

## LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES

DANIEL P. TROY, PRESIDENT  
 KEVIN D. MALECEK, COMMISSIONER  
 JUDY MORAN, COMMISSIONER  
 AMY ELSZASZ, CLERK

JASON W. BOYD, ADMINISTRATOR  
 LEGAL COUNSEL  
 JOEL DIMARE, BUDGET DIRECTOR  
 NEWS MEDIA

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 (Tape 2015-0428)

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Troy called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m., April 28, 2015.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Upon a motion by Commissioner Moran, seconded by Commissioner Malecek, the minutes of the regular meeting of April 23, 2015, were approved as follows:

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

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Commissioner Troy asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board. Commissioner Troy stated that Mr. Guy Rigsby, Senior Radio Technician, has dedicated 25 years of service to the County. The Commissioners presented Mr. Rigsby with a service award and commemorative watch. Mr. Paul Stefanko, Telecommunications Director, stated that he is an ideal employee and the County is lucky to have him.

The Commissioners congratulated Mr. Rigsby on his years of service and dedication to the Telecommunications Department.

### RESOLUTIONS:

1. **RESOLUTION COOPERATING WITH MADISON TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES FOR THE RED BIRD PHASE 3 PROJECT, IN MADISON TOWNSHIP, LAKE COUNTY, OHIO(20150428\E01)(E-3)**

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

2. **RESOLUTION APPROVING PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATES OF COST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$534,500.00 FOR CEDAR GLEN SANITARY SEWER REHAB PHASE 2 PROJECT NO. 334-S AND ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR SAME (Bid Opening: May 20, 2015)(20150428\U01)(UT-46)**

On a motion of Commissioner Moran, seconded by Commissioner Malecek. Sanitary Engineer, Mr. Randy Rothlisberger, stated that this area is located off Madison Avenue and has a history of flooding issues. The first phase of this project was completed a few years ago and this is part of the infrastructure improvement plan within the sewer division.

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

3. **RESOLUTION APPROVING PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATES OF COST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$317,000.00 FOR HEIDI PARK SANITARY SEWER REHAB PROJECT NO. 365-S AND ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR SAME (Bid Opening: May 20, 2015)(20150428\U02)(UT-46)**

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

4. **RESOLUTION DECLARING THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE BEGINNING MAY 5, 2015 (20150428\C01)(C-107)**

On a motion of Commissioner Moran, seconded by Commissioner Malecek. Commissioner Troy stated that this resolution set the Commissioners Meeting schedule for the next three months. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 5, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. By the end of July, the County will have held 30 of the 50 meetings required to be held annually.

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

5. **RESOLUTION APPOINTING JOHN N. RAMPE TO THE LAKE COUNTY OHIO PORT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR A FOUR-YEAR TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2018 (20150428\C02)(B-192)**

On a motion of Commissioner Moran, seconded by Commissioner Malecek. Commissioner Troy explained there is a vacancy on the Port Authority and interviews were conducted. The Board selected Mr. Rampe, who is involved in the manufacturing sector as CEO of Torque Transmission located in Fairport Harbor and he has worked in Lake County for 23 years. He understands the important tie between an educated workforce and the successful economic development of Lake County. The young people need to be aware of the manufacturing opportunities in Lake County, which represents 19% of employment in Lake County and it has the highest average income of any sectors of employment in Lake County.

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

6. **RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,338,174.55(20150428\BC01)(C-4)**

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

**7. RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE ORDERS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' PURCHASE ORDER APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$700,083.70(20150428\BC02)(C-17)**

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

**8. RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS FOR VARIOUS NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS(20150428\BC03)(C-111)**

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

**9. RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING CASH AND APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN VARIOUS GENERAL AND NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS(20150428\BC04)(C-111)**

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

**10. RESOLUTION DECLARING APRIL 2015 FAIR HOUSING MONTH IN LAKE COUNTY, OHIO (20150428\F02)(C-126)**

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

Commissioner Troy stated that this year marks the 47<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passage of the Title 8 Civil Rights Act and he asked how the County is doing with complying with federal law?

Ms. Marian Norman, Program Manager for Planning and Community Development, shared posters relative to fair housing. This information will also be posted on Lake County's homepage. There is a current threat to Fair Housing in HB 134. The passage of this bill could jeopardize funding and be detrimental to the community. The National Fair Housing Alliance is against the bill. A poster contest is being held by Fair Housing for high school students throughout Lake County at #donthate#dontdiscriminate.

Ms. Norman stated that Lake County is doing okay, however those who discriminate are being more subtle and clever. There is still plenty to be discovered. They are currently receiving many disability complaints related to assistance animals in a rental property.

Commissioner Troy stated that with the foreclosure crisis and vacant homes people are seeking rentals.

Ms. Norman stated that rent costs have increased because of foreclosures. It is a landlord's market.

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

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

UTILITIES - Mr. Rick Martin, Lake County Utilities Director, stated that every five years the Utilities Department conducts a third party review of revenues and expenditures to be sure that sufficient income is available to provide quality sanitary sewer service to the customers and clean water to Lake Erie. Control of rates and setting aside operating and maintenance revenues, planning for debt issuance, and addressing capital projects. Arcadis completed a sanitary sewer rate study to provide feedback on the LCDU financial management strategies and recommend rates, fees and charges to recover costs of providing sanitary sewer services.

Mr. Martin then introduced Mr. Said Abou Abdallah and Mr. Brian Bass, representatives from Arcadis.

Mr. Said Abou Abdallah, offered a safety report and stated that 91% of all adults have phones and pedestrian accidents using phones have increased by a factor of two. Just about all those who are between 15-25 years old have cell phones and they will most likely have an accident within 12 months. This presentation discussed how they accomplished their task, what they found and what their recommendations will be. He reported that the study began in 2014. Arcadis has been around 100 years in Ohio and has much experience working with 40 communities. Most of these communities have aging infrastructure. The idea is to prepare for the future and follow a maintenance and repair plan and to maintain a high level of service.

Mr. Bass explained the development of the financial plan and cost of service and revenue requirement. It was determined there is a need for a rate increase in fiscal years 2015 and 2017. Both the residential and commercial rates are fair and equitable and proportionate to the cost base for each customer and to have funds for future capital projects.

Mr. Said Abou Abdallah stated that the County is already increasing the rate about 5% every two years, which is a good balance where expenditures and revenues lineup. When comparing the rates of other communities, Lake County is about 30% lower and even with the projected increase the rates will still be considered on the low side.

Commissioner Troy asked if the recommendation is to increase rates by 5% and he asked if that was enough of an increase?

Mr. Said Abou Abdallah replied that 5% is sufficient and what is needed. This percentage is not based on policy but what the result indicated from the review.

Discussion focused on the fairness of rates for customers and some of the issues that arise such as one person living in a home compared to five people in a home. It can be difficult to equalize the rate for everyone. Another topic discussed was the combination of sewer and water bills and the pros and cons of this methodology.

Commissioner Moran mentioned that customers can request seasonal shut offs for utilities.

Mr. Matt Armand, Public Service Coordinator for the Department of Utilities, reported the first collection this year for computers was held April 25, 2015 and 587 vehicles came through. He was happy to see many Lake County employees participate. He received positive feedback and appreciates the joint efforts between the County and the residents. This Saturday, May 2, 2015, will be the tire collection from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. There is no cost for up to six tires without rims. There are additional costs for tires with rims and oversized tires. This collection coincides with the Lake Health Districts efforts to inhibit mosquito breeding and it is for residents only, not businesses. Mr. Armand thanked the Commissioners for their support of the special collections events held throughout the year.

Commissioner Moran asked what happens with the tires once they are collected?

Mr. Armand explained that a company picks them up and shreds them for playground and asphalt material.

Commissioner Troy stated that tires do not work well in landfills because they tend to pop up out of the ground over time. Commissioner Troy encouraged residents to take advantage of the special collections being offered this year.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES - none

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR - Mr. Jason Boyd presented an update on the senior analysis and stated that all five focus groups have met with MCI Consulting Group and 5,000 random-sample surveys were sent out to residents over 60 years of age and he was happy to report that over 1,500 have been received back so far, which is an impressive number because the target number was 425. Many local elected officials have been interviewed and the next step is to interview the current 12 recipients of senior levy funds. A report will be ready in late summer or early fall of this year.

FINANCE - noneCLERK - noneLEGAL - noneOLD BUSINESS: - none

NEW BUSINESS: - Commissioner Troy reported that the Commissioners received a request from Perry Township Trustees to lower the speed limit of Lane Road. The first step in the process is for a study to be completed by the Engineer's Office and they are aware of this request.

Commissioner Troy reported that on Tuesday, NACO is supporting a "Stepping Up" initiative to reduce the number of people with mental illness in jails. A webinar is scheduled for April 30, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. to further explain the initiative. This is an issue that occurs consistently in the Lake County jail and a resolution supporting this initiative will be on the agenda at an upcoming Commissioners' Meeting as and representatives of the Sheriff's Department have been asked to attend.

Commissioner Troy reported that the House voted on legislation to change the primary date in 2016 to the first Tuesday after the second Monday in March, which would be March 15, 2016 and it would place the deadline to submit petitions at the beginning of January. This change still has to go through the Senate. There is also a Senate Joint resolution 1 that was adopted to create a Constitutional Pay Commission that would set salaries of public officials. Salaries are set by the legislature and it has not been adjusted since 2008. This resolution will have to be approved by the voters and be on the state-wide ballot.

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

Mr. John Muzik, 45 Coventry Drive, asked if the policy is to raise sewer rates every two years, when is the next increase scheduled?

Mr. Rick Martin, Executive Director of the Department of Utilities, replied that the rates have not been raised since 2011 and every 5 years a comprehensive study is completed. The next increase will be July 1, 2015.

Commissioner Troy stated that billing cycles are staggered so it will be a little different for each person.

Ms. Becky Lynch, 8040 King Memorial Drive in Mentor, asked for the cost of the Arcadis study and the distinction between the General Fund and the Non-General Fund as well as the budget for each fund.

Commissioner Troy stated that the General Fund is from property tax, fees and services and the Non-General Fund is utilities payments and bills, license plate fees and it includes Deepwood, ADAMHS and other special purpose agencies. The General Fund has a \$53 million budget and the Non-General Fund has a \$275 million budget.

Mr. Martin answered that the cost of the study by Arcadis is \$30,000.

The next regular Commissioners Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 5, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- Personnel - termination and appointment

EXECUTIVE SESSION: On a motion of Commissioner Moran seconded by Commissioner Malecek, the Board convened an Executive Session at 2:56 p.m. to discuss personnel matters related to termination and appointment with the vote as follows:

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

The Lake County Board of Commissioners recessed Executive Session at 2:56 p.m.

The Lake County Board of Commissioners reconvened Executive Session at 3:05 a.m.

On a motion of Commissioner Moran seconded by Commissioner Malecek, the Board returned to open session at 3:48 p.m., with the vote as follows:

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

ADJOURN: On a motion of Commissioner Malecek, seconded by Commissioner Moran, the Board adjourned the meeting at 4:10 p.m., with the vote as follows:

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

Minutes approved this fifth day of May, 2015.

**BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**


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DANIEL P. TROY, PRESIDENT

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KEVIN D. MALECEK, COMMISSIONER

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JUDY MORAN, COMMISSIONER

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AMY ELSZASZ, CLERK