

Commissioners' Journal
September 30, 2025

The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on September 30, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' Offices located at 12611 Ravenwood Drive, Room B303, 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:
Oh God of creation,
You have blessed us with the changing of the seasons!
Remind us of the wonder of your creation.
Remind us that it is you who give us the breath of life.
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 September 26, 2025:

Department on Aging:

Accepted the resignation of Reba Dykes, In Home Services Manager, to be effective December 5, 2025.

Granted permission to advertise for the position of Full-time In Home Services Manager (#1034) internally for a period of five days, with applications accepted from October 6, 2025 through 4:30 p.m. on October 10, 2025. If no qualified candidate is found, this position will be advertised externally until the position is filled.

Community and Economic Development:

Approved and executed a Satisfaction/Release of Mortgage for Steven A. Balko and Terri L. Balko, as the mortgage from June 26, 2012, new construction assistance for property located at 14704 Northview Drive, Middlefield, in the amount of \$8,050.00 has been satisfied.

Maintenance:

Accepted the retirement resignation of Tammy Kuhn, Full-time Administrative Coordinator, to be effective December 31, 2025.

MEETING MINUTES

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of July 29, 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>

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of August 5, 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>

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COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – AMENDED POLICY – PUBLIC COMMENT

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to discuss and approve the Amended Policy on Public Comment during Board of County Commissioners' Meetings, effective September 30, 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>

PUBLIC COMMENT

Those wishing to make a comment or ask a question on items appearing on the meeting's agenda, please sign in and wait to be called upon. When recognized, begin by stating your full name and address. Speakers will have up to three minutes to comment or ask a question, and are kindly asked to refrain from disorderly or disruptive conduct.

There was no public comment regarding any of the current items on today's agenda.

APPROVE FINANCIALS

Budget and Finance Manager Adrian Gorton explained the financials for today as including a Cash transfer from the General Fund to the Building Improvement Fund to build up resources for upcoming projects; Travel requests for the Auditor's Office, Job and Family Services, Juvenile Court and the Probate Court; a Then and Now encumbrance from the Veterans Services Office to KT's Custom Logos for a Bronze Plaque that was purchased without previously being encumbered; a Purchase Order for Water Resources to DEX Imaging LLC for the purchase of seven new copiers/multifunction printers for the office, McFarland, the Lab and Merritt Road Garage; a payment for the Commissioners' Office to the Geauga County Airport Authority for the local match on pay request #4 of the Parallel Taxiway Project in the amount of \$55,339.70; a payment for the Engineer's Office to Grade Line Incorporated for the realignment of Haskins Road Bridge in the amount of \$278,143.40; a payment for the Engineer's Office to Ronyak Paving, Incorporated for the asphalt resurfacing of Wilson Mills Road in the amount of \$135,221.36; a payment for the Sheriff's Office to Preston Chevrolet for six new Tahoe Police Patrol vehicles in the amount of \$322,578; a payment for the Sheriff's Office to Diversitec, LLC for replacement batteries, racks and trays for the 800 MHz communication towers in the amount of \$100,132.63; and Revenue Certifications for the ADP Board for additional reimbursement revenue and from the Board of Elections for additional State Grant revenue that was previously unbudgeted for 2025.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Resolution #25-183 itemizing the financials for the meeting of September 30, 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>

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – REQUEST FOR PARTIAL PAYMENT #24 – INFINITY CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INCORPORATED – COURTHOUSE EXPANSION

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Request for Partial Payment #24 for Infinity Construction Company, Incorporated for the Geauga County Courthouse Expansion GMP Phase #1 and Phase #2 expenses in the amount of \$1,706,159.91.

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

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Resolution #25-184 Accepting the Amounts and Rates as Determined by the Budget Commission and Authorizing the Necessary Tax Levies and Certifying them to the County Auditor.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Date: September 30, 2025

Resolution: #25-184

Tax Year 2025 (2026 Collection Year)

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

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

The Board of County Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio, met in regular session on the 30th day of September 2025 at offices of the Board of County Commissioners, located at 12611 Ravenwood Drive, Room B303, Chardon, Ohio, with the following members present:

James W. Dvorak

Carolyn Brakey, Esq.

Ralph Spidalieri

Commissioner Brakey moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, By the Board of County Commissioners in accordance with the provisions of law has previously adopted a Tax Budget for the next succeeding fiscal year commencing on January 1, 2026; and

WHEREAS, The Budget Commission of Geauga County, Ohio, has certified its action thereon to this Board together with an estimate by the County Auditor for the rate of each tax necessary to be levied by this Board, and what part thereof is without, and what part within the ten mill tax limitation; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of County Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio, that the amounts and rates, as determined by the Budget Commission in its certification, be and the same are hereby accepted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That there be and is hereby levied on the tax duplicate of said County the rate of each tax necessary to be levied within and without the ten mill limitation as follows:

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SCHEDULE B LEVIES OUTSIDE 10 MILL LIMITATION, EXCLUSIVE OF DEBT LEVIES		
FUND	Maximum Rate Authorized to be Levied	County Auditor's Estimate of Yield of Levy (Carry to Schedule A, Column II)
Road & Bridge 1986 levies authorized by voters on: November 2, 2021 not to exceed 5 years	2.50	\$3,606,219.00
Mental Retardation 2004 levies authorized by voters on: November 4, 2008 not to exceed Continuing years	3.30	\$10,210,344.00
Mental Health 2008 levies authorized by voters on: November 8, 2022 not to exceed 5 years	0.50	\$1,631,942.00
Health District 2009 levies authorized by voters on: November 7, 2023 not to exceed 5 years	0.20	\$652,776.00
Mental Health 2009 levies authorized by voters on: November 7, 2023 not to exceed 5 years	0.70	\$2,284,719.00
Senior Citizens 2010 levies authorized by voters on: May 6, 2025 not to exceed 5 years	1.00	\$3,263,885.00
Childrens Services 2011 levies authorized by voters on: November 3, 2020 not to exceed 5 years	0.70	\$2,284,719.00
Mental Retardation 2015 levies authorized by voters on: November 5, 2019 not to exceed Continuing years	1.00	\$3,277,931.00
Childrens Services 2015 levies authorized by voters on: May 6, 2025 not to exceed 5 years	0.50	\$1,638,965.00
Geauga Library 2007 levies authorized by voters on: November 6, 2007 not to exceed Continuing years	1.00	\$3,006,594.00
Geauga Library 2010 levies authorized by voters on: November 2, 2010 not to exceed Continuing years	1.00	\$3,006,594.00
Geauga Library 2017 levies authorized by voters on: November 7, 2017 not to exceed 30 years	0.27	\$1,151,340.00
levies authorized by voters on: _____ not to exceed _____ years		

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

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

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

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE (PREVIOUSLY ON THE AGENDA FROM THE AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING (ADP) BOARD) – ADOPT AND IMPLEMENT CYBERSECURITY PROGRAM POLICIES OF THE GEAUGA COUNTY AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING (ADP) BOARD

ADP Administrator Frank Antenucci explained that after speaking with the Commissioners' legal counsel that this should come from the Commissioners and not ADP. Mr. Antenucci offered to answer any questions the Board may have. Commissioner Brakey stated that she had some questions about the policy, starting with if an Elected Official doesn't follow their mandatory training, and what can happen. Mr. Antenucci stated that the State Auditor will request this information for the audit and then it could potentially be within the audit findings. Ms. Brakey inquired based on the Russell Police Department issue, how compliance would be enforced on outside vendors who provide IT services. Mr. Antenucci replied that in terms of the Russell PD, those are vendors that are not under ADP contract; however, there are vendors that are under contract and they are held to the same standard and if they don't comply, we will no longer do business with them. Ms. Brakey asked what the procedure was regarding paying a ransom and what would that look like. Mr. Antenucci stated that the ADP Board would have to vote and then ask the Board of Commissioners to vote and agree to pay it, but long before that there are extensive things that have to happen before it would get to that. Mr. Dvorak added that he felt it was a move in the right direction, and it has been a hot topic, and, in the future, it will get buttoned up and some questions may be answered.

There was a brief discussion about how other counties, townships, and districts are going to handle compliance with a cybersecurity policy. It is much more than just passing a policy; it is

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enforcing compliance on training and other requirements.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Resolution #25-185 to Adopt and Implement the Cybersecurity Program Policies of the Geauga County Automatic Data Processing (ADP) Board (O.R.C. 9.64), effective September 30, 2025.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Date: September 30, 2025

Resolution: #25-185

*RESOLUTION TO ADOPT AND IMPLEMENT THE CYBERSECURITY PROGRAM POLICIES
OF THE GEAUGA COUNTY AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING (ADP) BOARD
(R.C. § 9.64)*

WHEREAS, a legislative authority of a political subdivision is required to adopt a cybersecurity program in accordance with R.C. 9.64 (effective September 30, 2025) that safeguards the political subdivision's data, information technology, and information technology resources to ensure availability, confidentiality and integrity; and

WHEREAS, the program must be consistent with generally accepted best practices for cybersecurity, such as the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework, and the Center for Internet Security (CIS) Cybersecurity Best Practices, and the program may include, but is not limited to, the requirements set forth in R.C. 9.64(C)(1)-(6); and

WHEREAS, the ADP Board created a cybersecurity program that meets the requirements of R.C. 9.64 and is requesting the Board of Commissioners adopt and implement the ADP Board's cybersecurity program and authorize the ADP Board to administer and enforce said program on behalf of Geauga County; and

WHEREAS, the ADP Board's program consists of the following policies which are intended to apply to all political subdivisions of Geauga County that are under the statutory oversight of the ADP Board or that have formally opted into ADP Board services pursuant to R.C. 307.847, including:

- 1. Policy on Reporting and Escalating Cybersecurity Incidents;*
- 2. Geauga County Acceptable Use Policy;*
- 3. Geauga County Cybersecurity Policy;*
- 4. Geauga County Endpoint Quarantine Policy;*
- 5. Multi-Factor Authentication and Password Policy;*
- 6. Cybersecurity Awareness Training Policy; and*
- 7. Geauga County Cybersecurity Program (O.R.C. § 9.64 Compliance Policy) September 9, 2025; and*

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners desires to implement the ADP Board's cybersecurity program in order to comply with the requirements of R.C. 9.64.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby adopts and implements the ADP Board's cybersecurity program and policies in compliance with R.C. 9.64 and authorizes the ADP Board to administer and enforce said program and policies on behalf of Geauga County.

<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>

Prosecutor Jim Flaiz came before the Board with several items all related to the renovation project at his office. Mr. Flaiz stated that the bid opening was held and two bids were received from Infinity and Millstone which were \$3,000.00 apart. Mr. Flaiz stated that he worked with the architect, Ms. LaChapelle and the Maintenance Department to go through the bids. Mr. Flaiz said that they approve these items to go out to bid, but don't usually go through the whole bidding process themselves, adding that it was a good learning experience for them.

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Mr. Flaiz stated that in the bid solicitation package they required that subcontract assignments not exceed fifty percent of the total contract. One bid was lacking some information on subcontractors and the other listed them out which was nice, but neither complied with the less than fifty percent of the total project requirement. Ms. Brakey asked why the subcontractor requirement was included. Mr. Flaiz explained that they don't want someone coming in doing a very small percentage of the project and then have it be a "free-for-all" of subcontractors. Mr. Flaiz briefly went over some of the bids' breakdowns, noting that neither bid included a lump sum breakdown and then the concern over the subcontractors. He asked the Board to waive the irregularities. Mr. Flaiz expressed that only having a difference of \$3,000.00, they prefer the bid from Millstone over Infinity.

Ms. Brakey stated that Auditor Walder had come before the Board and talked about wants versus needs on some projects that they wanted to get completed at his office and he decided they were wants. Can you tell us if you think your project is a need over a want and explain why? Mr. Flaiz noted that the project the Auditor talked about regarding the conference room, that really is a need since there is no real conference room space. With the Auditor's work being held off, we are going to use that area to store materials on this project and as a staging area. Mr. Flaiz stated that the security aspect of this project is the main component, and he did spec out the same ballistic material that is being used on the courthouse expansion. Since they don't have building security, he felt they needed to do some additional security measures in their lobby. Mr. Flaiz added that since taking over the municipal prosecutions, they need additional space for offices. Mr. Dvorak asked if Millstone can verify a drug free workplace, and he wants to see that information.

PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE – WAIVE REQUIREMENT IN BID SOLICITATION PACKAGE – PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE RENOVATION PROJECT THAT BIDDERS PROVIDE A LUMP SUM BREAKDOWN OF THEIR BIDS

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Brakey to waive the requirement in the bid solicitation package for the Prosecutor's Office Renovation Project that the bidders provide a lump sum breakdown of their bids.

<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>

PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE – WAIVE REQUIREMENT IN BID SOLICITATION PACKAGE – PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE RENOVATION PROJECT THAT THE TOTAL VALUE OF SUBCONTRACT ASSIGNMENTS LISTED ON BIDDERS BID FORM NOT EXCEED FIFTY PERCENT OF THE TOTAL CONTRACT

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Brakey to waive the requirement in the bid solicitation package for the Prosecutor's Office Renovation Project that the total value of subcontract assignments listed on the bidders' Bid Form not exceed fifty percent (50%) of the total contract cost.

<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>

PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE – REJECT BID SUBMITTED FROM INFINITY CONSTRUCTION – BID WAS NOT THE LOWEST AND BEST BID – FAILED TO PROVIDE ALL RESPONSIVE AND SATISFACTORY INFORMATION REQUIRED BY BID SOLICITATION

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Brakey to reject the bid from Infinity Construction as the bid was not the lowest and best bid and failed to provide all responsive and satisfactory information required by the bid solicitation for the 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>

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PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE – AWARD BID – MILLSTONE MANAGEMENT GROUP – BID
CONSTITUTED THE LOWEST AND BEST BID

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Brakey to award the Bid to Millstone Management Group for the Prosecutor's Office Renovation Project in the amount of \$379,400.00, as its bid constituted the lowest and best bid.

<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>

PUBLIC DEFENDER – REAPPOINT JOSEPH H. WEISS – PUBLIC DEFENDER
COMMISSION

Office Administrator Victoria Janasik explained that the Public Defender's office consists of a five-member board that is appointed by the Commissioners and the Common Pleas Court Judges. The commission appoints the Chief Public Defender and oversees the office staffing and budget. Ms. Brakey asked if the position was advertised. Ms. Janasik stated that it was not that Mr. Weiss has served two terms on the commission and is asking to be re-appointed. Ms. Janasik noted that Mr. Weiss was the original member of the Public Defender Commission. Ms. Brakey commented that she would vote for this appointment today, but in the future asked that all board openings be advertised to the public, and feels that boards should not be telling the Commissioners who they need to appoint or reappoint.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to reappoint Joseph H. Weiss to the Public Defender Commission for a four-year term, October 4, 2025 through October 3, 2029.

<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 – AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT – ASHTABULA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS –
HOUSE AND MAINTAIN PRISONERS IN THE GEAUGA COUNTY SAFETY CENTER
THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2025.

Sheriff Scott Hildenbrand and Chief Deputy Thomas Rowan explained that last year they started assisting Ashtabula County with housing inmates, and while they have received a grant and are expanding services at their jail, we are assisting them until the project is complete. This amendment is to extend the current agreement through the end of 2025.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Amendment to the Agreement by and between the Ashtabula County Commissioners and the Geauga County Commissioners to house and maintain Prisoners in the Geauga County Safety Center at a rate of \$75.00 per day plus reasonable and necessary medical and mental health expenses, subject to available space, and extend the agreement term through December 31, 2025 with a not to exceed amount of \$45,000.00 a month 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>

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (EMA) – EXECUTE OHIO STATE EMERGENCY
RESPONSE COMMISSION, LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)
APPLICATION OF LEPC MEMBER APPOINTMENTS

Director Austin Rice explained that every two years, the LEPC has to submit applications for members to the state, but that includes approval by the Board of Commissioners. Ms. Brakey asked what the LEPC stood for and does. Mr. Rice stated that the LEPC is the Local Emergency Planning Committee for the county and handles any hazardous material spills or incidents in the county.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Ohio State Emergency Response Commission, Local Emergency Planning Committee Application of

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LEPC Member Appointments for Multiple Members for the October 1, 2025 through October 1, 2027.

<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 – AGREEMENT – BOARD OF MENTAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY SERVICES FOR OVERSIGHT AND DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS – OPIOID SETTLEMENT

Mental Health and Recovery Services Executive Director Christine Lakomiak explained that Prosecutor Flaiz put together the Memorandum of Understanding, which is a good opportunity for the Boards to work together to ensure the funds are used properly and services are not duplicated. Ms. Lakomiak added that with the knowledge they have will be a good check and balance on the use of the funds and that any recommendation will come before the Board of Commissioners for approval. Ms. Lakomiak said that she sits on the Ohio Region 13 OneOhio Board with Mr. Dvorak and that some agencies, like the Sheriff for instance, are not able to apply for region 13 funding because the Sheriff also sits on that Board, so these funds might give agencies that are limited a better opportunity to receive funding. Commissioner Brakey asked what the next steps would be. Ms. Lakomiak explained that they typically do a request for proposals, but there are some priority issues that we might be able to work locally first before going and ask for new programs.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the Agreement between the Geauga County Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services and the Geauga County Board of County Commissioners for the oversight and distribution of funds received by Geauga County as part of the Opioid Settlement.

<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 – COUNTY EMPLOYEE BENEFIT CONSORTIUM OF OHIO, INCORPORATED (CEBCO) PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

Benefits Specialist Megan Erickson asked the Board to approve the County Employee Benefit Consortium of Ohio (CEBCO) participation agreement. Ms. Brakey asked how CEBCO is compensated, to which Ms. Erickson explained that we pay an administrative fee to them monthly, but did not know the amount. There was a brief discussion about what contributes to that fee.

Ms. Erickson stated that the deadline for enrollment is December 1st, but we have to get this agreement in place to finalize the healthcare plans. Discussion continued on other options besides CEBCO, the option of a broker, but it was really too late at this time to do utilize that option.

The participation agreement is for a three-year term. Mr. Dvorak noted that this is the first step in the process. Ms. Erickson stated that with changing the plan, we need time to make those changes. CEBCO is the largest consortium, there are forty-nine counties in this group, and in looking at others, they are not supported like we are in CEBCO. Commissioner Spidalieri added that over the years, we have looked at other options, and this is still always the driving one for counties in the state to be involved in. Mr. Dvorak added that this is a three-year program, but if we take a little less coverage we can minimize the increase the county is seeing.

Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to approve and execute the County Employee Benefit Consortium of Ohio, Incorporated (CEBCO) Participation Agreement for the period January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2028.

<i>Roll Call Vote:</i>	<i>Commissioner Spidalieri</i>	<i>Aye</i>
	<i>Commissioner Brakey</i>	<i>No</i>
	<i>Commissioner Dvorak</i>	<i>Aye</i>

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PUBLIC COMMENT

Those wishing to make a comment or ask a question on matters of concern, please raise your hand to be called upon, begin by stating their full name and address, and you will have up to three minutes to comment or ask a question, and are kindly asked to refrain from disorderly or disruptive conduct.

Gail Roussey from the League of Women Voters asked if the funding for Region 13 is for four counties is it divided equally. Mr. Dvorak stated that is done by a formula based on how many prescription drugs sold in the county.

Newell Howard from South Russell Village noted that last week's ribbon cutting of the parallel taxiway at the Geauga County Airport was very well attended and that it is a great asset in this county.

Joe from Munson Township explained that he has attended meetings around the county and NOACA and expressed that Mr. Claypool is an expert on NOACA and that there has been a petition to remove Mr. Claypool. Ms. Brakey explained that it is not a petition to remove Mr. Claypool. Rather, it removes a commissioner seat on the NOACA Board and replaces that seat with the County Engineer. It has not been finalized or determined which seat that will be.

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

<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 10:15 a.m. with Ms. Bevan, Mr. Gorton, Kathy Hostutler and Megan Erickson. The Board returned at 11:12 a.m. and the following action was taken:

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to accept and approve the CEBCO Member 2025-2026 Wellness Program, CEBCO Rewards 200, partnered with Anthem, for Geauga County Employee Health and Wellness, July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026.

<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 employment of a public employee, pursuant to O.R.C. 121.22 (G)(1).

<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 11:14 a.m. with Ms. Bevan. The Board returned at 12:06 p.m. and as a result, no action was taken.

Additional action as a result of the first executive session:

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to accept and approve the 2026 Geauga County Employee Healthcare Waiver Rates to be effective January 1, 2026.

<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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Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the CEBCO Geauga County Healthcare Rate Renewal Acceptance for 2026.

<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>

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- a) *A weekly report filed by the County Dog Warden of all dogs seized, impounded, redeemed or destroyed for the week ending September 17, 2025 as required by O.R.C. 955.12.*
- b) *Geauga County Board of Developmental Disabilities Board minutes from July 16, 2025*
- c) *Geauga County WomenSafe Application for release of funding, in accordance to O.R.C. 3113.35*

OTHER

The Board reviewed upcoming events.

MEETINGS

- Tue., 9/30 Investment Advisory Committee, 9:00 a.m. Room B303, Chambers*
- Thu., 10/2 Geauga Soil and Water Conservation District Annual Dinner and Election, 5:30 p.m., Veterans Legacy Woods Tribute Lodge*
- Fri., 10/3 NOACA Annual meeting, 12:00 p.m. Cleveland*
- Tue., 10/7 The Commissioners will hold session at 9:30 a.m.*
- Wed., 10/8 Geauga County Township Association Meeting and Dinner, 6:00 p.m. Schoolyard Studio, Burton*
- Thu., 10/9 Geauga County Agricultural Society Annual Meeting and Dinner, 6:00 p.m. Mary Yoder's*
- Mon., 10/13 **County offices will be closed for general business due to Columbus Day. Twenty-four-hour operations will continue to operate as usual.***
- Tue., 10/14 University Hospitals Wellness Trail Ribbon Cutting, 12:00 p.m., Ravenwood Drive*
- Thu., 10/16 Planning Commission, 7:30 a.m. County Office Building, Room A334*
- Thu., 10/16 The Commissioners will hold session at 9:30 a.m.*
- Tue., 10/21 The Commissioners will hold session at 9:30 a.m.*

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BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Brakey to adjourn the meeting at 12:08 p.m.

Geauga County Board of Commissioners

James W. Dvorak

Carolyn Brakey, Esq.

Ralph Spidalieri

Christine Blair, Commissioners' Clerk

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