

March 23, 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

(Tape 2010-0323)

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Troy called the meeting to order at 2:17 pm, Tuesday, March 23, 2010.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Upon a motion by Commissioner Aufuldish, seconded by Commissioner Sines, the minutes of the meeting of March 4, 2010 were approved as follows:

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

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Commissioner Troy asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board.

Commissioner Troy welcomed the new City Manager of Mentor, Kenneth Filipiak who was in the audience.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A TEMPORARY RIGHT-OF-WAY EASEMENT AND A STANDARD HIGHWAY EASEMENT DEED FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO AUBURN ROAD IN CONCORD TOWNSHIP (20100323\E01) (E-11)

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 AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT (#16080) BETWEEN THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON BEHALF OF THE LAKE COUNTY ENGINEER AND GGC ENGINEERS FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF FAIRGROUNDS ROAD, PAINESVILLE TOWNSHIP (20100323\E02) (E-3)

Commissioner Troy and Bruce Landeg of the Engineer's Department briefly discussed that this project is being paid for with federal stimulus funds.

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

3. RESOLUTION CERTIFYING UNPAID SEWER AND WATER SUMS TO THE LAKE COUNTY AUDITOR (20100323\U01) (U-7)

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

4. RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE RETIREMENT RESIGNATION OF PAULETTE K. KNEPP FROM HER POSITION OF SECRETARY IV, LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES, EFFECTIVE MARCH 31, 2010 (20100323\U02) (U-3)

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 ACCEPTING THE RETIREMENT RESIGNATION OF ROBERT D. ROSE FROM HIS POSITION OF LEAD OPERATOR, LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF

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UTILITIES, EFFECTIVE MARCH 31, 2010 (20100323\U03) (U-3)

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

6. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR PRINTER, COPIER, AND MFP MANAGEMENT FOR LAKE COUNTY (Bid Opening: April 28, 2010) (20100323\C01) (C-16)

Commissioner Sines: We are just going to look at these bids as they come in to see if we can save some money in the county.

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

7. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF THE SIXTH AMENDMENT (ODOD GRANT CONTROL NUMBER 06-035F ADMN) TO THE CLEAN OHIO REVITALIZATION FUND GRANT AGREEMENT (ROUND III) WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT (20100323\C02) (C-143)

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

8. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A SUBGRANT AGREEMENT (#2007-WF-VA5-8211A) WITH THE OHIO OFFICE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES UNDER THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT ON BEHALF OF THE LAKE COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,546.00, FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2010 THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2010 (20100323\C03) (CT-8aa)

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

9. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A SUBGRANT AGREEMENT (#2009-WF-VA5-8211) WITH THE OHIO OFFICE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES UNDER THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT ON BEHALF OF THE LAKE COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$42,527.51, FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2010 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2010 (20100323\C04) (CT-8aa)

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 SUPPORTING THE APPLICATION BY THE CITY OF PAINESVILLE TO THE STATE OF OHIO, DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT, FOR ASSISTANCE UNDER THE OHIO JOB READY SITES PROGRAM (20100323\C05) (C-92)

Commissioner Troy: The City of Painesville has asked us to support their application in trying to access some dollars with the Ohio Department of Development. The county will not have any liability or investment in this particular project.

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

11. RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,595,125.09 (20100323\BC01) (C-4)

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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

12. RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE ORDERS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' PURCHASE ORDER APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$351,303.51 (20100323\BC02) (C-17)

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

13. RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS FOR VARIOUS NON GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20100323\BC03) (C-111)

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

14. RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2010 FINAL APPROPRIATION MEASURE FOR THE GENERAL FUND (20100323\BC04.2010FGF) (C-111)

Commissioner Troy: The Commissioners waited to pass the 2010 permanent budget until we had as good a picture of the revenue stream as possible. It is the feeling of the Commissioners and the Finance Department that this is a difficult budget, but it is a sustainable budget based on the excellent cooperation received from department heads and office holders recognizing the fiscal situation that we are all experiencing throughout this country. This budget is actually operating on revenues similar to 2005. In 2005, our revenues were about \$58 million, 2006 \$60,600,000 million, 2007 \$62,800,000, 2008 \$64,980,000, 2009 it dropped to \$61million, and this year we estimate \$57,600,000. There have been some steps taken such as downsizing and furloughs. Credit needs to be given to this Board of Commissioners and our Finance Department for crafting a budget that we feel will sustain through 2010, and put us into a good position for 2011 and 2012. We are locked into certain factors due to the downward reappraisal of the property values by approximately 10%, and we are locked into that figure for three years in terms of real estate taxes. We get 2.1 inside mills that goes to our general fund, which has been as high as \$13.3 million in 2007. It is estimated to be \$11.4 million in 2010. Our sales tax which has been as high as \$15,700,000 in fiscal year 2007, and is now estimated based on the numbers of the first two months at \$14,100,000. We are estimating about \$2.1 million income interest and it has been as high as \$8.9 million in 2007. Conveyance fees have been as high as \$4.8 million in 2006 and are estimated at \$2.2 million. This is the snap shot with which we have to deal; we will continue to maintain the vital services and operate the offices that need to be operated under our mandates from the Ohio Revised Code. We will continue to work to make sure our budget is sustainable and continue to work in every way, shape and form to improve the economy locally within Lake County. There is general understanding that this is a budget from which we cannot stray, because the picture will probably not get any better. I salute all of the office holders, department heads, and certainly our budget staff on the 5th floor for the outstanding job they have done in an extremely difficult circumstance. We have had to go into reserve dollars in order to make this budget fit. We are going to spend approximately \$950,000 more than anticipated in revenues. These are savings that have been accumulated over the years based on past decisions that the Commissioners have made, and are savings coming out of our health insurance and workers compensation accounts by going self-insured. Lake County is still operating at the second lowest sales tax of any county in the State of Ohio; 43 counties are at the statutorily maximum 1 ½% sales tax and we are at .5%. We will be able to finish the year with approximately \$3 million in carry-over revenue, which is the lowest carry-over that we have had since 2005. This budget will maintain the core operations of Lake County, it puts us in a lot better stead than most counties in this state, and does so without asking the citizens for additional revenue.

This is not an ideal picture, we are living within our means, it is a good balancing act, it is responsible, and we will continue to provide the services required under the law!

Commissioner Aufuldish: I would like to echo all of Commissioner Troy's comments. This has been a very, very difficult and trying few months. We invited every elected and appointed official to have a budget hearing. Many took us up on a hearing and many were satisfied with what we put together originally and accepted those numbers. As said, our revenues are down and continue to go down. And, as much as we don't like to, we will have to spend about \$ 1 million more than we will take in this year.

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As stated, we fortunately had enough of a carry-over that we can sustain this budget and will look favorably into next year. I would like to thank my fellow Commissioners for the many hours in grinding these numbers out with Mike Matas, Budget Director and his fine crew. And, for our staff who again will not get a raise this year. We will continue to look very sharply as our numbers come in and as they go out.

Commissioner Sines: Commissioner Troy, you did a great job in talking about the budget and the process. As we go forward, we are looking at this type of budget for the next couple of years. And, we will continue to plan for those unforeseen hits as they come. One of the biggest hits was the investment income where at one time we were making almost \$9 million per year and now we are down to a little over \$2 million. I am confident to say that with this budget there will be no service interruptions in this county. People will see the same service, they are going to see what they expect as far as the Sheriff is concerned, the courts running, etc... I want to thank all of the different office holders and administrators who have looked at their operation and have made some sacrifices. We appreciate that! We don't want to layoff one person because we believe our employees all do a fantastic job. Employees have taken furloughs and employees have not received additional compensation for a couple years. I want to thank the employees of this county for what they do! Thanks to Mike Matas and his staff for a fantastic job on the budget! By taking actions in the past to save we are having to use some reserves, which will hopefully carry us over until this economy brightens up. The taxpayers in this county get their moneys' worth and should be proud of the Lake County employees and elected officials for the work and leadership that they provide in terms of budgeting. Any decisions that the Commissioners make is in the best interest of the citizens.

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

15. RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL 2010 CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH IN LAKE COUNTY (20100323\F01) (C-126)

- Commissioner Troy read the resolution proclaiming April 2010 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Lake County.
- Matt Battiato, Director and Teresa Palm of Job and Family Services thanked the Commissioners for their support. Mr. Battiato said, that they do absolutely the best that they can to provide effective and quality child protective services to the county.
- The Pinwheels for Prevention Program is designed to enhance community awareness and encourage community support for child abuse and neglect prevention programs. The kick-off ceremony will begin Thursday, April 1st at 12 noon in Veterans Park and 3,451 pinwheels will be planted representing the number of calls that Lake County received in 2009.
- The Commissioners were very thankful for the fantastic job provided in these very tough situations.

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

16. RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING CHARLES SEYMOUR ON ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT AWARDED BY THE NATIONAL BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA (20100323\F02) (C-126)

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

17. RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING JOHN ERNEST ULLE ON ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT AWARDED BY THE NATIONAL BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA (20100323\F03) (C-126)

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

18. RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING MARK CLAVIN ON ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT AWARDED BY THE NATIONAL BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA (20100323\F04) (C-126)

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

March 23, 2010

“NAYS”: None

UTILITIES: The Commissioners, Pat Nocero, Legal Council, Rick Martin, Director and Al Saari, Sanitary Engineer briefly discussed a letter received from Madison Village with their displeasure of a recent bill from the Lake County Utilities Department for bulk water.

- The Utilities Department will take this letter under advisement and will make a recommendation back to the Commissioners.

STORMWATER: None

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES: Commissioner Troy and Matt Battiato, Director briefly discussed that the department continues to see with more and more people applying for food stamps and Medicaid.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES: Bill Margalis, Director: I will be traveling to Columbus on Friday to attend the CORSA Renewal Meeting in terms of the county's liability insurance.

FINANCE: Mike Matas, Budget Director: I just want to thank the Commissioners, all of the Department Heads, and especially Donna Tyson for their help and cooperation with the 2010 General Fund Budget.

Commissioner Troy: We definitely cannot say enough about Mr. Matas's abilities to control the whole budget process and the outstanding job that he has done. Under his suggestion a monitoring system is in place, where he will check the payroll every two weeks to make sure that departments are staying within their budgetary appropriations.

CLERK: None

LEGAL: None

OLD BUSINESS: There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS: Commissioner Troy read a quote regarding government consolidation and reform from Summit County as follows: "I am asking each of you to join me over the next year and find a partner. Go out and look for an agency, a government or business that you could work with to build a new partnership, our survival depends on this." Commissioner Troy thinks we need to keep looking at things such as to why we have all of these different entities running their own Building Departments, etc...

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

Commissioner Troy: The next Commissioners' Meeting will be Thursday, April 1, 2010 at 10 am.

ADJOURN: On a motion of Commissioner Sines, seconded by Commissioner Aufuldish, the Board adjourned the meeting at 2:59 pm, with the vote as follows:

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

Minutes approved this 1st day of April, 2010.

BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

DANIEL P. TROY, PRESIDENT

RAYMOND E. SINES,
COMMISSIONER

March 23, 2010

ROBERT E. AUFULDISH, COMMISSIONER

AMY ELSZASZ, CLERK