

LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES

JERRY C. CIRINO, COMMISSIONER
JOHN R. HAMERCHECK, COMMISSIONER
DANIEL P. TROY, COMMISSIONER
JENNIFER BELL, CLERK

JASON W. BOYD, ADMINISTRATOR
LEGAL COUNSEL
MIKE MATAS, BUDGET DIRECTOR
NEWS MEDIA

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(Tape 2017-0309A)

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Cirino called the Meeting to order at 2:07 p.m. Thursday, March 9, 2017.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: Commissioner Cirino asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board. No one present wished to address the Board at this time.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. RESOLUTION APPOINTING JOHN R. HAMERCHECK AS A MEMBER OF THE LAKE ERIE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (LEEDCo) BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR A TWO YEAR TERM ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2018(20170309A\C01)(B-15)

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

2. RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2017 PERMANENT APPROPRIATION MEASURE FOR THE GENERAL FUND(20170309A\BC03)(C-111)

On a motion by Commissioner Troy, seconded by Commissioner Hamercheck. Commissioner Troy stated this is the annual budget and takes care of the appropriations out of the general fund from now until the end of December 2017. He explained the projected revenue for 2017 is \$54,070,550 and projected appropriations are \$54,063,396.40. Commissioner Troy explained that the revenue stream for the County has been relatively flat, investment earnings remain low, and while the sales tax has not decreased, there has not been a significant increase. Appropriations are slightly higher this year due to a continued increase in healthcare costs and medical care costs within the jail continues to rise significantly each year. He explained that 65% of the budget is spent on the criminal justice system which includes the jail, the Sheriff's Office, the Courts, Prosecutor's Office, the Public Defender's Office and also Victim's Assistance. Commissioner Troy stated that this year's budget is tight and fragile and is a blueprint for spending for the rest of the year. Commissioner Troy stated that beginning July 1, 2017, Medicaid managed care organizations will no longer be required to pay sales tax and the estimated loss to Lake County will be between \$1.6 and \$1.7 million per year. The County will receive a one-time check in the fall to hold us harmless for the last quarter of the year. Commissioner Troy stated that the budget would not work without the necessary cooperation from Department Heads and Public Officials to insure fiscal stability and he also stated the importance of maintaining current spending. He stated there is concern regarding changes proposed by the State with the Local government fund and a proposed reduction in reimbursement from the state to indigent defense. Lake County has seen a significant rise in indigent defense largely due to the opiate epidemic. Commissioner Cirino expressed his thanks to the Department Heads and the Departments working through his and Commissioner Hamercheck's first time budget process and was pleased that many of the Departments were so well prepared. Commissioner Troy expressed his appreciation to Budget Director, Mr. Matas, for his hard work in preparing the budget. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Hamercheck, and Troy "NAYS": None

3. RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2017 PERMANENT APPROPRIATION MEASURE FOR FUNDS OUTSIDE THE GENERAL FUND(20170309A\BC04)(C-111)

On a motion by Commissioner Troy, seconded by Commissioner Cirino. Commissioner Troy explained that this resolution pertains to outside the general fund and is significantly higher. He stated projected revenues of \$215,940,553.41 and projected appropriations of \$240,512,353.66. He explained that these are the Proprietary funds such as Solid Waste, Utilities, Deepwood, ADAMHS, Jobs & Family Services, etc. and by law, the County must appropriate these funds. Enterprise funds are rates that are charged to external users and Internal service funds provide services from one department to another and include health care, central purchasing and the mailroom. Commissioner Troy explained that Jobs and Family Services receives nearly all their funding from the state and federal government but the County must officially appropriate that revenue. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Hamercheck, and Troy "NAYS": None

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

UTILITIES – none.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – none.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – none.

FINANCE – none.

CLERK – none.

LEGAL – none.

OLD BUSINESS: - none.

NEW BUSINESS: - none.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Commissioner Cirino asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board.

Ms. Ellen Chamberlain of Eagle Road in Kirtland, referred to the resolution passed at the morning meeting between the Lake County Port Authority and the YMCA authorizing the Port Authority to issue bonds to finance the YMCA West End project. Ms. Chamberlain wanted to know what other benefits the County would receive besides the Lake County Port Authority receiving a fee for their services and if it would affect the County's bond rating.

Commissioner Troy stated that it would not count against the bond rating and the County is not liable. He explained that a section of state law allows for the issuance of these bonds. Ms. Chamberlain asked why the law requires the Board of Commissioners to approve the bonds. Commissioner Troy explained that the tax code requires that it serves a Governmental purpose. Previously, the Lake Health Corporation issued bonds and was required to get formal approval by the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Cirino stated they would benefit with lower fees by having a governmental sponsorship. Assistant Prosecutor, Mr. David Hackman, stated he would look into the matter further and supply Ms. Chamberlain with an explanation.

Budget Director, Mr. Michael Matas, stated that the YMCA is tax exempt and benefits from the lower governmental rate. Commissioner Troy stated that this is a mechanism that was put into place for these such entities to take advantage of and that there is no liability or responsibility to the County.

Commissioner Cirino stated the next Regular Commissioners' Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 14, 2017 at 2:00 P.M.

ADJOURN: On a motion by Commissioner Hamercheck, seconded by Commissioner Troy, the Board adjourned the meeting at 2:27 p.m., with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Hamercheck, and Troy "NAYS": None

Minutes approved this fourteenth day of March, 2017.

BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JERRY C. CIRINO, PRESIDENT

JOHN R. HAMERCHECK, COMMISSIONER

DANIEL P. TROY, COMMISSIONER

JENNIFER BELL, CLERK