

## Lake County Commissioners in Action

BY MARIAN MCMAHON  
Gazette Newspapers

**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 Elaszczak at (440) 350-2753.

There was a meeting Nov. 8. The next meeting will be Tuesday, Nov. 13 at 2 p.m.

At the Nov. 1 meeting, the following resolutions were adopted:

### ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT

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

County Engineer Jim Gills said the engineers would be updating the information from the previous year.

"We're actually doing about a third of the work ourselves," he said.

An issue the Ohio county engineers have, and want to have changed, Gills said, is that ODOT requires annual inspections of bridges while the federal government only requires them every other year.

"For the most part, Lake County's bridges are in excellent shape; we've done four or five bridges a year," Gills said.

### UTILITIES

- Transferring appropriations from LCDU Sewer District Equipment to materials and supplies and easements

and increasing appropriations for McMackin Road (south of Chapel Road) Water Improvement 261-W Professional Services - Legal.

- Awarding a bid contract to A.P. O'Horo Company for Madison Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade and Expansion Project 2895 Contract C, General, in the amount of \$12,599,900.

Al Saari, county sanitary engineer, said the total of this, and the following three contracts awarded was about 8 percent below the engineer's estimate.

He said the contractors had performed work for the county in the past.

- Awarding a bid contract to Penn-Ohio Electrical Company for Madison Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade and Expansion Project 289S, Contract D, Electrical, in the amount of \$3.555 million.

- Awarding a bid contract to York Mahoning Mechanical Contractors, Inc. for Madison Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade and Expansion Project 289S, Contract E, HVAC, in the amount of \$611,500.

- Awarding a bid contract to North Bay Construction, Inc. for Madison Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade and Expansion Project 289S, Contract F, Plumbing, in the amount of \$197,408.

### JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

- Proclaiming November 2012 Adoption Awareness Month in Lake County.

- Approving Lake County Department of Job and Family Services vouchers date of warrant Nov. 9 in the amount of \$270,234.62.

The breakdown of charges is: Public Assistance, \$79,450.10; Workforce Investment, \$106,220.35; Child Support Enforcement, \$772.59; and child Welfare, \$83,791.58.

### COMMISSIONERS OFFICE:

- Re-appointing Dennis Lager to the Northeast Ohio Community Alternative Program Facility Governing Board for a three-year term expiring Nov. 9, 2015.

- Authorizing the Lake County Board of Commissioners to apply for, accept and enter into a Water Pollution Control Loan Fund Agreement on behalf of Lake County for the repair and/or replacement of home sewage treatment systems.

- Authorizing execution of Amendment 1 to the agreement between the Lake County Board of Commissioners and Lifeline, Inc. for the FY-2011 HOME Program Funds.

- Accepting the resignation of Kara F. Toth from the position of part-time kennel person for the Lake County Dog Shelter effective Oct. 28.

### FINANCE DEPARTMENT

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

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

### DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

- LCDU Director Rick Martin said the county's drinking water was not affected by Hurricane Sandy. The sewers, with all the rain, were most affected, particularly in areas like Bellflower and Cedar Glen where the systems were "stressed."

LCDU crews were on 12-hour shifts, 24/7 to cover the problem areas. Levels were returning to normal by Nov. 1.

"We had about 25 complaints of sewer backups; compared to 2006 (when) we had hundreds of complaints," Martin said.

Bellflower had about 30 or 40 complaints in 2006, but last week there were only about six. The pipe relinings and additional pipes added

have helped, he said.

The laterals are still a large problem, Martin said. The city of Mentor is working on stormwater issues there, but he was not sure what it was doing. Some homeowners may have their sump pumps connected to the sanitary sewer without being aware of it, which is a problem. LCDU can do a simple dye test upon request of the homeowners to check. Troy asked if power outages affected LCDU's ability to operate its pump stations.

"Over the last six to eight years we've put in our own generators at most of them and then we have some portables, so loss of power is less of an issue," Martin said.

There was a break at the force main on Fairport Nursery Road which was a problem.

- County Administrator Jason Boyd updated the commissioners on the situation in Lake County following the effects of Hurricane Sandy from Oct. 29 through 31.

"As of right now, the Mentor Senior Center is the only kind of shelter that's up and running; they're going to make a determination today where that stands as far as needs and capacities," Boyd said.

Commissioner Bob Aufuldish said he believed the main problem was tree limbs coming down on power lines.

"The first two days were strictly hazard crews; they had 118 hazard crews in our area simply for trees and downed lines," Boyd said.

As of the time of the Nov. 1 meeting, there were still about 8,000 homes without power with the expectation that 95 percent would be restored by Nov. 4.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The commissioners adjourned to executive session to discuss pending litigation and personnel compensation.