

JUNE 11, 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 2020-0611)

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Hamercheck called the Meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Thursday, June 11, 2020.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Upon a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Cirino, the minutes of the Regular Meetings of May 7, 2020 and May 14, 2020 were approved as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Commissioner Hamercheck 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 AUTHORIZING THE LAKE COUNTY ENGINEER TO ENTER INTO STATE FUNDS EXCHANGE AGREEMENT NO. 34857 WITH THE DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION OF THE STATE OF OHIO FOR THE LAK-SANCTUARY DRIVE BRIDGE PROJECT (PID 113455)(LCE PROJECT NO. 2015-017-002)(20200611\E01)(E-3)**

On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Cirino. Lake County Engineer, Jim Gills, reported that this project is for a bridge in Kirtland that is being constructed through securing CCEA money and will begin in 2025 because that is the earliest that they could get funds. Commissioner Hamercheck stated that this agreement provides a maximum in State funds available in the amount of \$1,851,520.00, providing for 80 percent of the design-build construction costs and for eligible construction inspection costs. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

**2. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON BEHALF OF THE LAKE COUNTY ENGINEER AND BURGESS & NIPLE TO PERFORM COUNTY BRIDGE INSPECTIONS (20200611\E02)(E-3)**

On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Cirino. Engineer, Mr. Gills stated that the federal government requires bridge inspections every few years for 6-7 bridges that are deemed "fractured critical". The Engineer's Office is not equipped to inspect those type of bridges. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

**3. RESOLUTION APPROVING PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATES OF COST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$426,200.00 FOR RIVER ROAD 250,000 GALLON ELEVATED WATER STORAGE TANK PAINTING IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT NO. 437-W, AND ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR SAME (BID OPENING: JULY 1, 2020)(20200611\U01)(UT-8)**

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young. Lake County Administrator, Jason Boyd explained that this is a water tower located on the Perry-Madison line and part of the capital improvement plan. It is a protective measure for long term sustainability of the current infrastructure. Commissioner Hamercheck stated that the County continues to provide safe and quality services during these difficult times. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

**4. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN ENGINEERING AGREEMENT WITH EUTHENICS ENGINEERING, INC. FOR HULETT AND JENNISON WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT 434-W FOR THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES(20200611\U02)(UT-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.

**5. RESOLUTION APPROVING LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES VOUCHERS DATE OF WARRANT JUNE 19, 2020 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$632,006.34 (20200611\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.

**6. RESOLUTION REVISING THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE (20200611\C01)(C-107)**

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.

**7. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A ROTH 457 OPTION AS AN EXPANDED PORTFOLIO CHOICE WITHIN THE OHIO DEFERRED COMPENSATION PROGRAM AND OFFERING TO ELIGIBLE LAKE COUNTY EMPLOYEES (20200611\C02)(305-C)**

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young. Mr. Boyd explained that this is a no-cost option for County employees and part of the Ohio Deferred Compensation Program that they can voluntarily engage in or not. It is a post-tax option. Commissioner Cirino asked about the program being post tax if it is a deferral. He thought that if it was a deferral program that it would be pre-tax. Mr. Boyd indicated that he would verify the

information. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

**8. RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,460,801.57 (20200611\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.

**9. RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE ORDERS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' PURCHASE ORDER APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$977,217.85(20200611\BC02)(C-17)**

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.

**10. RESOLUTION INCREASING AN APPROPRIATION FOR A GENERAL FUND ACCOUNT (20200611\BC03)(C-111)**

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.

**11. RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN VARIOUS GENERAL AND NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS(20200611\BC04)(C-111)**

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.

**12. RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY IN LAKE COUNTY, OHIO (20200611\F01)(C-126)**

On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Cirino. Commissioner Hamercheck read the resolution in its entirety. Commissioner Cirino applauded the adoption of this resolution. He stated that the County does a good job providing senior services and protection because there is no shortage of scam artists out there and there is a need to continue this diligent work throughout the County and continue to help build additional awareness of the fact that this protection is necessary. Mr. Boyd stated that it is important to note that through the senior levy, a 2015 senior study was completed which called for an increase in funding for adult protective services. The County invested additional funds into the adult protective services program with JFS. Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Dave Hackman, indicated that the individuals that work in adult protective services and JFS perform a fantastic job. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

UTILITIES – Mr. Boyd reported that he met with the Sanitary Engineer this morning and all systems are a go.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – none.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – Mr. Jason Boyd stated that the CARES Act Loan Committee met and reviewed 8 small business grant applications by the underwriting team that ranged from small business retailers to local contractors. The Underwriting Team will explore loans that the Board offered as well. The Board approved shifting \$150,000 to the program from CDBG funds because we are still waiting on federal funding, which allowed us to make disbursements. There was an underwhelming response to the program.

Mr. Boyd stated that the Economic Development Council was their data base containing hundreds of businesses, all the mayors and managers, each economic development professional and the Chambers of Commerce. They will continue to spread the word.

Commissioner Cirino stated that he recently spoke to Congressman Joyce about the slow response from HUD to the release of funding and he made some calls to get an idea when funding actions will be taken. He was told that they expected funds to be released in about 10 days. Commissioner Cirino thanked the Congressman and his staff for making phone calls for Lake County. These businesses need this help. The lack of response is because a lot of them tapped into federal programs and PPE money. As the word gets out, he thinks that we will receive more applications. Mr. Boyd stated he received fantastic comments about the County and Board of Commissioners for implementing this program for our local business community.

Commissioner Young stated that he is concerned that the response for the program has not been stronger from the community. He believes that sometimes small business owners do not think of local government when they think about success. They are focused on their day-to-day operations. Government is sometimes an afterthought. He stated that maybe there should be more advertising for the program in the newspapers or targeted social media.

At this point during the meeting there were some technical difficulties with the live feed to the YouTube Channel. The audio recording was captured throughout the meeting. After a few minutes the issue was corrected and the meeting continued live on YouTube.

Mr. Boyd stated that information on the small business loan program was sent out to Mr. Tim Cahill of the Lake County Ohio Port and Economic Development Authority. He is going to reach out to our local lending institutions.

FINANCE – none.

CLERK – Clerk, Ms. Jennifer Bell, stated that the next the regular Commissioners Meeting will be Thursday, June 18, 2020 at 2:00 pm. She will post information online regarding World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. There will also be two positions expiring on the Lake County Planning Commission and on the Senior Advisory Panel at the end of summer.

JUNE 11, 2020

LEGAL – none.

OLD BUSINESS: - none.

NEW BUSINESS: - Commissioner Cirino spoke about what is currently going on in the Country. He is witnessing through news and social media what he considers grossly incompetent leaders around the Country who have forgotten their oaths of offices to protect lives and property and to maintain order in their respective communities by allowing large gatherings that are not consistent with COVID-19 guidelines and breaking the law with impunity. He is proud to say and compliment all the leaders in Lake County for making Lake County a safe place to live and do business.

Commissioner Hamercheck stated that throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, there have been two weekly virtual meetings with the Lake County Mayors and Managers and other agencies of importance to support the community. There has been great communication and cooperation.

Commissioner Young thanked the law-abiding and caring people of Lake County because there is no system in place to dispel a local rebellion like we are now seeing around the Country. He thanked Lake County for the way they have handled themselves through this national insanity in many instances.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Commissioner Hamercheck asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board. Mr. Boyd read a public comment from Ms. Ellen Chamberlin. "In light of the recent 5 hour long lines in Georgia when voters did not receive the absentee ballots they requested due to a surge in requests as a result of a spike in illness, what plans are in place in case there is a shortage of poll workers and a high demand for absentee ballots? Do the commissioners favor extending absentee voting and extending the time after Election Day for the Board of Elections to receive and count absentee ballots?"

Ms. Chamberlin's comment was sent to the Lake County Board of Elections.

Commissioner Hamercheck stated that they made a concerted effort to pay the poll workers for the election that did not take place as expected to be sure that there were no hard feelings regarding financial hardship.

Commissioner Cirino explained that State legislation determines how and when voting occurs and the Board will support State law.

ADJOURN: On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young, the Board adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m. with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

Minutes approved this twenty-fifth day of June, 2020.

**BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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JOHN R. HAMERCHECK, PRESIDENT

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RON YOUNG, VICE PRESIDENT

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JERRY C. CIRINO, COMMISSIONER

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JENNIFER BELL, CLERK