

January 11, 2010

**LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES**

DANIEL P. TROY, PRESIDENT

RAYMOND E. SINES, COMMISSIONER

ROBERT E. AUFULDISH, COMMISSIONER

AMY ELSZASZ, CLERK

LEGAL COUNSEL

MIKE MATAS, BUDGET DIRECTOR

NEWS MEDIA

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(Tape 2010-0111)

**CALL TO ORDER:** Commissioner Troy called the **organizational** meeting to order at 1:05 pm, Monday, January 11, 2010.

**ROLL CALL:** Upon the roll being called all were present.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

1. RESOLUTION ELECTING COMMISSIONER DANIEL P. TROY PRESIDENT OF THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS (RES\ORG2010\C01) (P-105)

**On a motion** of Commissioner Aufuldish, seconded by Commissioner Sines, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Aufuldish, Sines and Troy  
"NAYS": None

2. RESOLUTION DESIGNATING COMMISSIONER RAYMOND E. SINES REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON THE LAKE COUNTY AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING BOARD (RES\ORG2010\C02) (B-71)

**On a motion** of Commissioner Troy, seconded by Commissioner Aufuldish, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Aufuldish, Sines and Troy  
"NAYS": None

3. RESOLUTION DESIGNATING COMMISSIONER RAYMOND E. SINES REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON THE LAKE COUNTY MICROFILMING BOARD (RES\ORG2010\C03) (B-32)

**On a motion** of Commissioner Aufuldish, seconded by Commissioner Troy, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Aufuldish, Sines and Troy  
"NAYS": None

4. RESOLUTION DESIGNATING COMMISSIONER DANIEL P. TROY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON THE LAKE COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT POLICY COMMITTEE (RES\ORG2010\C04) (B-103)

**On a motion** of Commissioner Sines, seconded by Commissioner Aufuldish, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Aufuldish, Sines and Troy  
"NAYS": None

5. RESOLUTION DESIGNATING LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ROBERT E. AUFULDISH AND RAYMOND E. SINES MEMBERS OF THE LAKE COUNTY INVESTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ORC SECTION 135.341 (A), (B) AND (C) (RES\ORG2010\C05) (C-40)

**On a motion** of Commissioner Troy, seconded by Commissioner Aufuldish, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Aufuldish, Sines and Troy  
"NAYS": None

6. RESOLUTION DESIGNATING COMMISSIONER DANIEL P. TROY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON THE LAKE COUNTY VISITORS BUREAU BOARD OF TRUSTEES (RES\ORG2010\C06) (C-43)

**On a motion** of Commissioner Sines, seconded by Commissioner Aufuldish, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Aufuldish, Sines and Troy  
"NAYS": None

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7. RESOLUTION DESIGNATING COMMISSIONER ROBERT E. AUFULDISH REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON THE LAKE COUNTY GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM BOARD (RES\ORG2010\C07) (GIS)

**On a motion** of Commissioner Sines, seconded by Commissioner Troy, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Aufuldish, Sines and Troy "NAYS": None

8. RESOLUTION DESIGNATING COMMISSIONER ROBERT E. AUFULDISH REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON THE LAKE COUNTY NARCOTICS AGENCY EXECUTIVE BOARD (RES\ORG2010\C08) (B-17)

**On a motion** of Commissioner Sines, seconded by Commissioner Troy, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Aufuldish, Sines and Troy "NAYS": None

9. RESOLUTION DESIGNATING COMMISSIONER DANIEL P. TROY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF REVISION FOR THE YEAR 2010 (RES\ORG2010\C09) (B-88)

**On a motion** of Commissioner Aufuldish, seconded by Commissioner Sines, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Aufuldish, Sines and Troy "NAYS": None

10. RESOLUTION DECLARING THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE BEGINNING JANUARY 14, 2010 (RES\ORG2010\C10) (C-107)

Commissioner Troy: This is the schedule for the first four months of 2010.

**On a motion** of Commissioner Sines, seconded by Commissioner Aufuldish, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Aufuldish, Sines and Troy "NAYS": None

Commissioner Sines: I would like to make a comment on the article that was in the News-Herald in regards to Frank Suponcic the County Recorder Facebook page. It is not easy in this environment to make any cuts in employment. We as Commissioners, I believe need to justify the cuts that we do make. Not only to the elected officials that it affects, but also every citizen of this county. I have decided to address Frank's concerns about Commissioners, and I take offense to his comments, "executive government positions couldn't run a lemonade stand!" I have run a business for 35 years, have 30 employees, and take great pride in that. There is no question that the Recorder's Office has hardworking employees. There are hardworking employees throughout this county and I believe we have a great workforce. And, I would suggest if anyone knows of any employees that aren't working hard to let us know. When the Commissioners make adjustments to budgets, we look at the numbers to justify the decisions that we make. Mike Matas provides us with these numbers all of the time. And, none of us want to let any employee in this environment go for any reason. We want to work within the structure of this government with the monies that we have to make the decisions that are important to the residents of this county. We make tough decisions. The Recorder is basically saying we are picking on him and he shouldn't be in the same category as other departments when cuts need to be made.

- Commissioners Sines reviewed the revenue and appropriation analysis of the Recorder's Office for the last five years. Commissioner Sines: In 2005, the total revenues were \$1,403,520.39, and in 2009, \$751,940.85, which is a 46.42% decrease. I believe this relates directly to the numbers of transactions that employees of the Recorder's are required to make. In 2005, the revenues were \$1.4 million, and the budget was \$590,102.79. And, if you look at 2006, 2007, and 2008 there were increases in his budget, not decreases as he is trying to say on his Facebook page. In 2009, there was a minor decrease, but still more than 2005 when transactions were \$1.4 million compared to 2009 revenues of \$751,940.85, and a budget spending of \$628,400.15. His comments to the Commissioners are misleading. To say that we picked on him and that he needed to reduce his budget by 6%, when his revenues were down 46%. The numbers tell the story that his budget needed to be cut. I think when anyone is questioning our decisions it is important to provide the documentation and the reasons. There has never been any discussion of personal vendetta along the budget process. None of us like to be in a position to layoff one employee in this county, let alone

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others. To the news media, when I am being questioned of decisions that were made, I will continue to make my charge to make sure those numbers and reasons are clear. It is my opinion, that we made the right decision so far, and we will continue.

Commissioner Aufuldish: Commissioner Sines has addressed the concerns of this Board appropriately. He states, and we all state that this is a very difficult time. Our Sheriff has been hit the hardest in this unfortunate economic situation when he was forced to shut down his minimum security facility, and forced to let all of those correction officers go. He said, he believed that this Board of Commissioners, more than any other board in this state held out as long as they could before they were forced to start making cuts. I think this speaks very highly of the way we have been able to run the finances of Lake County. I am very proud to serve with my fellow Commissioners. And, Mike Matas, Budget Director has shown us the best way that we can save money and do our job more efficiently. I take strong offense that an office holder who apparently only had to cut one part-time person from his payroll responds to all of the pressures, thoughts and long deliberations that this Board makes to balance our budget.

Commissioner Troy: First, I want to thank the other two Commissioners for their confidence in letting me be president in this wonderful year upcoming. We all know that 2010 is going to be an extremely difficult year, and it's going to be real tough to make it through this year, but I think that we have really set the stage to survive with the decisions that have been made in previous years. Health insurance and workers compensation decisions, and restructuring of our departments will all help in that effort. With the exception of someone mentioned here today, the other office holders and department heads in the county have been extremely professional and cooperative. The role of the Commissioners is to provide a budget based on available resources to the best of our ability to each office holder; and, for them to make decisions in terms of how they will operate within that number. The departments have a pretty good understanding, and seem to have made decisions in their departments that will give us the ability to survive through 2010. The Commissioners will continue to look ahead, and continue to look for opportunities to promote economic development in our county. We will continue to work with our Port Authority for economic advancement, and our budget director at innovative ways to finance the operations of government in order to stretch the most out of every dollar. This will only be done if we work together, collectively in a very professional and cooperative manner. It is never the intent of this Board to single out anyone. We certainly want to be as fair as possible across the board. We believe that the core services to which the citizens of the county depend upon will be maintained and the job that we are mandated to do as a county government in the State of Ohio will continue. I appreciate the cooperation that we have seen so far, and really believe that will continue. I believe that this lemonade stand will continue to run very well!

ADJOURN: On a motion of Commissioner Sines, seconded by Commissioner Aufuldish, the Board adjourned the meeting at 1:22 pm, with the vote as follows:

"AYES": Commissioners: Aufuldish, Sines and Troy      "NAYS": None

Minutes approved this 26<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2010.

**BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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DANIEL P. TROY, PRESIDENT

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RAYMOND E. SINES, COMMISSIONER

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ROBERT E. AUFULDISH, COMMISSIONER

AMY ELSZASZ, CLERK