

JUNE 10, 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 2021-0610)

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Hamercheck called the Meeting to order at 10:10 a.m., Thursday, June 10, 2021.

ROLL CALL: Upon roll being called, Commissioners Young, Plecnik and Hamercheck were present.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Commissioner Hamercheck asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board. Mr. David Lima of 7774 Litchfield Drive in Mentor, referred to a Plain Dealer article he recently read concerning Ohio's jail population. He also spoke of Senate Bill 182 and House Bill 315 and cited several New Jersey statistics from 2015 and 2018.

Mr. Brian Massie of 8196 Rainbow Drive in Concord Township was present to discuss his groups findings regarding property tax collection and disbursements made to Deepwood, Lakeland Community College and Lake MetroParks. His group is working to assist the Board of Commissioners with alternate funding methods for the jail.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. RESOLUTION APPROVING PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATES OF COST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$191,753.90 FOR EAST ISLAND DRIVE WATERMAIN IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT 450-W(20210610\U01)(UT-8)

On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik. Sanitary Engineer, Mr. Randy Rothlisberger, stated that this is a part of the 2021 Capital Improvement Plan. He explained that this project moved up on their list due to the partnership with the City of Eastlake. The City will participate and pay for the design and part of the roadway. Mr. Rothlisberger stated that the life expectancy of the pipes are roughly 75 years, that Lake County has 550 miles of piping and how the goal of his department is to replace approximately 8 miles of pipe every year with an annual cost of \$1 million per mile. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows "AYES": Commissioners: Young, Plecnik and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

2. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN ENGINEERING AGREEMENT WITH STEPHEN HOVANCSEK AND ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR THE VINE STREET WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT 447-W FOR THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES(20210610\U02)(UT-4)

On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner Young. Mr. Rothlisberger explained that this and the following two resolutions are a part of their project design plans for 2021 with construction taking place in 2022. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows "AYES": Commissioners: Young, Plecnik and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

3. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN ENGINEERING AGREEMENT WITH EDG, INC. FOR THE DIVISION/BANK/ATWATER WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT 446-W FOR THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES(20210610\U03)(UT-4)

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

4. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN ENGINEERING AGREEMENT WITH GPD GROUP INC. FOR THE LAKESHORE BOULEVARD WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT 448-W FOR THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES(20210610\U04)(UT-4)

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

5. RESOLUTION AWARDDING A BID CONTRACT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,074,603.00 TO UNITED EARTH WORKS FOR CELL C4 EXPANSION PHASE VI-PART D CELL PREPARATION PROJECT 421-L (20210610\U05)(UT-4)

On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik. Mr. Rothlisberger stated that this project will prepare this area of landfill for the expansion. The work includes construction of force mains, leachate pump station and control panel, grading of the 7-acre area, construction of an embankment, and trenching and filling as well as other work necessary for the expansion. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows "AYES": Commissioners: Young, Plecnik and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

6. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 196 E. JACKSON STREET IN THE CITY OF PAINESVILLE, OHIO (20210610\C01)(209-z-14)

On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner Young. County Administrator, Mr. Jason Boyd, explained that this parcel was placed on the market and is adjacent to several other County owned properties. The agreed upon purchase price was below the asking price. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows "AYES": Commissioners: Young, Plecnik and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

7. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT WITH CARRIER PROCURED THROUGH SOURCEWELL ON BEHALF OF THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE HVAC SYSTEM FOR THE LAKE COUNTY CRIME LABORATORY IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$361,000.00 (20210610\C02)(C-7)

On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik. Assistant County Prosecutor, Mr. David Hackman, stated that this and the following 2 resolutions all pertain to the HVAC replacement at the Crime Lab. The County was able to partake in government procurement pricing. Mr. Hackman explained that the Crime Lab is using the original system which is aging and inefficient. Due to the sensitive work of the Crime Lab; it is important to upgrade the system completely to include efficient and proper heating, air conditioning and ventilation. Commissioner Plecnik added that proper ventilation is important for not only the employees but the equipment and evidence being processed. Public Defender, Ms. Vanessa Clapp, praised the Crime Lab for their openness and good communication. She explained the importance of the Crime Lab for both defense and prosecution. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows "AYES": Commissioners: Young, Plecnik and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

8. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT WITH CARRIER PROCURED THROUGH SOURCEWELL ON BEHALF OF THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE HVAC SYSTEM FOR THE LAKE COUNTY CRIME LABORATORY IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$31,000.00 (20210610\C03)(C-7)

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

9. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT WITH CARRIER PROCURED THROUGH SOURCEWELL ON BEHALF OF THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE HVAC SYSTEM FOR THE LAKE COUNTY CRIME LABORATORY IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$69,680.00 (20210610\C04)(C-7)

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

****10. RESOLUTION REVISING THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE (20210610\C05)(C-107)**

** This resolution was removed from the agenda**

11. RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$771,084.52 (20210610\BC01)(C-4)

On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner Young. Commissioner Plecnik expressed his appreciation for the enormous amount of work Mr. Matas puts into preparing the finance resolutions every week. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows "AYES": Commissioners: Young, Plecnik and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

12. RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE ORDERS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' PURCHASE ORDER APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$432,809.09 (20210610\BC02)(C-17)

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

13. RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING AN APPROPRIATION WITHIN A NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNT (20210610\BC03)(C-111)

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

14. RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A FUND TO BE KNOWN AS THE TECHNOLOGY GRANT FUND (20210610\BC04)(C-111)

On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner Young. Mr. Boyd stated that this is a housekeeping resolution that authorizes the Lake County Auditor to establish a fund with revenue and appropriation lines for the accounts. He stated that Clerk of Courts Ms. Faith Andrews in conjunction with Common Pleas Judge Lucci, were successful in obtaining a Technology Grant from the Ohio Supreme Court. Commissioner Plecnik stated that Clerk of Courts Andrews, Judge Lucci and all of the Judges in the County work hard to obtain external funding. Former Clerk of Courts, Ms. Maureen Kelly, was able to obtain all Lake County car dealers as well as Carvana (vending machine car company) to utilize the Lake County title locations for their title transfers. Commissioner Plecnik stated that since Clerk of Court Andrews has taken office, she has been able to contribute to the economic development and safety of the County. He discussed the recent seed money for scholarships at Auburn Career Center for their Emergency Services Telecommunicators course of study. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows "AYES": Commissioners: Young, Plecnik and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

15. RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY IN LAKE COUNTY, OHIO (20210610\F01)(C-126)

On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner Young. Commissioner Plecnik stressed the importance of drawing attention to elder abuse as senior citizens are among our most vulnerable citizens. Most elderly do not realize that they are being abused or neglected. He stated that it is so very important to bring this to the public's attention. Job and Family Services Director, Suzanne Casar, stated that June 15, 2021 is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day; here in Lake County and across our country. It is the time of year when cities and states can take a moment to shed light on this significant issue. Lake County Job and Family Services is mandated to investigate each and every call and report they receive. She reported that during the year 2020, her department responded to over 375 calls concerning abuse, neglect or exploitation of a senior. Although these calls varied in nature, the one common theme was the mistreatment of the most vulnerable members of our community. Ms.

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Casar stated that Lake County is fortunate to have a dedicated unit of social workers who investigate elder abuse and neglect. Anyone who suspects an elderly individual in our community is being abused, neglected or exploited should contact their agency to report their concerns. She introduced Assistant Administrator from Job and Family Services, Ms. Ali Tomaselli. Ms. Tomaselli thanked the Board of Commissioners for their continued support of Elder Abuse Awareness. She stated that, through a partnership with the Association of Specialists in Aging (ASA), they will be displaying purple and white silhouettes at Life Brand Cowboy Church in Painesville. The silhouettes, which symbolize our aging population, serve as a reminder that elder abuse does exist and that it takes a community to recognize and report signs of maltreatment in order to keep seniors safe. She stressed that "if you see something, say something". The Board and Ms. Tomaselli discussed red flags for people to watch out for as well as the different ways in which the elderly can be exploited. Ms. Tomaselli reported that they have trained with banks and credit unions as well as other financial institutions so they may be aware of certain red flags. Ms. Casar stated that they have a hotline to report any abuse or neglect of seniors. This hotline is manned 24/7 and the number to call is 440-350-4000, Option #1.

Commissioner Plecnik reminded everyone that "if you see something, say something" and how they should call 440-350-4000, Option #1 with concerns. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows "AYES": Commissioners: Young, Plecnik and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

UTILITIES – none.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – none.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR –Mr. Boyd reported that, after 15 months, Mayors and Managers held the last of their weekly Covid-19 related calls. He thanked Mayors and Managers President, Eastlake Mayor Dennis Morley and Ms. Judy Moran for arranging these weekly calls and sending daily updates on the pandemic. He thanked the Board, EMA Director, Joe Busher and his staff, and Health District Commissioner Ron Graham and his staff just to name a few of the many important people that were so helpful in getting the County through the pandemic. Mr. Boyd reported that the Health District will be administering vaccines today through June 16th via walk-ins. Vaccines will also be available at Fairport Harbor Library today from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Commissioner Hamercheck stated that making it through the pandemic was truly a team effort. He thanked Mayor Morley and Judy Moran for so quickly stepping up to set up the weekly meetings. They did an amazing job. Mr. Boyd stated that we are now in the reimbursement stages with FEMA. Mr. Busher and the EMA are taking the lead on eligibility. Mayors and Managers have been instructed to have their finance departments submit any COVID related expenses to the EMA. He briefly discussed the American Rescue Plan and how that information on eligibility is still being released.

FINANCE – none.

CLERK –Commissioners Clerk, Ms. Jennifer Bell, stated that the next Commissioners Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 17, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. She also stated that there are 2 positions available on the Mentor on the Lake Tax Incentive Review Council and also on the ADAMHS Board. Anyone interested can visit the Commissioner's website to fill out an application and submit a letter of interest.

LEGAL – none.

OLD BUSINESS: - Mr. Boyd stated that as of Friday, June 11th the rear doors adjacent to the parking lot of the old building will be open to the public. All other doors will remain closed at this time. Visitors may enter through the main door of the new administration building and the rear door of the old building.

NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Hamercheck announced that next week the Board intends to approve funding for a new Criminal Justice Community Engagement and Outreach Program managed through the Lake County Public Defender's office. The program funding will generously come from the hard work of Lake County Clerk of Court, Faith Andrews, and her staff in generating excess title funds for the county's general fund. He stated that Lake County is the only county in the State to offer such a program. He further explained that the genesis for this program was a collaborative effort between the late Bishop Roderick Coffee and himself. Commissioner Hamercheck gave some background on Bishop Coffee stating that he was a well-known and respected senior pastor of the Union Community Church in Concord Township, how he was passionately committed to community involvement in the criminal justice system and how he was one of the original members of "Begin the Conversation"; a group of community leaders that formed almost seven years ago to address race relations and justice in Lake County. Lake County Public Defender Vanessa Clapp was present and explained that by the time these individuals reach the courts, they too often have burned bridges with their families, friends, employers, landlords and neighbors losing any support systems they may have had. They are released from jail only to face alone the same obstacles that led them to jail in the first place. She stated the hope is that the new program, in conjunction with their social worker, can address treatment issues, and help to fill in the gaps related to food, housing, transportation, clothing, work, education, and other necessary human needs, thus enabling our clients to truly start their new lives with some sense of security and normalcy. Commissioner Hamercheck stated that more information will be available and that a press release will be issued at next week's Commissioner's meeting.

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

ADJOURN: On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik, the Board adjourned the meeting at 12: 06 p.m. with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, Young and Hamercheck "NAYS": None

Minutes approved this eighth day of July, 2021.

BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JOHN R. HAMERCHECK, PRESIDENT

RON YOUNG, COMMISSIONER

JOHN PLECNİK, COMMISSIONER

JENNIFER BELL, CLERK