

LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES

DANIEL P. TROY, PRESIDENT JASON W. BOYD, ADMINISTRATOR
ROBERT E. AUFULDISH, COMMISSIONER LEGAL COUNSEL
JUDY MORAN, COMMISSIONER JOEL DIMARE, BUDGET DIRECTOR
AMY ELSZASZ, CLERK NEWS MEDIA

(Tape 2014-0206)

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Troy called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m., February 6, 2014. After the opening prayer Commissioner Troy asked for a moment of silence for former Mayor Mort O'Ryan of Willoughby Hills, and also Dee Martin, wife of the late Commissioner Bob Martin, and the mother of Utilities Department Executive Director Rick Martin.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Upon a motion by Commissioner Aufuldish, seconded by Commissioner Moran, the minutes of the regular meeting of January 30, 2014 was approved as follows:

"AYES": Commissioners: Troy, Aufuldish and Moran "NAYS": None

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

RESOLUTIONS:

1. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR THE OAKRIDGE-YELLOWWOOD DAM RESTORATION PROJECT IN CONCORD TOWNSHIP, OHIO (BID OPENING: March 5, 2014) (20140206E01)(UT-46)

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

2. RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS FOR MENTOR MARSH SANITARY INTERCEPTOR 336S AND TRANSFERRING CASH (20140206U01)(UT-2)

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

3. RESOLUTION APPROVING PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATES OF COST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,000,000.00 FOR LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES MAINTENANCE FACILITY PROJECT NO. 271-W AND ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR SAME (Bid Opening: March 5, 2014)(20140206U02)(UT-8)

On a motion of Commissioner Moran, seconded by Commissioner Aufuldish. Commissioner Troy stated that this resolution is for a new east end service center; it was formerly housed where the dog shelter is located now and the County has been renting space. The County is looking at consolidating operations and possibly looking at moving the fleet maintenance department into the facility. Mr. Randy Rothlisberger, Deputy Sanitary Engineer, reported that the current facility is very cramped and he looks forward to this project, which will also provide space for some solid waste equipment. The cost will be paid for out of revenues from water and solid waste accounts. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Troy, Aufuldish and Moran "NAYS": None

4. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH BURGESS & NIPLE, INC. FOR PROJECT MANAGEMENT OFFICE SERVICES FOR THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES (20140206U03)(UT-4)

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

5. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN ENGINEERING AGREEMENT WITH BURGESS & NIPLE, INC. FOR ROUTES 91 & 84 ELEVATED STORAGE TANK PAINTING IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT 357-W FOR THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES (20140206U04)(UT-4)

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

6. RESOLUTION APPROVING FINAL ESTIMATE NO. 6 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$11,760.00 WITH COLD HARBOR BUILDING COMPANY AND ACCEPTING A THREE-YEAR SURETY BOND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$297,042 FOR S.R. 174 AND S.R. 84 BOOSTER STATION UPGRADE PROJECT NO. 326-W, FOR THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES (20140206U05)(UT-4)

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

7. RESOLUTION CERTIFYING UNPAID SEWER AND WATER SUMS TO THE LAKE COUNTY AUDITOR (20140206U06)(UT-7)

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

8. RESOLUTION APPOINTING VARIOUS INDIVIDUALS TO THE LAKE COUNTY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD (WIB) FOR THREE YEAR TERMS ENDING FEBRUARY 14, 2017 (20140206JFS01)(B-24)

On a motion of Commissioner Moran, seconded by Commissioner Aufuldish. Commissioner Troy reported that these are three-year terms and it is a partnership between the US Department of Labor, Jobs Ohio and the Lake County Jobs & Family Services Department. It is made up of public and private members. This resolution is adding a new private corporation member and as a result, there will be full board.

Mr. Matt Battiato, Job & Family Service Director, said the department has been able to steer people to new employment and job opportunities. Through the Workforce Investment Act, they receive allocations which is how Lake One Stop is funded, to provide training and assistance for people to find a job. The name of the program will be changed to Ohio Means Jobs. The vast majority of clients are dislocated workers who need re-training or re-freshed on how to do job interviews, revenues and how to dress appropriately.

Commissioner Moran asked how employers are located for inclusion on the website?

Mr. Battiato explained that Job and Family Services staff recruit them for job fairs and inform them of the website presence. Manufacturing jobs require a specific skill set with Lakeland Community College. There are healthcare career programs through Lakeland and Auburn Career Center. These are in-demand jobs that we want to have people trained in for great opportunities. If you have the right skills, there are many jobs available in Lake County. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Troy, Aufuldish and Moran
Commissioners: "NAYS": None

9. **RESOLUTION APPOINTING CAROL DARR AND MINDY HUGHES TO THE LAKE COUNTY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD YOUTH COUNCIL FOR TERMS COMMENCING FEBRUARY 15, 2014 (20140206\JFS02)(B-24)**

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

10. **RESOLUTION APPROVING LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES VOUCHERS DATE OF WARRANT FEBRUARY 10, 2014, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$153,368.35 (20140206\JFS03)(JFS-14)**

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

11. **RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FINAL DEDICATION PLAT FOR SUMMERWOOD SUBDIVISION PHASE 4A IN CONCORD TOWNSHIP (20140206\C01)(SD-408)**

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

12. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LAKE COUNTY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION OF OHIO SERVICE CORPORATION ELECTRICITY PURCHASE PROGRAM AND PROVIDING FOR THE EXECUTION OF A PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT WITH CCAO SERVICE CORPORATION (20140206\C02)(691-c)**

On a motion of Commissioner Moran, seconded by Commissioner Aufuldish.

Mr. Chuck Klco, Building & Grounds Superintendent explained this resolution and the next resolution. Right now, First Energy is our supplier and that is who Palmer has been working with to get us a good rate. First Energy provides power outside of the City electric and Painesville Electric is considerably less. There are 52 accounts outside the City that Palmer Energy negotiates. Lake County is with 52 Counties throughout the State that Palmer negotiates for gas. We are locked in for the first quarter with last year's rates. It seems like wholesale rates have increased 20% and hopefully it will level out before the County has to buy it again. He recommends that the County stay with Palmer because we have seen 15-18% savings over the life of the contract for gas rates.

Commissioner Aufuldish stated under Section 3(h) stated they have the right to use alternative energy sources so if LEEDCO begins generating energy that power can be used.

The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Troy, Aufuldish and Moran "NAYS": None

13. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND RENEWING LAKE COUNTY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION OF OHIO SERVICE CORPORATION NATURAL GAS PURCHASE PROGRAM AND PROVIDING FOR THE EXECUTION OF A PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT WITH CCAO SERVICE CORPORATION (20140206\C03)(691-a)**

On a motion of Commissioner Moran, seconded by Commissioner Aufuldish,

Commissioner Troy reported that Lake County has been involved in the natural gas program with CCAO since 2001 and we have always saved money, except one spring when the cold weather hung on much too long and we had to buy more gas off the spot market. In the long run it has saved hundreds of thousands of dollars for the County and it makes sense.

The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Troy, Aufuldish and Moran "NAYS": None

14. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO ENTER INTO A FEDERAL EQUITABLE SHARING AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY ON BEHALF OF THE LAKE COUNTY NARCOTICS AGENCY TO RECEIVE FEDERALLY FORFEITED PROPERTY AND/OR FUNDS (20140206\C04)(CT-17a)**

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

15. **RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$623,783.47 (20140206\BC01)(C-4)**

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

16. **RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE ORDERS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' PURCHASE ORDER APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$620,758.58 (20140206\BC02)(C-17)**

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

17. **RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS FOR VARIOUS NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20140206\BC03)(C-111)**

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

18. **RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING CASH WITHIN VARIOUS GENERAL AND NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20140206\BC04) (C-111)**

February 6, 2014

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

19. **RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2014 PERMANENT APPROPRIATION MEASURE FOR THE GENERAL FUND (20140206BC05)(C-111)**

On a motion of Commissioner Moran, seconded by Commissioner Aufuldish.

Commissioner Troy explained this is Lake County's annual General Fund operating budget and sets the outline as to the spending priorities and authorizations. This replaces the temporary budget and authorizes business until December 31, 2014. The projected expenditures of this budget are 2% higher than last year, the revenues are approximately the same as last year and have been conservatively estimated. The County is more fiscally stable than a few years ago but continues to see changes such as increased healthcare costs of 66% per family since 2007, interest earnings down 94% since 2007 from \$8.8 million to a projected \$525,000 in 2014, the jail population has increased 23% since 2010 in part due to the current drug culture, and the cost of jail food supplies increased 14% in the last few years and medical care increased 22%. The County spends a lot of money to keep operating a jail. Casino revenues are projected at \$2 million, even though the original forecast from the State was \$6 million. Casino revenues are nice to have, however much has been dedicated to economic development efforts and various stabilization funds for any unforeseen situations that arise. It is the County's job to provide a vast array of services like operating the courts, Board of Elections, Sheriff's Department, jail, property recording, tax valuations, and tax collection services. These are state-mandated functions and this budget allows the County to provide these services at an acceptable service level for the residents and doing that with a full-time employee base that is down about 15.5% since 2007. We cannot do this without the cooperation of other elected officials and employees. This budget is primarily funded by the piggyback sales tax, because we shifted from a dependency on property tax. Only one mill is collected and goes to the County General Fund. The budget is fiscally sound and now more primarily based on consumption taxes. We have maintained, and will continue an open dialogue with our other elected officials to address changing fiscal needs.

Commissioner Aufuldish stated that the Finance Department has done a great job and most of the budgets sent to the departments have been accepted. He highlighted a few key points: since 2007 the full time staff is down about 16% and the County has lost almost all the interest earning from 2007. The County has been pro-active and the budget is only 2% increase from last year and run the County in a very efficient manner.

Commissioner Moran replied that this is her first year that she has been a part of the budget process and she thanked Budget Director, Mr. Joel DiMare for his help. None of the department heads asked for anything unreasonable. The Sheriff's Office is working on a shoestring and roughly 75% of the inhabitants of the jail are drug-related and as of yesterday, she was asked to sit on the Opiate Task Force and she will do her part to help with that problem.

Commissioner Troy said that as the County moves forward we need to look at efficiency and shared services to do the job smarter. We have to be prepared for things down the road such as new voting machines. It speaks well for this County that we can all sit down together and have open discussions to make sure the services to the taxpayers are delivered as smartly and efficiently as possible and this budget puts the County in a great position to do this.

The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Troy, Aufuldish and Moran "NAYS": None

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

UTILITIES - Mr. Randy Rothlisberger, Utilities Department, reported after a record low amount of water main breaks last winter, the County is experiencing a record high number of breaks this year. Crews have been working 24 hours the last few weeks. The first week of February has not been much of an improvement, and we can expect it to continue until the frost starts receding.

Commissioner Troy asked what happens if the crews are over-loaded?

Mr. Rothlisberger stated that they can bring crews in from other utilities departments. Occasionally, if there is a larger break, a contractor may be called in to assist.

Commissioner Troy asked if there were any locations, based on the water breaks, that will require extensive capital improvement work?

Mr. Rothlisberger stated that they have not evaluated this year's breaks yet, but it will be done in the next three or four weeks.

Commissioner Troy stated that we all appreciate the work of the crews in these brutal conditions.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES - none

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR - none

FINANCE - Commissioner Troy stated that Mr. Joel DiMare, Budget Director, has done a great job working together with the departments to satisfy their budgetary needs.

CLERK - none

LEGAL - none

OLD BUSINESS: - none

NEW BUSINESS: - none

PUBLIC COMMENT: Commissioner Troy asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board?

Chief Leonbruno stated that the Sheriff's Office is faced with a lot of difficult issues like the physical condition of the jail and addressing crime issues throughout the County. They have found that the willingness to have discussion with the County Administrator, Budget Director and Commissioners has been helpful. If the population is at a certain point then they would not take any more people. Heroin is a huge problem. We need to look at the population of the County. Buildings & Grounds also help them a lot with emergency issues. Commissioner Troy stated that there are increasing demands due to increased crime in the townships. Most communities have their own municipal police departments. In earlier years, townships were sparsely populated but that has changed in Lake County. The heroin problem is everywhere. They steal items to support their habit. It is essential to have more active law enforcement that does not respond to call-to-call, but driving the criminal element out. The problem is there and growing.

Commissioner Troy replied that the war on drugs has been going on for 50 years, and he wondered if we will ever win this war.

Chief Leonbruno stated that it is part of the social fabric. We have limited prescription drugs but people who have become addicted and cannot get them because they are expensive turn to heroin because it is cheap. It is a

February 6, 2014

revolving door. Are we over-medicated as a society? Major dealers are not prevalent in Lake County. They are on the east-end of Cuyahoga County. There is a pro-active effort between County and Federal law enforcement to address these needs and better use resources.

Mr. John Muzik, 45 Coventry Drive in Painesville Township, stated that the State was fining Counties for not providing enough jobs for people receiving benefits. He recently read that the State was coming after the counties for that money. Are we getting better and does Lake County have to pay the fine?

Commissioner Troy replied that the Welfare Reform Act stated that there is a certain time limit on benefits, and there are things you have to be doing to receive those benefits like working or job training.

Mr. Battitato described the participation rate: there has to be a certain percentage of people receiving the benefits who have to be involved in work activities to receive the benefits. The State as a whole was not meeting those percentage rates and the State gave the counties additional tools and resources to meet the percentage rates. Lake County has gone from 34-40% and is currently at 68-70% and the State as a whole is over the 50% threshold so there will not be any sanctions, such as reduced allocations.

Commissioner Troy stated the concern was that the federal government was looking at the overall state percentages. Counties were not necessarily part of the problem, but they would be part of the solution. The metropolitan counties drive the number.

Chief Leonbruno related an analogy to the drug problems in the community: it is important to note that sheep do not like the sheepdog because it is an annoyance. They only like the sheepdog when the wolf comes. Most people in the County do not like to see the police. Most people in the community do not see the police officer unless there is an issue. If there is not enough law enforcement in a community then something like drugs goes unattended and it effects everyone.

Commissioner Troy reported there will be two Commissioners Meetings next week. One on Tuesday, February 11, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. and one on Thursday, February 13, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- Legal - Pending Litigation
- Real Estate - Property Disposition

EXECUTIVE SESSION: On a motion of Commissioner Moran, seconded by Commissioner Aufuldish, the Board convened an Executive Session at 11:00 am to discuss a legal issue relating to pending litigation and a real estate matter relating to property disposition, with the vote as follows:

"AYES": Commissioners: Troy, Aufuldish and Moran "NAYS": None

The Lake County Board of Commissioners recessed Executive Session at 11:01 am.
The Lake County Board of Commissioners reconvened Executive Session at 11:10 am.

On a motion of Commissioner Moran seconded by Commissioner Aufuldish, the Board terminated the Executive Session at 11:57 am, with the vote as follows:

"AYES": Commissioners: Troy, Aufuldish and Moran "NAYS": None

ADJOURN: On a motion of Commissioner Moran, seconded by Commissioner Aufuldish, the Board adjourned the meeting at 11:57 am, with the vote as follows:

"AYES": Commissioners: Troy, Aufuldish and Moran "NAYS": None

Minutes approved this thirteenth day of February, 2014.

BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

DANIEL P. TROY, PRESIDENT

JUDY MORAN, COMMISSIONER

ROBERT E. AUFULDISH, COMMISSIONER

AMY ELSZASZ, CLERK