

FEBRUARY 11, 2021

**LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES**

JOHN R HAMERCHECK, COMMISSIONER                      JASON W. BOYD, ADMINISTRATOR  
JOHN PLECNIK, COMMISSIONER                              LEGAL COUNSEL  
RON YOUNG, COMMISSIONER                                MIKE MATAS, BUDGET DIRECTOR  
JENNIFER BELL, CLERK                                        NEWS MEDIA

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(Tape 2021-0211)

Commissioner Hamercheck welcomed and introduced Pastor Evan Nunnally from the Lifeline Church in Madison to begin the meeting with an invocation and to give thanks.

Commissioner Hamercheck introduced Ohio Supreme Court Justice Pat DeWine who will be administering the Oath of Office to Mr. John Plecnik.

Justice DeWine administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner John Plecnik.

Commissioner Young congratulated Commissioner Plecnik and stated that he looks forward to continuing to do great things for Lake County.

Commissioner Plecnik thanked Commissioner Young for the kind words and stated that he looks forward to working with him.

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Hamercheck called the Meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. Thursday, February 11, 2021.

ROLL CALL: Upon roll being called, Commissioners Plecnik, Young and Hamercheck were present. Commissioner Hamercheck explained that Commissioner Young is currently in the hospital receiving a bone marrow transplant and is experiencing some throat inflammation which may make it difficult to hear him speak.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Upon a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner Young, the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 7, 2021 were approved as follows: "AYES": Commissioners Plecnik, Young and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Commissioner Hamercheck asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board. There were no public comments in this portion of the meeting.

RESOLUTIONS:

**1. RESOLUTION AWARDING A BID CONTRACT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$141,000.00 TO J.S. BOVA EXCAVATING LLC FOR CELL C4 PHASE VI EXPANSION-PART C NORTH FORCE MAIN RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT NO. 421-L (20210211\U01)(UT-4)**

On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik. Sanitary Engineer, Mr. Randy Rothlisberger, explained that this project will replace the aged and failing force mains which serve various leachate pump stations on the north end of the landfill. This is being done as part of the landfill expansion project. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, Young and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

**2. RESOLUTION CERTIFYING UNPAID SEWER AND WATER SUMS AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES TO THE LAKE COUNTY AUDITOR (20210211\U02)(UT-7)**

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

**3. RESOLUTION APPROVING LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES VOUCHERS DATE OF WARRANT FEBRUARY 19, 2021, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$561,260.12 (20210211\JFS01)(JFS-14)**

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

**4. RESOLUTION ASSIGNING AUTHORITY TO MATTHEW BATTIATO, DIRECTOR OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES TO ACT AS THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' DESIGNEE FOR APPROVING INTER-COUNTY ADJUSTMENTS OF ALLOCATED FUNDS (20210211\JFS02)(JFS-11)**

On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik. Mr. Battiato explained that this is an annual resolution. The law allows for the Board of Commissioners to assign authority to the Director of Job and Family Services to sign inter-county agreements. He explained this will allow for the 'trading' of funds between other Jobs and Family Services Departments throughout the State. The federal and state funds are not given away but can be given or traded to other counties where a funding need may be within a particular county. He added that before any transfer of funds is made, approval of the Budget Director and the County Administrator is necessary. Commissioner Hamercheck added that this program has been in place for a couple years so that funds may go to other departments where there may be a need. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, Young and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

**5. RESOLUTION APPOINTING INDIVIDUALS TO THE LAKE COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD AND THE LAKE COUNTY YOUTH COMMITTEE (20210211\JFS03)(B-24)**

On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik. Mr. Battiato explained that Lake County is a stand-alone Workforce Development Area (known as Area 5). This resolution reflects reappointments of several members and the appointment of Ms. Juliana Petti from AWT who will be replacing Ms. Carol Darr. Mr. Battiato explained that the Board consists of 51% of appointees from the private sector and 49% from non-profit and/or public sector. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, Young and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

**6. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH AVIAT NETWORKS MICROWAVE UPGRADES FOR THE LAKE COUNTY RADIO SYSTEMS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$530,000.00 (20210211\C01)(404g)**

On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik. County Administrator, Mr. Jason Boyd, on behalf of the staff congratulated Commissioner Plecnik. He explained that public safety is Lake County's number one priority. Our Telecommunications Department maintains the radio system that serves all public safety, EMS, and school radios in Lake County, and provides airtime to over 3,500 public safety radios making this upgrade critical to the safety of Lake County. Commissioner Hamercheck added that this is a part of the Statewide MARCS radio system. Mr. Boyd stated that was correct and that Lake County is actually a leader and very important hub in this system. Commissioner Hamercheck stated that Lake County is actually the prime site for this entire zone of the State of Ohio. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, Young and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

**7. RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,267,836.92 (20210211\BC01)(C-4)**

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

**8. RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE ORDERS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' PURCHASE ORDER APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,159,642.83 (20210211\BC02)(C-17)**

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

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

UTILITIES – Mr. Rothlisberger gave an update on the Madison Village agreement between the County and Madison Village to maintain and operate the village's water and sanitary systems. He stated that Madison Village has submitted plans for the sanitary interconnect to the EPA and are waiting for approval. They would like to go out to bid sometime in April with construction occurring over the summer and fall. He stated that his department is still working on the details for the installation of the lift station. They remain on schedule according to the timeline of the original agreement. Commissioner Hamercheck and Mr. Rothlisberger discussed the decommissioning of the wastewater treatment plant.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – Mr. Battiato welcomed and congratulated Commissioner Plecnik.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – Mr. Boyd gave an update on the Covid vaccine program stating that it is going well. He stated that the City of Wickliffe hosted a drive-thru vaccine clinic (POD) and were able to dispense 1,561 doses in an 8-hour period. He congratulated Wickliffe Fire Chief Powers and everyone involved with this undertaking and explained how well prepared everyone was. Mr. Boyd also thanked Mayor Barbish and the Wickliffe Service Department, the Wickliffe Police Department and the workers from the General Health District for their hardwork and assistance with this event. Mr. Boyd stated that this went so well that they have received calls from other counties asking for advice and guidance for their own PODS. He stated that all 23 communities have been and continue to be in communication since last March. Commissioner Hamercheck stated that all of the communities in Lake County have done a fantastic job working as a team and Lake County is prepared to handle anything. Mr. Boyd stated that the County is fully prepared to administer up to 1,700 vaccines at one time. They have identified sites throughout the County that can handle this type of POD. Commissioner Hamercheck stressed that unfortunately there is a shortage of vaccines and asked that the residents be patient. Mr. Boyd stated there are currently 40,000 residents in Lake County over the age of 65 years and that last week, Lake County only received 400 doses. This number of doses does not include those given to Marc's, Giant Eagle, Drug Mart, Lake Health, etc.

FINANCE – none.

CLERK – Commissioners Clerk, Ms. Jennifer Bell, stated that the next Commissioners Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 18, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

LEGAL – Assistant Prosecutor Mr. Hackman, welcomed Commissioner Plecnik. Commissioner Hamercheck thanked the Prosecutor's Office, especially Mr. Hackman, for their assistance in preparation of adding Commissioner Plecnik to the Board.

OLD BUSINESS: Commissioner Hamercheck stated that Commissioner Young has been very open with his battle with cancer and how it is honorable and commendable he has attended every meeting via phone-in attendance which is permitted by the Covid-19 guidelines. Commissioner Young thanked Commissioner Hamercheck for the statement and stated that he looks forward to working with Commissioner Plecnik.

NEW BUSINESS: Commissioner Hamercheck welcomed and congratulated Commissioner Plecnik to the Board and stated that he and Commissioner Young look forward to working with him. Commissioner Hamercheck thanked

FEBRUARY 11, 2021

Commissioner Plecnik for expressing an interest in the position for being flexible and for his good spirited nature throughout the appointment process. Commissioner Plecnik thanked Commissioners Hamercheck and Young for their kind words. He stated that he looks forward to serving the residents of the County and that it is an honor to join the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Plecnik thanked the residents of Lake County, Alex Roth, Laura Pizmoht, Rich Harmon, Dale Fellows, Jan Clair and Matt Hebebrand to name just a few. He expressed his thanks and gratitude to everyone involved in this process.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Commissioner Hamercheck asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board. Mr. Boyd read the following public comment from Mr. David Lima:

Subject: Rental Assistance Funds:

“Question to the Commissioners - Have you made allocation decisions regarding these monies? If so, who have they been allocated to?” -- David Lima

Mr. Boyd stated that he has responded to Mr. Lima. He explained that there has been \$6 million allocated from Federal CARES ACT funding and that Home Program Coordinator, Ms. Marian Norman is working with Budget Director, Mr. Michael Matas on the creation of a special account for this money. She is also working with the Fair Housing Association and with Lifeline. Commissioner Hamercheck thanked Ms. Norman and Mr. Matas for being on top of this program. Mr. Boyd stated that he will follow up with Mr. Lima when more information becomes available.

ADJOURN: On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik, the Board adjourned the meeting at 2:37 p.m. with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, Young and Hamercheck "NAYS": None

Minutes approved this fourth day of March, 2021.

**BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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JOHN R. HAMERCHECK, PRESIDENT

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RON YOUNG, COMMISSIONER

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JOHN PLECNIK, COMMISSIONER

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JENNIFER BELL, CLERK