion of all terms and conditions as defined.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

<u>DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – AUTHORIZE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD TO</u>

<u>EXECUTE REVISED DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY – DIVISION</u>

<u>OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE (DEFA) OFFICE OF FINANCIAL</u>

<u>ASSISTANCE (OFA) APPLICATIONS FORMS – MCFARLAND CREEK WASTEWATER</u>

<u>TREATMENT PLANT RENOVATION AND UPGRADE</u>

Mr. Gorris explained that this is a re-do on the DEFA loan paperwork for the McFarland Creek project.

Motion:

by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and authorize Ralph Spidalieri, President of the Board to execute the revised Division of Environmental Protection Agency, Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance (DEFA) Office of Financial Assistance (OFA) Application forms in regard to the McFarland Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Renovation and Upgrade Project in the estimated loan amount of \$27,500,000.00, the Board previously took action on December 4, 2024 to authorize the execution of the updated application.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dwordt Absen

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

<u>DEPARTMENT ON AGING – CONTRACT AGREEMENT – SYMBA AND SNAP GOURMET</u> <u>FOODS, INCORPORATED – ELDERLY NUTRITION PROGRAM, PREPARATION AND</u> <u>DELIVERY OF CATERED MEALS – ACCEPT PERFORMANCE BOND – RELEASE BID</u> <u>BOND</u>

Director Jessica Boalt asked the Board to approve and execute the Contract Agreement with Symba and Snap Gourmet Foods for the Elderly Nutrition Program and to accept the Performance Bond and release the Bid Bond.

Motion:

by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the Contract Agreement with Symba and Snap Gourmet Foods, Incorporated to provide delivery of meals according to State and Federal Guidelines for the "Elderly Nutrition Program" preparation and delivery of catered meals for the period January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2026 in the amount of \$1,041,460.00 (\$4.68 per congregate meal, \$4.99 per home delivered meal, \$4.58 per frozen/holiday meal and \$5.80 per therapeutic meal).

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to accept the

Performance Bond from Symba and Snap Gourmet Foods, Incorporated for the Elderly Nutrition Program, preparation and delivery of catered meals, and

further release the Bid Bond.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

<u>DEPARTMENT ON AGING – WAIVE IRREGULARITY IN COMMERCIAL GENERAL</u>
<u>LIABILITY INSURANCE – CHERISHED COMPANIONS HOME CARE LLC, THE HILLS AT</u>
<u>HOME INCORPORATED D.B.A. OHMAN FAMILY LIVING - HOME CARE SERVICES:</u>
<u>ASSISTANCE WITH DAILY LIVING PROGRAM</u>

Ms. Boalt explained that Cherished Companions and the Hills at Home d.b.a. Ohman Family Living for the Commercial General Liability Insurance that provided claims-made and not per occurrence and the bids respond to all the material aspects of the project.

There was a brief discussion about Mr. Lennon having personal interaction with Cherished Companions but that it does not affect the contracts today.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to waive the

irregularity in the Cherished Companions Home Care LLC and The Hills at Home Incorporated d.b.a. Ohman Family Living Bids for the Home Care

Services: Assistance with Daily Living Program for Geauga Residents Age 60 and over, for the period January 1, 204 through December 31, 2026, where the bidders provided the claims-made level of Commercial General Liability

Insurance, rather than the per occurrence level of Commercial General Liability Insurance as the deviation is not substantial and the bids respond to the bid

specifications in all material respects.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

<u>DEPARTMENT ON AGING – CONTRACT AGREEMENT – QUALCARE, LLC – HOME CARE</u> <u>SERVICES: ASSISTANCE WITH DAILY LIVING PROGRAM – GEAUGA RESIDENTS AGE 60</u> <u>AND OVER</u>

Ms. Boalt asked the Board to execute the contract agreement with QualCare LLC for the Home Care Services – assistance with daily living.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and

execute the Contract Agreement with QualCare, LLC for the Home Care

Services: Assistance with Daily Living Program for Geauga Residents Age 60 and over for the period January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2026 for 5,768 units of service at a reimbursement rate of \$32.00 per unit for a total contract amount of

\$184,576.00.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

<u>DEPARTMENT ON AGING – QUALCARE, LLC – ACCEPT PERFORMANCE BOND – RELEASE BID BOND – HOME CARE SERVICES: ASSISTANCE WITH DAILY LIVING</u>

Ms. Boalt asked the Board to accept the Performance Bond from QualCare LLC and release the Bid Bond.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to accept the

Performance Bond from QualCare, LLC for the Home Care Services: Assistance

with Daily Living Program, and further release the Bid Bond.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

<u>DEPARTMENT ON AGING - CONTRACT AGREEMENT – THE HILLS AT HOME</u> <u>INCORPORATED, D.B.A. OHMAN FAMILY LIVING AT HOME – HOME CARE</u> <u>SERVICES: ASSISTANCE WITH DAILY LIVING PROGRAM – GEAUGA RESIDENTS AGE 60</u> <u>AND OVER</u>

Ms. Boalt asked the Board to execute the contract agreement with The Hills at Home d.b.a. Ohman Family Living for the Home Care Services – assistance with daily living.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and

execute the Contract Agreement with The Hills at Home Incorporated d.b.a. Ohman Family Living at Home for the Home Care Services: Assistance with Daily Living Program for Geauga Residents Age 60 and over for the period January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2026 for 4,368 units of service at a reimbursement rate of \$32.00 per unit for a total contract amount of \$139,776.00.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

<u>DEPARTMENT ON AGING – THE HILLS AT HOME INCORPORATED D.B.A. OHMAN</u> <u>FAMILY LIVING – ACCEPT PERFORMANCE BOND – RELEASE BID BOND – HOME CARE</u> <u>SERVICES: ASSISTANCE WITH DAILY LIVING</u>

Ms. Boalt asked the Board to accept the Performance Bond from The Hills at Home Incorporated d.b.a. Ohman Family Living and release the Bid Bond.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to accept the

Performance Bond from The Hills at Home Incorporated d.b.a. Ohman Family Living for the Home Care Services: Assistance with Daily Living Program, and

further release the bid bond.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Ave

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

<u>DEPARTMENT ON AGING – CONTRACT AGREEMENT – CHERISHED COMPANIONS</u> <u>HOME CARE, LLC - HOME CARE SERVICES: ASSISTANCE WITH DAILY LIVING</u> <u>PROGRAM – GEAUGA RESIDENTS AGE 60 AND OVER</u>

Ms. Boalt asked the Board to execute the contract agreement with Cherished Companions Home Care LLC for the Home Care Services – assistance with daily living. Mr. Lennon again noted that they provide service to his family.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and

execute the Contract Agreement with Cherished Companions Home Care, LLC for the Home Care Services: Assistance with Daily Living Program for Geauga Residents Age 60 and over for the period January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2026 for 14,864 units of service at a reimbursement rate of \$32.00 per unit for a

total contract amount of \$475,648.00.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

<u>DEPARTMENT ON AGING – CHERISHED COMPANIONS HOME CARE, LLC - ACCEPT PERFORMANCE BOND – RELEASE BID BOND – HOME CARE SERVICES: ASSISTANCE WITH DAILY LIVING</u>

Ms. Boalt asked the Board to accept the Performance Bond from Cherished Companions and release the Bid Bond.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to accept the

Performance Bond from Cherished Companions Home Care, LLC for the Home Care Services: Assistance with Daily Living Program and further release the bid

bond.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

<u>DEPARTMENT ON AGING – LEASE – BAINBRIDGE COMMUNITY UNITED CHURCH OF</u> <u>CHRIST – SENIOR PROGRAMS AND SERVICES</u>

Ms. Boalt asked the Board to approve the lease agreement with the Bainbridge Community United Church of Christ for the senior center in Bainbridge and expressed that this is a better option than what was originally proposed.

Motion:

by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the Lease between the Geauga County Board of Commissioners and Bainbridge Community United Church of Christ to provide senior programs and services for a five-year period, January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2029 in the annual / monthly amounts per year — Year #1 - \$13,440.00 / \$1,120.00 per month, Year #2 - \$13,980.00 / \$1,165.00 per month, Year #3 - \$14,550.00 / \$1,212.50 per month, Year #4 - \$15,300.00 / \$1,275.00 per month and Year #5 - \$16,098.00 / \$1,3431.50 per month.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

<u>DEPARTMENT ON AGING – LEASE – VILLAGE OF MIDDLEFIELD – SENIOR PROGRAMS</u> <u>AND SERVICES</u>

Ms. Boalt asked the Board to approve the lease agreement with the Village of Middlefield for the senior center in Middlefield.

Motion:

by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the Lease between the Geauga County Board of Commissioners and the Village of Middlefield to provide senior programs and services for a five-year period, January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2029 in the annual / quarterly amounts per year — Year #1 - \$14,280.00 / \$3,570.00 per quarter, Year #2 - \$14,860.00 / \$3,715.00 per quarter, Year #3 - \$15,480.00 / \$3,870.00 per quarter, Year #4 - \$16,280.00 / \$4,070.00 per quarter and Year #5 - \$17,120.00 / \$4,280.00 per quarter.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

<u>DEPARTMENT ON AGING – APPROVE SUBMISSION OF CREDIT CARD APPLICATION – NECESSARY DOCUMENTS – GEAUGA CREDIT UNION - VISA</u>

Ms. Boalt explained that with the recent credit card policy that was approved for the additional uses under the O.R.C. they are asking to apply for a Visa from the Geauga Credit Union and am asking for five cards to be used at each of the senior centers and one here. There are cash handling procedures in place and secured. Mr. Boalt explained that an emergency situation would be when your food vendor can't get here due to weather.

Motion:

by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve the submission of a credit card application and necessary documents to the Geauga Credit Union for a Visa to use in accordance with O.R.C. 301.27 with a requested credit line of \$15,000.00 and a total of five (5) cards.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE - APPROVE UPDATED SCHEDULE OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY AND UTILIZING COUNTY'S EMPLOYEE DISHONESTY AND FAITHFUL PERFORMANCE OF DUTY POLICY IN LIEU OF SURETY BOND

Mr. Morgan explained that this is the schedule of Elected and Newly Elected Officials that utilize the County Employee Dishonesty and Faithful Performance of Duty in lieu of a surety bond.

Motion:

by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve the updated Schedule of Individuals covered by and utilizing the County's Employee Dishonesty and Faithful Performance of Duty Policy in lieu of a Surety Bond, in accordance with Resolution #20-091 approved August 11, 2020 for Current Elected Officials, Newly Elected and Re-Elected Officials as outline in the terms, and further submit the updated schedule of individuals covered by the policy to CORSA, and which coverage shall be immediately in effect.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE - APPROVE CREATION, TITLE AND JOB DESCRIPTION -<u>ADMINISTRATIVE / FISCAL ASSISTANT (#1331) – APPROVE REVISED ORGANIZATIONAL</u> <u>CHART – INCLUDE NEW POSITION, REMOVE FISCAL ASSISTANT – ADVERTISE</u> <u>POSITION – INTERNAL FIVE DAYS – IF NO CANDIDATE, EXTERNAL UNTIL FILLED</u> Ms. Burhenne explained that the Board promoted Ms. Erickson to the Benefits Specialist position when Ms. Bidlack left and so the front desk position was reviewed, and she asks the Board to approve a new position and job description.

Motion:

by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve the creation, title and job description for the position of Administrative / Fiscal Assistant (#1331) to be effective December 17, 2024.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon

Absent Aye

AyeCommissioner Dvorak Commissioner Spidalieri

Ms. Burhenne asked the Board to approve the revised organizational chart and then remove the previous position.

Motion:

by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve the revised organizational chart to include the new position of Administrative /Fiscal Assistant (#1331) and remove the Fiscal Assistant position, to be effective December 17, 2024.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

Ms. Burhenne asked the Board to advertise for the position, internally first and then outside if needed until filled.

Motion:

by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to grant permission to advertise for the position of Administrative / Fiscal Assistant (#1331) internally for a period of five days, with applications accepted from Wednesday, December 18, 2024 through 4:30 p.m. on Monday, December 23, 2024. If no qualified candidate is found, then advertise externally until the position is filled.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

<u>PUBLIC APOLOGY – DOG WARDEN DISCUSSION</u>

Mr. Spidalieri expressed that he needed to say that what happened today with the Dog Warden was not the venue where that should have been listened to, and Mr. Dvorak is not here. It

disappoints him that if this was such a big problem we should have been given a heads-up on this. Whether Mr. Granito is wrong or right, it was more of a court proceeding and not the normal process. "I'm not a judge I'm a Commissioner and I'm not here to find someone guilty and am not happy with what took place, and this was not the stage to do this". This was preset up with an agenda that he was not made aware of. Ms. Burhenne stated that we were asked to put it on the agenda. Mr. Spidalieri stated that we need to be careful with these situations and people are given the ability of due process. It wasn't a comfortable position for him to be here to listen to this, and that Mr. Granito handled himself well considering he was ambushed by multiple people. Mr. Spidalieri stated that in his position as Chief Deputy in Portage County, the deputies will pick up dogs and take them to a temporary holding facility and have an agreement with the Dog Warden there because they understand they cannot work all those hours, and the workload doesn't justify the cost for the few calls during those morning hours. He is not saying that it isn't good, bad or indifferent or "that's what we should be doing, but we make concessions to work with our dog warden there and am involved in a much larger agency then what is here. This is an unfortunate situation, and the Directors of our Departments try very hard to do a good job and I don't want that to be misrepresented to people of what our directors do, they commit to serve this county at the highest level", and he is very disturbed by what took place today. He is disappointed in Mr. Dvorak for trying to put this in a public position like this. When we have had employee issues, we gather facts and put together a plan, whatever the discipline may be, and it's done to maintain the integrity of the person. Mr. Spidalieri needed to apologize that he didn't know this was going take place today and apologized to everyone here that had to observe that. It lacked class and professionalism and was not the way it should be done. Mr. Lennon agreed with Mr. Spidalieri. A local resident expressed that what happened today should have never happened. Mr. Lennon stated that this was not the forum for the suggestion of the Sheriff wanting to take over for the Dog Warden. Mr. Spidalieri stated that we have never even looked at that budgetarily. There have been questions over the years on the legalities of what can be done, and we shouldn't point fingers. Mr. Lennon expressed to Mr. Dvorak that this was not the forum for this, and it should not have been done here. Mr. Lennon expressed how things were when he first started as a commissioner and how they may have disagreed but in the end, they worked together to find a solution. However, it seems to be let's start a fire and then throw gasoline on it and see if someone can really get this going and come in and act like a hero. Mr. Lennon stated that there has been an unprofessional level, and the public sees that government is arguing and it is a bad reflection on Geauga County, and something needs to change. There are just too many games.

Mr. Morgan added that since the meeting was held with the Sheriff, Mr. Granito has been working on creating policy to do what the Sheriff wants him to do but not put the county in a legal issue down the road. Mr. Lennon added that we cannot run this on common sense, as each person has a different opinion and there needs to be some type of policy and procedure on how it should be dealt with. Mr. Lennon apologized for today and the occurrence, as it was unprofessional, and it felt like a set up. Mr. Spidalieri added that it took him by surprise, and he didn't appreciate it.

Mr. Spidalieri gave kudos to Mr. Granito for bringing data, emails and correspondence with him. There is a back side of this, whether political or personal, but Mr. Spidalieri was made aware of a few situations the Sheriff had and to his knowledge they worked on trying to figure out a solution. Mr. Spidalieri stated that he doesn't know what the set up is, but the Sheriff was here to discuss this, the Prosecutor was here to discuss this, and Mr. Dvorak put it on the agenda, and they obviously knew what they were doing. Mr. Spidalieri had no knowledge of what this was, questioning performance of a job, gathering facts and n a public setting to put an employee on the spot like this. Mr. Spidalieri needed to apologize as there was high emotions and foul language.

Mr. Spidalieri stated that people love their animals, their dogs and Mr. Granito has an enormous passion for saving animals, by saving them from being killed in other counties and states and he has been working to raise money to keep his services going there. He has a tremendous following in this county, and he is sure our phone is going to be ringing and don't know what the answer is

<u>COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – RESOLUTION – AMERICAS 250</u>

Judge Trapp was there on behalf of the Bar Association regarding a resolution that was passed in support of Geauga County becoming part of the America's 250 community that enables them to apply for grants. Judge Trapp explained that on July 4, 2026, we will be celebrating the 250th

anniversary of our country's independence. The Bar Association took on the project of a time capsule in the Annex and mailings in conjunction with Law Day activities over the next two years. They are working on a history project.

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and

execute Resolution #24-217 Supporting the Ohio Commission for the United

States SemiQuincentennial (America250-OH).

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Resolution: #24-217

Date: December 17, 2024

SUPPORTING THE OHIO COMMISSION FOR THE UNITED STATES SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL (AMERICA250-OH)

WHEREAS, the Ohio legislature and the Governor created AMERICA250-OH in 2021 to plan, encourage, develop and coordinate the commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the United States and Ohio's integral role in that event and the role of its people on the nation's past, present and future; and

WHEREAS, AMERICA250-OH hopes to engage ALL Ohioans and ALL 88 counties through their many signature and officially recognized programs, projects and events over the next several years by inspiring future leaders and celebrating all Ohioans contributions to the nation over the last 250 years; and

WHEREAS, by adoption of AMERICA250-OH Resolution we hope to educate, preserve, innovate, and celebrate; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commissioners of Geauga County hereby endorse AMERICA250-OH and their mission to educate, preserve, innovate and celebrate EVERY Ohioan in EVERY county; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Geauga County legislative delegation and AMERICA250-OH Commission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution become part of the permanent record of the Board of County Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

<u>COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – EXECUTIVE SESSION</u>

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to move into

Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the compensation of public

employees.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

The Board moved into Executive Session at 11:55 a.m. with Mr. Morgan, Ms. Burhenne, and Ms. Boalt. The Board returned at 12:17 p.m. and as a result the following actions were taken:

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve the

designated step increases for employees of the Department on Aging, in

accordance with the chart* (listed below) to be effective with Payroll #1 in 2025.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

Kirsten Bibby	Grade 10, Step 6	Elizabeth Oliverio	Grade 5, Step 5
Duane Bidlack	Grade 11, Step 6	Natalie Pajk	Grade 10, Step 5
Rudolph Breunig	Grade 10, Step 4	Laura Reed	Grade 6, Step 4
Valerie Garland	Grade 6, Step 4	Bonnie Tayek	Grade 6, Step 4
Mindy Hudek	Grade 5, Step 4	Cathie Wells	Grade 6, Step 4
Jackie Kleve	Grade 6, Step 4	Melissa Wheeler	Grade 12, Step 4
Virginia Lester	Grade 6, Step 4	Kim Yonosik	Grade 10, Step 4
Deborah Markovic	Grade 5, Step 6	Jacci Paclick	Grade 6, Step 4
Jeanne Molzon	Grade 6, Step 4	FT/PT Rec & Ed	Grade 6, Step 4
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*New Step Effective Payroll #1 2025

Motion: by Commissioner Lennon, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve the

step increases for specific employees* in the Building Department,

Commissioners' Office, and in the Department of the Dog Warden, to be effective

with Payroll #1 in 2025.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

Building:

Doreen Eppich Grade 10, Step 2 Allison Lesniak Grade 6, Step 5

Commissioners' Office:

Adrian Gorton Grade – Exec 17, Step 5

Dog Warden:

Patricia Evans Grade 5, Step 6 Lacey Portman Grade 4, Step 3

Cheryl Rosenberger Grade 4 Step 3
*New Step Effective Payroll #1 2025

<u>COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE - BOARD APPOINTMENTS / RE-APPOINTMENTS</u>

<u>AIRPORT AUTHORITY BOARD</u>

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to re-appoint

Christopher Schloss to the Airport Authority Board for a four-year term, effective

January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2028.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

<u>PLANNING COMMISSION</u>

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to appoint Enzo

Perfetto to the Planning Commission Board for a three-year term, effective

January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2027.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to re-appoint

Nicholas Gorris to the Planning Commission Board for a three-year term,

effective January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2027.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Lennon Aye

Commissioner Dvorak Absent Commissioner Spidalieri Aye

LAW LIBRARY

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to re-appoint

Catherine Gillette to the Law Library Resources Board for a five-year term,

effective January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2029.

Roll Call Vote:	Commissioner Lennon Commissioner Dvorak Commissioner Spidalieri	Aye Absent Aye			
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS a) A monthly report filed by the Geauga County Sheriff's Office of an account of expenses for the Inmate meals for the month ending November 2024.					
<u>OTHER</u> The Board reviewed upcoming eve	nts.				

<u>MEETINGS</u>

- Tue., 12/17 Investment Advisory Committee meeting, 9:00 a.m. County Offices, Room B303
- Wed., 12/25 County Offices will be closed in honor of Christmas. Twenty-four-hour operations will continue to operate as normal.
- Fri., 12/27 The Commissioners will hold session at 9:30 a.m., which will include a Work Session regarding the Organizational Meeting.
- Mon., 12/30 Board of Revision, Special Meeting, 9:00 a.m., Auditor's Appraisal Conference Room
- Wed., 1/1 County Offices will be closed in honor of New Year's Day. Twenty-four-hour operations will continue to operate as normal.
- Tue., 1/7 The Commissioners will hold session at 9:30 a.m. and include the Annual Organizational Meeting.

BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Lennon to adjourn the meeting at 12:22 p.m.

Geauga County Board of Commissioners

Ralph Spidalieri

James W. Dvorak

Timothy C. Lennon—Carolyn Brakey, Esq.

Christine Blair, Commissioners' Clerk

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