Commissioners' Journal
May 5, 2026

The Geauga County Board of Commissioners met in session on May 5, 2026, 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:
Thank God for the work of Mental Health Professionals, and pray for their compassion, patience and sensitivity. Also pray God will equip them with the skills they need to help others, and that they will be filled with God's Holy Spirit.
Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: comfort and relieve those challenged by serious and chronic mental and emotional illness. Give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that they may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

PUBLIC COMMENT
No one had any questions or comments on today's agenda items.

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE - COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT
Deputy County Administrator Mark Jimison reported on the items approved by County Administrator Amy Bevan, as authorized by Resolution #26-003 under the direction and supervision of the County Commissioners, that was approved January 6, 2026, pursuant to O.R.C. 305.30.

Mr. Jimison explained that the County Administrator approved the following items on April 30, 2026, and May 4, 2026:

April 30, 2026:
Maintenance
Approved hiring Erica Seibert to the position of Custodian (#1906) at the rate of $18.68 per hour (Grade 5, Step 5) to be effective May 18, 2026, with a one-year probationary period. This offer of employment is contingent upon the successful completion of the required pre-employment conditions.

Water Resources
Accepted the resignation of Laura Maddox, Wastewater Plant Operator II (#2313), to be effective May 8, 2026.

May 4, 2026
Water Resources
Approved and executed the service Contract Agreement with Rice Oil and Environmental LLC to perform Oil / Water Separator cleaning services, as needed, at various locations within the department, for a one-year period, effective May 4, 2026, in an amount not to exceed $3,500.00.

MEETING MINUTES
Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of December 16, 2025.

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

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute the minutes for the meeting of December 23, 2025.

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

APPROVE FINANCIALS

Budget and Finance Manager Adrian Gorton explained the financials for today as including Supplemental from the Common Pleas court in their General Fund Materials and Supplies account due to needing more items than what had been budgeted with the move to the new courthouse; Supplemental from the Clerk of Courts office in their General Fund Materials and Supplies expense account for additional funds needed for the microfilming of additional images in their office. The Clerk of Courts is reimbursing the General Fund for this additional expense; Cash transfer from the Clerk of Court Certificate of Title Admin Fund to the General Fund to reimburse the General Fund for the additional microfilming expenses not covered in the original budget; Travel requests from the Coroner's Office, Job and Family Services, Juvenile Court, and the Recorder's Office; a payment for ADP to Carahsoft Technology Corporation for the ServiceNow customer service management software annual renewal in the amount of $49,454.64; a payment for the Auditor's office to Amazon Capital Services, Incorporated and Pamela McMahan as reimbursement for the expense to purchase candy and dog treats for the Maple Festival / Fair / truck or treat in the amount of $1,077.12, a payment from the Commissioners to CORSA (County Risk Sharing Authority) for the 2026 property and liability insurance premium in the amount of $577,843.00 and a payment for the Engineer's Office to Morton Salt, Incorporated for road salt deliveries from April in the amount of $66,639.26.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Resolution #26-062 itemizing the financials for the meeting of May 5, 2026.

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

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE / COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – REQUEST AUDITOR TO ENCUMBER FUNDS – 2026 STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT OF ALLYND BOULEVARD AND TILDEN AVENUE – CITY OF CHARDON

County Engineer Andy Haupt and City of Chardon Manager Ben Young came before the Board to answer questions and expressed a desire to ensure the project was handled correctly.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to request the County Auditor to encumber the amount of $307,800.00 for the 2026 Street Improvement Project of Allynd Boulevard and Tilden Avenue, in the City of Chardon, as final, detailed plans have been submitted and approved to the County Engineer and the project meets the requirements set forth in the Policy and Guidelines for the Application and Distribution of Geauga County Municipal Motor Vehicle License Tax, adopted March 22, 2022.

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

COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – ACCEPT, APPROVE AND EXECUTE MAINTENANCE GUARANTY – BIG DIPPER ROAD (TR-1079) BAINBRIDGE TOWNSHIP

Mr. Haupt presented the Maintenance Guaranty for Big Dipper Road and briefly explained that it is a percentage of the total cost of construction of the road, curb, and storm sewer systems for a thirty-six-month maintenance period.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to accept, approve and execute the Maintenance Guaranty for Big Dipper Road (TR-1079) in Bainbridge Township, in the amount of $98,936.00, to be held in fund by the County Engineer's Office.

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

COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – ACCEPT, APPROVE AND EXECUTE BIG DIPPER ROAD DEDICATION PLAT (TR-1079) – DEDICATING BIG DIPPER ROAD – BAINBRIDGE TOWNSHIP

Mr. Haupt presented the Big Dipper Road Dedication Plat.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to accept, approve and execute the Big Dipper Road Dedication Plat (TR-1079), dedicating Big Dipper Road, in Bainbridge Township.

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

COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – RESOLUTION TO ORDER ASPHALT RESURFACING OF VARIOUS ROADS INCLUDING THWING ROAD AND AUBURN ROAD IN CHARDON AND MUNSON TOWNSHIPS – EXECUTE TITLE SHEET OF THE SPECIFICATIONS AND SET A BID OPENING ON MAY 22, 2026

Deputy Engineer Shane Hajjar presented a Resolution to Order the asphalt resurfacing of various roads including Thwing Road and Auburn Road in Chardon and Munson Townships. Mr. Hajjar added that the resolution requests that the Board execute the title sheet of the specifications, set a bid opening on May 22, 2026, using Bid Express, and further advertise the project.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Resolution #26-063 to Order the Asphalt Resurfacing of Various Roads including Thwing Road (CH-0027, Sections A-B) and Auburn Road (CH-0004, Section Q) in Chardon Township and Munson Townships.

This resolution also requests the Board approve and execute the Title Sheet of the Specifications for the same.

Further, this resolution sets a Bid Opening on Friday, May 22, 2026, at 10:05 a.m. at the Engineer's Office, using Bid Express. Notice of this Bid Opening will be advertised on May 7, 2026, and on the county website.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Date: May 5, 2026
Resolution: 26 - 063

RESOLUTION TO ORDER THE ASPHALT RESURFACING OF
VARIOUS ROADS, INCLUDING THWING ROAD (CH-0027, SECTIONS A-B) AND
AUBURN ROAD (CH-0004, SECTION Q)
IN CHARDON TOWNSHIP AND MUNSON TOWNSHIP

WHEREAS, the Geauga County Board of Commissioners (Board) has determined by Resolution
23 – 138 and Resolution 26 – 016 that the public convenience and welfare requires the improvement of Thwing Road (CH-0027), Sections A-B from the Lake County Line to Auburn Road and Auburn Road (CH-0004), Section Q from Thwing Road to Chardon Road (US 6) by constructing and reconstructing culverts, performing drainage improvements, subgrade stabilization, asphalt resurfacing and improving shoulders and related improvements as necessary in accordance with Ohio Revised Code (R.C.) 5555.06; and

WHEREAS, lands will not be taken relative to the improvements; and

WHEREAS, the cost of such improvement will not be excessive in view of the public utility thereof and no special assessments shall be collected to fund this improvement; and

WHEREAS, the Board, after reviewing the plans with the County Engineer in public session, is satisfied that the public convenience and welfare require that said improvement be made.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board in accordance with R.C. 5555.13 hereby orders that such improvement proceed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board in accordance with R.C. 5555.022 hereby approves the surveys, plans, profiles, cross sections, estimates, and specifications for such improvement, the costs of which shall be paid from local and/or state funding sources in accordance with R.C. 5555.43.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Board is hereby ordered to let this project for bids in accordance with R.C. 5555.61. The bids shall be let upon a unit price basis. Bids shall be received until 10:00 AM on May 22, 2026 and read publicly at 10:05 AM.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Board is hereby instructed to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Chardon Township Board of Trustees, the Munson Township Board of Trustees, and the Geauga County Engineer.

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

<u>COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE – RESOLUTION TO ORDER APPLICATION OF PAVEMENT MARKINGS OF VARIOUS ROADS, YEAR 2026, GEAUGA COUNTY – EXECUTE TITLE SHEET OF SPECIFICATIONS – SET BID OPENING ON MAY 22, 2026</u>
Mr. Hajjar presented a resolution to order the application of pavement markings on various roads in Geauga County in 2026. Mr. Hajjar added that the resolution requests that the Board execute the title sheet of the specifications, set a bid opening on May 22, 2026, using Bid Express, and further advertise the project. There was a brief discussion about the number of miles striped each year and the type of paint used.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Resolution #26-064 to Order the Application of Pavement Markings of Various Roads, Year 2026, Geauga County.

This resolution also requests the Board approve and execute the Title Sheet of the Specifications for the same.

Further, this resolution sets a Bid Opening on Friday, May 22, 2026, at 10:10 a.m. at the Engineer's Office, using Bid Express. Notice of this Bid Opening will be advertised on May 7, 2026, and on the county website.

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Date: May 5, 2026
Resolution: 26 – 064

RESOLUTION TO ORDER THE APPLICATION OF
PAVEMENT MARKINGS ON VARIOUS ROADS, YEAR 2026 GEAUGA COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Geauga County Board of Commissioners (Board) has determined by Resolution
<u>26-010</u> that the public convenience and welfare require the application of pavement markings on various roadways in accordance with Ohio Revised Code (R.C.) 5555.06; and

WHEREAS, lands will not be taken relative to the improvements; and

WHEREAS, the cost of such improvement will not be excessive in view of the public utility thereof and no special assessments shall be collected to fund this improvement; and

WHEREAS, the Board, after reviewing the plans with the County Engineer in public session, is satisfied that the public convenience and welfare require that said improvement be made.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board in accordance with R.C. 5555.13 hereby orders that such improvement proceed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board in accordance with R.C. 5555.022 hereby approves the surveys, plans, profiles, cross sections, estimates, and specifications for such improvement, the costs of which shall be paid from local and/or state funding sources in accordance with R.C. 5555.43.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Board is hereby ordered to let this project for bids in accordance with R.C. 5555.61. The bids shall be let upon a unit price basis. Bids shall be received until 10:00 AM on May 22, 2026 and read publicly at 10:10 AM.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Board is hereby instructed to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Geauga County Engineer.

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

BOARD OF MENTAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY SERVICES – RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MAY 2026 AS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH "MORE GOOD DAYS, TOGETHER"

Executive Director Christine Lakomiak presented a resolution for the Board to proclaim May 2026 as Mental Health Awareness Month. Ms. Lakomiak explained that Cope Line is changing to Safe Line but will continue using the same 988 number.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Resolution #26-065 proclaiming May 2026 as Mental Health Awareness Month "More Good Days, Together".

Board of County Commissioners, Geauga County, Ohio

Resolution: #26-065
Date: May 5, 2026

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MAY 2026 AS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH "MORE GOOD DAYS, TOGETHER"

WHEREAS, mental health includes our emotional, psychological, and social well-being, and it affects how we think, feel, and act. It also affects how we manage stress, relate to others, and make choices. Mental health is essential to a person's life in the same way as physical health. It allows us to take care of ourselves and our families, and supports the development of a healthy workforce and advances economic opportunities; and

WHEREAS, we know that there is no health without mental health. One in five people experience a mental health condition each year — and five in five are managing their mental health every day. A lack of mental health awareness leads to devastating impacts on the well-being of individuals and society. Of the twelve lives lost to suicide in Geauga County in 2025, 75% were men; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of the Geauga County Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services, over 8,300 Geauga County residents received services from partner agencies in 2025; and

WHEREAS, improved systems of care for vulnerable populations, access to non-emergent and crisis services, and advanced integrated physical and behavioral health care, along with provider relations, help to fortify services coordinated by the Geauga County Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services; and

WHEREAS, May 1 through May 31, 2026, is recognized as Mental Health Awareness Month. Mental Health America's 2026 theme is "More Good Days, Together," which reflects the mission of helping people have more good days by meeting them where they are, supporting them as whole people, and understanding that "good" is defined by their unique experience and goals; and

WHEREAS, the Geauga County Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services has asked for the support of the Geauga County Commissioners in recognizing May 2026 as Mental Health Awareness Month and affirming a commitment to ensuring all residents have access to appropriate

mental health support when needed and to supporting education and community engagement to make more good days possible for all.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Geauga County Commissioners join the Geauga County Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services and recognize May 2026 as Mental Health Awareness Month. We call upon our citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, and schools to commit to increasing awareness and understanding of mental illness and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental illnesses to promote recovery and a higher quality of life.

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

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

MAINTENANCE – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – FIRE PROTECTION SOLUTIONS

Contract Coordinator Liz Rubino presented a service Contract Agreement with Fire Protection Solutions to perform inspections and repairs on the county and safety center backflow devices.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute a service Contract Agreement with Fire Protection Solutions to provide Inspections and Repairs on the County and Safety Center Backflows per the Maintenance Director for a five-year period, effective May 5, 2026, in an amount not to exceed $30,000.00 ($20,000.00 County, $10,000.00 Safety Center).

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

MAINTENANCE – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – NEO COMMERCIAL KITCHEN AND REPAIR, LLC

Ms. Rubino presented a service Contract Agreement with NEO Commercial Kitchen and Repair, LLC for maintenance and repairs needed on the equipment in the kitchen of the Safety Center.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute a service Contract Agreement with NEO Commercial Kitchen and Repair, LLC to perform Annual Preventative Maintenance and repairs, on the Left and Right Deep Freezers, steam kettle, warming tables, Traulsen Walk In Coolers, Traulsen Reach in Freezer, Scotsman Ice Machines, Hot Sides, Cleveland warmer/Steamer, Burners, Walk-in Cooler, Walk-in Freezer, 2 Level oven and Warming Table, at the Geauga County Safety Center per the Director for a three-year period, effective May 5, 2026 in an amount not to exceed $20,000.00.

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

MAINTENANCE – CHANGE ORDER #3 – INCREASE CONTRACT – 5K COMMERCIAL ROOFING, LLC – GEAUGA COUNTY MAINTENANCE BARN ROOF REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Project Manager Charles Tkach presented Change Order #3 as an increase to the contract with 5K Commercial Roofing, which is handling the Maintenance Barn Roof Replacement project, to replace the gravity vents rather than refurbish the existing vents.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve and execute Change Order #3, increasing the Contract with 5K Commercial Roofing, LLC for the Geauga County Maintenance Barn Roof Replacement project to furnish and install new gravity vents, in place of refurbishing the existing vents, providing a credit of $1,900.00, and authorizing the expenditure of owner's

contingency funds in the amount of $9,847.60 of the available $16,984.05, leaving a remaining balance of $7,136.45.

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

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – RESCIND MOTION FROM APRIL 27, 2026, BY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – EXECUTE SERVICE CONTRACT – GO GREEN HEATING AIR CONDITIONING DBA AUBURN HEATING, PLUMBING, AIR CONDITIONING – MATHEMATICAL ERROR IN AMOUNT OF CONTRACT

Director Nicholas Gorris presented a request to rescind the County Administrator's approval of a service contract agreement due to a mathematical error in the contract.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to rescind the motion approved on April 27, 2026, by the County Administrator to execute the service Contract Agreement with Go Green Heating Air Conditioning dba Auburn Heating, Plumbing, Air Conditioning due to a mathematical error in the amount of the contract.

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

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES – APPROVE, INITIAL AND EXECUTE SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT – GO GREEN HEATING AIR CONDITIONING DBA AUBURN HEATING, PLUMBING AIR CONDITIONING

Mr. Gorris presented a corrected service Contract Agreement to the Board, asking the Commissioners to approve and initial the changes correcting the error in the amount of the contract.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve, initial and execute the service Contract Agreement with Go Green Heating Air Conditioning dba Auburn Heating, Plumbing, Air Conditioning to perform the HVAC and Plumbing Maintenance services, including annual preventive maintenance, as needed at various Wastewater and Water District locations within the department for a one-year period, effective May 5, 2026 in the amount of $20,500.00 ($15,000.00 Wastewater, $5,500.00 Water District).

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

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE – APPROVE TERMINATION OF CONTRACT – WILLY'S VENDING, LLC

Mr. Jimison asked the Board to approve termination of the contract with Willy's Vending, which holds the vending contract in the County Office Building. He explained that a survey of the building identified multiple issues and requested payment of the funds owed to the County under the terms of the contract.

Motion: by Commissioner Brakey, seconded by Commissioner Spidalieri to approve the termination of the Contract with Willy's Vending, LLC for the provision of vending machines at the Geauga County Office Building, and further approve and authorize the County Administrator, Amy Bevan to execute and send a letter of notification to the vendor of the termination and the request for payment of any and all funds owed to the County per the terms of the contract agreement.

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

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BOARD DISCUSSION

The Board discussed a request from Great Lakes Growers for a subordination agreement related to its current Revolving and Local Revolving Fund Loans with Geauga County as it plans an addition to expand the facility.

Director Gina Hofstetter, Project Manager Elaine Malkamaki, and Owner Jon Bonner came before the Board to explain the subordination agreement request. Mr. Bonner stated that he would pay the fees for Meyers Roman to prepare the necessary documents.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Newell Howard, South Russell Village, explained that he intended to ask every week until he received an answer as to when Grace Gallucci would be coming to answer his questions.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

a) Geauga County Airport Authority, 2026 Quarter 1 Report

b) A letter from the Ohio Department of Commerce, Division of Liquor Control, providing a corrected street address for the liquor license permit on the premises for Meijer Stores Limited Partnership, to be located at 7300 Aurora Road, Aurora, Ohio.

OTHER

The Board reviewed upcoming events, including the Hambden Fire Station groundbreaking. The project is expected to be completed in May 2027.

MEETINGS

Tue.,	5/5	The Commissioners will hold 2027 Tax Budget Hearings 12:30 – 4:30 p.m., Room B303
Wed.,	5/6	Board of Revision, 12:00 p.m. Auditor's Appraisal Conference Room
Tue.,	5/12	Planning Commission, 7:30 a.m. County Office Building, Room A334, Chardon
Tue.,	5/12	The Commissioners will hold session at 9:30 a.m.
Tue.,	5/12	The Commissioners will hold 2027 Tax Budget Hearings 12:30 – 4:30 p.m., Room B303
Mon.,	5/18	Family First Council, 1:30 p.m. County Office Building
Tue.,	5/19	The Commissioners will hold session at 9:30 a.m.
Tue.,	5/19	The Commissioners will hold 2027 Tax Budget Hearings 12:30 – 4:30 p.m., Room B303
Mon.,	5/25	**The County Offices will be closed in honor of Memorial Day. Twenty-four Hour Operations will continue to operate as usual.**
Thu.	5/28	The Commissioners will hold session at 9:30 a.m.
Thu.,	5/28	The Commissioners will hold 2027 Tax Budget Hearings 12:30 – 4:30 p.m., Room B303

BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD

Motion: by Commissioner Dvorak, seconded by Commissioner Brakey to adjourn the meeting at 10:17 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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