

Commissioners' Journal
June 3, 2025

The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on June 3, 2025, 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.

President of the Board James W. Dvorak opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. by leading the Board and audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Dvorak read the following prayer:

*God is saying to you, I know you feel tired, stressed and completely overwhelmed,
But know that I have your back.*

I am going to send you a blessing to remind you that I'm always in your corner.

Amen.

MEETING MINUTES

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of May 6, 2025.

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

APPROVE FINANCIALS

Budget and Finance Manager Adrian Gorton explained the financials for today as including a Blanket equipment purchase order from the Department on Aging for the remaining encumbrance to purchase an ADA accessible van to replace the one that was wrecked and totaled by CORSA; Contract purchase order from the Commissioners to Garrett Electronics Incorporated for the Courthouse metal detector; Travel request for the Common Pleas Court; a payment for the ADP Board to Star Seven Six, Ltd. for the Service Now help desk management software in the amount of \$97,776.72 (in 2024 the amount was \$76,553.76); and a payment for Maintenance to County Wide Windows to fix and replace the twelve windows on the Geauga County Bicentennial Bell Building at the Geauga County Fairgrounds in the amount of \$17,278.00.

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Brakey to approve and execute Resolution #25-128 itemizing the financials for the meeting of June 3, 2025.

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

AUDITOR AND TREASURER – MONTHLY STATEMENT OF COUNTY FINANCES – MARCH AND APRIL 2025

Mr. Gorton asked the Board to approve the monthly statement of county finances filed by the Auditor and Treasurer for the months of March and April 2025.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to accept, execute and file the monthly Statement of County Finances filed by the County Auditor for the months of March and April 2025, pursuant to O.R.C. 319.35.

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

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to accept, execute and file the monthly Statement of County Finances filed by the County Treasurer for the months of March and April 2025, pursuant to O.R.C. 319.35.

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

PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE – ARCHITECT AGREEMENT – THENDESIGN ARCHITECTURE, LTD. – OFFICE RENOVATION PROJECT

Prosecutor Jim Flaiz explained that last year the Board approved security and office enhancements to their office space. They have been working with ThenDesign Architecture (TDA) and the next step is the agreement for the project. Commissioner Spidalieri asked if this was within the funds that were approved. Mr. Flaiz stated that the estimate last year was for \$204,000.00 and the architect fee would be on top of that. Since that estimate is about eight months old, they suggested we get a new estimate as costs have gone up. Mr. Flaiz noted that the Courthouse and the Youth Center were more of a priority than his office renovation, but he would like to move forward.

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Brakey to approve and execute the Architect Agreement with ThenDesign Architecture, Ltd. for the Prosecutor's Office Renovation Project in an amount not to exceed \$22,500.00.

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

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES – RELEASE BID/PERFORMANCE BOND – MEYER DESIGN – PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT

Clerk Christine Blair explained that this is one of several bid releases the Board will see in the coming weeks. Ms. Blair noted that she no longer had room in the bond drawer and was doing some cleaning out of old files. She is asking to release bonds from previous projects that have been completed.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to release the Bid/Performance Bond for Meyer Design for the Playground Replacement Project, as all specifications have been satisfied.

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

CLERK OF COURTS – SURETY BOND – SHEILA BEVINGTON – SALE OF WATERCRAFT CERTIFICATES AND REGISTRATION

Ms. Blair explained that last year, Ms. Bevington reached out to the Commissioners' office about the sale of Watercraft Certificates and Registration. The bond was received, the invoice was paid, and this is the renewal of that bond through 2026. Commissioner Brakey inquired if Ms. Bevington just recently started to do this and where boat owners would have obtained the documents previously. Ms. Blair explained that this is in conjunction with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and would have been directly through them. This is just another option for boat owners, to be able to obtain them at the Title Office.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to accept and approve the Surety Bond for Sheila Bevington for the sale of Watercraft Certificates and Registration in the amount of \$8,000.00, for the State of Ohio, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Watercraft, effective from July 23, 2024, with renewal for the period July 23, 2025 through July 23, 2026.

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

COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – AWARD BID – RONYAK PAVING, INCORPORATED – ASPHALT RESURFACING OF WILSON MILLS ROAD

Deputy Engineer Shane Hajjar asked the Board to award the Bid to Ronyak Paving for the resurfacing of Wilson Mills Road in Munson Township. The Bid Bond submitted shall be held as

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the Performance Bond on the project.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to award the Bid to Ronyak Paving, Incorporated for the Asphalt Resurfacing of Wilson Mills Road (CH-0008, Sections G-L) in Munson Township in the amount of \$1,269,675.00 as they represented the lowest and best bid. The Bid Bond submitted shall be held to serve as the Performance Bond for this project.

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

COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – AWARD BID – OGLESBY CONSTRUCTION, INCORPORATED – PAVEMENT MARKINGS OF VARIOUS ROADS

Mr. Hajjar asked the Board to award the Bid to Oglesby Construction for the pavement markings of various roads. The Bid Bond submitted shall be held as the Performance Bond for this project.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to award the Bid to Oglesby Construction, Incorporated for the Pavement Markings of Various Roads in Geauga County in the amount of \$269,572.85 as they represented the lowest and best bid. The Bid Bond submitted shall be held to serve as the Performance Bond for this project.

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

COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – AWARD BID – RONYAK PAVING, INCORPORATED – PLACEMENT OF CRACK SEAL ON VARIOUS ROADS

Mr. Hajjar asked the Board to award the Bid to Ronyak Paving, Incorporated for the Placement of Crack Seal on Various Roads. The Bid Bond submitted shall be held as the Performance Bond. Mr. Dvorak asked how many miles of crack seal they will be doing. Mr. Hajjar explained that he didn't want to say the wrong number, but thinks it is about thirty-five miles. In past years they haven't been able to get it all done in-house, and this year's winter proved that much more needed to be done, so they chose to go out to bid.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to award the Bid to Ronyak Paving, Incorporated for the Placement of Crack Seal on Various Roads in Geauga County in the amount of \$232,825.00 as they represented the lowest and best bid. The Bid Bond submitted shall be held to serve as the Performance Bond for this project.

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

COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – UNIT PRICE CONTRACT – ECLIPSE COMPANIES, LLC – REALIGNMENT OF BAINBRIDGE ROAD AT WASHINGTON STREET TRAFFIC SIGNALIZATION IN AUBURN TOWNSHIP

Mr. Hajjar asked the Board to execute the Unit Price Contract with Eclipse Company.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the Unit Price Contract with Eclipse Companies, LLC for the Realignment of Bainbridge Road at Washington Street Traffic Signalization in Auburn Township in the amount of \$575,180.57.

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

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COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – UNIT PRICE CONTRACT – GRADE LINE,
INCORPORATED - REPLACEMENT OF RIVERVIEW DRIVE BRIDGE

Mr. Hajjar asked the Board to approve the Unit Price Contract with Grade Line, Incorporated.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the Unit Price Contract with Grade Line, Incorporated for the Replacement of the Riverview Drive Bridge (Structure #0380-00.31) in Bainbridge Township in the amount of \$515,636.45.

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

COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – UNIT PRICE CONTRACT – GRADE LINE,
INCORPORATED – REPLACEMENT OF THE HASKINS ROAD BRIDGE

Mr. Hajjar asked the Board to approve the Unit Price Contract with Grade Line, Incorporated.

Ms. Brakey explained that she had reached out to the Assistant Prosecuting Attorney for the Engineer's Office to inquire about the contract stating that it was being signed in the City of Chardon. Ms. Brakey wondered if it needed to be updated. Mr. Hajjar said that the Engineer's mailing address is Chardon.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the Unit Price Contract with Grade Line, Incorporated for the Replacement of the Haskins Road Bridge (Structure #0191-03.210) in Bainbridge Township in the amount of \$280,896.50.

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

SHERIFF'S OFFICE – OFFICE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES 2025 STATE VIOLENT
CRIME REDUCTION GRANT – PREAWARD CONDITIONS AND STANDARD ASSURANCES

Sheriff Scott Hildenbrand explained this is from an initiative the Governor had last year called the State Violent Crime Reduction Grant. It is for Flock Cameras, and this is the pre-award conditions and standard assurances for a grant of \$12,750.00 with no local match.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Office of Criminal Justice Services 2025 State Violent Crime Reduction Grant (#2025-VC-VCR-78337) Pre-award Conditions and Standard Assurances for the purchase of six (6) Flock Cameras in the amount of \$12,750.00 (No Local Match). This grant is for the period January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.

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

BUILDING DEPARTMENT – APPROVE UNPAID PERSONAL LEAVE OF ABSENCE –
ZORAN ANICIC

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve an unpaid personal leave of absence for Zoran Anicic, Multi-Certified Inspector IV, for one hundred twenty (120) hours during the period July 9, 2025 through July 30, 2025. This will extend his probationary period by one hundred twenty (120) hours.

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

BUILDING DEPARTMENT – UNPAID LEAVE (MEDICAL) – DANIEL SPADA

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve up to forty hours of unpaid leave (medical) for Daniel Spada, Chief Building Official during the period June 2, 2025 through June 6, 2025.

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

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – RESOLUTION
AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF GEAUGA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO MAKE
APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF OHIO DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AGENCY –
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER PY2025 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
ALLOCATION PROGRAM

Project Manager Elaine Malkamaki asked the Board to approve the resolution to make application for the PY2025 Community Development Block Grant for the two projects and alternates, along with General Administration and Fair Housing.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Resolution #25-129 Authorizing the Board of Geauga County Commissioners to make Application to the State of Ohio Development Services Agency - for Financial Assistance under the State of Ohio's PY 2025 Community Development Block Grant Allocation Program, including Public Facilities: Burton Public Library and Chardon Township and Alternate projects, General Administration and Fair Housing and further authorize the Program Manager to electronically submit the application.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Date: June 3, 2025
Resolution: #25-129

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF GEAUGA
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO MAKE APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF OHIO
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AGENCY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THE STATE
OF OHIO'S PY 2025 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
ALLOCATION PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio, Development Services Agency, provides financial assistance to local governments for the purpose of addressing local needs; and

WHEREAS, the County of Geauga, Ohio desires to participate in the State of Ohio Development Services Agency, Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Allocation Program (the "Program") to receive financial assistance in the amount of \$276,000; and

WHEREAS, the County of Geauga, Ohio has the authority to apply for financial assistance and to administer the amounts received from the Program; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Geauga County must direct and authorize the Department of Community & Economic Development, Project Manager Elaine Malkamaki to act in connection with the application and to provide such additional information as may be required.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF GEAUGA COUNTY, OHIO:

SECTION I. That the Geauga County Board of Commissioners authorizes Elaine Malkamaki as the official representative of the Geauga County Board of Commissioners application to participate in the Program.

SECTION II. That the Geauga County Board of Commissioners hereby approves filing an application for financial assistance under the Program for the following projects:

Public Facilities, Burton Public Library, \$139,600 CDBG & \$84,077 match; total \$223,677
Public Facilities, Chardon Twp., \$89,600 CDBG & \$10,400 match; total \$100,000
General Administration, \$41,800
Fair Housing Administration, \$5,000

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Alternate Projects:

Public Facilities, Geauga County Dept. on Aging, \$120,750 CDBG & \$68,250 match; total \$189,000

Handicap Center, DDC Clinic, \$178,250 CDBG; total \$178,250

SECTION III. *That the Geauga County Board of Commissioners hereby understands and agrees that participation in the Program will require compliance with Program guidelines.*

SECTION IV. *That the Geauga County Board of Commissioners hereby commits itself to provide the local share funding as described in Section III and the application.*

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

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – OHIO
DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW CERTIFICATION FORM –
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION, FAIR HOUSING AND PLANNING – SMALL CITIES PY2025
ALLOCATION PROGRAM

Ms. Malkamaki asked the Board to approve the environmental review certification form for general administration, fair housing and planning.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Ohio Department of Development Environmental Review Certification Form for General Administration, Fair Housing and Planning for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Small Cities PY2025 Allocation Program.

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

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – OHIO
DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT RESIDENTIAL ANTI-DISPLACEMENT AND
RELOCATION ASSISTANCE PLAN – SMALL CITIES PY2025 ALLOCATION PROGRAM

Ms. Malkamaki asked the Board to approve the residential anti-displacement and relocation assistance plan.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Ohio Department of Development Residential Anti-Displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Small Cities PY 2025 Allocation Program.

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

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – RELEASE BID /
PERFORMANCE BOND – MULTIPLE PROJECTS – AS ALL SPECIFICATIONS HAVE BEEN
MET

Ms. Malkamaki asked the Board to approve releasing the Bid/Performance Bonds for multiple projects that have been completed and all specifications have been satisfied. Ms. Brakey asked if these were all CDBG projects. Clerk Christine Blair briefly noted the dates of when the projects were completed.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to release the Bid/Performance Bonds for the following projects, as all specifications have been satisfied:

*Re-Bid – Maintenance ADA Door upgrades – AM Door and Supply Company
Buildings & Grounds ADA Restroom Renovation - Gottschalk Bldg. Co
Kiwanis Lake Community Center Renovations – Gottschalk Bldg. Co.*

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COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – WORKERS' COMPENSATION SERVICE AGENCY AGREEMENT – SEDGWICK CLAIMS MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INCORPORATED

Ms. Erickson asked the Board to approve the Workers' Compensation Service Agency Agreement.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Workers' Compensation Service Agency Agreement between Geauga County and Sedgwick Claims Management Services, Incorporated for Workers' Compensation Services for the period May 1, 2025 through April 30, 2026 in the amount of \$9,500.00.

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

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to move into Executive Session for the purpose of considering the purchase of property for public purposes, if premature disclosure of information would give an unfair competitive or bargaining advantage to a person whose personal, private interest is adverse to the general public interest, pursuant to O.R.C. 121.22 (G)(2).

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

The Board moved into Executive Session at 9:57 a.m. with County Administrator Amy Bevan, Assistant County Administrator Linda Burhenne and Larry Corbus. The Board returned at 10:41 a.m. and no action was taken.

BOARD DISCUSSION

Existing Courthouse Roof:

Assistant County Administrator Linda Burhenne explained that last week, the Board inquired about replacing the existing courthouse roof now versus waiting and Lee Hribar with TDA is here to discuss the roof and give a recommendation. Mr. Hribar explained that when they started the project, they knew they were going to have to do some roofing on the existing building to tie the buildings together. The roofing company had to give us a price for the attachment work and were asked to look at the whole roof and give us a replacement price. That was done, but nothing ever came of it. About twenty feet of the roof is involved with the attachment of the new building. When they opened up the north wall where they tie the buildings together, they have to take off the old cornice. The cornice is tin and the brick behind it is no longer mortared and loose and only gravity is holding it. Mr. Hribar explained that they feel it is best to investigate the cornice and the supporting structure below the roof before spending money on the new roof. When they place the new roof, they will put an edge around everything and it will go on top of this metal cornice and if it ever had to be taken off, it would need to be replaced again. Ms. Brakey inquired about replacing the whole roof, to which Mr. Hribar replied that at the time of attachment, it might have made sense to replace the roof since it was already being worked on. However, what is holding up the roof needs to be investigated. Ms. Brakey asked what is next. Mr. Hribar stated that the existing building is looked at as phase two of the courthouse to include windows, and other things. There was further discussion of having the roof structure investigated. The cornice once removed cannot be put back but rather replaced. The roof needs to be done, but a decision on the timing needs to be delayed until it is investigated. The north side is solid with the recent firewall that was just put into place. Ms. Brakey asked if the quote provided included the portion being done now. Mr. Hribar replied that Warren Roofing provided a price since they are doing the edge, so it needs to be treated as a separate project. TDA will have an engineer investigate the existing roof and provide a report.

Discussion about Opioid Funding:

Mr. Dvorak explained that Prosecutor Flaiz has been working with other counties in seeking opioid settlements from different pharmaceutical companies. We have been receiving funds for the last three years and currently have about \$500,000.00 in the fund. Mr. Dvorak asked Ms. Lakomiak, Mr. Flaiz and Ms. Burhenne to sit down and go over options to use the funding to assist residents in the county. Mental Health Director Christine Lakomiak explained that she

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learned the funding was available, and since they provide funding to agencies that treat substance use disorder, she feels it is appropriate to meet to ensure that programs being recommended are best practice and not duplicating services. Ms. Brakey feels that makes sense and feels that she doesn't want to dump all the funds in one year, but to spread it out over the course of a few years. Ms. Lakomiak explained that they were having their opiate hub meeting today that includes community partners to identify needs and gaps.

Discussion regarding the engagement of additional outside counsel:

Ms. Brakey explained that she feels that the Board should consider engaging additional outside counsel preemptively if there is any conflict with the firm they currently have. There was some discussion about how to select the firm. Ms. Brakey expressed that she had a firm in mind that she would like to work with. Mr. Dvorak asked if they could have three firms to consider making the choice.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dianna Haskett from Newbury explained that she had a neighbor that she has been having a conflict with over the last several years. Ms. Haskett explained that the issue involves flood and spotlights that face into her yard, adding that the neighbor burns garbage and has no septic and that they use a hole in the ground. Ms. Haskett came before the Board to present them with documentation and pictures of the issues she is claiming against the neighbor. Ms. Brakey asked if she had spoken with her trustees. Ms. Haskett replied that she had spoken with the trustees, along with Mr. Dvorak. Ms. Haskett stated that she has been in contact with the Sheriff's Office and the Health Department. Ms. Haskett claimed that they dump during the night, so she was told to call when she sees them do something or when the smell is present. Ms. Brakey expressed that she felt the Board didn't have any authority, but they could investigate. Ms. Haskett stated that she had spoken with Mr. Litke and Mr. Lark from the Health department and was going to meet with them again today.

Howard Newell from South Russell Village explained that June 6th is D-Day, the invasion of Europe, during the second World War. There are too many white crosses with Stars of David in the cemeteries in Europe that should be acknowledged by all of us, as we wouldn't be here today without their sacrifices. Mr. Dvorak added that his uncle is buried in Metz, France, as he was killed in November of 1944.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- a) *A weekly report filed by the County Dog Warden of all dogs seized, impounded, redeemed or destroyed for the week ending May 27, 2025 as required by O.R.C. 955.12.*

OTHER

The Board reviewed upcoming events.

MEETINGS

Tue., 6/3 2026 Tax Budget Hearing, 8:15 a.m.

Tue., 6/3 Investment Advisory Committee, 9:00 a.m.

Mon., 6/9 Board of Revision, 9:00 a.m. Auditor's Office

Tue., 6/10 The Commissioners will hold session at 9:30 a.m.

Wed., 6/11 Board of Revision, 9:00 a.m. Auditor's Office

Fri., 6/13 CCC / EAPA Meeting, Geauga County, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Mon., 6/16 Family First Council, 1:30 p.m. County Office Building, First Floor

Tue., 6/17 The Commissioners will hold session at 9:30 a.m.

Tue., 6/17 Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste Management District, Board of Directors meeting, 2:00 p.m., Warren, District Office

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Thu., 6/19 County offices will be closed for general business due to the Juneteenth holiday. Twenty-four-hour operations will continue to operate as usual.

BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Brakey to adjourn the meeting at 11:02 a.m.

Geauga County Board of Commissioners

James W. Dvorak

Carolyn Brakey, Esq.

Ralph Spidalieri

Christine Blair, Commissioners' Clerk

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