

JUNE 29, 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 2021-0629)

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Hamercheck called the Meeting to order at 10:05 a.m., Thursday, June 29, 2021.

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

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

Mr. Brian Massie of 8196 Rainbow Drive in Concord Township was present and stated that his group met with Lake County Sheriff's Deputy Infalvi to discuss a block watch program. Information for this program can be found on their (Lobbyists for Citizens) website. Mr. Massie also reviewed information he received at the LakeTran Board meeting. He stated that they would like to construct a new building and he voiced his concerns over the vast differences in cost estimates for the building. He left a message with Mr. David Wiles of CT Consultants as they serve as the engineers for this project. His group, Lobbyists for Citizens, filed a public records request with the Treasurer's office to obtain access to the "Unclaimed Monies Fund" and "Surplus Over Fund." He provided a copy of the request to the Board for review. He also reviewed the large reserve balance of the Board of Developmental Disabilities and has requested that the Budget Commission evaluate these funds and provide a report of their findings to his group. A copy was given to the Clerk to deliver to the Auditor; who serves as secretary of the Budget Commission. Commissioner Hamercheck stated that the Board of Commissioners has no authority over the Budget Commission. He met with Mr. David Blanock from the Treasurer's office to discuss his group's concerns regarding overpayment of property tax collection and how it can be returned back to the homeowner. He offered his personal assistance in finding the homeowners that have overpaid their property taxes. Commissioner Plecnik assured Mr. Massie that the Treasurers Office is making every effort possible to find the rightful owners. Mr. Massie mentioned the possibility of a legal filing to get the funds returned. Assistant Prosecutor, Mr. Hackman, stated that due diligence must be completed to find the people who have paid the money and these records go back to the mid 1980's. An exhaustive search will be done. After that, there would be a possibility of having a court declare these monies as "unclaimed funds." He added that several years ago the Treasurers office installed software that would identify any overpayments.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LAKE COUNTY ENGINEER TO MAKE APPLICATION WITH THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION FOR EMERGENCY FUNDING FOR THE CALLOW ROAD BRIDGE FAILURE IN LEROY TOWNSHIP AND TO EXECUTE AN OPWC AGREEMENT FUNDING EMERGENCY REPAIRS TO ALLEVIATE THE THREAT TO PUBLIC SAFETY (20210629\E01)(E-3)

On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner Young. County Engineer, Mr. Jim Gills, stated that this project has been on hold for approximately 9 months in order to be eligible for emergency funding from OPWC. He stated that they have applied for funds and were approved. OPWC will provide \$450,000 in funding and his office will match that amount to complete this project. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, Young and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

2. RESOLUTION APPROVING FINAL ESTIMATE NO. 3 (RELEASE OF RETAINAGE) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$13,199.20 WITH D & M PAINTING CORPORATION AND ACCEPTING A THREE-YEAR MAINTENANCE BOND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$31,108.00 FOR RIVER ROAD 250,000 GALLON ELEVATED WATER STORAGE TANK PAINTING IMPROVEMENT, ALTERNATE 1B, 1B-ADD AND ITEMS 2-5 PROJECT 437-W FOR THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES (20210629\U01)(UT-12)

On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik. Sanitary Engineer, Mr. Randy Rothlisberger, stated that the project is complete and moving into the maintenance bond phase. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, Young and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

3. RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS AND TRANSFERRING CASH WITHIN LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES WATER OPERATING FUND AND PROJECT FUND 595, ORCHARD ROAD WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT 432-W (20210629\U02)(UT-2)

On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner Young. Mr. Rothlisberger explained that this resolution places money into the fund to allow for a contract award, which will be on the agenda next week. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, Young and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

4. RESOLUTION AWARDED A BID CONTRACT TO CORE & MAIN LP FOR FITTINGS, REPAIR PARTS, SERVICE EQUIPMENT AND TOOLS (Exhibit A) FOR THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES (20210629\U03)(UT-4)

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

5. RESOLUTION AWARDING A BID CONTRACT TO WINWATER OF AKRON FOR FITTINGS, REPAIR PARTS, SERVICE EQUIPMENT AND TOOLS (Exhibit B) FOR THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES (20210629\U04)(UT-4)

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

6. RESOLUTION AWARDING A BID CONTRACT TO FERGUSON ENTERPRISES, LLC FOR FITTINGS, REPAIR PARTS, SERVICE EQUIPMENT AND TOOLS (Exhibit C) FOR THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES (20210629\U05)(UT-4)

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

7. RESOLUTION APPROVING LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES VOUCHERS DATE OF WARRANT JULY 9, 2021, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$117,236.82 (20210629\JFS01)(JFS-14)

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

8. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO VARIOUS LAKE COUNTY POLICE PROSECUTORS FOR THE FIRST HALF OF 2021 (20210629\C01)(CT-8)

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

9. RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING ANDREW L. MEINHOLD TO THE LAKE COUNTY ALCOHOL, DRUG ADDICTION AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES BOARD FOR A FOUR-YEAR TERM COMMENCING JULY 1, 2021 (20210629\C02)(B- 50)

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

10. RESOLUTION APPOINTING CURTIS C. LAU TO THE LAKE COUNTY ALCOHOL, DRUG ADDICTION AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES BOARD FOR A FOUR-YEAR TERM COMMENCING JULY 1, 2021 (20210629\C03)(B-50)

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

11. RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$447,833.29(20210629\BC01)(C-4)

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

12. RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE ORDERS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' PURCHASE ORDER APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 2,500,675.69 (20210629\BC02)(C-17)

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

13. RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS FOR VARIOUS NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20210629\BC03)(C-111)

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

14. RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN VARIOUS GENERAL AND NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS(20210629\BC04)(C-111)

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

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

UTILITIES – Mr. Rothlisberger reported that materials continue to be in short supply and pricing is only guaranteed for 7 days. He was happy to report that they are still receiving competitive bids for their projects.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – none.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR –Mr. Boyd stated that the Mayors and Managers met this week at the EOC. Health Commissioner Graham reported that the agency has approved several community events for this weekend. Commissioner Plecnik offered his appreciation to Commissioner Hamercheck for working alongside the Health Department in order to acquire the mobile van for the County. Commissioner Hamercheck thanked his colleagues for their support and Assistant Prosecutor, Mr. David Hackman, for his assistance with the details of the transfer of the mobile unit.

FINANCE – none.

CLERK –Commissioners Clerk, Ms. Jennifer Bell, stated that the next Commissioners Meeting will be held on Thursday, July 8, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. and that County offices will be closed Monday, July 5th in observance of Independence Day.

LEGAL – none.

JUNE 29, 2021

OLD BUSINESS: Commissioner Plecnik, along with Mr. Boyd, visited the Lake County Executive Airport. He complimented Ms. Patty Fulop and the airport staff for the work that they do. He pointed out that Ms. Fulop is proactive with applying for FAA grants for construction projects and upgrades. He added that the airport only receives a subsidy of \$100,000 per year from the County. Commissioner Plecnik stated that he had a meeting with Concord Township Trustee Carl Dondorfer and Painesville Township Trustee Gabe Cicconetti for a discussion on the number of sheriff patrol in their respective townships. Mr. Cicconetti expressed his concerns as to the low number of deputies that patrol Painesville Township and how he would like the county to cover the cost of at least one more for them. Commissioner Plecnik explained to them that there is not enough money in the general fund to subsidize more officers. He stated that the Clerk of Courts is working on a 4-year pilot program (grant) that would offset the costs of more patrol and he discussed the proposed details. Trustee Dondorfer and Trustee Cicconetti stated that they would prefer to have the County pay for 1 deputy indefinitely rather than several paid temporarily through a grant program. He also discussed several topics with them regarding mutual aid, their current contract and the possibility of amending the contract at some point. Commissioner Hamercheck briefly explained an earlier conversation he had with Township Trustees and provided the background of their conversations. He also explained that this grant program must stay within the confines of the law meaning that it (the grants) is only provided for the term of any Clerk of Courts and cannot continue into the future should a new Clerk come into office. He also explained the details of mutual aid stating that all county police and/or fire departments participate in offering aid when a need arises. Sheriff Leonbruno stated that the Board made excellent points and discussed the population of the Townships in comparison to several cities in the County. Commissioner Hamercheck and Sheriff Leonbruno discussed the many costs associated with running police departments, a breakdown of officers per shift, and call volumes. Commissioner Young stated that it has been awhile since he has met with the townships and he believes this is a good time to arrange another meeting to hear more about their concerns with law enforcement and funding. Commissioners Hamercheck and Plecnik agreed and asked Mr. Boyd to reach out to them for further discussions.

NEW BUSINESS: Commissioner Hamercheck stated that he and Mrs. Hamercheck had the opportunity to attend the "Summit for Soldiers" which was an event to raise awareness of PTSD and suicide among veterans. This program offers "adventure therapy" which is led by fellow veterans. He also mentioned "Healing Waters" which is a project dedicated to the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled active military service personnel and disabled veterans through fly fishing and associated activities including education and outings. They are located in Willoughby.

Commissioner Plecnik congratulated Mr. Meinhold on his reappointment and Mr. Lau on his appointment to the ADAMHS Board.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Commissioner Hamercheck asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board. County Administrator, Mr. Jason Boyd read the following public comment which was received via email:

"Would you please comment on the current status of the proposed county jail retrofit / renewal project process."
-Terry Foreman of 2405 Bunker Lane, Willoughby Ohio

Commissioner Hamercheck replied that this is an ongoing process and that all possibilities are being looked into in great detail. Commissioner Plecnik added that the next step will be to look at the budget and other bidding alternatives. Commissioner Young stated that there will be representatives from Columbus attending a future Commissioners meeting to provide some input.

ADJOURN: On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik, the Board adjourned the meeting at 11:28 a.m. with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, Young and Hamercheck "NAYS": None

Minutes approved this twenty-second day of July, 2021.

BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JOHN R. HAMERCHECK, PRESIDENT

RON YOUNG, COMMISSIONER

JOHN PLECNIK, COMMISSIONER

JENNIFER BELL, CLERK