

# Commissioners support land in Perry and Leroy being preserved

BY MARIAN MCMAHON  
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**LAKE COUNTY** - The Lake County Board of Commissioners lent its support, with a resolution, to the Cleveland Museum of Natural History Walden II Preserve Expansion Project in the townships of Perry and Leroy at its Dec. 29 meeting.

"The Cleveland Museum of Natural History contacted us and said they were working on a conservation project in Lake County to conserve 24.5 acres of land in Perry and Leroy townships on the Grand River," said Dan Troy, president of the Lake County Board of Commissioners. "There's a high quality mussel bed in that stretch of the Grand River that flows through the property."

The resolution stated the Walden II Preserve Project would permanently conserve about 17.6 acres within Perry Township, 6.85 acres in Leroy Township and 0.35 miles of Grand River frontage. This project will also protect an ecologically important section of the Grand River which is home to the federally endangered Snuffbox freshwater mussel.

"The Museum is applying for a grant through the Clean Ohio Conservation Fund, and one of the requirements to apply to Clean Ohio is that they obtain a resolution of support from

the county commissioners," Troy said.

Chuck Klo, superintendent of Buildings and Grounds for the County, as well as a Leroy Township trustee, said the townships had no objections. He noted the property was by the railroad bridge, northwest of the Blair Road Bridge. The property was once owned by a private individual, Jim Storer, who willed it to the Museum of Natural History upon his passing.

The Cleveland Museum of Natural History will offer educational field trips for the public and is willing to issue permits to people for research, nature study, hiking and hunting.

### Resolutions passed Dec. 29:

#### UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

- Decreasing appropriations for LCDU Regional Water District various accounts.

- Decreasing appropriations for LCDU Regional Sewer District various accounts.

- Decreasing appropriations for LCDU Solid Waste and Recycling District various accounts.

- Decreasing appropriations for LCDU Capital Project funds various accounts.

#### COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE

- Setting meetings of the Lake County Board of Com-

- missioners.
- Appointing Bill Martin to the Lake County Ohio Port and Economic Development Authority Board of Directors to complete the remainder of a term expiring Dec. 31, 2017.

Martin is replacing Tony Debevoise who retired from the Board.

According to his letter of interest, Martin has owned and managed several businesses during the past 40 years and has served on the boards of some nonprofit organizations serving the County, state and nation. He currently serves on the Board of the Western Reserve Community Development Corporation and recently completed a term on the Board of the Ohio Housing Finance Agency.

- Authorizing execution of an agreement on behalf of the Lake County Sheriffs Department and the Leroy Township Board of Trustees for central dispatch and communication services for Leroy Township and its Fire Department.

The cost is \$11,148.88 the first year; \$11,427.60 the second year; and \$11,713.29 the third year.

- Authorizing execution of an agreement between the Lake County Board of Commissioners on behalf of the Lake County Sheriffs Department and the Mad-

son Fire District for central dispatch and communication services.

The cost is \$81,673.60 the first year; \$89,340.96 the second year; and \$98,825.06 the third year.

- Authorizing execution of an agreement on behalf of the Lake County Sheriffs Department and the Village of Timberlake for central dispatch and communication services.

The cost is \$18,213.28 the first year; \$18,941.80 the second year; and \$19,699.48 the third year.

- Authorizing execution of an agreement on behalf of the Lake County Sheriffs Department and the Village of Kirland Hills for central dispatch and communication services for Kirland Hills Village and its fire and police departments.

The cost is \$49,961.57 the first year; \$61,960.03 the second year; and \$54,038.43 the third year.

- Authorizing execution of an agreement on behalf of the Lake County Sheriffs Department and the Painesville Township Board of Trustees for central dispatch and communication services.

The cost is \$58,498.82 the first year; \$63,688.58 the second year; and \$69,420.47 the third year.

- Authorizing execution of an agreement with the Leroy Township Trustees for participation in the Lake County Regionalized Health Insurance Program, effective Jan. 1, 2016.

The contract includes an increase of 3.5 percent.

- Authorizing execution of an agreement with the Merley Library Trustees for participation in the Lake County Regionalized Health Insurance Program, effective Jan. 1, 2016.

The contract includes an increase of 3.5 percent.

- Authorizing execution of an agreement with the Economic Development Authority for participation in the Lake County Regionalized Health Insurance Program, effective Jan. 1, 2016.

The contract includes an increase of 3.5 percent.

- Authorizing the execution and delivery of a supplemental agreement for the transfer of the Willoughby Lost Nation Municipal Airport between the City of Willoughby and the Lake County Ohio Port and Economic Development Authority.

The cost is \$63,688.58 the first year; \$69,420.47 the second year; and \$75,160.94 the third year.

- Authorizing execution of an agreement with the Madison Township Trustees for participation in the Lake County Regionalized Health Insurance Program, effective Jan. 1, 2016.

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"The City of Willoughby discovered two parcels that did not transfer (in Fall 2015) during the original transfer of Lost Nation Airport to the County Port Authority, with the county commissioners as co-sponsors," said County Administrator Jason Boyd. "So the City of Willoughby prepared the documentation that was approved Dec. 15. The Port approved it Monday and this is our component of the transfer."

Troy clarified the parcels were part of the airport but overlooked in the initial transfer of the airport property.

#### FINANCE DEPARTMENT

- Approving payment of bills in the amount of \$137,339.73.

- Approving purchase orders in the amount of \$61,837.79.

- Increasing appropriations for various general and non-general fund accounts.

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

#### DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS UTILITIES

- Public Services Coordinator Mark Armand reported the Ashabula County Board

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## COMMISSIONERS

of Commissioner, effective Dec. 10, increased water rates to \$7.63 per 100 cubic feet of water, as compared to Lake County's \$3.49 city rate.

Since 2012, Lake County has been providing service and billing to 20 Ashabula County customers on North County Line Road, north of the Ashabula County rates per agreement with Ashabula County. For that reason, LCDU generally gets some phone calls from those customers when there are rate increases from Ashabula County.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

The commissioners met in executive session on Dec. 10, 2015, to discuss personnel employment.

#### MEETINGS

Meetings are held in the Commissioners' Chambers of the Lake County Administration Building, 106 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 Jan. 7. The annual organizational meeting will be held Thursday, Jan. 11 at 10 a.m.

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