

**Commissioners' Journal**  
**December 30, 2025**

*The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on December 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.*

*The 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:*

*The Start of 2026*

*Heavenly Father,*

*As I stand in the last days of December, I choose to say thank you first. Thank you for not letting me walk this road alone.*

*Lord, I pray for 2026 to be a year of renewal: renew my heart, renew my choices, and renew my trust in you.*

*Lord, I share this, so more people can welcome the new season together. If God is good to you, Praise him.*

*Amen*

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

*No one wished to make comment on any current agenda items.*

**FINANCIALS**

*County Administrator Amy Bevan reported on financials approved on December 23, 2025, Resolution #25-223, that included Appropriations transfer from the Treasurer's Office General Fund other expense account to their Medicare expense line item in order to finish processing payroll; and Supplemental De-Appropriation from the Juvenile Court in their Juvenile Recovery Fund in order to balance out the fund for year end.*

*The County Administrator approved the financials on December 23, 2025 pursuant to Resolution #25-004 approved January 7, 2025 to authorize the County Administrator to execute, in the case of a lack of quorum of Commissioners and / or if session is cancelled on a regular financial day or on a day when financials need to be approved, the required approvals for county financials on behalf of the Board during the Year 2025, as authorized by O.R.C. 305.30.*

**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 December 29, 2025:*

*Liquor License:*

*Concurred with the Hambden Township Trustees in not requesting a hearing on the Liquor License being requested by WEBEGOOD LLC located at 13960 Rock Creek Road, Chardon, Ohio (OCT REN 09451396-1).*

**APPROVE FINANCIALS**

*Budget and Finance Manager Adrian Gorton explained the financials for today including appropriation transfer and supplemental appropriations and de-appropriations to adjust accounts and funds to balance for final payroll and year end including the Juvenile Court, Community Development and the County Engineer.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Resolution #25-224 itemizing the financials for the meeting of December 30, 2025.*

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

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – REVISED ACCOUNTING FORMS AUTHORIZATION AND PAYROLL AUTHORIZATION FORMS – MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

Mr. Gorton explained that this revision on the accounting and payroll authorization forms was to include the new Maintenance Director, Mr. Weigle.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the revised Accounting Forms Authorization and Payroll Authorization Forms for the Maintenance Department.

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

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – LETTER OF ENGAGEMENT – SQUIRE PATTON BOGGS – OUTSIDE COUNSEL YEAR 2026

Mr. Gorton asked the Board to approve the letter of engagement with Squire Patton Boggs for the year 2026 as they assist with the bonds and filing of tax documents and for any assistance if needed for community development tax incentives. Mr. Gorton noted that they assisted with the bonds for the county office building, and any community related tax items regarding those, and our current interest rate is so low that it does not make sense to pay the bonds off at this time. There was a brief discussion about one of the bonds, the larger bond is backed by the sales tax and limits doing certain things with the sales tax. Mr. Gorton added that they are used for things that the Prosecutor's Office may not have the expertise.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Letter of Engagement with Squire Patton Boggs for Outside Counsel for the Year 2026 related to Bonds, Filing of Tax Documents and for additional assistance for matter relating to TIF's in an amount not to exceed \$8,550.00.

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

AUDITOR'S AND TREASURER'S OFFICES – MONTHLY STATEMENT OF COUNTY FINANCES – JULY THROUGH NOVEMBER 2025

Mr. Gorton asked the Board to approve the monthly statement of county finances as filed by the County Auditor and County Treasurer for the months of July through November 2025.

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

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

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

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

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DEPARTMENT ON AGING – AGREEMENT – CHARLES P. BRAMAN AND COMPANY, INCORPORATED – FAIR MARKET VALUE APPRAISAL SERVICES

Director Jessica Boalt asked the Board to approve the agreement for appraisal services of the 12701 Ravenwood Drive property, as the last appraisal done was in April 2024 and since that time, there have been improvements, including a new roof that was installed and some parking enhancements. Ms. Boalt explained that Braman and Company had completed the appraisal on the Chase Building and provided a very thorough report. Ms. Boalt expressed that getting an appraisal to determine fair market value is a good idea, as the county moved forward with purchasing the building. It was noted that to comply with the requirements of the grant funding, a current appraisal is needed.

*Motion:* by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the Agreement between the Geauga County Board of Commissioners and Charles P. Braman and Company, Incorporated for Fair Market Value Appraisal Services to Geauga County to perform the fair market value appraisal on property located at 12701 Ravenwood Drive, Chardon in an amount not to exceed \$4,450.00.

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

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY – RADIOLOGICAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM FUNDING AGREEMENT – VISTRA OPERATIONS COMPANY, LLC

Director Austin Rice explained that there has been an agreement in place since the power plant was built, originally with First Energy, then Energy Harbor and now Vistra since they now own the plant and it has taken a little time to work out. This agreement provides funding for EMA, to assist with maintaining the radiological emergency response plan, along with training and preparedness for any emergencies at the plant. This funding makes up about 68 percent of their budget. Mr. Rice said that he did work with the Prosecutor's Office on the agreement as there are changes and there was some back and forth, including adding signature lines for the Commissioners. There are some differences in our agreement versus Lake and Ashtabula Counties, noting that Lake is a host county and has a full-time district employee that works out of their office, but Geauga County gets the most funding out of all three.

*Motion:* by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program Funding Agreement with Vistra Operations Company, LLC for the Emergency Management Agency to maintain a FEMA approved Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) Plan and will provide funding in the amount of \$262,519.00 for calendar year 2026 and \$270,395.00 for calendar year 2027.

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

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – GEAUGA COUNTY FAMILY FIRST COUNCIL MUTUAL FUNDING AGREEMENT – JANUARY 1, 2026 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2026

Family First Coordinator Tim Khres and President of Family First Council Christine Lakomiak asked the Board to approve the mutual funding agreement for January through June 2026.

Commissioner Brakey noted that, under House Bill 96, Family First Councils are now optional and may be dissolved by resolution of the Board. She clarified that she was not suggesting that the Board take that action, but wanted to ensure the Board was aware of the change in law, particularly as counties continue to evaluate statutory obligations, fiscal priorities, and the potential impact of any future changes to property tax funding. Commissioner Brakey further emphasized the Family First Council is valuable and that her comments were intended to distinguish between programs the county is required to fund and programs the Board may choose to continue supporting because of their benefit to the community.

*Motion:* by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the Geauga County Family First Council Mutual Funding Agreement

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*between the Geauga County Board of Commissioners, Geauga County Job and Family Services, Geauga County Board of Developmental Disabilities and the Geauga County Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services for funding the Geauga County Family First Council for the period January 1, 2026 through June 30, 2026. This agreement commits the Board of County Commissioners to providing a support payment of \$29,739.00 from the General Fund.*

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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> |

**MAINTENANCE – REJECT THE BID SUBMITTED BY CALVARY MECHANICAL LLC – WEST GEAUGA SENIOR CENTER CONDENSER UPGRADE PROJECT**

*Project Manager Charles Tkach explained that he had two items today and both are related to the same project, the West Geauga Senior Center Condenser Upgrade. Mr. Tkach asked the Board to reject the bid submitted by Calvary Mechanical as the bid form did not comply with the requirements of the invitation to bid and therefore is a non-responsive bid. Mr. Tkach noted that it was missing a lump sum breakdown and did not address the lead time for the chillers.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to reject the bid submitted by Calvary Mechanical LLC for the West Geauga Senior Center Condenser Upgrade project, as the Bid Form did not comply with the requirements of the Invitation to Bid, making it non-responsive.*

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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> |

**MAINTENANCE – AWARD BID – THE JOHN F. GALLAGHER PLUMBING COMPANY – WEST GEAUGA SENIOR CENTER CONDENSER UPGRADE PROJECT**

*Mr. Tkach asked the board to award the bid to the John F. Gallagher Plumbing Company. There was discussion on the project about two chillers being replaced and one of them is only five years old, but by replacing both at the same time they have the same technology. Mr. Tkach noted that they did include in an addendum that the one chiller unit would be removed and sold. Ms. Brakey expressed that she felt that since the unit was only five years old, it should be kept and therefore would be voting no.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Spidalieri, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to award the Bid to The John F. Gallagher Plumbing Company for the West Geauga Senior Center Condenser Upgrade Project in the amount of \$327,900.00 as they represented the lowest and best bid.*

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| <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> |

**DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – GEAUGA COATINGS**

*Director Nicholas Gorris explained that the next eleven items before the Board are annual service contracts that are put into place and ready in case they are needed for repairs and maintenance.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the service Contract Agreement with Geauga Coatings to perform concrete leveling and coating services, as needed at various locations within the department, for a one-year period, effective December 30, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00.*

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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> |

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DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – SWIFT FIRST AID

*Motion:* by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the service Contract Agreement with Swift First Aid to perform refilling first aid kits at various locations within the department for a one-year period, effective December 30, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$2,500.00.

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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> |

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – TIM FRANK SEPTIC TANK CLEANING COMPANY

*Motion:* by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the service Contract Agreement with Tim Frank Septic Tank Cleaning Company to perform emergency sludge hauling and vactor services for the department for a one-year period, effective December 30, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00.

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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> |

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – WORKMAN INDUSTRIAL SERVICES, INCORPORATED

*Motion:* by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the service Contract Agreement with Workman Industrial Services, Incorporated to perform Emergency rehabilitation and improvements, as needed, at various wastewater locations within the department for a one-year period, effective December 30, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00.

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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> |

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – AUBURN FENCE CORPORATION

*Motion:* by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the service Contract Agreement with Auburn Fence Corporation to perform fence repair, replacement, and installation as needed at Wastewater and Water District buildings for the Department for a one-year period, effective December 30, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00 (\$10,000.00 Wastewater, \$5,000.00 Water).

|                        |                                |            |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| <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 – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – BISSNUSS, INCORPORATED

*Mr. Gorris explained that this contract was always with Bergren and Associates and BissNuss acquired Bergren under the umbrella, and they are used for emergency call outs for telemetry and on the control systems.*

*Motion:* by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the service Contract Agreement with BissNuss, Incorporated to perform Maintenance service and installation of all telemetry and control systems, including meter calibration, at various Wastewater and Water District facilities for the department, for a one-year period, effective December 30, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00 (\$5,000.00 Wastewater, \$10,000.00 Water).

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

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT –  
BUCKEYE POWER SALES

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the service Contract Agreement with Buckeye Power Sales to perform Generator services and repairs as needed at the Wastewater and Water District locations within the Department for a one-year period, effective December 30, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 (\$15,000.00 Wastewater, \$5,000.00 Water).

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

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – C.U.E.  
EXCAVATING CONTRACTORS, LLC

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the service Contract Agreement with C.U.E. Excavating Contractors, LLC to perform General Excavating Services, as needed, at Wastewater and Water District locations within the Department for a one-year period, effective December 30, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00 (\$15,000.00 Wastewater, \$15,000.00 Water).

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

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – EMERY  
ELECTRIC, INCORPORATED

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the service Contract Agreement with Emery Electric, Incorporated to perform electrical repairs as needed at Wastewater and Water District locations within the Department for a one-year period, effective December 30, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$45,000.00 (\$30,000.00 Wastewater, \$15,000.00 Water).

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

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – GEAUGA  
DOOR SALES AND SERVICE, INCORPORATED

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the service Contract Agreement with Geauga Door Sales and Service, Incorporated to perform Door Repair services as needed at various Wastewater and Water District locations within the Department for a one-year period, effective December 30, 2025 in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00 (\$5,000.00 Wastewater, \$5,000.00 Water).

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

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT –  
INDEPENDENT DIESEL SERVICE, INCORPORATED

Mr. Gorris explained that this is a new service contract, identified last year with the help of the Clerk, that assisted with some transfer switches on the high voltage generator. Mr. Gorris noted that they are a local company and with on call services, we wanted to get a service contract in place for repairs and maintenance if needed.

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*Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the service Contract Agreement with Independent Diesel Service, Incorporated to perform Generator repairs and maintenance, as needed at various locations within the Department for a one-year period, effective December 30, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 (\$15,000.00 Wastewater, \$5,000.00 Water).*

|                        |                                |            |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| <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 – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – CLEVELAND TREE AND STUMP**

*Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the service Contract Agreement with Cleveland Tree and Stump to perform tree removal services at various wastewater and water district locations, including after storm damage for the department for a one-year period, effective December 30, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00 (\$20,000.00 Wastewater and \$5,000.00 Water).*

|                        |                                |            |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| <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 – CHANGE ORDER #16 – INCREASE CONTRACT – INFINITY CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INCORPORATED**

*Ms. Bevan asked the Board to approve Change Order #16 with Infinity Construction, explaining that this is an increase to extend the date of substantial completion by eighty-four (84) days mainly due to the furniture and fire monitoring services.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute Change Order #16, increasing the Contract with Infinity Construction Company, Incorporated, for the Geauga County Courthouse Expansion Project, GMP Phase #1 and #2 by adding eighty-four (84) days to the date of Substantial Completion through January 31, 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 – RESOLUTION TO CONDUCT MEETINGS – WHETHER REGULAR, SPECIAL OR EMERGENCY – YEAR 2026**

*This resolution is for the Board to conduct meetings, whether regular, special or emergency during the Year 2026 at the County Office Building in Room B303, Claridon Township.*

*Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Resolution #25-225 to Conduct Meetings (whether regular, special or emergency) of the Board of Commissioners for the Year 2026 at the Office of the Board in Room B303 on the third floor at the Geauga County Office Building, 12611 Ravenwood Drive, Claridon Township, Ohio.*

*Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio*

*Date: December 30, 2025*

*Resolution: #25-225*

**RESOLUTION TO CONDUCT MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE YEAR 2026 AT THE OFFICE OF THE BOARD AT THE GEAUGA COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING, 12611 RAVENWOOD DRIVE, CLARIDON TOWNSHIP, OHIO**

*WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Board to increase public awareness and access to the meetings of the Board of County Commissioners for all citizens of Geauga County; and*

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*WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Board of Commissioners to conduct meetings of the Board in the Year 2026 at the offices of the Board in Room #B303 on the third floor of the Geauga County Office Building, 12611 Ravenwood Drive in Claridon Township; and*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that at this time the Board of County Commissioners will hold its meetings (whether regular, special or emergency) in Room #B303 on the third floor of the Geauga County Office Building, 12611 Ravenwood Drive in Claridon Township, Ohio.*

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

|                        |                                |            |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| <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> |

**WORK SESSION – DISCUSS ITEMS FOR ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

*The Board moved into the work session at 9:55 a.m. Clerk Christine Blair noted that this is just for discussion purposes only, that no vote would be taken, and that this will be just a guide for the organizational meeting. The Board went over the following draft of motions for the upcoming organizational meeting in January for 2026.*

*2026-Organization Meeting – January 6, 2026*

*The Commissioners' Office is requesting the Board appoint \_\_\_\_\_ as President of the Geauga County Board of Commissioners for 2026.*

*The Commissioners' Office is requesting the Board appoint \_\_\_\_\_ as Vice President of the Geauga County Board of Commissioners for 2026.*

*The Commissioners' Office is requesting the Board adopt the Geauga County Commissioners' meeting schedule for 2026:*

**GEAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING SCHEDULE AND MEETING INFORMATION FOR 2026:**

- 1. Sessions / Meetings will be held at the Geauga County Commissioners' offices located at 12611 Ravenwood Drive, Room B303, Chardon, (whether regular, special or emergency) or any alternate location as necessary, with legally-required notice of changed location provided, or if permitted by law to be held virtually, with access information provided:*
- 2. Regular Sessions / Meetings held every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. and are live streamed (link)*
- 3. Adjustments made to add a Thursday regular session / meeting at 9:30 a.m. due to Holidays, or to schedule any additional regular meetings as needed to meet the required number of meetings for the year*
- 4. Requests for reasonable advance notification of all Commissioners meetings at which any specific type of public business is to be discussed may be requested of the Commissioners' Clerk, provisions for advance notification may include, but are not limited to, emailing the agenda of meetings to all subscribers on a distribution list or by self-addressed stamped envelope provided by the person requesting the information.*
- 5. The Board may have additional meetings, as required, at the time and place designated.*
- 6. Any meeting called by Geauga County officeholders, department heads, County Administrator or the county's legal counsel.*
- 7. Any meetings of the Geauga County Township Association*
- 8. Any meetings of the County Commissioners' Association of Ohio (CCAO).*
- 9. Any regular or special meetings of the following Boards or Councils at which a quorum of the Board of Commissioners is or may be present:*
  - a. Any township Board of Trustees meeting & City and Village Council*
  - b. Geauga County Board of Health*
  - c. Geauga County Health Advisory Council*
  - d. Geauga-Trumbull Solid Waste Management District*
  - e. Geauga Soil and Water Conservation District meetings*
  - f. Planning Commission*
  - g. Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA)*
  - h. Northeast Ohio Consortium Council of Governments (NOC COG)*



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- i. Investment Advisory Committee
- j. Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) District 7 Integrating Committee (Issue I)
- k. Geauga County Agricultural Society (Fair Board meetings)
- l. Meetings to honor any invitations received by the Geauga County Commissioners to attend ground breakings, openings, celebrations, memorial services and/or parades
- m. Meetings with any organization or other political entities to discuss items of mutual concern

*The time, place and purpose of all special meetings, in addition to regularly scheduled meetings, will be given at least twenty-four hours in advance of such meeting to the news media that have requested notification except in the event of an emergency requiring immediate official action. In the event of an emergency, the Board member or Board members calling the meeting shall notify the news media that have requested notification immediately of the time, place and purpose of the meeting.*

*There was a brief discussion about the idea of holding session at the courthouse either after or the day of the ribbon cutting, but that has not been finalized, so further discussion on the idea will be needed.*

*The Commissioners' Office is requesting the Board approve the appointments of members of the Board of County Commissioners to **boards and committees for 2026** as follows:*

*Board President – \_\_\_\_\_*  
*Board Vice President – \_\_\_\_\_*

*\* Board President required to be the Primary*

|                                                                                                 | <u>Primary</u>                 | <u>Alternate</u> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. ADP Board                                                                                    |                                |                  |
| 2. Board of Revision                                                                            |                                |                  |
| 3. Community Corrections                                                                        |                                |                  |
| 4. Courthouse Security Advisory Committee*                                                      | President                      |                  |
| 5. Family First                                                                                 |                                |                  |
| 6. Geauga County Agricultural Society                                                           | All three Commissioners        |                  |
| 7. Geauga-Trumbull Solid Waste - Policy *                                                       | President                      |                  |
| Gauga-Trumbull SW- Board of Directors                                                           | All three Commissioners        |                  |
| 8. Health District Advisory Board*                                                              |                                |                  |
| 9. Investment Advisory Committee (2 commissioners)                                              |                                |                  |
| 10. NOACA (Three Commissioners)                                                                 | Spidalieri<br>Brakey<br>Dvorak |                  |
| 11. NOC COG (Formerly GAPP)                                                                     |                                |                  |
| 12. Planning Commission Board                                                                   | All three Commissioners        |                  |
| 13. Revolving Loan and Local Revolving Loan**<br>(**Two-year Appointments) – expires 12/31/2025 |                                |                  |

*The Commissioners' Office is requesting the Board approve the appointments to the Board of Revision, with \_\_\_\_\_ as Primary and Alternates of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to be in effect for the year 2026.*

*The Commissioners' Office is requesting the Board approve the appointments to the ADP Board, with \_\_\_\_\_ as Primary and Alternates of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to be in effect for the year 2026.*

*The Commissioners' Office is requesting the Board appoint Nicholas Gorris to the NOACA, Water Quality Committee, with Alternate Carmela Shale for the Year 2026, and Nicholas Gorris to the NOACA Air Quality and BPAC Committee with Alternate James W. Dvorak for the Year 2026. (Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Council)*

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*There was a brief discussion about the alternate appointments for NOACA, due to an upcoming meeting being held by the NOACA board regarding bylaw changes that may affect the designation of board seats and require a change later depending on with the vote of the NOACA board.*

**STAFF APPOINTMENTS -**

*The Commissioners' Office is requesting the Board appoint Amy S. Bevan, County Administrator.*

*The Commissioners' Office is requesting the Board appoint Mark Jimison, Deputy County Administrator.*

*The Commissioners' Office is requesting the Board appoint Christine Blair as the Clerk to Commissioners' (#1306).*

*The Commissioners' Office is requesting the Board approve the following staff appointments:*

| <u>Position</u>                                          | <u>Appointment</u>     |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>Director, Department on Aging</i>                     | <i>Jessica Boalt</i>   |
| <i>Director, Community and Economic Development</i>      | <i>Gina Hofstetter</i> |
| <i>Chief Building Enforcement Official</i>               | <i>Dan Spada</i>       |
| <i>Director, Emergency Management Agency</i>             | <i>Austin Rice</i>     |
| <i>Director, Job and Family Services (124.11 (A) 22)</i> | <i>Craig Swenson</i>   |
| <i>Director, Maintenance</i>                             | <i>Robert Weigle</i>   |
| <i>Director, Water Resources</i>                         | <i>Nicholas Gorris</i> |
| <i>Sanitary Engineer, Water Resources</i>                | <i>Nicholas Gorris</i> |
| <i>Dog Warden</i>                                        | <i>Matt Granito</i>    |

*and acknowledge those staff appointments as placed in the unclassified service pursuant to O.R.C. 124.11 (A) (3) (b) and who are provided an Unclassified Service Explanation and Acknowledgement Form.*

**ACTING COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – ACTING CLERK 2026**

*The Commissioners' Office is requesting the Board appoint Mark Jimison, Deputy County Administrator to act as Acting County Administrator, in the event that Amy Bevan, County Administrator is unable or unavailable to perform those duties at any time during the Year 2026, pursuant to O.R.C. 305.30.*

*The Commissioners' Office is requesting the Board appoint Deborah Ashburn to act as Acting Commissioners' Clerk in the event that Christine Blair, Commissioners' Clerk is unable or unavailable to perform those duties at any time during the Year 2026, and further appoint the County Administrator, pursuant to O.R.C. 305.30, to act as Acting Commissioners' Clerk in the event that Deborah Ashburn is unable or unavailable to perform those duties at any time during the Year 2026.*

**DELEGATED POWERS TO COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

*The Commissioners' Office is requesting the Board approve and execute Resolution #26-xxx Authorizing the County Administrator to Exercise Powers Delegated hereby under the O.R.C. 305.30.*

**DRAINAGE ENGINEER**

*The Commissioners' Office is requesting the Board approve and execute the Agreement for the County Engineer to Perform the Drainage Duties Set Forth in Chapter 6117 between the Geauga County Board of Commissioners and the Geauga County Engineer during the Year 2026.*

*The Commissioners' Office is requesting the Board appoint Andy Haupt as Drainage Engineer and set the compensation for 2026 at a bi-weekly rate of \$497.85 effective with pay #2 through pay #25 and \$497.84 for pay #26 in accordance with the Agreement dated January 6, 2026.*

**PREVAILING WAGE COORDINATORS**

*The Commissioners' Office is requesting the Board appoint **Nicholas Gorris** to serve as a Prevailing Wage Coordinator for Geauga County for 2026.*

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*The Commissioners' Office is requesting the Board appoint **Shane Hajjar** to serve as a Prevailing Wage Coordinator for Geauga County for 2026.*

**APIARIST**

*The Commissioners' Office is requesting the Board re-appoint Mark Dinishak as County Apiarist for the Year 2026 and further approve and execute the 2026 Ohio Department of Agriculture Appointment for County Apiary Inspector Form to be effective January 1, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$15.00 per hour and a mileage reimbursement rate of 70 cents per mile, increasing the appropriation from \$900.00 to \$1,500.00.*

*There was a brief discussion about the new apiarist last year and the report he provided about his first year, and why it appears two years ago no hives were inspected and the reason behind that.*

*Ms. Blair explained that she was still waiting on the IRS mileage rate for 2026, as it was still not posted on the website.*

**COUNTY CREDIT CARDS**

*The Commissioners' Office is requesting the Board approve and execute Resolution #26-xxx Approving the Use of County Credit Cards for Year 2026 for Offices and Departments (per the attached, Exhibit A), pursuant to O.R.C. 301.27.*

*The Commissioners' Office is requesting the Board approve and authorize the President of the Board to execute the Applications for Authorization for the use of County Credit Cards forms for the 2026 Year, per O.R.C. 301.27.*

*There was discussion on the credit card policy and the application that included the signature of the employee using the card that needs to be on file, and continues to require the Board to approve changes.*

***Work Session was closed at 10:20 a.m.***

*The positions proposed will be presented during the organizational meeting next week and since they are not approved until that meeting, additional changes can be made.*

**BOARD DISCUSSION**

*Ms. Blair mentioned that the Ashtabula County Commissioners would like to amend the current agreement for prisoner housing and extend it through the end of March. There was a brief discussion with Chief Deputy Tom Rowan about trying to get the agreement moving forward to be before the Board next week. The original agreement expires on the 31<sup>st</sup> and so we are trying to coordinate keeping that going at least through the first quarter of 2026.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

*No comments from the public today.*

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- a) *Geauga County Board of Developmental Disabilities November 19, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes*
- b) *Court of Common Pleas, Probate Division, Re-Appointment of Eugene DiFranco as Park Board Member to the Chester Township Park District*

**OTHER**

*The Board reviewed upcoming events.*

**MEETINGS**

*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., that will include their annual organizational Meeting*

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- Mon., 1/12 Board of Revision, 11:00 a.m. Organizational Meeting, followed by Special Meeting, Auditor's Appraisal Conference Room*
- Mon., 1/12 ADP Board (Organizational) Meeting, 2:00 p.m. Auditor's Appraisal Conference Room*
- Tue., 1/13 Planning Commission Meeting, 7:30 a.m. County Office Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room A334, Chardon*
- Tue., 1/13 The Commissioners will hold session at 9:30 a.m.*

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

*Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Dvorak to adjourn the meeting at 10:23 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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