

Commissioners' Journal
December 16, 2025

The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on December 16, 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. and the Kenston High School Senior Class Officers led the Board and audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Kenston Local Schools Superintendent Bruce Willingham and Principal Tom Gabram, along with High School Class Treasurer Brendan Scheuer and Secretary Callen Buchanan, were present for session today. Mr. Buchanan explained that he had applied for the United States Naval Academy, and that his interest in leadership and community service has drawn him to pursue that path. Mr. Buchanan stated that he is a member of National Honor Society. Mr. Buchanan said that his favorite community service so far has been working at the Chardon VFW pancake breakfasts.

Mr. Scheuer introduced himself, noting that he was Class Treasurer and that a lot of his community service comes from being a part of Rotary, in part due to his dad, that he is a member of National Honor Society and much like Mr. Buchanan has a strong commitment to community service and the desire to make things better in his community. Mr. Scheuer explained that as for the future, he is hoping to attend Purdue University, but he had just been accepted to The Ohio State University for Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering.

Mr. Gabram thanked the Board for letting the students be here, saying that they love showing them off and it is great for them. Ms. Bevan explained that this week is finals week and both President Cullen Fehring and Vice President Devin Macsuga are deep in tests at the moment and couldn't be here today.

*Commissioner Dvorak read the following prayer:
December 1981, President Ronald Reagan*

*"Christmas means so much because of one special child.
But Christmas also reminds us that all children are special, that they are gifts from God, gifts beyond price that mean more than any presents money can buy.
In their love and laughter, in our hopes for their future, lies the true meaning of Christmas."*

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one signed in to speak regarding any items on the agenda.

APPROVE FINANCIALS

Budget and Finance Manager Adrian Gorton explained the financials for today as including a Cash transfer from the Board of Developmental Disabilities from their operating fund to their Reserve Balance Fund; Cash transfer from the Commissioners Miscellaneous Operating Transfer Out account to the Law Library; Cash transfer from the General Fund to County Facility Bond Retirement fund for the rest of the money needed to pay the principal and interest payments for next year; Formal contract from the Commissioners to Delta Designs LTD for the high density storage cabinets for the Clerk of Court in the new part of the courthouse; Contract PO from Maintenance to Junction Auto Sales for a new 2026 Dodge RAM Promaster Cargo Van to be used for HVAC maintenance work; a payment for the Commissioners' Office to Infinity Construction Company for pay request #26 and #27 of the Courthouse Expansion Project in the amount of \$1,782,884.95; a payment from Community Development to the Chardon City Schools for the demolition of old buildings at the new bus garage paid for by the State Demo and Site Revitalization Grant in the amount of \$433,315.00; a payment for the Engineer's Office to Ronyak Paving Incorporated for the reconstruction and resurfacing of Butternut Road as well as crack sealing on various roads in the amount of \$580,183.19; a payment for Maintenance to Govtrust Partners LLC for the Safety Center Visitation Room Alterations in the amount of \$106,526.78 and a payment for the Sheriff's Office to Preston Chevrolet and Hall Public Safety for the purchase and upfitment of four new 2025 Tahoe Police Pursuit Vehicles in the amount of \$276,201.82.

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Commissioner Brakey asked Mr. Gorton if the cash transfer from the Board of Developmental Disabilities was a standard end of year procedure. Mr. Gorton replied that it was a year-end transfer from their operating fund into their reserve balance fund and as they need it next year will transfer it out of that fund for things like residential services.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Resolution #25-214 itemizing the financials for the meeting of December 16, 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 – BE A 'SANTA' TO A SENIOR

Nicole Crawford from Home Instead thanked the Commissioners for their support. She also thanked Sandy Ledin and her assistant Melissa for all their hard work. She noted that they had identified over five hundred seniors in both Lake and Geauga Counties during this year's holiday season. She explained that thanks to those adopted a senior, they will be able to deliver gifts to all of them with the help of many community volunteers.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Resolution #25-215 Proclaiming Recognition of Continued Support of the "Be a SANTA to a Senior" program for 2025 in Geauga County.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Resolution: #25-215

Date: December 16, 2025

**PROCLAIMING RECOGNITION OF CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR THE
"BE A SANTA TO A SENIOR" PROGRAM FOR 2025 IN GEAUGA COUNTY**

WHEREAS, Geauga County seniors are valued members of society, and it is our collective responsibility to ensure they are remembered during the holiday season. The well-being of all seniors is in the interest of all and further contributes to the well-being of Geauga County communities; and

WHEREAS, the "Be a Santa to a Senior" program, sponsored by Home Instead Senior Care, has provided heartfelt holiday gifts to hundreds of older adults in Geauga County for twenty-two years. The program brings holiday cheer to those who might otherwise be forgotten during the holiday season; and

WHEREAS, the "Be a Santa to a Senior" program provides gifts to some of our most treasured residents and helps them ensure they feel valued by being remembered during the holiday season. This program is designed to encourage human contact and social interaction for our seniors in Geauga County; and

WHEREAS, Home Instead Senior Care partners with the Department on Aging, local senior centers, churches and other community agencies to provide gifts to approximately 250 seniors in Geauga County; and

WHEREAS, seniors are identified, and their names are provided to Home Instead Senior Care. Christmas trees and wreaths with ornaments listing each senior's first name and a gift request are placed at several locations throughout the county, including Buckeye Chocolate in both Chardon and Bainbridge, Giant Eagle in Chesterland, University Hospitals Geauga Medical Center, Geauga County offices, Coffee Works in Chesterland and Kinetico Water Systems in Newbury; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Geauga County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaims continued support for the "Be A Santa to A Senior" program that runs from Thanksgiving through Christmas and encourages all our citizens to recognize and celebrate the 2025 holiday season of Geauga County seniors through this program.

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

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

BOARD OF ELECTIONS – RESOLUTION HONORING MICHELLE LANE UPON HER RETIREMENT FOR OVER TWENTY-ONE YEARS OF SERVICE TO GEAUGA COUNTY
Deputy Director Nora McGinnis and Board Member Joan Windnagle came before the Board and explained that Michelle Lane was retiring after over twenty years with the county. Ms. McGinnis explained that Ms. Lane has family in multiple states and is excited to travel and spend more time with her family, including her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren and will be dearly missed for her compassion and dedication.

Ms. Brakey asked about the process of hiring a new Director. Ms. Windnagle explained that the position is Advertised. Applications are due by December 22, and they need to include the form from the State.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Resolution #25-216 Honoring Michelle Lane upon her Retirement for over twenty-one years of service to Geauga County.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Resolution: 25-216
Date: December 16, 2025

***RESOLUTION HONORING MICHELLE LANE UPON HER RETIREMENT
FOR OVER TWENTY-ONE YEARS OF SERVICE TO GEAUGA COUNTY***

WHEREAS, Michelle Lane, born and raised in Chardon, Ohio, began her service with Geauga County and has been serving the voters of Geauga County for over twenty-one years; and

WHEREAS, Michelle Lane is a proud mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, loves horses and corgis, and was very involved in the Geauga County 4-H for countless years; and

WHEREAS, Michelle Lane served her community of Chardon Township with distinction as a member of the Chardon Township Board of Zoning Appeals for over 30 years; and

WHEREAS, Michelle Lane served as President, and now serves as Vice President, of the Geauga County Women's Republican Club; and

WHEREAS, Michelle Lane joined the Geauga County Board of Elections staff in October 2004, providing immeasurable assistance and guidance in her various roles within the Board of Elections office, including Absentee Supervisor and Registration Supervisor, and was appointed Deputy Director of the Board of Elections in June 2020. Her expertise and knowledge of the election process led to her appointment as Director in May 2021. Her years of experience, keen observations, and determined approach strengthened the Board of Elections office; and

WHEREAS, Michelle Lane looks forward to spending more time with her family and friends, enjoying the company of her corgi, Louie, traveling, and returning to her love of painting; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Geauga County Board of Commissioners wish to recognize and honor Michelle Lane on the occasion of her retirement and for her many years of dedicated service to Geauga County and its voters; and

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

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<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 – DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION

Ms. Bevan explained that the topic of suspending a levy was raised during last week's budget discussion due to a larger than expected cash carryover. Ms. Bevan reached out to the Auditor's Office and was invited to attend the Budget Commission meeting. During that meeting, there was debate but the Budget Commission agreed to the full suppression of the 0.5 mill Job and Family Services levy. This will return approximately \$1.6 million back to the taxpayers. If the Board agrees to approve the resolution prepared today, it will still need to be approved by the State.

The Prosecutor's Office prepared an amended rate resolution based on the Budget Commission meeting held on Monday, December 15, 2025, regarding suspending the 0.5 mill Job and Family Services Children's Services Levy. Ms. Brakey expressed that this is a non-qualified levy so it does not have a roll back and will not give the state a discount. This will be a Christmas miracle if we can get this approved by the state, but she understands that Cuyahoga and Trumbull Counties have not submitted a form and because of that, and we have overlapping tax districts, we might be able to get ours in and amend it. Ms. Brakey feels that the Commissioners should be telling the Budget Commission what our plan is with the cash carryover and that we need to get ahead of this in the future.

Since the resolution had just been delivered during the meeting, Clerk Christine Blair provided one of the copies to each member of the Board to review and read.

Ms. Brakey expressed that there was language in the resolution that she felt they could do without, but moved to approve the resolution since the Board was in the final hours.

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Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Date: December 16, 2025

Resolution: #25-217

TAX YEAR 2025 (2026 Collection Year)

**RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION 25-184 TO ACCEPT 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 16th day of December 2025 at the 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 for the adoption of the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio previously adopted a Tax Budget for the next succeeding fiscal year commencing on January 1, 2026 ("the Tax Budget"); and

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

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio adopted Resolution 25-184 on September 30, 2025, accepting the amounts and rates, as determined by the Budget Commission based on the submitted Tax Budget, and those amounts and rates were accepted and sought to be levied as set forth in Resolution 25-184; and

WHEREAS, at the December 9, 2025, meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio, Budget & Finance Manager Adrian Gorton presented PowerPoint slides titled "2026 Permanent Appropriations" to the Board of County Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio; and

WHEREAS, it was presented that the unencumbered carryover balance for fiscal year beginning January 1, 2026 originally projected and presented to the Geauga County Budget Commission was \$6,669,334. Together with projected 2026 revenue of \$47,813,129, the total anticipated resources available for fiscal year beginning 2026 was submitted as \$54,482,463; and

WHEREAS, it was presented that as of December 9, 2025, the unencumbered carryover balance for fiscal year beginning January 1, 2026 is now projected to be approximately \$15,000,000 instead of \$6,669,334; and

WHEREAS, given the disparity between the original projected unencumbered carryover balance of \$6,669,334 and the now projected unencumbered carryover balance of approximately \$15,000,000, the Board of County Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio, through County Administrator Amy Bevan, finally brought this matter to the attention of the Geauga County Auditor, Charles Walder, on December 10, 2025; and

WHEREAS, on December 15, 2025, the Geauga County Budget Commission met

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in regular session and discussed this issue with representatives from the Board of County Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio, including Geauga County Commissioner Carolyn Brakey, Esq., County Administrator Amy Bevan and Budget & Finance Manager Adrian Gorton; and

WHEREAS, on December 15, 2025, the Geauga County Budget Commission took action to suspend collection of the .5 mill Children Services levy, most recently authorized by voters on May 6, 2025 Election, for Tax Year 2025 (Collectible 2026) in order to provide needed property tax relief to the taxpayers of Geauga County, Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the Geauga County Budget Commission has been a leader across the State of Ohio by holding taxing entities accountable for excess cash carryovers and providing millions of dollars of property tax relief to Geauga County residents for years; and

WHEREAS, given the cash carryover that was only recently discovered by the Board of County Commissioners, some of the property tax revenue set to be collected by the County for the Tax Year 2025 (Collectible 2026) is not clearly required by the 2026 Tax Budget adopted by the Board of Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of County Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio does hereby resolve to amend Resolution 25-184 in order to approve the action of the Budget Commission and mitigate the surplus that is the result of the recently projected \$15,000,000 unencumbered carryover balance for fiscal year beginning January 1, 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of County Commissioners of Geauga County, Ohio does hereby resolve to amend Resolution 25-184 in order to suspend collection of the .5 mill Children Services levy, most recently authorized by voters on May 6, 2025, for Tax Year 2025 (Collectible 2026); and

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

SCHEDULE A				
SUMMARY OF AMOUNTS REQUIRED FROM GENERAL PROPERTY TAX APPROVED BY BUDGET COMMISSION, AND COUNTY AUDITORS ESTIMATED TAX RATES				
FUND	Amount to Be Derived from Levies Inside 10 Mill Limitaion	Amount Approved by Budget Commission Outside 10 Mill Limitation	County Auditor's Estimate of Tax Rate to Be Levied	
			Inside 10 Mill Limit	Outside 10 Mill Limit
	Column I	Column II	III	IV
General Fund	\$11,534,668.00		2.50	
Road & Bridge Fund		\$3,606,219.00		2.50
District Board of Health		\$652,776.00		0.20
General Bond Retirement				
Senior Citizens Special		\$3,263,885.00		1.00
Child Welfare Services		\$2,284,719.00		0.70
Mental Health & Clinics		\$3,916,661.00		1.20
Mental Retardation Special		\$13,488,275.00		4.30
Gauga County Public Librar		\$6,013,188.00		2.00
Gauga County Library Bond		\$1,151,340.00		0.27
TOTAL	\$11,534,668.00	\$34,377,063.00	2.50	12.17

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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	levy authorized by voters on: November 2, 2021	2.50	\$3,606,219.00
	not to exceed	5 years		
Mental Retardation	2004	levy authorized by voters on: November 4, 2008	3.30	\$10,210,344.00
	not to exceed	Continuing years		
Mental Health	2008	levy authorized by voters on: November 8, 2022	0.50	\$1,631,942.00
	not to exceed	5 years		
Health District	2009	levy authorized by voters on: November 7, 2023	0.20	\$652,776.00
	not to exceed	5 years		
Mental Health	2009	levy authorized by voters on: November 7, 2023	0.70	\$2,284,719.00
	not to exceed	5 years		
Senior Citizens	2010	levy authorized by voters on: May 6, 2025	1.00	\$3,263,885.00
	not to exceed	5 years		
Childrens Services	2011	levy authorized by voters on: November 3, 2020	0.70	\$2,284,719.00
	not to exceed	5 years		
Mental Retardation	2015	levy authorized by voters on: November 5, 2019	1.00	\$3,277,931.00
	not to exceed	Continuing years		
Childrens Services	2015	levy authorized by voters on: 5/6/2025 Suspended TY25CY26		
	not to exceed	5 years		
Geauga Library	2007	levy authorized by voters on: November 6, 2007	1.00	\$3,006,594.00
	not to exceed	Continuing years		
Geauga Library	2010	levy authorized by voters on: November 2, 2010	1.00	\$3,006,594.00
	not to exceed	Continuing years		
Geauga Library	2017	levy authorized by voters on: November 7, 2017	0.27	\$1,151,340.00
	not to exceed	30 years		
		levy authorized by voters on:		
	not to exceed	years		

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of this Board be and hereby directed to certify a copy of this Resolution to the Geauga County Auditor immediately.

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

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Resolution #25-217 Amending Resolution #25-184 to Accept the Amounts and Rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor.

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

COUNTY ENGINEER’S OFFICE – AGREEMENT – EXTEND CONTRACT EXECUTION DATE – GEAUGA HIGHWAY COMPANY – ASPHALT RESURFACING OF GINGERICH ROAD

Deputy Engineer Shane Hajjar asked the Board to execute the agreement to extend the contract execution date with Geauga Highway Company for the resurfacing project of Gingerich Road by an additional thirty days. Mr. Hajjar explained that the project was originally planned as an end-of-the-year project as a way to use carryover funds, but in review of the budget, it was agreed that it was not necessary to encumber the funds this year. Mr. Hajjar stated that the extension will then encumber the funds in 2026 and keep the project on track to begin in May 2026.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the Agreement to extend Contract Execution Date, with Geauga Highway Company, by an additional thirty (30) days for the Asphalt Resurfacing of Gingerich Road (CH-0034, Section A) in Burton Township, pursuant to O.R.C. 153.12.

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

**PLANNING COMMISSION – FINAL PLAT – SAMUAL WHITING SURVEY, REPLAT OF
SUBLOT 15, CREATING SUBLOT 15-A – CHESTER TOWNSHIP**

Director Linda Crombie asked the Board to approve the final plat for the Samuel Whiting Survey. The plat is a replat of subplot 15 and involves the consolidation of two parcels totaling 1.485 acres, creating subplot 15-A in Chester Township. This was approved during the Planning Commission meeting on December 9.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the Final Plat for the Samuel Whiting Survey, Replat of Sublot 15, creating Sublot 15-A, in Chester Township.

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

**RECORDER'S OFFICE – COMPUTER SYSTEM AND SOFTWARE LICENSE SALES
AGREEMENT – LAND RECORDS AND SCHEDULES – FIDLAR TECHNOLOGIES**

Recorder Celesta Mullins asked the Board to approve the computer system and software license sales agreement and schedules with Fidlar Technologies. Ms. Mullins explained that she will be moving to a hosted system. She noted that this will replace the current server and that ADP will service the actual hardware. Ms. Brakey explained that she had received a question from a resident, who asked if this was the same system that Geauga already has in Archives under ADP. Ms. Mullins clarified that it is not the same system. She explained that this system is required when you record a document. It assigns the instrument number which allows you to locate the title and find the documents when doing a title search.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the Computer System and Software License Sales Agreement, Geauga County Ohio Recorder – Land Records, including Schedule A (LifeCycle Agreement), Schedule B (Software Maintenance Service), Schedule C (Hardware Maintenance Services), Schedule D (Remote Access and Community Outreach Products), Schedule E (Hardware, Software and Services), Schedule F (Bastion – AVID Hosting Service), and further authorize the President of the Board to execute Schedule G between Geauga County and Fidlar Technologies for cash receipting, indexing and imaging/microfilming system for a 5 year term beginning January 1, 2026 at the rate not to exceed \$50,000.00 per 12 month period.

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

**RECORDER'S OFFICE / VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION – APPROVE UTILIZATION
OF FUNDS FROM 2025 – PURCHASE REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT, SOFTWARE AND
SUPPLIES**

Ms. Mullins and Director Michele Pemberton from Veterans Service Commission asked the Board to approve utilizing remaining 2025 funds to purchase replacement equipment for Veteran ID cards. Ms. Mullins explained that since 2013, the Recorder's office has been issuing ID cards to our veterans in coordination with Veterans Service Commission. The system used has come to the end of its life cycle, and we would like to replace the machine to continue to do this service. The idea is to make it mobile, so we can take it to events to get cards to those who cannot make it to us. Ms. Pemberton explained that most of our veterans are eligible to receive an ID card through the VA healthcare system. This allows veterans to get their ID recorded and their card. The card allows veterans to access and use the benefits available to them, like at various businesses, such as Home Depot. Ms. Mullins noted that she had just received ADP approval for the new equipment.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve the utilization of remaining 2025 funds to purchase replacement equipment, software and supplies for Veteran ID Cards with an estimated cost of \$5,930.00.

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

VETERAN'S SERVICE COMMISSION – APPROVE UTILIZATION OF FUNDS FROM 2025 – PURCHASE A DOG TAG ENGRAVING MACHINE

Ms. Pemberton explained that the Veterans Service Commission is unable to carry over unused funds and would like to use remaining funds to purchase a dog tag engraving machine and to have a donated 1889 42-star flag professionally framed for display. The dog tag machine has been something they have been looking at for years as the dog tags serve as a reminder of service. This machine will also be portable and can be taken to different places to assist those who are not able to make it into the office.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve the utilization of remaining 2025 funds to purchase a dog tag engraving machine (\$17,956.00) and to have the donated 1889 42 Star Flag professionally framed for display (Full display - \$19,505.00, Partial display - \$15,839.00).

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

DEPARTMENT ON AGING – APPROVE REVISED TITLE AND JOB DESCRIPTION – ASSISTANT SENIOR CENTERS' SUPERVISOR TO ASSISTANT SENIOR CENTERS' MANAGER (#1307)

Director Jessica Boalt asked the Board to approve the revision to the title and job description of Assistant Senior Center Supervisor to Manager to align with the Senior Center Manager position. The job description will now be more accurate of the responsibilities regarding the division of labor for the senior centers and the community programming.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve the revised title and job description for the position of Assistant Senior Centers' Supervisor to Assistant Senior Centers' Manager (#1307) to be effective December 16, 2025.

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

DEPARTMENT ON AGING – APPROVE PROMOTION – KRISTEN BIBBY – SOCIAL SERVICES COORDINATOR (#1029)

Ms. Boalt asked the Board to approve the promotion of Ms. Bibby to the Social Services Coordinator. Ms. Bibby has been with the department for over ten years having previously served as the Home Delivered Meals and Volunteer Coordinator and most recently as the Social Services Worker.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve the promotion of Kristen Bibby to the position of Full-time Social Services Coordinator (#1029) to be effective December 22, 2025, at the rate of \$31.36 per hour (Grade 14E, Step 3) with a 180-day probationary period.

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

DEPARTMENT ON AGING – APPROVE REVISED ORGANIZATIONAL CHART – UPDATE TITLE OF ASSISTANT SENIOR CENTERS' MANAGER – MOVE HOME DELIVERED MEALS COORDINATOR UNDER SUPERVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES COORDINATOR

Ms. Boalt asked the Board to approve the revised organizational chart to correct the title change and to place the Home Delivered Meals Coordinator program under the supervision of the Social Services Coordinator as it aligns with direct client services.

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Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve the revised Organizational Chart to update the title of Assistant Senior Centers' Manager (#1307) and to move the Home Delivered Meals Coordinator position under the supervision of the Social Services Coordinator, to be effective December 16, 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>

DEPARTMENT ON AGING – ADVERTISE POSITIONS – ASSISTANT SENIOR CENTERS' MANAGER (#1307) AND SOCIAL SERVICES WORKER (#1022)

Ms. Boalt asked to advertise for the positions of Assistant Senior Centers Manager and Social Services Worker, noting that both would remain posted until filled.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to grant permission to advertise for the position of Full-time Assistant Senior Centers' Manager (#1307). This position will remain posted until filled.

<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 grant permission to advertise for the position of Full-time Social Services Worker (#1022). This position will remain posted until filled.

<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 – TERMINATE THREE-PARTY CONTRACT – ROLAND AND AMY FOLIART AND LOZE ENTERPRISES, LLC – DEMOLITION AND SITE REVITALIZATION – MUNN ROAD PROPERTY

Project Manager Elaine Malkamaki asked the Board to approve the termination of the three-party contract with Roland and Amy Foliart and Loze Enterprises at the request of the homeowner as they no longer wish to meet the requirements of the grant.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to terminate the three-party Contract between Geauga County, Roland and Amy Foliart and Loze Enterprises, LLC for the demolition and site revitalization of property at 15180 Munn Road, Newbury, as the property owners no longer desire to meet the requirements of the Ohio Department of Development Demolition and Site Revitalization Grant Program and are requesting the County terminate the contract.

<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 – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – DEX IMAGING

Deputy Director Brandon Reed asked the Board to approve the service contract agreement with DEX Imaging for the purchase of two copiers, adding that the agreement includes parts, labor, preventative maintenance, toner and images.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the service Contract Agreement with DEX Imaging for the purchase of a Ricoh IMC3510 Copier and a Ricoh IMC300 F Copier, and to provide all parts, labor, travel for all service, preventative maintenance, toner and image units, for a five-year period, in an amount not to exceed \$48,964.00.

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

MAINTENANCE – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – AIR FORCE ONE

New Maintenance Director Robert Weigle introduced himself and provided a little about his background, adding that he was ready to roll up his sleeves and get into all the work that needs to be done. Contract Coordinator Liz Rubino asked the Board to approve the service contract agreement with Air Force One for the new boiler at the Safety Center.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the service Contract Agreement with Air Force One to remove and install a new hot water boiler in the Geauga County Safety Center, effective December 16, 2025, with work to be completed within 180 days in an amount not to exceed \$57,347.00.

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

MAINTENANCE – CONTRACT MAINTENANCE FORM #1 – INCREASE SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – S.A. COMUNALE COMPANY, INCORPORATED

Ms. Rubino asked the Board to approve the change to the service contract with S.A. Comunale for additional maintenance on the fire suppression system at the Safety Center.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Contract Maintenance Form #1, increasing the service Contract Agreement with S.A. Comunale Company, Incorporated for additional maintenance services for the fire suppression system at the Geauga County Safety Center in the amount of \$15,000.00 for a new not to exceed amount of \$30,000.00.

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

MAINTENANCE – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – TRANE U.S. INCORPORATED

Ms. Rubino asked the Board to approve the service contract with Trane US Incorporated for the new automation system at the Safety Center. Ms. Rubino noted that they have ADP approval and it includes the removal of remote access for Trane.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute a service Contract Agreement with Trane U.S. Incorporated to provide and install a new Building Automation System (BAS) at the Geauga County Safety Center, effective December 16, 2025, with work to be completed within one hundred eighty (180) days, in an amount not to exceed \$49,817.00.

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

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – AUTHORIZE RALPH SPIDALIERI, AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE – EXECUTE REQUEST FOR PARTIAL PAYMENT #6 – SHOOK CONSTRUCTION – MCFARLAND WWTP IMPROVEMENTS

Director Nicholas Gorris asked the Board to allow Mr. Spidalieri, the authorized representative, to execute the request for partial payment #6 for Shook Construction on the McFarland Wastewater treatment plant improvements. Mr. Gorris stated that the project is moving forward, the invoices have been reviewed, and this will make the project about 30% complete. Mr. Gorris noted that work is expected to slow due to weather, but three clarifiers have successfully passed water testing and are waiting on warmer weather to put water in the oxygenation tank.

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Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and authorize Ralph Spidalieri, authorized representative, to execute the Request for Partial Payment #6 for Shook Construction Company for the McFarland Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements project in the amount of \$844,859.60 and execute the Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) Contractor's Estimate and the OWDA Fund Payment Request #6 in the amount of \$844,859.60.

<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 WATER RESOURCES – AUTHORIZE RALPH SPIDALIERI,
AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE – EXECUTE REQUEST FOR PARTIAL PAYMENT #9 –
HDR ENGINEERING INCORPORATED – MCFARLAND WWTP IMPROVEMENTS*

Mr. Gorris asked the Board to allow Mr. Spidalieri, the authorized representative, to execute the request for partial payment #9 for HDR Engineering for their on-site technical review of the project. This payment represents about 40% of the engineer's original contract, has been reviewed. With their on-site overview and technical knowledge, it falls in line on the project.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and authorize Ralph Spidalieri, authorized representative, to execute the Ohio Water Development Authority Fund Payment Request #9 for the McFarland Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements Project for technical services by HDR Engineering Incorporated in the amount of \$42,373.59.

<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>

DOG WARDEN – STATE OF THE SHELTER

Ms. Bevan explained that Mr. Granito was excited to come before you and update you on the changes that have happened over the last year.



Public Safety, Emergency Response & 2026 Initiatives

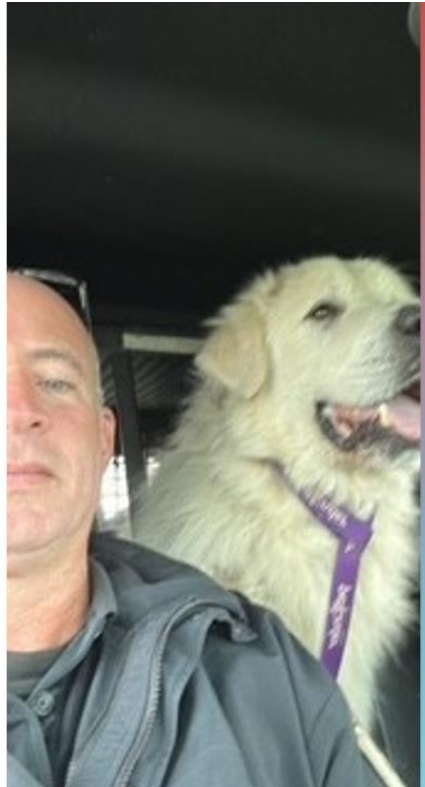
Geauga County Dog Warden & Shelter

Mr. Granito explained that, since COVID, there has been a noticeable shift in people's attitudes in the community, including an increase in confrontational behavior. He stated that situations that were once handled informally, such as asking a resident to secure their dog, are no longer as straightforward. As a result, he now wears body armor as a precaution. You will see many dogs in the presentation, which are pictures of dogs that we have adopted.

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Background
accomplishments

- 24 years as Dog Warden/35 years in Animal Shelter
- Ohio County Dog Warden's Association Past President/Parliamentarian. Been sitting on Board since 2004
- Governor appointed Dog Warden on the Commercial Dog Breeding Advisory Board Since 2014



Mr. Granito provided some information on himself, that he has served as Dog Warden for twenty-four years, that he previously was the Chief Humane Officer for the Animal Protective League in Cuyahoga County for eleven years. Mr. Granito shared that the position with the Advisory Board has been to address animal welfare issues related to commercial breeders in the state. Mr. Granito shared a personal story about his own dog Josie, who had a medical condition and had to be euthanized. He explained that the State of Ohio legally views dogs as property, which he believes is misaligned with the community's view of dogs as beloved family members. He hopes that state laws will eventually change to reflect this societal value.

Over 20 Years of
Excellence

- Recognized as one of Ohio's best county-run shelters. We have maintained over 90% live release rate since 2002.
- Strong public trust and consistent service
- Dogs and community safety remain top priorities



Mr. Granito explained that the shelter has maintained a live release rate of over 90% since 2002, with recent numbers reaching over 95%. Mr. Granito explained that while the Best Friends Animal Sanctuary considers the shelter a “no-kill” shelter he disagrees, and clarified that he must make decisions regarding euthanasia for dogs that are dangerously aggressive, terminally ill, or have an unacceptably low quality of life, prioritizing community safety and animal welfare.

Dog Warden Duties & Public Safety Role

- 24/7 emergency response countywide
- 3 full-time and 2 part-time staff
- Primary agency contacted by law enforcement for dogs at-large
- Responds to dog health emergencies and public safety threats
- Public safety remains one of our highest priorities



Mr. Granito explained that they were focusing on building community trust and providing consistent service, including 24/7 emergency response. Mr. Granito stated that he was on call five days a week and prefers fieldwork over administrative tasks. Current staffing includes three full-time and two part-time employees, noting that future needs may require more staff to support programs. The shelter serves primarily as the agency for animal at-large calls from law enforcement, but praised the Sheriff's Office for their quick response and excellent working relationship, citing a recent case during a snowstorm where a deputy rescued a sick stray dog.

Mr Granito talked about a new collaborative protocol on handling dogs left behind when owners pass away, addressing a long-standing gap in Ohio Law. Mr. Granito explained that through collaboration with the Prosecutor's Office and the Sheriff's Office, the Dog Warden's Office has developed a process to legally apprehend these dogs. In approximately five or six recent cases of owner deaths, they have successfully taken in the dogs and found their new owners or were taken by relatives. Mr. Granito stressed that Ohio law needs to be updated to better address these situations, as animals are not property to be discarded.

Safety, Security & Equipment Upgrades

- Protective body vests for officer safety
- Upgraded radios for direct law enforcement communication
- New cameras for animal monitoring, theft prevention, and illegal dumping identification



Mr. Granito explained that over the last year they have acquired new technology, including radios and security cameras, to assist with improved safety, communication and operational security. Mr. Granito explained that he is able to monitor law enforcement channels for real-time information on loose animals, improving response coordination. In collaboration with help

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from ADP, Mr. Antenucci and Mr. Birli installed exterior cameras with license plate identification capabilities to combat dog dumping. Interior cameras have been installed in the building for security, particularly because they handle cash transactions.

Staff & Volunteer Development

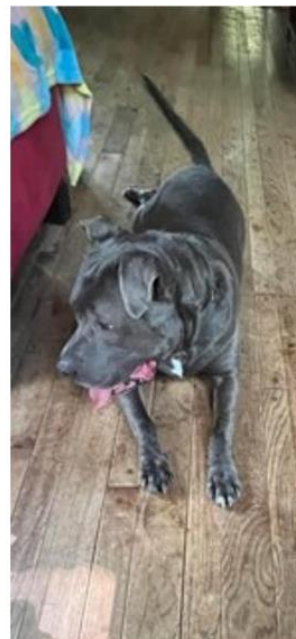
- Volunteer Manual in development
- Staff Manual in development
- Updated policies and procedures for consistency and safety



Mr. Granito explained that they have been working on formalizing operational procedures and developing a system for handling animals in medical emergencies or after an animal's death. This includes staff manuals, policies and procedures being developed and will be formally presented for board approval. Mr. Granito had planned for them to be adopted, however recent change in the law has delayed that. Mr. Granito explained their holding protocols. They hold animals for five days for an owner to claim, or fourteen days if the dog is licensed, before they become available for adoption.

Emergency Assistance Program – Resource Impact

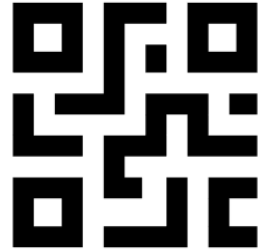
- Assistance during medical emergencies, accidents, and fires
- Strengthens public safety and supports law enforcement agencies
- Requires increased staff time and operational resources



Mr. Granito explained that they have launched new programs to modernize dog registration and establishing emergency contacts for pet owners.

Modernizing Dog Registration

- QR code registration for easy public access
- Emergency alternative contact program
- One of only three known counties offering this program



Mr. Granito stated that Geauga County is one of only three counties that are working on this initiative. Dog license renewal forms will include a field for an alternative emergency contact, and this contact will be used in case of an emergency like a house fire or an owner's death, ensuring the dog can be quickly cared for by a trusted person.

Mr. Granito explained that in partnership with the Auditor's Office, new QR codes allow for easier public dog registration and on-site compliance checks by the Dog Warden and staff.

2026 Public Outreach

- Countywide postcard mailing to all residents
- Encourages registration and compliance
- Helps residents avoid fines and citations
- Increase revenue for the Shelter



Mr. Granito stated that dog license numbers have been declining statewide, impacting the departments main revenue stream. The decline is partly attributed to an inability to conduct in-person license checks, though some door-to-door efforts are resuming. A proposal will be made for a postcard mailing campaign to encourage registrations. Mr. Granito stated that the postcard will cost about \$12,000.00 but the goal is to generate about 800 new dog licenses, which would make the campaign financially beneficial. Mr. Granito added that he was exploring the possibility of obtaining a sponsor for the mailer in the future, pending approval from the Prosecutor's Office.



Technology & Records



Computerized intake
and paperwork



Faster, safer, more
accurate records



Improved retention
system with Archives

Mr. Granito thanked ADP for all their help with technology support, which has led to improved social media presence on Facebook and the process of digitizing paper records.

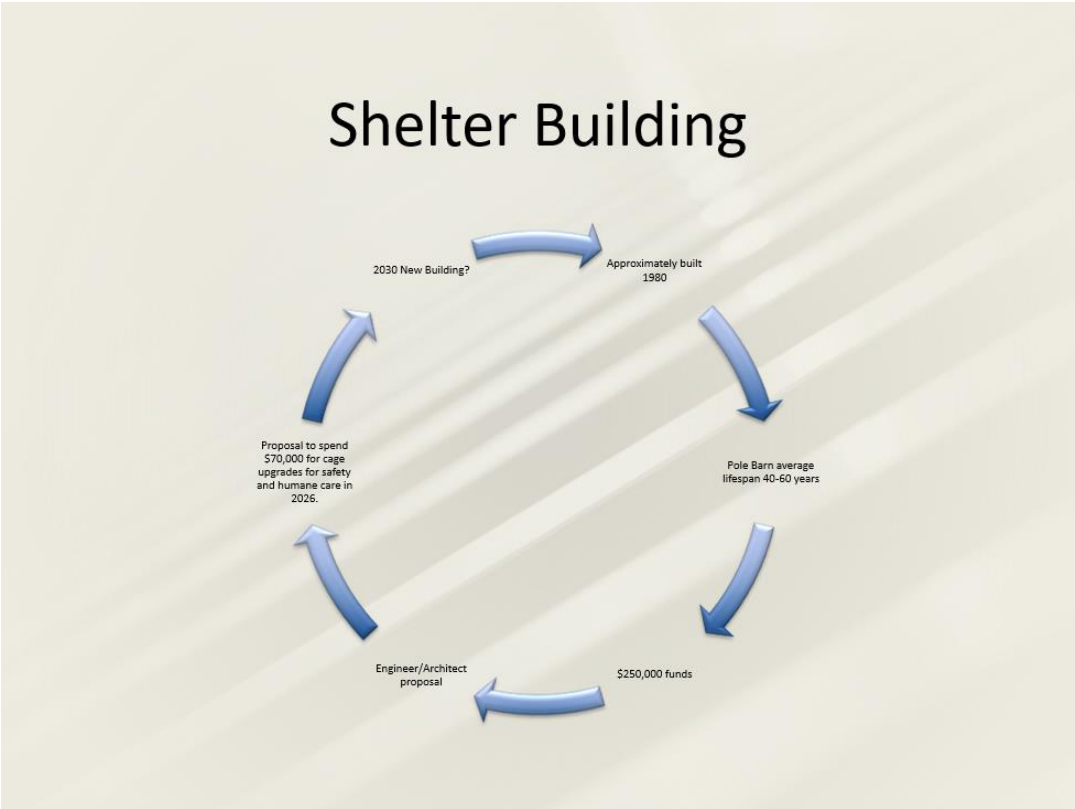
2026 Shelter Improvements

- Credit card payment machines
- Updated impound and adoption fees
- Upgraded kennels for dog and staff safety



Mr. Granito added that they are looking to add the ability to accept credit cards as a way to move beyond a cash only system and modernize transactions. Mr. Granito explained that they can no longer offer services for free due to time and resource constraints. An impound fee of \$75.00 is considered reasonable. However, the department is proposig a new program to transport a captured dog back to its owner’s home for a fee. This was recently done for a member of the Amish community who had difficulty traveling to the shelter. Mr. Granito expressed that the department is increasingly assisting with situations where owners are hospitalized and working to coordinate with the Sheriff’s Office to retrieve pets from homes.

A primary issue that needs to be discussed is the current state of the animal shelter that was built in 1980.



Mr. Granito expressed that the Dog Shelter is approximately 46 years old and near the end of the typical 40-60 year lifespan for a building of this type. The allocation from the Commissioners of \$250,000.00 has not yet been used, and he feels that the current building should eventually be demolished. He proposed that building a new facility is a realistic goal if funding from the General Fund is available. An architect has visited the site and is expected to provide a quote. A short-term fix that would last about five years and cost about \$70,000.00 would involve repairing kennels, adding inside and outside cages and installing doors between cages for safely moving dangerous dogs.

On a recent visit with the architect, they noted the absence of separate, dedicated areas for quarantine, intake and medical procedures. Currently all of those happen in the same space. The department has managed with this setup, but it is not sustainable or ideal.

Avery's Law(HB 247)

- Changes all codes in R.C. 955 (dogs)
- Increased charges for a dangerous or vicious dog
- Penalties for a dog committing a dangerous or vicious dog Act.
- Mandates dangerous dogs to have \$100,000 liability insurance
- Requires dog wardens to send in writing evidence of animal cruelty/neglect to the Humane agents or law enforcement to investigate R.C. 959



Mr. Granito explained that while the Governor has not yet signed “Avery’s Law” into law, it is named after a young girl whowas severely injured in a dog attack. This law addresses a gap where dog wardens had no recourse to remove a dog after a bite unless the owner was non-compliant. There are ten known dogs in the county that have bit someone and they don’t have insurance. If this gets signed, it will allow a dog warden the ability to immediately confiscate a dog deemed vicious after an attack. The rationale is to prevent further harm and ensure public

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safety. A new separate law was created in the past year and passed with unusual speed that introduces a fourth-degree misdemeanor charge for owners whose dogs bite someone unprovoked, with potential penalties including losing the dog or jail time. This new law is aimed at addressing irresponsible owners.

Mr. Granito explained that he was invited and will be attending the Governor’s signing of the new bill at the Statehouse on Friday.

Appreciation & Partnerships

- Sheriff’s Office
- Auditor’s Office
- Prosecutor’s Office
- IT department
- Maintenance department
- Archives department
- law enforcement agencies
- Commissioners and staff



Mr. Granito expressed that there has been a major collaborative effort and thanked everyone as they work through new processes, creating and implementing new response protocols and programs.

Balancing public safety with compassion for animals



Mr. Granito thanked the Board of Commissioners. He arrived at the meeting were two dogs (Grub and Texas) that recently came from the organization MOCO. They bring the animals to the shelter, they are treated, are up to date on vaccines. The dog shelter adopts out the dogs for \$200 each and the revenue goes directly to the shelter, which is used to treat local dogs.

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They just held a three day event The members of MOCO stayed at Bass Lake Lodge at no cost, 12 dogs were adopted out and that generated \$2,400.00 for the shelter. The organization adopted a dog that had been at the shelter for a while to take back, demonstrating the partnership and desire to help the animals.

Ms. Brakey noted that, based on the Dog Warden's weekly reports, it appeared that there has been more euthanasia this year. Mr. Granito explained that we are a little higher this year, but a lot of them have been owner pets that needed to be put down. We will continue to see an increase, but it is not from dogs that could be adopted. It is based on court ordered euthanasia, strays that have medical conditions or if an owner passed away.

Ms. Brakey questioned that if we are going to spend \$75,000.00 to do some improvements on the shelter, can those improvement be later moved to a new facility or should we be looking to do a new shelter sooner. Mr. Granito stated that the kennel improvements could not be moved. We do get donations, bequests, and we need to look at an increase in dog license fees, as well as look at creating the 501c3.

Mr. Dvorak thanked Mr. Granito, his staff and the collaboration between them and the Sheriff's Office.

BOARD DISCUSSION

Ms. Bevan stated that she did have one item for Board discussion regarding fire alarm monitoring at the courthouse expansion. She explained that securing a service provider is critical to obtaining a certificate of occupancy. Two vendors were considered, Guardian Alarm and Silco. In working with the Prosecutor's Office, we do have a provider, Guardian Alarm, and would like to try and get permission from the Board if you agree, to move forward once the contract is approved. Deputy County Administrator Mark Jimison briefly explained the difference in offerings between the two providers. One difference is we will rent the equipment with Guardian, versus owning the equipment with Silco. Recently there was a change in law that required a change in contracts, but as the current contracts expire, we will need to move to one vendor versus several in order to get in compliance with the change.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and authorize Amy Bevan, County Administrator, to execute the Contract Agreement with Guardian Alarm for Fire Monitoring, once the contract is approved by the Prosecutor's Office and certified, pursuant to O.R.C. 305.30.

<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

Gail Roussey from the League of Women Voters asked if Director Craig Swenson who does not appear to be present today is aware of the suppression of the JFS levy. It was noted that he was indeed aware of the proposed action. Ms. Roussey asked about the amount of cash carryover and the increase from \$6 million to \$15 million. Mr. Gorton responded that the estimate was \$6 million and there is an amount that the financial system produces that he is stuck with and attempts to state what the carryover will be based on the numbers, and it was \$15 million.

Anastasia Nicholas from the Chagrin Valley Times asked what the probability of the state accepting the submission. Ms. Brakey expressed that they do not know, and are hoping for a Christmas miracle and that it gets accepted.

Newell Howard, South Russell Village, noted the recent Army versus Navy football game. Mr. Howard expressed gratitude for the Wreaths Across America event, noting that it started at Arlington National Cemetery and now it is a nationwide event.

Ms. Brakey noted that Mr. Dvorak and she had attended the Wreaths Across America event in Burton. Even with the weather, it was very well attended.

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COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri 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 11:09 a.m. with Ms. Bevan and Deputy County Administrator Mark Jimison. The Board returned at 11:21 a.m. and as a result the following action was taken:

There was a brief discussion regarding why Job and Family Services is excluded from the action, and it was noted that they operate on a State Fiscal calendar year and will come back later in the year to do their request.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve a three percent increase for 2026, effective with Payroll #1 (December 21, 2025) to adjust the wage scales and compensation of the non-bargaining unit employees (current and active) under the hiring authority of the Board of County Commissioners, with the exception of the Department of Job and Family Services, including current job postings, effective with the first payroll adjusting the hourly rate by rounding to the nearest penny so that departments and elected officials can plan and budget accordingly.

<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>

OTHER

The Board reviewed upcoming events.

MEETINGS

Mon., 12/15 Family First Council, 1:30 p.m. County Office Building

Tue., 12/16 The Commissioners will hold session at 9:30 a.m.

Tue., 12/23 The Commissioners will hold session at 9:30 a.m.

*Wed., 12/24 **County Offices will be closed in honor of Christmas. Twenty-four-hour operations will continue to operate as normal.***

*Thu., 12/25 **County Offices will be closed in honor of Christmas. Twenty-four-hour operations will continue to operate as normal.***

*Fri., 12/26 **County Offices will be closed in honor of Christmas. Twenty-four-hour operations will continue to operate as normal.***

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

*Thu., 1/1 **County Offices will be closed in honor of New Year's Day. Twenty-four-hour operations will continue to operate as normal.***

Tue., 1/6 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 11:23 a.m.*

Geauga County Board of Commissioners

James W. Dvorak

Carolyn Brakey, Esq.

Ralph Spidalieri

Christine Blair, Commissioners' Clerk

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