

BUDGET COMMISSION

The Geauga County Budget Commission met in regular session on Monday, June 2, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. in the Auditor’s office at 215 Main Street, Chardon, Ohio. Present: Geauga County Auditor Charles E. Walder, Geauga County Prosecutor James Flaiz and Geauga County Treasurer C. P. Hitchcock.

Also Present: Chief Operations Officer, Pam McMahan, and Deputy Auditors: Tammy Most and Kristen Sinatra.

Meeting Advertised: Regular Business
Virtual attendance was offered for public viewing.

Prior Minutes

Motion by Charles Walder, seconded by James Flaiz, to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2025 - Regular session.

Voice vote: Two ayes. Motion carried.

Tabled Submission:

Geauga County Department of Health – tabled from 5/19/2025



City of Chardon
Chardon Municipal Center • 111 Water Street • Chardon, Ohio 44024-1201

www.chardon.ohio.gov

May 23, 2025

CITY COUNCIL
CITY MANAGER
440-286-2600
Fax: 440-286-2658

Charles E. Walder
Gauga County Auditor
215 Main Street
Chardon, OH 44024

FINANCE
440-286-2470
Fax: 440-286-2658

Dear County Auditor:

Income Tax
440-286-2696
Fax: 440-279-0903

Pursuant to R.C. 3709.28(F) and the Contract for the Union of City of Chardon Health District with the Geauga County Combined Health District and Creating a Combined Board of Health, this letter certifies that the total amount due for the ensuing fiscal year from the municipal corporations and townships as provided in the contract is \$0.00.

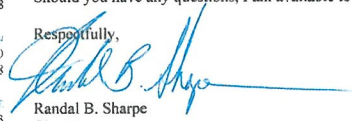
Water & Sewer Billing
440-286-2949
Fax: 440-286-2658

Should you have any questions, I am available to discuss this matter at your convenience.

PARK & RECREATION
440-286-2630
Fax: 440-286-2658

Respectfully,

POLICE
440-286-6123
Fax: 440-286-2680


Randal B. Sharpe
City Manager
City of Chardon

PLANNING & ZONING
440-286-2654
Fax: 440-286-5541

Cc: Adam Litke, Geauga County Board of Health
Bryan Kostura, McDonalds Hopkins

PUBLIC SERVICE
440-286-2655
Fax: 440-286-5541

**Division of Streets,
Cemeteries & Parks**
440-286-2656
Fax: 440-286-2681

**Division of Water
& Wastewater**
440-286-2657
Fax: 440-286-7538

Per R.C. 3709.28(F) and the Contract for the Union of City of Chardon Health District with the Geauga County Combined Health District, James Flaiz made a motion, seconded by Charles E. Walder, to acknowledge the letter signed by the City of Chardon’s City Manager, Randal B Sharpe dated 5-23-25.

Voice vote: Two ayes. Motion carried.

Christopher P Hitchcock arrived at 10:10am
The Budget Commission was in general agreement to review the 2026 Geauga Public Health budget submission at the end of regular business.

2024/2025 School Amendments

West Geauga LSD – 2024/2025 Amendment #5

Motion by James Flaiz, seconded by Christopher P Hitchcock, to amend West Geauga LSD’s Official Certificate of Estimated Resources to reflect the following changes to revenue previously certified for the 2024/2025 School Year.

Special Revenue Fund

Increase #035 Termination Benefits other source revenue 1,175,000.00 from 150,000.00 to 1,325,000.00.

Capital Project Funds

Increase #070 Capital Projects Fund (two part) other source revenue (“Middle School renovation” 4,750,000.00 and “on-going and future capital needs” 11,500,000.00) **16,250,000.00**, from 2,000,000.00 to 18,250,000.00.

Fiduciary Funds

Increase #022 Agency Funds other source revenue 2,300.00, from 0.00 to 2,300.00

New Special Revenue Funds Total:	\$ 7,841,129.92
New Capital Project Fund Total:	\$26,199,570.20
New Fiduciary Fund Total:	\$ 2,300.00
New 2024/2025 Certificate Total:	\$94,373,460.97

* *Appropriations do not exceed 6/2/2025 estimated revenue.*

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried

Cardinal LSD – 2024/2025 Amendment #4

Motion by Christopher P Hitchcock, seconded by Charles Walder, to amend Cardinal LSD’s Official Certificate of Estimated Resources to reflect the following changes to revenue previously certified for the 2024/2025 School Year.

General Fund

Increase in general fund other sources revenue 77,649.20, from 20,627,208.52 to 20,704,857.43

Special Revenue Fund

Increase #018 Public School Support other source revenue 10,108.97 from 98,218.57 to 116327.54.
 Increase #019 Local Grants fund other source revenue 250.00, from 0.00 to 250.00
 Increase #035 Severance Support fund other source revenue 40,000.00, from 0.00 to 40,000.00
 Increase #200 Student Managed Accounts fund other source revenue 24,217.04 from 19,132.50 to 73,382.74
 Increase #300 District Managed Activity Fund other source revenue 10,988.97, from 187,613.00 to 198,601.97
 Decrease #499 Misc Grant Fund other source revenue 60,000.00, from 325,000.00 to 265,000.00
 Increase #516 Idea Part B Fund other source revenue 8,824.30, from 353,066.25 to 361,890.00
 Increase #572 Title IA other source revenue 13,206.02, from 571,783.40 to 584,989.42
 Increase #584 Title IVA other source revenue 16,971.59, from 67,789.28 to 84,760.87
Net Adjustment: \$184,566.89

Debt Service Funds

Increase #002 Bond Retirement Fund other source revenue 35,107.67, from 402,944.58 to 438,052.25

Capital Project Funds

Increase #003 Permanent Improvement Fund other source revenue 69,717.22, from 134,880.00 to 204,597.20
 Increase #070 (new fund) Roof 2025 other source revenue 506,577.00 from 0.00 to 506,577.00
 Increase #070 (new fund) Science lab other source revenue 90,400.00 from 0.00 to 90,400.00
 Increase #070 (new fund) Roof/Paving 2026 other source revenue 1,150,000.00 from 0.00 to 1,150,000.00
Net Adjustment: 1,816,694.2

Cardinal LSD – 2024/2025 Amendment #4 con't

Internal Service Funds

Decrease #014 Rotary ACE Account Fund other source revenue 50,206.96, from 100,000.00 to 49,793.04

Trust and Agency Funds

Decrease #017 Special Trusts Accounts Fund other source revenue 24,750.00, from 25,854.48 to 1,104.48

Increase #022 District Agency Fund other source revenue 1,600.00, from 0.00 to 1,600.00

Net Adjustment: \$(23,150.00)

New General Funds Totals:	\$20,704,857.43
New Special Revenue Funds Total:	\$ 2,347,500.45
New Debt Service Funds Total:	\$ 2,023,464.50
New Capital Project Funds Total:	\$ 2,412,459.06
New Internal Service Funds Total:	\$ 49,793.04
<u>New Trust and Agency Funds Total:</u>	<u>\$ 54,994.46</u>
New 2024/2025 Certificate Total:	\$28,269,053.96

** Appropriations do not exceed 6/2/2025 estimated revenue.*

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried

2025 Certificate Amendments

Newbury Township – Amendment #5

Motion by Charles Walder, seconded by James Flaiz, to amend the Newbury Township’s Official Certificate of Estimated Resources to reflect the following changes to revenue previously certified:

Special Revenue Funds

Increase #2041 Cemetery Transfer-in (from GF) other source revenue 17,000.00, from 0.00 to 17,000.00.

<u>New Special Revenue Funds Total:</u>	<u>\$4,110,745.92</u>
New 2024 Certificate Total:	\$7,376,796.78

**Appropriation form GCA-006 dated 6/02/2025 does not exceed estimated revenue.*

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried.

Bainbridge Township – Amendment #4

Motion by James Flaiz, seconded by Christopher P Hitchcock to amend the Bainbridge Township’s Official Certificate of Estimated Resources to reflect the following changes to revenue previously certified:

Capital Project Funds

Increase #4911 Police Fund – Cap. Reserve other source revenue 300,500.00, from 199,500.00 to 500,000.00.

Increase (new) #4912 Fire Fund -Cap. Reserve other source revenue 500,000.00 from 0.00 to 500,000.00

<u>New Capital Project Funds Total:</u>	\$ 4,704,224.59
<u>New 2025 Certificate Total:</u>	\$ 31,012,449.87

**Appropriation form GCA-006 dated 6/2/25 does not exceed estimated revenue.*

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried.

Bainbridge Township Fire Fund Reserve Account #4912

Motion by Charles Walder, seconded by James Flaiz, to approve the creation of Reserve Account #4912 by Bainbridge Township as presented:

Bainbridge Township submitted approved Resolution #05272025-A creating a new Fire Fund reserve account. Acknowledgement of approval will be noted in the minutes and form GCA-037 with the acknowledgement date will be sent to the taxing district. There will be additional pages added to the taxing district’s budget folder and hearing documents to assure the reserve account will be reviewed annually.

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried.

Other Business:

Geauga Public Health Appropriation Transfer request:

Motion by Charles Walder, seconded by James Flaiz, to acknowledge the financials as presented:

Appropriation Transfer:

Fund #6002

From: BOH – Contract Services	\$(60,000.00)
To: BOH – Materials & Supplies	\$ 10,000.00
BOH Other vs Remit to State	\$ 50,000.00

Appropriations: unchanged

Fund #6040- Injury Prevention

From: BOH – Transfer-Out	\$(25,000.00)
To: BOH – Other	\$ 25,000.00

Appropriations: unchanged

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried.

Geauga County Department of Health – tabled from 5/19/2025 con't from page 4934

Numbers have not changed from April 21st.

Mr. Walder began by saying that he has information outside of the scope of the other members of the Budget Commission on this matter. His concern is utmost in trying to get them to address ongoing issues. The Board nor the Commissioner have not responded to requests for communication. The policies of Geauga County are not being followed. Mr. Walder continued, there are many issues that need to be addressed. Mr. Flaiz and Mr. Hitchcock had concerns of their own. Mr. Walder confirmed Mr. Hitchcock's question on whether the State audits the Health District. He went on to say that the letter that was sent by the State to the District last November was troubling. June 30th is a hard deadline for the State on which they may decide to "claw back" some grant monies from the Health District due to multiple non-compliance issues. Mr. Flaiz said the Budget Commission is not tasked with deciding how to run the district but rather to monitor the activities and assure that taxpayer dollars are not being misused.

Motion by Christopher Hitchcock, seconded by Charles Walder to not approve the 2026 Budget for the Geauga County Health District.

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried.

There was additional discussion around the non-compliance issues in both Geauga County and the State of Ohio related to the Health District. It was agreed that these issues need to be brought to the attention of the Board of Health and HDAC members.

Motion by James Flaiz, seconded by Charles Walder to mail the declined GCA-014 certificate with a memo stating that the Budget Commission on June 2nd took up the tabled 2026 budget for the Geauga County Public Health District, with no member of the Board or staff present, and discussed it at length and unanimously voted to deny it. The memo is to be sent to both the Health Board and the members of HDAC with a link to this meeting so it may be viewed.

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried.

General Discussion:

Mr. Flaiz noted after acknowledging receipt of the Berkshire LSD Funding Story Fiscal year 2024 that the time has lapsed for Berkshire LSD to file an appeal of the decision of the Budget Commission to deny the request to shift inside millage.

Berkshire Local School District

Funding Story

Fiscal Year 2024



The Budget Commission was presented with the following schedule for the 2026 Budget Hearings to be held August 18-19, 2025 in the Appraisal conference room.

<u>Monday, August 18, 2025</u>	
9:00am	Thompson Twp. & Thompson Park Bainbridge Twp. Troy Twp. Chardon Twp. Burton Twp. Montville Twp.
10:00am	Claridon Twp Parkman Twp. Chester Twp. Hambden Twp. Munson Twp. Russell Twp.
<i>Lunch approximately: 12:15 p.m.</i>	
1:15pm	Newbury Twp Huntsburg Twp Middlefield Twp Auburn Twp Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste Geauga County

<u>Tuesday, August 19, 2025</u>	
9:00am	Russell Park 1545 Chester Park Russell Citizens Park Geauga Library City of Chardon Burton Village Burton Library West Geauga Recreation District
9:45am	Middlefield Village & East Geauga Fire South Russell Village Geauga Park District

Public Comment:

Sarah McGlone, of the Geauga League of Women Voters asked about what is next for the Health District and for copies of the revenue certifications and other materials from today’s meeting.

Being no further business to conduct it was moved by Christopher Hitchcock to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles E. Walder, Auditor
Secretary/Budget Commission