

LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES

JERRY C. CIRINO, COMMISSIONER  
JOHN R HAMERCHECK, COMMISSIONER  
DANIEL P. TROY, COMMISSIONER  
JENNIFER BELL, CLERK

JASON W. BOYD, ADMINISTRATOR  
LEGAL COUNSEL  
MIKE MATAS, BUDGET DIRECTOR  
NEWS MEDIA

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(Tape 2017-0131)

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Cirino called the Meeting to order at 2:05 pm, Tuesday, January 31, 2017.

ROLL CALL: Upon the roll being called, all were present

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Upon a motion by Commissioner Troy, seconded by Commissioner Hamercheck, the minutes of the regular meeting of January 19, 2017 were approved as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Hamercheck, and Troy "NAYS": None.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Commissioner Cirino asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board. No one present wished to address the Board at this time.

Commissioner Cirino congratulated Job and Family Services supervisor, Ms. Jenni Craft, and presented her with a certificate on the occasion of her retirement after more than 30 years of service. Job and Family Services Director, Mr. Matthew Battiato, Domestic Relations Judge Colleen Falkowski and Ms .Debbie Wernick, Lake County Job and Family Services Child Support Director, congratulated Jenni on her retirement and spoke of Ms. Craft’s dedication and knowledge and wished her well on her retirement.

Ms. Lisa Siciliano-Miller from the Ohio State Extension, introduced Mr. Tom deHaas as the new Agriculture and Natural Resource Educator. Ms. Siciliano-Miller stated that they are very excited to have Mr. deHaas join OSU and that they have been without an educator for nearly one year. Mr. deHaas explained that he has 34 years teaching experience, 4 years as a horticulture educator, and has a great deal of knowledge to support local producers, forestry, home horticulture, and commercial horticulture, and conservation of natural resources. Mr. deHaas thanked the Commissioners for their support.

RESOLUTIONS:

**1. RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES VARIOUS WATER & SEWER & PROJECT ACCOUNTS (20170131\U01)(UT-2)**

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

**2. RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING CASH AND INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS FOR HAWTHORNE WOODS WATERLINE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT 380-W(20170131\U02)(UT-2)**

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

**3. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH MANNIK & SMITH GROUP, INC. FOR THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES (20170131\U03)(UT-2)**

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

**4. RESOLUTION AWARDING A BID CONTRACT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$58,887.40 TO DAVIS DIGGERS, INC. FOR HENRY AND RIVER STREET SANITARY SEWER REHABILITATION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT 376-S(20170131\U04)(UT-2)**

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

**5. RESOLUTION APPOINTING ROBERT J. DAWSON TO THE LAKE COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD AND TO REQUEST CERTIFICATION OF THE BOARD (20170131\JFS01)(B-77)**

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Hamercheck, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Hamercheck, and Troy

**6. RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING SANDRA F. COFFEE AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE LAKE COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT, FOR A SEVEN YEAR TERM COMMENCING FEBRUARY 3, 2017 AND ENDING FEBRUARY 2, 2024 (20170131\C01)(B-52)**

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

**7. RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,307,377.29 (20170131\BC01)(C-4)**

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

**8. RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE ORDERS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' PURCHASE ORDER APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$826,495.80 (20170131\BC02)(C-17)**

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

**9. RESOLUTION INCREASING AND DECREASING APPROPRIATIONS FOR VARIOUS GENERAL AND NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS(20170131\BC03)(C-111)**

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

**10. RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING CASH AND APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN VARIOUS GENERAL AND NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS(20170131\BC04)(C-111)**

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

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

UTILITIES – none.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES –none.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – none.

FINANCE – none.

CLERK – none.

LEGAL – none.

OLD BUSINESS: - none.

NEW BUSINESS: - Commissioner Troy stated that the number one priority of CCAO is the loss of revenue from the Medicaid managed care organization sales tax loss that will begin on July 1, 2017. This will be an approximately \$1.7 million annual loss to the County budget. Commissioner Troy reported that the Governor proposed his budget yesterday and he is recommending a 17 percent reduction in the states' income tax rates. In order to finance this cut, it is recommended that there be a 1/2 percent state sales tax increase, which will be problematic to many counties. Commissioner Troy explained that there will be a formula for the last 3 months of 2017 regarding the Medicaid managed care organization sales tax. He stated that going forward there will be a formula; there will be approximately \$150 million for distribution. The allocation of these funds will be based on reliance and the capacity for the County to increase sales tax revenue. Commissioner Troy stated he will participate in a CCAO executive committee conference call for further discussion on the proposed budget. He explained that there will be a handful of counties within the state that will not be eligible for this proposed funding. Commissioner Troy stated that in regards to the Indigent Defense funding, the governor's budget projects a reimbursement rate of 41-42 percent. There will also be a new distribution formula for the Local Government Funds, so that over time 20 percent of the dollars will be allocated based on jurisdictions' revenue capacity. This change would be implemented slowly. Within each of the jurisdictions, they would be rated based on their capacity to generate revenue. For counties, this would be a weighted determination based on 80 percent sales tax and 20 percent property tax. Commissioner Troy stated it is unknown what the impact would be under the alternative distribution formula the County uses, which was adopted in 1982. He reported that Lake County receives 11 percent local government funding and 86 of the 88 counties receive at least 30 percent funding, some as high as 60 percent. CCAO will look closely at the proposed budget for an increase in funding regarding the growing opiate epidemic. He explained that as the County prepares their budget, they will have to prepare for a potential \$1.7 million shortfall in 2018 due to the cuts in Medicaid managed care sales tax.

Commissioner Hamercheck stated he was appointed to the CCAO JEDI (Jobs, Economic Development and Infrastructure) Committee. He thanked Commissioner Troy for assisting him with the process. Commissioner Hamercheck explained what the committee involves and stated that while the County has a low unemployment rate, there is an issue with people being underemployed and this is an issue that they will be looking into in more detail.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Commissioner Cirino asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board.

Mr. John Muzik of 45 Coventry in Painesville Township, asked what impact the loss of County revenue from the State will be. Commissioner Troy explained that the County is in very good financial shape and the proposed cuts are something the County will need to prepare for. He stated that the State Auditor issued a score card for the Counties in Ohio based on calendar year 2015 based on terms of fiscal health in 17 categories. He stated that Lake County scored "green" in all 17 categories and that only 15 percent of the Counties in the State of Ohio scored green in all categories. This report declares that the County is in great fiscal health and well positioned for any potential changes in the future. The residents of the County should be proud that Lake County received such an excellent score.

Commissioner Cirino stated that there are macro and micro issues the County must face and as the County moves forward, we must look carefully at the long term decisions it makes.

Commissioner Troy stated the County serves as a branch office of the State government by performing the statutory requirements of the State such as holding elections, providing state mandated services through county offices and running courts and providing jails.

Commissioner Hamercheck explained that Lake County uses a cash basis for accounting purposes rather than GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Practices) and that GAAP rolls many funds together. He stated that as the County pays down their debt, it may lower the County's score. He explained that as the County progresses and strengthens the County's credit score may actually go down. Commissioner Troy agreed and stated that Delaware County is one of the healthiest counties in the state but received a "yellow" score in the fiscal health category due to their paying down debt.

Commissioner Cirino stated the next Regular Commissioners' Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 2, 2017 at 10:00 A.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Personnel – collective bargaining

EXECUTIVE SESSION: On a motion Commissioner Troy, seconded by Commissioner Hamercheck, the Board convened an Executive Session at 2:40 p.m. to discuss Personnel – collective bargaining

With the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Hamercheck, and Troy "NAYS":

None

The Lake County Board of Commissioners adjourned Executive Session at 3:05 p.m.

On a motion by Commissioner Troy, seconded by Commissioner Hamercheck, the Board returned to open session at 3:05 p.m., with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Hamercheck, and Troy "NAYS": None

ADJOURN: On a motion by Commissioner, seconded by Commissioner, the Board adjourned the meeting at 3:06 p.m., with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Hamercheck, and Troy "NAYS": None

Minutes approved this ninth day of February, 2017.

**BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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JERRY C. CIRINO, PRESIDENT

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JOHN R. HAMERCHECK, COMMISSIONER

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DANIEL P. TROY, COMMISSIONER

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JENNIFER BELL, CLERK