

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**August 19, 2025**

*The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on August 19, 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 9:31 a.m. by leading the Board and audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.*

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

*Commissioner Dvorak read the following prayer:*

*Heavenly Father,*

*We should follow Christ in a way of compassion and understanding.*

*Even though from my human viewpoint there may be much I find difficult to understand, Christ in me gives me spiritual insight that enables me to see beyond what seems to be, and to keep faith in the goodness at the heart of it all.*

*Amen*

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

*County Administrator Amy Bevan reported on the items approved, as authorized by Resolution #25-004 under the direction and supervision of the County Commissioners that was approved January 7, 2025, pursuant to O.R.C. 305.30.*

*Ms. Bevan explained that the County Administrator approved the following items on August 15, 2025:*

*Department on Aging:*

*Approved an unpaid leave of absence for Mindy Hudec, Information and Referral Assistant for up to eighty (80) hours during the period August 4, 2025 through August 15, 2025, for time not covered by accrued sick and vacation leave.*

*Maintenance:*

*Approved hiring Elizabeth Rubino to the position of Contract Coordinator (#1924) to be effective September 2, 2025, at the rate of \$24.74 per hour (Grade 11, Step 1) with a one-year probationary period. This offer of employment is contingent upon the successful completion of the required pre-employment conditions.*

*Approved an unpaid medical leave of absence for David Alexander, Custodian (#1906), for 16.21 hours during the period July 30, 2025 through August 1, 2025, for time not covered by accrued sick and vacation leave.*

**August 18, 2025**

*Maintenance:*

*Approved an unpaid medical leave of absence for Joan Staley, Part-time General Communications Clerk / Switchboard Operator (#1912-1) for the period August 4, 2025 through August 22, 2025, for time not covered by accrued sick and vacation leave.*

*Liquor License:*

*Concurred with the Bainbridge Township Trustees in not requesting a hearing on the Liquor License being requested by Hive on Honey Hill LLC located at 8200 E. Washington Street, Chagrin Falls, Ohio (OCT NEW 03874672-1).*

**APPROVE FINANCIALS**

*Budget and Finance Manager Adrian Gorton explained the financials for today as including Then and Now encumbrances from the Commissioners to the Treasurer State of Ohio for BCMH treatments from November 2024 and from the Common Pleas Court for New Leaf Program services from April through June 2025 that were not previously encumbered; Travel request for Job and Family Services; and a payment for Water Resources to Agri-Sludge Incorporated for*

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*the Aquilla Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements project in the amount of \$226,129.11 (ARPA funds have not been fully expended).*

*Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute Resolution #25-165 itemizing the financials for the meeting of August 19, 2025.*

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

*Commissioner Brakey expressed what a great job Mr. Gorton did yesterday before the Budget Commission.*

**AUDITOR'S OFFICE – PARKING LOT**

*Auditor Chuck Walder stated that after being contacted by a resident, he had the chance to go back and watch last week's session, and he observed an interaction that he wanted to address. Mr. Walder stated that he raised a request of Maintenance at a public Board of Elections meeting, so it wasn't something where he pulled Mr. Vernick aside and said let's move the youth center building. Mr. Walder stated that for the last four years he or a representative from his office has been attending Board of Elections meetings. They have been working towards the Board of Elections joining the rest of the departments and agencies here at the county office building, and while we have accomplished that, it came with a lot of investment.*

*Mr. Walder explained that it was very clear at Board of Elections meetings that they have significant concerns about parking during elections. Mr. Walder stated that during public discussion at one of the meetings, he asked Mr. Vernick about the idea of looking at additional parking across the street with the new building going in. It could be used to house county vehicles and overflow parking during the elections. Mr. Walder brought up the shortage of space for county vehicles, and that is prime location during an election, and a temporary location to house those vehicles and equipment during those windows of opportunity. It was not to undermine the authority of this Board, and understand if the temperature is not right for the Board to consider if another location is already selected for additional parking. He was just trying to address the concerns that have been brought up repeatedly.*

*Commissioner Brakey stated that she didn't really understand the request last week, but now has a better appreciation of what Mr. Walder was suggesting. Ms. Brakey added that for her it is not an "either or" but a "both and" because we may need all the parking for the presidential election. Mr. Walder expressed that we often get in a pattern to look at other options once construction is complete, so he was just suggesting considering the idea, as it is never going to be cheaper than doing it now, and if we restructure the parking lot now, it would be more efficient to build it bigger now. Ms. Brakey took responsibility for how some of the things took place, and feels that the Board can do better on some of the items coming before the Board on the agenda.*

*Dennis Pavela from the Board of Elections explained that there are less than 80 public parking spaces as the rest are allocated to employees or county vehicles. That will not be sufficient during that thirty-day period during the elections. Mr. Pavela brought up that there are long lines with up to an hour wait on the weekends to vote. Ms. Brakey asked how many parking spaces there were at 470 Center Street during early voting. Mr. Pavela replied that it was on the low side, it was about 40, and higher numbers you will need more, and with the county growing in the Bainbridge area, and Chardon. It was discussed that the parking would be monitored and visited again, and they would monitor how things go with the coming early voting this upcoming November election.*

**COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – OHIO DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT, FIRST AMENDMENT TO GRANT AGREEMENT, BROWNFIELD REMEDIATION GRANT**

*Project Manager Elaine Malkamaki asked the Board to authorize the President to execute electronically and submit the amendment to the grant agreement for Brownfield Remediation. Ms. Malkamaki explained that due to the late start of the project, we are asking to extend the project date of expiration. It was noted that there will probably be another extension requested in the future. Extensions were historically allowed to be a year, but with switching from wet to*

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*electronic signatures, it switched somehow to six months. The project starts with the asbestos removal and delineating some of the wetlands.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and authorize the President of the Board to electronically execute and submit the Ohio Department of Development, First Amendment to Grant Agreement, Brownfield Remediation Grant (DEV-2023-205118A) to extend the date of expiration through December 31, 2025.*

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

*COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – THREE-PARTY CONTRACT – FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES, INCORPORATED D.B.A. CHAGRIN FALLS PARK COMMUNITY CENTER / AXESS FAMILY SERVICES, INCORPORATED – GOLD STAR ROOFING, LLC*

*Ms. Malkamaki asked the Board to approve the three-party contract with Gold Star Roofing for the pavilion roof replacement and siding replacement on the Chagrin Falls Park Community Center under CDBG Grant #B-F-23-1AZ-1 to utilize the remaining funds in the grant.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute the Three-Party Contract between the Geauga County Board of Commissioners, Family and Community Services, Incorporated d.b.a. Chagrin Falls Park Community Center/Axess Family Services, Incorporated and Gold Star Roofing, LLC for the pavilion roof replacement and the community center siding replacement at the Chagrin Falls Park Community Center under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Grant #B-F-23-1AZ-1 for an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00.*

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

*COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE / DOG WARDEN – CERTIFICATION REQUEST TO AUDITOR – REQUEST TO COMMISSIONERS - QUARTERLY USE OF COUNTY CREDIT CARDS – QUARTER 3 - VISA*

*Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute the Certification Request to County Auditor, Request to Board of Commissioners Quarterly Use of County Credit Cards, pursuant to O.R.C. 301.27 for the Year 2025 (Quarter 3) for the Dog Warden – Geauga Credit Union Visa.*

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

*DOG WARDEN – APPROVE TEMPORARY REDUCTION IN ADOPTION FEES FOR DOGS – ‘CLEAR THE SHELTER’ NATIONAL EVENT*

*Dog Warden Matt Granito brought a dog with him named Tiramisu. Mr. Granito explained that Tiramisu was part of a hoarding case and hasn't had the best life yet, but he is available for adoption, along with many other dogs that are looking for a home.*

*Mr. Granito explained that Channel 3 does the “Clear the Shelter” event to advertise local dog shelters, and Geauga County participated about eight years ago. It is an event to find homes for dogs in local shelters and reduce the adoption fees through the end of the month.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve a temporary reduction in Adoption Fees for Dogs to half price effective August 19, 2025 through the end of August 2025, \$100 for unfixed dogs and puppies (normally \$200.00) and \$60.00 for all other dogs (normally \$120.00) in conjunction with the “Clear the Shelter” national event, sponsored by Channel 3 and other affiliates across the country.*

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

*MAINTENANCE – CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT – GOVTRUST PARTNERS, LLC -  
GEAUGA COUNTY SAFETY CENTER VISITATION ROOM AND ALTERATION PROJECT*  
*Project Manager Charles Tkach asked the Board to approve the construction agreement with GovTrust Partners for the Safety Center visitation room and alteration project.*

*Motion:*            *by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute the Construction Agreement with GovTrust Partners, LLC for the Geauga County Safety Center Visitation Room and Alteration Project in the amount of \$130,098.00.*

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

*MAINTENANCE – ACCEPT PERFORMANCE AND PAYMENT BOND – GOVTRUST, LLC –  
RELEASE BID BOND*

*Mr. Tkach asked the Board to accept the performance and payment from GovTrust for the Safety Center visitation room project and further release the bid bond.*

*Motion:*            *by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to accept the Performance and Payment Bond from GovTrust, LLC for the Geauga County Safety Center Visitation Room Alteration Project and further release the Bid Bond.*

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

*DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – CONTRACT AGREEMENT – ULLMAN OIL  
COMPANY – BULK PURCHASE OF FUEL*

*Director Nicholas Gorris explained that we had gone out to bid on bulk fuel and received a bid from Ullman Oil for ten cents more per gallon than the state bid price and previously awarded the contract. Mr. Gorris noted that Ullman Oil is the current supplier, but they just couldn't keep the price under the state bid price any longer.*

*Motion:*            *by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute the Contract Agreement with Ullman Oil Company for the Bulk Purchase of Fuel at a price of \$0.10 more per gallon than the Daily State of Ohio Contract Rate for District 12 for the period July 23, 2025 through June 30, 2028.*

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

*DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – RELEASE BID BOND – ULLMAN OIL COMPANY*

*Mr. Gorris asked the Board to release the bid bond as it is no longer needed for the project.*

*Motion:*            *by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to release the Bid Bond submitted by Ullman Oil Company for the Fuel and Fuel Tank Provider Bid, as it is no longer required to be held for this project.*

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

*COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – AIA DOCUMENT, STANDARD FORM OF AGREEMENT –  
APG OFFICE FURNISHINGS FURNITURE, FURNISHINGS AND EQUIPMENT (FF &E) –  
FURNITURE CONTRACTOR – COURTHOUSE EXPANSION PROJECT*

*Ms. Brakey asked if this was included as part of the original project or separate. Mr. Gorton*

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*noted that it was a separate contract.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the AIA Document, Standard Form of Agreement between Geauga County Board of Commissioners (owner) and APG Office Furnishings (vendor) Furniture, Furnishings and Equipment (FF&E) for the Furniture Contractor Geauga County Courthouse Expansion Project in the amount of \$560,240.54.*

*Roll Call Vote:*

<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Absent</i>
<i>Commissioner Brakey</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>

NV5 / COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – COURTHOUSE EXPANSION PROJECT  
CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

*NV5 Project Manager Jarrett Parker and Adrian Gorton provided the following information as an update to the Board on the Courthouse project. Also in attendance was Infinity Project Manager Brett Bestgen.*



**West Side Elevation**

*Mr. Bestgen noted that the stone used for the Courthouse expansion was from the same quarry as the stone from the original Courthouse. The lettering was engraved by hand.*

## PROGRESS PHOTOS



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Magistrates  
Courtroom



Common Pleas  
Courtroom



Entrance Lobby from  
Elevator

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*Mr. Bestgen briefly explained some progress photos on the project.*

## PROGRESS PHOTOS



NV|5

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor MockUp Room



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*Mr. Bestgen did a mock up room for staff to see the finished product of what they will be working in.*

## SCHEDULE UPDATES



NV|5

### UPCOMING KEY DATES:

- **Current Substantial Completion Date:** October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025
- **Overall Percentage Complete:** 75%
- **FF&E Install:**
  - October 13<sup>th</sup> – November 7<sup>th</sup>
- **Security FF&E (Metal Detector, Baggage Scanner, and Rifle Rack):**
  - November 10<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>
- **Courthouse Relocation:**
  - Slated for November 24<sup>th</sup> – December 16<sup>th</sup>
- **Additional Items to Note:**
  - Owner Training to start immediately after substantial completion
  - Punch list work to start immediately after substantial completion and complete by November 7<sup>th</sup> (20 days)
  - Renovation between old and new courthouse portals 12/17/2025 – 1/27/2026

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*Mr. Parker went over some key updates that are included on the slide above.*

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**BUDGET UPDATES**



NV5

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS CURRENT AS OF PAY REQUEST #22 AND REPRESENTS PROGRESS UP TO JUNE 30, 2025  
**Contract, Payment Applications, and Contingency Values**

- Original Contract Value: \$19,686,776.00.
- Change Orders Approved: 10
- Change Order Total Value: \$483,529.00
- Updated Contract Value: \$20,170,305.00
  
- Billings Paid to Date: \$12,053,799.06 with a retainage value at \$1,328,891.88.
- Remaining to be Billed: \$8,116,505.94
  
- Original Contingency Value: \$502,000.00 (2.5%)
- Contingency Used to Date: \$218,200.00 (43.5%)
- Remaining Contingency Value: \$283,800.00 (56.5%)

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*Mr. Gorton went over some financial information on the project as of June 30, 2025. As of today, the project is about 75% complete. Mr. Gorton explained that the contingency funds were used on construction changes on the project.*

**BUDGET UPDATES**



NV5

**CHANGE ORDER BREAKDOWNS**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>1. \$9,562.00</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Covers the deducting for re-use of Courtroom AV components and the addition of miscellaneous adjustments to wall sizes, deck heights, filling of unknown building openings and pump and circuits.</li><li>- Approved 7/23/24.</li></ul> | <b>6. \$50,791.00</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Added millwork, podiums, monitor brackets, intercoms, tv drops and electrical revision, exterior secure parking gate conduit and wall revisions at security desk.</li><li>- Approved 4/8/25.</li></ul> |
| <b>2. \$210,346.00</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Additional networking equipment and installation.</li><li>- Approved 7/23/24.</li></ul>   | <b>7. \$54,194.00</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Addition of ordering and overseeing the installation of the baggage scanner.</li><li>- Approved 5/29/25.</li></ul>   |
| <b>3. \$72,853.00</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Additional data drops (34 dual and 37 single).</li><li>- Approved 7/23/24.</li></ul>   | <b>8. (\$18,110.00)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Removal of speakers, network equipment and transaction windows, addition of a clerk and finance counter and window shades.</li><li>- Approved 5/29/25.</li></ul>                                     |
| <b>4. \$36,448.00</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Addition of a cellular amplifier system.</li><li>- Approved 10/1/24.</li></ul>   | <b>9. \$48,400.00</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Additional work required on existing Courthouse Roof.</li><li>- Approved 5/29/25.</li></ul>  |
| <b>5. \$7,701.00</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Fire Alarm Custom Audio Messaging System.</li><li>- Approved 4/1/25.</li></ul>  | <b>10. \$11,344.00</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Additional audiovisual upgrades and removal of a network switch.</li><li>- Approved 7/23/25.</li></ul>  |

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*Mr. Gorton went over the change orders that have been approved on the project, through change order #10.*

*Mr. Dvorak noted that Change Order #8 was a reduction.*

*Mr. Parker talked about any future pending change orders, including what will be Change Order #13, that includes a red-light indicator and microphone, which is about \$30,000.00. They are currently waiting on pricing.*

*Mr. Parker explained that this is for increased security in the courthouse and was discussed in a meeting with the Sheriff. Ms. Brakey asked why this wasn't included in the original design. Sheriff Hildenbrand explained that the initial design phase was by the architect, and once they had a chance to look at it, there were some additional things that needed to be added within the Courthouse and the parking lot, to ensure safety of the employees and residents. A lot of times there are cameras that don't cover certain areas, so the addition of these will provide additional views of some previous blind spots. Mr. Dvorak noted that he had been at the meeting where this was discussed and it was a good meeting where they discussed what was needed and not needed, the types of cameras and card readers.*

*Ms. Brakey asked Mr. Parker to discuss change order #12, and what it is requesting. Mr. Parker explained that it is for backup fiber cabling, to create a redundant loop between floors to keep floors operating if there is an issue, along with a fiber line from the current annex building to the*

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courthouse. Ms. Brakey again asked why this was not originally anticipated. Mr. Parker stated that it had been previously discussed and it was deemed unnecessary, but it has come up again and been deemed necessary, that ADP came and said we do need this. Ms. Brakey asked who deemed it unnecessary. Mr. Parker stated that it had been brought up in session and at an ADP meeting.

There was a brief discussion about the substantial completion date and what could affect that, to which Mr. Parker noted that the furniture may be an issue, but he is working with the furniture company on staying close to the December 1 date in the specification package. It was also mentioned that they are working on the relocation company to assist with moving offices from the current courthouse into the new addition.

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – CHANGE ORDER #11 – INCREASE CONTRACT – INFINITY CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INCORPORATED – COURTHOUSE EXPANSION PROJECT

*Motion:* by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute Change Order #11, increasing the Contract with Infinity Construction Company, Incorporated for the Geauga County Courthouse Expansion Project, GMP Phase #1 and Phase #2 for additional cameras and card readers in the amount of \$137,582.00.

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

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – CHANGE ORDER #12 – INCREASE CONTRACT – INFINITY CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INCORPORATED – COURTHOUSE EXPANSION PROJECT

*Motion:* by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute Change Order #12, increasing the Contract with Infinity Construction Company, Incorporated for the Geauga County Courthouse Expansion Project, GMP Phase #1 and Phase #2 for additional technology backbone cabling in the amount of \$17,817.00.

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

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF PAUL HARRIS DEDICATION INTO LEGENDS PARK – GREAT GEAUGA COUNTY FAIR

*Christine Blair, Clerk read the following resolution:*

*Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio*

*Date:* August 19, 2025

*Resolution:* #25-166

*RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF PAUL HARRIS AND HIS INDUCTION INTO  
LEGENDS PARK AT THE GEAUGA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS*

*WHEREAS, Legends Park is a memorial park located between the Antique and Agriculture buildings on the Geauga County fairgrounds and is dedicated to community members who have made extraordinary contributions to the Great Geauga County Fair and have been inducted into the Ohio Fair Managers Association Hall of Fame; and*

*WHEREAS, Paul Harris was born and raised on the Howard Family Farm in Bainbridge Township, where he developed, at a very young age, a passion for dairy farming and later his love for the fair—both of which helped shape and grow our Great Geauga County Fair; and*

*WHEREAS, Paul Harris worked tirelessly to build the amazing fair we have today, always striving to improve it year after year. His efforts extended beyond operations to shaping the future leaders of tomorrow, as demonstrated in 2020 when despite a pandemic and against all odds, he ensured a fair was held—even if modified to the Junior Fair—so 4-H youth could showcase the hard work they invested all year; and*

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*WHEREAS, Paul Harris dedicated many years of service to the fair, with over thirty-one years as a Fair Board Director, fifteen years as Fair Secretary, and as President of the Ohio Fair Managers Association, representing Geauga County at the state level; and*

*WHEREAS, Paul Harris, alongside his wife Pam Krotzer, exemplified a legacy of service, honoring tradition and working with devotion to make the Great Geauga County Fair not only Ohio's oldest, but also the BEST fair in the state, that legacy can be seen across the fairgrounds today; and*

*NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Geauga County Board of Commissioners hereby honors Paul Harris and his induction into Legends Park at the Geauga County Fairgrounds, where his enduring passion for the fair will live on through the legacy he leaves behind; and*

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

*Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute Resolution #25-166 in Honor of Paul Harris dedication into Legends Park at the Great Geauga County Fair.*

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

*The induction ceremony will be held on Thursday at 9:30 a.m. at the garden. Mr. Dvorak explained that he happened to be at the fair and watched them bring a rock from the Howard Family Farm. The rock was carved for a picture of Paul and Pam Harris to be placed on the stone.*

*There was a brief discussion about those who want to attend the Commissioners' meeting at the fair. Meeting attendees should let the gate attendants know they were there to attend the Commissioners' meeting and should be able to get into the fair without charge.*

**COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the employment and compensation of public employees, pursuant to O.R.C. 121.22 (G)(1).*

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

*The Board moved into Executive Session at 10:28 a.m. with Ms. Bevan and Mr. Gorris. The Board returned at 11:14 a.m. and no action was taken.*

**BOARD DISCUSSION**

*County Engineer Andy Haupt and Brian Lane from ODOT District 12 came before the Board to discuss the safety concerns at Chardon Windsor Road and State Route 608. Mr. Haupt stated that this intersection has been on the radar for quite some time, and it is a tragedy when there is a loss of life on any of our highways. Our goal is safety number one, and as a new County Engineer he is looking at things in different ways, and some of the things he plans to work on is stronger partnerships with ODOT and Townships. There was a meeting held in May to discuss this intersection and what they could do for additional awareness. Part of the job is math and you can't put math on human nature and the fact that we make mistakes, you can never eliminate, but you can always minimize. Mr. Haupt explained that Chardon Windsor Road is the authority of the County Engineer and State Route 608 is the authority of ODOT.*

*Mr. Haupt stated that Bainbridge Road is closed for a signal relocation project because of safety. That it is a unique intersection.*

*Ms. Brakey asked why the intersection is considered so dangerous. Mr. Haupt stated that the accident report from the recent accident is not out yet, but it is speculated that the driver did stop*

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*at the stop sign and proceeded out. Until that report is finalized it is hearsay. Mr. Haupt added that one of the reports from a previous accident stated that cannabis was involved. There are too many variables, and many things involved, non-recognition of speed, there is sight distance, sometimes there are signs in the way, sometimes trees, but that intersection is clear, and the line of trees are maintained.*

*Ms. Brakey inquired about the previous accident that occurred there and what happened there. Mr. Haupt stated that the driver stopped and pulled out in front of the truck. Mr. Haupt brought up the previous idea of rumble strips, but those can be a noise concern. Mr. Lane explained that the State screens intersections for higher crash rates, and if one has a higher rate than others, a study is done to try and determine ways to reduce the crash problem. Some work had been done on 608, and LED enhanced stop signs were put in. It is a progressive approach, and if that fails, they will look at the next steps, and that would be an all way stop control and is not taken lightly. Following the meeting in May, it was discussed going to an all-way stop, and there is always a risk, that people from the area will forget, and they worry about that too. ODOT had reached a decision following the May meeting to go to an all-way stop, and after the recent crash, that is being sped up from about six weeks. They will prioritize to get it done as quickly as they can.*

*Mr. Dvorak inquired if it would like SR 528 and SR 166 and be a four-way stop. There was a brief discussion about other intersections that were changed from a two-way to a four-way stop and typically how long it takes to get it switched over. Ms. Brakey asked if they had a timeline, to which Mr. Lane replied less than three weeks.*

*Ms. Blair asked a question about the intersection and if the speed on those roads would be changed in approach of the new four-way stop. Mr. Lane stated that at this time they did not have any plans to change those. Mr. Lane explained that visibility along 608 to see the stop sign is there, and double stop signs will be there along with signage to catch the attention of the change.*

*Mr. Dvorak explained that we are one week away from the fair, and he has been working with Ms. Hofstetter and Ms. Bevan on Merchant Hall 2, to be Geauga County Services and will be filled with sixteen offices and organizations, including America's 250, so come see us in Merchant Hall 2.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

*No public comment today.*

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- a) A weekly report filed by the County Dog Warden of all dogs seized, impounded, redeemed or destroyed for the weeks ending July 30, 2025, August 6, 2025 and August 13, 2025 as required by O.R.C. 955.12.*
- b) The Monthly Inventory Report, Consolidated Investment Portfolio and Obligations and Securities monthly reports filed by the Treasurer's Office for Geauga County for the Month of July 2025, pursuant to ORC 135.35(L).*

**OTHER**

*The Board reviewed upcoming events.*

**MEETINGS**

- Sun., 8/24 The Commissioners will hold a special session at 5:00 p.m. at the Geauga County Fairgrounds for the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Poultry Barn and Youth and Livestock Center, Burton*
- Thu., 8/28 The Commissioners will hold session at 10:00 a.m. at the Great Geauga County Fair, Jr. Fair Stage, Burton*
- 8/28 – 9/1 Great Geauga County Fair, Burton*
- Mon., 9/1 **County Offices will be closed in honor of the Labor Day holiday, Twenty-four-hour operations will continue to operate as normal***

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*Thu., 9/4 The Commissioners will hold session at 9:30 a.m.*

*Tue., 9/9 Planning Commission, 7:30 a.m. County Office Building, Room A334*

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

*Wed., 9/10 Board of Revision, 9:00 a.m. Auditor's Appraisal Conference Room*

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

*Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Brakey to adjourn the meeting at 11:33 a.m.*

*Geauga County Board of Commissioners*

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*James W. Dvorak*

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*Carolyn Brakey, Esq.*

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*Ralph Spidalieri*

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*Christine Blair, Commissioners' Clerk*

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