

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 2019-0228)

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Cirino called the Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, February 28, 2019.

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

SPECIAL RESOLUTION:

10. HONORING I. JAMES HACKENBERG, ESQ. FOR DEDICATED AND DILIGENT SERVICE DURING HIS 29 YEARS AS A MEMBER OF THE LAKE HEALTH BOARD OF TRUSTEES(20190228\F01)(C-126)

On a motion by Commissioner Hamercheck, seconded by Commissioner Cirino. Commissioner Cirino thanked Mr. I. James Hackenburg for his 29 years of service to the Lake Health Board of Trustees. He spoke of his dedication and the vast knowledge that he brought to the Lake Health Board. Mr. Hackenburg introduced his guests; his daughter Susan, son-in-law, Judge Vincent Culotta and friend, Mr. Jim O'Leary. He thanked the Commissioners for the certificate and for the opportunity to serve on the Lake Health Board stating that it has always been a very rewarding experience. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Hamercheck, and Young "NAYS": None

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

Mr. Brian Massie of 8196 Rainbow Drive, stated that he attended a Port Authority Meeting yesterday and had several questions. He referred to the Better Flip project and asked if this project was required to participate in a competitive bid process and were they required to use licensed contractors. Assistant Prosecutor, Mr. David Hackman, responded that although the Port Authority is a governmental agency, the Prosecutor's Office does not represent the Port Authority. He stated that he believes that they are subject to the bid process but that Mr. Massie's questions would be best answered by their Counsel. Commissioner Cirino stated that he believes they are not subject to competitive bidding and suggested he contact the attorney that represents the Port Authority with his inquiries.

Mr. Massie discussed the Port's focus on attracting millennials (and others) to move into Lake County and he finds it interesting that the Executive Director, the Coastal Manager, and the Airport Manager of Port Authority do not live in Lake County. He also discussed how increases to property taxes affect senior citizens, and he reviewed voting statistics. He also asked the Board for their feelings regarding increases to property taxes and how it could be pricing senior citizens out of their homes. Commissioner Young responded that he believes there may be an issue and he would like to review the data and meet with Mr. Massie to discuss further.

Mr. Muzik of 45 Coventry Drive in Painesville, stated he has the same concerns that Mr. Massie put forth regarding the 'Better Flip' Project and asked if the LandBank is a nonprofit agency. He discussed his concerns regarding property taxes, millage, sales taxes, and continuous levies.

Budget Director, Mr. Michael Matas, explained how properties owned by the Lake County LandBank are in fact tax exempt. Once the properties are sold, the home is placed back onto the County tax rolls.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. RESOLUTION APPROVING LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES VOUCHERS DATE OF WARRANT MARCH 8, 2019, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$143,913.34 (20190228\JFS01)(JFS-14)

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 Young "NAYS": None

2. RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE FEBRUARY 23, 2019 RESIGNATION OF AUDITOR-ELECT EDWARD H. ZUPANCIC FOR THE TERM COMMENCING MARCH 11, 2019, AND DECLARING THAT THE OFFICE OF THE LAKE COUNTY AUDITOR WILL BECOME VACANT AS OF MARCH 11, 2019, AND APPOINTING THE CURRENT AUDITOR MICHELE PENNELL, AS THE ACTING AUDITOR EFFECTIVE MARCH 11, 2019, UNTIL THE OFFICER APPOINTED BY THE REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE, PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE § 305.02, QUALIFIES AND TAKES THE OFFICE TO SERVE THE REMAINDER OF THE AUDITOR'S TERM WHICH COMMENCES MARCH 11, 2019 (20190228\C01)(C-2)

On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Cirino. Commissioner Cirino, announced that, with great regret, the Board accepts County Auditor, Mr. Ed Zupancic's resignation from his position to focus on health and family. He offered his best wishes to Mr. Zupancic on behalf of the Board of Commissioners and all of Lake County. Commissioner Cirino again thanked Ms. Michele Pennell for her willingness to continue as acting County Auditor until a permanent decision has been made to fill this vacancy. Commissioner Hamercheck and Assistant Prosecutor, Mr. David Hackman, discussed the process of the permanent replacement and the position of Chief Deputy Auditor. Ms. Pennell indicated she was aware of the process when she accepted the acting Auditor's position. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Hamercheck, and Young "NAYS": None

3. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON BEHALF OF THE LAKE COUNTY STORMWATER MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT AND PAINESVILLE TOWNSHIP FOR A REGIONAL DETENTION FACILITY IN THE NORTHERN LIMITS OF THE TIF DISTRICT (20190228\C02)(UT-46A)

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young. Stormwater Manager, Mr. Tim Miller, was present and explained that this Memorandum of Understanding is to allow the TIF funds collected by Painesville Township to be re-allocated to the County to essentially reimburse the Stormwater Department for funds expended for the detention facility. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Hamercheck, and Young "NAYS": None

4. 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 (20190228\C03)(CT-17a)

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 Young "NAYS": None

**5. 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 SHERIFF'S OFFICE TO RECEIVE FEDERALLY FORFEITED PROPERTY AND/OR FUNDS (20190228\C04)(CT-10a)**

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

**6. RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,106,942.07(20190228\BC01)(C-4)**

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 Young "NAYS": None

**7. RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE ORDERS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' PURCHASE ORDER APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$479,518.17(20190228\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, Hamercheck, and Young "NAYS": None

**8. RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS FOR VARIOUS GENERAL AND NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20190228\BC03)(C-111)**

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

**9. RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING CASH AND APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN VARIOUS NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20190228\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, Hamercheck, and Young "NAYS": None

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

UTILITIES – Sanitary Engineer, Mr. Randy Rothlisberger announced that Mr. Kermit Johnson, Mr. Ron Walker, and Mr. Ed Monasky have retired from the Wastewater Division of the Utilities Department. He congratulated them and stated that these three men represent 101 years of combined experience.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – none.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – Mr. Jason Boyd explained that non-medical in-home care for adults aged 60 and older was the #4 priority identified in the Senior Study. He stated that he and the Senior Services Coordinator, Mrs. Alyea Barajas, are working on preparation of a request for proposals for this program along with the Prosecutor's office and a resolution will be on the agenda next week.

FINANCE – none.

CLERK –Commissioners Clerk, Ms. Jennifer Bell, reported that the next regular Commissioners Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM.

LEGAL – none.

OLD BUSINESS: - none.

NEW BUSINESS: none.

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

Mr. Brian Massie asked Commissioners Cirino and Hamercheck for their opinions regarding high property taxes and the impact they have on senior citizens. Commissioner Hamercheck stated that, as with all taxes, there are concerns for everyone especially senior citizens with fixed income here in Lake County. The Commissioners are always sensitive to the costs of rising taxes. Commissioner Cirino agreed that there is a general concern for tax burdens on everyone, especially the senior citizens. He explained that 68% of property taxes are related to the school levies.

Mr. David Lima, 7774 Litchfield Drive in Mentor, stated that he had the opportunity to listen to the recording from the Prosecutor's budget hearing which helped him understand the request that was made for a budget increase. He discussed in detail his opinion on the budgets of the Lake County Prosecutors office and the Lake County Public Defender's office.

Commissioner Cirino stated that the next regular Commissioner's Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 7, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: On a motion by Commissioner Hamercheck, seconded by Commissioner Cirino, the Board convened an Executive Session at 10:36 a.m. to discuss Legal Matters – pending or imminent court action with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Hamercheck, and Young "NAYS": None

The Lake County Board of Commissioners adjourned to Executive Session at 11:15 a.m.

ADJOURN:

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young, the Board adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m. with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Hamercheck, and Young "NAYS": None  
Minutes approved this fourteenth day of March, 2019.

**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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RON YOUNG, VICE PRESIDENT

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JENNIFER BELL, CLERK