

Commissioners in Action May 1

BY MARIAN MCMAHON
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LAKE COUNTY - Lake County Commissioners Bob Aufuldish, Dan Troy and Judy Moran meet at 10 a.m. most Thursdays, with some meetings at 2 p.m. on Tuesdays, in the Commissioners' Chambers on the fourth floor 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 Amy Elszasz at (440) 350-2753.

There was a meeting May 8. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 15 at 10 a.m.

At the May 1 meeting, the following resolutions were adopted:

ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT

- Authorizing the release of \$285,947 of the construc-

tion and maintenance surety for Mountainside Farms Phase 4 and authorizing retaining \$28,594.70 of the construction and maintenance surety accepted by resolution Aug. 8, 2013 as maintenance surety for Mountainside Farms Phase 4.

UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

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

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE

- Amending the policy governing participation in the Lake County Life and Health Insurance Program offered by the Lake County Board of Commissioners to Lake County Political Subdivisions.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

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

SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

- Declaring May 2014 Public Assistance Fraud Awareness Month.

"We're often the ultimate safety net for persons, in terms of helping them meet their basic needs, through our public assistance programs," said Matt Battiato, director of Lake County Job and Family Services. "The vast majority of people who apply for our programs are honest and give us legitimate information. However, sometimes there are people who are trying to gain access to public assistance that they are not really entitled to."

Robert Dawson, income maintenance administrator, said LCJFS works hard to limit the fraudulent applications or to pursue reimbursement when necessary.

"Without mincing any words, public assistance fraud is disgusting. It's not fair, it's not right and it's a major issue for the taxpayers," Dawson said.

He noted people can report such fraud at a new website, <http://jfs.ohio.gov/fraud>.

(See press release, "May is Public Assistance Fraud Awareness Month.")

DEPARTMENTAL REPORT UTILITIES

• Matt Armand, public services coordinator, said the National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day held April 26 brought in 14.2 tons of unused prescription drugs in Ohio.

He noted the county has locations where people can drop off unwanted prescription and over-the-counter drugs year-round. Those locations are: Lake County Sheriff's Office and the police departments in Eastlake, Mentor, Willoughby, Willoughby Hills, Madison township and Lakeland Community College.

The computer collection went well and had 603 vehicles come through—the greatest response ever for that collection.

Armand noted the special collections were important because they kept materials out of the landfills.

The next collection is for scrap tires on Saturday, May 10 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Lake County Fairgrounds. The first six tires, with no rims, would be accepted free from county residents. There is a nominal fee for additional tires, those with rims and oversize tires.

Armand noted old tires could hold water and become breeding grounds for mosquitoes which could help spread West Nile virus, so it was important to get rid of them.

He reported Lake County Department of Utilities now has a Twitter account named @LCDU_Ohio which residents can access for information.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The commissioners adjourned to executive session.