

cc: Rick,
Randy

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Commissioners briefed on infrastructure replacement plan

BY MARIAN MCMAHON
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LAKE COUNTY
- Randy Rothlisberger, sanitary engineer with the Lake County Department of Utilities, addressed the commissioners July 16 on the LCDU infrastructure replacement plan.

He noted previous meetings had all included resolutions to approve various stages of projects.

"Right now we have 12 projects that are currently under construction, replacing about 11 miles of either sanitary sewer or water lines in the county in our system at a cost of about \$11 million," Rothlisberger said.

LCDU is planning on executing another 14 projects next year for about \$12 million.

The department's plan was to increase infrastructure projects, which it did, with twice as many being done this year over last year. LCDU plans to start completing replacement of about 16 miles of lines per year in order to update and sustain the county system.

Troy asked how the county system was per-

forming overall in light of Willowick residents filing suit alleging an inadequate system.

"So far so good. We've done several projects over the last 10 years that have mitigated a lot of that," Rothlisberger said. "We still do have some issues during very heavy rainfall ..."

RESOLUTIONS PASSED JULY 16:

UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

- Certifying unpaid sewer and water sums to the Lake County Auditor.

- Accepting sums from a property owner in the Lake County Water District.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES DEPT

- Approving vouchers date of warrant July 27, 2015, in the amount of \$464,732.59.

The breakdown of charges is: Public Assistance, \$125,256.84; Workforce Investment, \$36,539.92; Child Support Enforcement, \$112.13; and Child Welfare, \$302,823.68.

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE

- Appointing David Strichko to the position of chief building inspector in the Lake County Building

Department, effective July 27.

"We are extremely pleased to have Mr. Strichko coming on board," said Board President Dan Troy. "Our previous chief building official tendered his resignation about a month ago. A lot of folks told us if we could get Mr. Strichko we'd be in great shape."

Strichko went through several interviews and, according to Troy, was clearly the best choice.

Commissioner Kevin Malecek and Judy Moran echoed Troy's sentiments about him being a good addition for the Building Department.

"For those who don't know, I was here at one time ... and I'm glad to be back," Strichko said. "I'm excited and looking forward to coming home per se, so thank you."

- Appointing Jennifer Bell as the clerk to the Board of Lake County Commissioners, effective July 13.

Bell replaces Amy Elszasz who had held the position for 15 years.

Troy said Bell was definitely qualified to fill the position.

- Accepting and approving the recommendation

of Planning Commission Member Kevin D. Malecek to designate Richard J. Walker as his alternate, effective July 16.

- Authorizing execution of an agreement between the Lake County Board of Commissioners and the Ohio Emergency Management Agency (OEMA) and designating Jason W. Boyd, county administrator, to be responsible for implementing the Jordan Creek Mitigation Project in Concord Township through the Unified Hazard Mitigation Program of the Federal Emergency Management Agency Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant, expiring May 30, 2018.

"This is to acquire and demolish four structures along Jordan Creek on Concord-Hambden Road," said Lake County Stormwater Management Director Tim Miller. "These four structures are considered repetitive loss structures meaning they repeatedly flood."

Claims were made on their flood insurance provided by FEMA due to the repeated floodings which

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had occurred.

The grant provides funds to demolish such structures and amounts to \$485,437, with a local match coming from Clean Ohio program funds.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

- Approving payment of bills in the amount of \$595,008.53.

- Approving purchase orders in the amount of \$3,123,317.59.

- Increasing appropriations for various non-general fund accounts.

- Transferring cash and appropriations within various general and non-general fund accounts.

SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

- Declaring July 31 World Ranger Day in Lake County.

Moran read the resolution which states in part, "World Ranger Day commemorates rangers killed

or injured in the line of duty and celebrates the work rangers do to protect the world's natural and cultural treasures.

"The first World Ranger Day was observed in 2007 on the 15th anniversary of the founding of the International Ranger Federation (IRF)."

A release from The Thin Green Line Foundation stated, "Many park rangers around the globe overcome and deal with the realities of extreme violence in their anti-poaching efforts, little support in terms of equipment and training, and hard living conditions with low wages and often remote living. In fact, it's estimated that we have lost over 1,000 rangers in the last 10 years. Of those 1,000, 103 were recorded as losing their lives in 2013, and a further 56 for this year. This is but a proportion of the true figure, as

not all cases are reported or discovered until much later."

- The commissioners adjourned to executive session to discuss personnel - discipline.

- Meetings are held in the Commissioners' Chambers of the Lake County Administration Building, 105 Main St., Painesville.

All meetings are open to the public. Requests to address the government board may be made at any board meeting or presented to the Commissioners' Office by calling (440) 350-2753.

There was a meeting July 23. The next regular meeting will be Thursday, July 30 at 10 a.m.