

Commissioners in Action

by MARIAN
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Lake County
LAKE COUNTY - Lake County Commissioners Bob Aufuldish, Dan Troy and Ray Sines 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 Eiszasz at (440) 350-2753.

There was a meeting Dec. 1. The next meeting will be Tuesday, Dec. 6 at 2 p.m.

At the Nov. 22 meeting, the following legislation was adopted:

RESOLUTIONS: ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT

- Resolution authorizing execution of a professional services agreement between the Lake County Board of Commissioners on behalf of the Lake County Engineer and Burgess & Niple, Inc. to perform county bridge inspections.

Invoices are to be submitted as inspections are completed. The contract is not to exceed \$49,600.

UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

- Resolution increasing appropriations for Glyco II Lift Station Rehab 324S professional services-consultants and transferring cash

- Resolution increasing appropriations, transferring appropriations and transferring cash from various LCDU capital project funds to LCDU water district and LCDU sewer district.

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

- Resolution accepting the retirement resignation of Cyril Land from his position of system maintenance IV, Lake County Department of Utilities, effective Nov. 30, 2011.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

- Resolution approving Lake County Department of Job and Family Services vouchers date of warrant Nov. 28, in the amount of \$374,294.30.

The breakdown of charges is as follows: Public Assistance, \$123,451.83; Workforce Investment, \$54,714.2; Child Support Enforcement, \$2,348.22; and Child Welfare, \$193,780.01.

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE

- Resolution certifying to the Lake County Auditor the 2012 drainage charges for the Lake County Regional Sewer, Water, and Drainage District.

"Tim Miller, our director of Storm Water Management, has given us a list of some 20-some projects that total \$7.4 million," said Commissioner Ray Sines said.

"You have \$7 million of projects. My guess is, if you could get a third of those to agree to, with the necessary permitting, as Tim has said, if he could spend everything he could spend, it'd be \$1.5 million.

"We continue to put

money into this program. My recommendation is to cut it in half, give the taxpayers some money back - obviously that's not going to happen."

Sines added the Utilities Department was asking for an increase in rates and it would be nice to give some money back to the residents at this time. He said the \$7 million will not be spent anytime soon, but it continued to collect \$2 million a year so he was voting no.

Miller said once engineering was complete, there was a \$750,000 project which did not require a lot of permitting and would be completed next year. A Painesville Township project for about \$600,000 was almost ready to be done and would be completed in 2012.

"I do believe we can get these projects done in a timely fashion," Miller said.

Troy said the charge was a user fee, not a tax, based on the amount of impervious surface on a property. In each case, communities agreed to become part of the program.

Sines apologized for confusing a tax with a user fee, but the fact remained people did not care what it was called if it required them to pay money.

- Resolution authorizing execution of agreements between the Lake County Board of Commissioners and Lake County Landscape & Supply, Inc. for various Lake County departments for snow plow services, effective through April 1, 2012.

The charge for the job and Family Services lot will be \$7,625, and for the Juvenile Justice Center, \$13,750.

Aufuldish said the county had to contract for the services because it no longer had enough personnel to do the job.

- Resolution authorizing execution of agreements between the Lake County Board of Commissioners and various contractors for various Lake County departments for snow plow and shoveling services, effective through April 1, 2012.

The charge for the dog shelter, to be completed by D.B. Bentley is \$6,875. The charge for the Crime Laboratory, to be completed by Lake County Landscape & Supply, Inc. is \$5,000.

Troy said there were two separate resolutions because the first two areas were to be paid from the general fund. The second two come from separate accounts.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

- Resolution approving payment of bills as listed on the commissioners' approval journal in the amount of \$1,633,916.29.

- Resolution approving purchase orders as listed on the commissioners' purchase order approval journal in the amount of \$634,340.15.

- Resolution increasing appropriations for various non-general fund accounts.

- Resolution transferring cash and appropriations within various general and non-general fund accounts.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES

Troy asked Director Matt Battato if a news article was correct in saying there were only 800-some families receiving cash assistance in Lake County.

Battato said it was correct and noted people must be involved in some sort of job training or work activity for at least 35 hours a week in order to receive cash assistance.

tance. For that reason cash assistance recipients have dropped considerably in number since 1997.

Food stamp and Medicare rolls, by contrast, have greatly increased.

"For instance, last year, in calendar year 2010, we distributed \$34 million in food assistance, just in Lake County," Battato said.

ADMINISTRATIVE

The county will begin advertising the sale of the former county garage building at 1250 Mentor Ave. in Painesville Township. Bid opening will be Dec. 21, said Bill Margalis.

He said there had been considerable interest shown in the property.

FINANCE

Director Joel DiMare Jr. said he was working on getting the last audit for the CIC (County Community Investment Corporation) to the end of terminating it since it was no longer necessary with the creation of the Lake County Port Authority.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Lisa Anaya, director of marketing and community relations for Home Instead Senior Care, addressed the commissioners about its Be a Santa to a Senior program, now in its eighth year.

- "We sponsor seniors in the community that are homebound, may not have a lot of money, may not get visits from family and friends during the holiday season," Anaya said. "So, we have volunteers in the community refer these seniors to us."

The seniors' names and needs are written on paper ornaments which are hung on Christmas trees at different locations around the county, such as Wal-Mart and Giant Eagle stores and restaurants.

People then choose an ornament and purchase the need for the senior and return it with the ornament to where they made the selection. The donations are picked up, wrapped and delivered to the seniors.

The program assists from 300 to 500 seniors each year, so volunteers are needed to help with the wrapping.

The Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts are being asked to help with deliveries this year.

The commissioners presented a proclamation for Dec. 15, Be a Santa to a Senior day.

- Stan Phillips of Painesville-Warren Road, Leroy Township, addressed the commissioner about the resolution they passed Nov. 3 authorizing the Lake County Engineer to apply to OPWC for the Leroy roundabout project.

"The road improvement is not a safety or congestion issue. The basis for the roundabout is that it is nonstandard," he said. "Construction of roundabouts in Summit County are based on safety and congestion issues.

"This road improvement is in conflict with the Leroy Comprehensive Plan ... which states not to put a roundabout in the Five Points intersection and is incompatible with the traditional small town center."

Phillips said he had told this to trustees and the engineer's office, adding it would have serious impacts on the businesses and residents affected. He also felt the cost was excessive and unnecessary.

Commissioner Ray Sines

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said they did not dictate how with the Lake County Sheriff's Office that there have been few accidents at the intersection.

EXECUTIVE SESSION
The commissioners adjourned to executive session to discuss imminent litigation.

was unsafe.