

APRIL 16, 2020

LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES

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

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(Tape 2020-0416)

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Hamercheck called the Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 16, 2020.

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

RESOLUTIONS:

1. RESOLUTION APPROVING LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES VOUCHERS DATE OF WARRANT APRIL 24, 2020 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$546,568.36 (20200416\JFS01)(JFS-14)

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

2. RESOLUTION DECLARING THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' NEXT REGULAR MEETINGS FOR APRIL 23 AND APRIL 30, 2020 (20200416\C01)(C-107)

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

3. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON BEHALF OF THE LAKE COUNTY STORMWATER MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT AND THE CITY OF KIRTLAND FOR VARIOUS STORMWATER PROJECTS WITHIN THE CITY (20200416\C02)(UT-46a)

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

4. RESOLUTION REJECTING THE FACT FINDING RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE LAKE COUNTY ENGINEER AND THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES (AFSCME), EXPIRING MARCH 31, 2023, SERB CASE #19-MED-06-0596(20200416\C03)(301-c)

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young. Lake County Engineer Jim Gills explained that this has been a long negotiation but with the economics the way it is right now, it is not a good time to agree to anything. Negotiations will continue. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

5. RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,749,350.44(20200416\BC01)(C-4)

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

6. RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE ORDERS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' PURCHASE ORDER APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$523,745.59(20200416\BC02)(C-17)

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

7. RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS FOR VARIOUS GENERAL AND NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20200416\BC03)(C-111)

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

8. RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING CASH AND APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN VARIOUS GENERAL AND NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20200416\BC04)(C-111)

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

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

UTILITIES – none.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – none.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – Mr. Jason Boyd reported he is in daily communication with the Lake County EMA and Health District and stated that the situation is beginning to look better and that it is time to begin looking at restarting the economy and slowly get back to business. He reported that building permits seems to be increasing so there is a steady stream of construction. Lake County capital projects and infrastructure projects are moving along.

FINANCE – none.

CLERK – Commissioners Clerk, Ms. Jennifer Bell, stated that the next Commissioners Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 23, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

LEGAL – none.

OLD BUSINESS: - none.

NEW BUSINESS: - Commissioner Cirino stated that he has been speaking with many Lake County business owners about how to get the economy going and he is issuing a press release today because there is much uncertainty surrounding this issue. Businesses do not know when they will be opening their doors again and under what circumstances they will be allowed to operate under such as limited hours or limited customers. Restaurants such as Yours Truly and Panini’s, and businesses such as Brunner Sanden and Dietrick Funeral Home, Rocco’s Hair Design, Custom Cleaning and Jay-Dee Cleaners have suffered a loss in revenues for the last five weeks and they have some creative ideas to take precautions as they reopen because they care about the health of the community. The press release will be sent to Governor DeWine for consideration. Commissioner Cirino stated that reopening businesses should be measured in weeks and not months because closures will continue if many businesses do not reopen. He welcomes comments from other businesses and would be happy to pass their ideas on to the Governor’s Office.

Commissioner Young stated that he was considering something similar needs to happen to open up businesses but also be mindful of public health. He stated that he recently spoke with the County Coroner who has seen a spike in deaths related to opioid overdoses. There were 8 people who died of overdoses this week and 6 people who have died from COVID-19 in the past five weeks. One of the people who overdosed was not able to participate in group therapy sessions that had been helping them. Commissioner Young stated that, during economic downturns, the death rate historically increases. He applauds Commissioner Cirino’s efforts in trying to open up businesses.

Commissioner Cirino asked the Clerk if she would post the news release on the website and the Clerk indicated that she would post the news release after the meeting.

Commissioner Hamercheck stated that a comprehensive approach is needed to opening up businesses and getting the economy back on track without duplicating activities and by filling gaps. The County is continuing with road paving and infrastructure projects, and working with local communities by implementing the Commissioners Infrastructure Grant Program. In cooperation with the Commissioners, Madison Township, the News-Herald, Mayors & Managers Association, NOACA and the Lake County Engineer, ODOT has decided to continue to have four lanes on Route 20 in Madison. The County is still working on the homeless issue and the City of Painesville is introducing a rebranding initiative to address homelessness and they are making progress.

Commissioner Hamercheck also is keeping an eye on federal relief funding that will be given to the State for disbursement to local communities. There are a few interpretations about the process that is concerning. Commissioner Hamercheck wants to be sure that Lake County gets the amount of funding that it is entitled to as well as our five neighboring counties. He was proud to announce that Lake County is no longer a donor county as a member of NOACA and he is working through NOACA to figure out the funding for our area.

Lake County Engineer, Jim Gills, reported that the economic situation is challenging for the Engineer’s Office because there is 20-30% loss which equates to approximately \$1.5-2 million. There has been a loss in gas tax which is divided equally among Ohio counties. Lake County’s roads and bridges take a beating because there is a high population. The Office has made some changes such as eliminating overtime and raises until they see how this falls out and are postponing some internal improvement projects.

Commissioners Young and Cirino agreed that Commissioner Hamercheck did a great job with his leadership fighting for the continuation of four lanes on Route 20 in Madison.

Commissioner Cirino stated that the County implemented some restrictions on allowing the public into the buildings and there seems to be some confusion in the Records Office. He indicated that the Commissioners’ Office does not run the Records Office. It is a separate elected officials’ office. It is the job of the Commissioners to make sure that the constituents are properly served. The Commissioners have received a lot of complaints from the title community but the Recorder is responsible for the flow of work in that office and not the Commissioners. He asked that any questions or concerns please be directed to the Records Office. It is important to keep employees and the public safe and healthy.

Commissioner Hamercheck stated that HB 197 contains a section for land professionals and their access to records otherwise not accessible.

Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Dave Hackman, stated that HB 197 specifically provides requirements for the Records Office to remain open for land professionals. He reiterated that the Commissioners have no say over that office and that it is up to the elected official, the Recorder, to dictate the regulations and rules pertaining to access to the office’s records.

Commissioner Hamercheck stated that the next Commissioners Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 23, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

ADJOURN: On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young, the Board adjourned the meeting at 10:43 a.m. with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

Minutes approved this twenty-third day of April, 2020.

BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JOHN R. HAMERCHECK, PRESIDENT

RON YOUNG, VICE PRESIDENT

JERRY C. CIRINO, COMMISSIONER

JENNIFER BELL, CLERK