

Commissioners shift employee positions

BY MARIAN MCMAHON

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LAKE COUNTY – The Board of Commissioners made some administrative changes in their office when they passed two resolutions at the Sept. 15 meeting.

“What the Board of Commissioners is doing, we are transitioning people within our administration,” said Board President Dan Troy.

One resolution was for the appointment of the current County Finance/Budget Director Joel DiMare, Jr. to the position of director of administrative services effective Oct. 5.

DiMare is filling the position which has been vacant since Bill Margalis retired in December 2014. His sick and vacation time will transfer to the new position which will pay \$33 per hour.

His duties will include handling human resource issues, health care negotiations, administration of the health department services, and participate in collective bargaining with the organized county employees.

“This is kind of like LeBron coming home,” Troy said of Michael Matas’ return to the position of county finance/budget director. “He certainly knows budgeting,

bond financing inside out. I think this is a plus for the county.”

Matas, who has been working in the Lake County Auditor’s Office since he left the commissioners’ office several years ago, will receive \$44.44 per hour, and retain his sick and vacation time. He will also receive \$40 per month for his mobile phone.

Troy said having DiMare and Matas working in the commissioners’ office would make the office operations stronger.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED Sept. 5:

UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

- Increasing appropriations for LCDU water and sewer districts salaries and PERS.

- Increasing appropriations for LCDU Solid Waste District travel and expense.

COMMISSIONERS’ OFFICE

- Accepting and approving the recommendation of Commissioner Judy Moran to remove Lori Lipton as her alternate on the Planning Commission and to designate Vanessa Pesec to serve as her alternate on the Lake County Planning Commission.

- Appointing Ivan Valentic to the Lake County Planning Commission for a term expiring Aug. 14, 2018.

Valentic was nominated by the Concord Township Board of Trustees having served on the Concord Township Board of Zoning Appeals since 2011 and recently serving on the Concord Township Comprehensive Plan Committee.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

- Approving payment of bills in the amount of \$714,705.26.

- Approving purchase orders in the amount of \$280,271.22.

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

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

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS UTILITIES

- Public Services Coordinator Matt Armand said the county had about two inches of rain fall from about 11 p.m. Sept. 11 through midnight Saturday. Crews were out taking care of the system and there were no customer complaints.

Troy said there had been

warnings of the algal bloom on Lake Erie approaching Fairport Harbor and asked if there had been any issues at the county’s water treatment plants.

“We’re at very low levels,” said Randy Rothlisberger, county sanitary engineer. “We just ran a test again Monday night and it just came out that it’s decreasing.”

However, as a precaution, they did increase the use of activated carbon for the water treatment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Commissioners adjourned to executive session to discuss personnel – employment and real estate – acquisition.

MEETINGS

- 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 Sept. 22. The next regular meeting will be Thursday, Oct. 1 at 10 a.m.