

Geauga Commissioners set hearing on rehire proposal

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■ County JFS leader retiring — for now

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Tim Taylor has called Northeast Ohio home for nearly 30 years and he has no plans to change that fact anytime soon.

The 57-year-old South Russell Village resident was hired as Geauga County administrator in July 1983 and has held a couple of different roles since, including county treasurer.

For the last 16 years, he has been executive director of Geauga County Job and Family Services, where he oversees 85 employees.

On Tuesday, county commissioners accepted his retirement resignation, effective Oct. 31.

However, he's not going anywhere. That is, if commissioners agree to rehire him at reduced hours and pay. Commissioners set a public hearing for Oct. 6 on the rehire plan.

If approved, his annual pay will drop 5 percent to \$65,838 a year, down from about \$77,000.

When combined with a reduction in scheduled hours to be paid, the result is a 14.5 percent savings to the county, Administrator Dave Lair said.

Taylor, originally from central Ohio, served as assistant to the city manager in Henderson, Ky., before coming to Geauga. His father was a commissioner in Madison County.

"As you reach that age where you're eligible to retire ... the question is where am I

going to be working, what am I going to be doing," he said. "Also, the proposed changes to the retirement system has something to do with it. I've always been very appreciative to work in Geauga County."

"Job and Family Services is challenging all the time, particularly so as we have declining sources and increasing workload, but we work to manage it," he continued.

"That's what we're supposed to do. I have the benefit of working with a lot of great people in the county and at (JFS). That's as big a reason for wanting to come back as anything."

Taylor said full retirement isn't on the radar yet.

"I think it's a decision you make as you think about how you're contributing, (weighing) personal needs, but also

the needs of the agency," he said.

Commissioner Bill Young indicated that all three commissioners support his rehiring.

"The truth of it is, he's done a tremendous job for

us," he said.

Other Geauga County employees granted retire/rehire deals in recent years include Lair, Public Defender R. Robert Umholtz and Chief Building Official Mike Mihalisin.