

LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES

JOHN R HAMERCHECK, COMMISSIONER
JOHN PLECNIK, COMMISSIONER

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

JENNIFER BELL, CLERK
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(Tape 2022-0526)

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Hamercheck called the Meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. Thursday, May 26, 2022.

ROLL CALL: Upon roll being called, Commissioners: Plecnik and Hamercheck were present.
Commissioner Hamercheck asked for a moment of silence for the tragic event in Texas.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Commissioner Hamercheck asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board. Lake County Health District Commissioner, Mr. Ron Graham, was present and shared a video of the Lake County Clean Inspection Award Winners. He explained that these well deserving establishments have earned this distinction through maintaining every effort possible to have a clean establishment with a focus on food safety. These operators are leading by example to ensure their food service’s continuing reputation for excellence. The video will be released to the public later today.

County Engineer, Mr. James Gills was present to update the Board on the condition of the Madison Avenue retaining wall. He stated that the Madison Avenue retaining wall between Casement Avenue, located in the City of Painesville, and Woodworth Avenue, located in Painesville Township, is actively moving and presents a real and present emergency to the traveling public. Madison Avenue is currently closed between Casement Avenue and Woodworth Avenue. As a result of the physical disaster to the Madison Avenue retaining wall, we recommend immediate repairs.

RESOLUTIONS:

1.RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MAY 2022 OLDER AMERICANS MONTH IN LAKE COUNTY, OHIO(20220526\F01)(C-126)

On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner Hamercheck. Senior Services Coordinator, Ms. Alyea Barajas thanked the Board for recognizing May as Older Americans Month in Lake County. She stated that Lake County has more than 63,000 older adults who contribute their wisdom and experience to our community. She expressed how we are very fortunate in Lake County to be able to support older adults through funds from the senior services levy. The levy supports vital programming enabling older adults to remain independent and living at home for as long as possible. Some of the services that are supported by the levy include services through the Council on Aging such as home delivered and congregate meals, social work services, homemaker services, and the non-medical in-home care program. A few other programs that the levy also supports Adult Protective Services, the Volunteer Guardian Program, home repairs and modifications through WRCD, the senior hope house at Project Hope for the Homeless, senior volunteer efforts, and operations at all nine of our Lake County senior centers. She recognized and honored older Americans, and acknowledged the voters of Lake County for continuing to support the senior services levy so that all Lake County residents can age with grace and dignity. Mr. Joey Tomsick from the Council on Aging thanked the Board for recognizing Older Americans Month. He stated that the Council on Aging assists the seniors of Lake County with independent living for as long as they (the seniors) are able. He also noted that Council on Aging is celebrating their 50th anniversary this year. Commissioner Plecnik stated that we should support and celebrate all senior citizens so that they may continue to live independently for as long as possible. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Hamercheck and Plecnik "NAYS": None.

2.RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR FITTINGS, REPAIR PARTS, SERVICE EQUIPMENT AND TOOLS FOR THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES (BID OPENING: June 15, 2022)(20220526\U01)(UT-8)

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

3.RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR LIMESTONE/SAND FOR THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES (BID OPENING: June 15, 2022)(20220526\U02)(UT-8)

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

4.RESOLUTION CERTIFYING UNPAID WATER AND SEWER SUMS AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES TO THE LAKE COUNTY AUDITOR(20220526\U03)(UT-7)

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

5.RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A PAINESVILLE CITY COMMERCIAL GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM LOAN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND CLE REAL ESTATE GROUP LLC FOR \$30,000 UTILIZING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS

On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner Hamercheck. CDBG Manager, Ms. Rhea Benton, explained this is an eligible CDBG forgivable loan project with the City of Painesville Office of Economic Development. This resolution will permit the completion of the paperwork. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Hamercheck and Plecnik "NAYS": None.

6.RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,606,807.71(20220526\BC01)(C-4)

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

7.RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE ORDERS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' PURCHASE ORDER APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$366,401.00(20220526\BC02)(C-17)

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

8.RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS FOR VARIOUS GENERAL AND NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS(20220526\BC03)(C-111)

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

9.RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING CASH AND APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN VARIOUS GENERAL AND NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20220526\BC04)(C-111)

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

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Health Commissioner Mr. Ron Graham, introduced Ms. Cassidy Glasier who has been a paid intern to the Health Department for about a year. He stated that Cassidy produced the Lake County Clean Inspection Award video. Commissioner Hamercheck stated that Cassidy did an exemplary job representing the award winners throughout the County. Commissioner Plecnik asked Cassidy where she attended school and she replied that she is studying at Lakeland Community College and majoring in multi-media.

UTILITIES – none.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – none.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – Jason Boyd acknowledged the great partnership the County shares with the City of Painesville. He thanked Painesville City Economic Development Director, Ms. Cathy Bieterman and Ms. Rhea Benton for bringing the project in Resolution #5 together. He stated that in the near future there will be a formal groundbreaking for the Sheriff's Department Range Facility. Commissioner Hamercheck added that this will be a top-notch facility that will include classrooms and a computer lab for training as well as real time training programs. Commissioner Plecnik stated that this is a very exciting first step for not only the sheriff's department but for all the police departments in the County.

FINANCE – none.

CLERK – Commissioners Clerk, Ms. Jennifer Bell, stated that the next Commissioners Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 2, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

LEGAL – none.

OLD BUSINESS: - none.

NEW BUSINESS: - none.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Commissioner Hamercheck asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board. Mr. Brian Massie of 8196 Rainbow Drive in Painesville, offered his opinions and discussed the senior levy, and the tremendous burden the ever-increasing property taxes pose to the senior citizens of Lake County. He asked all Lake County elected officials to appeal to State officials for some sort of solution to assist seniors with taxes. Commissioner Hamercheck explained that the County has chosen not to collect the additional inside millage that is available and are focusing on sales tax and a very modest local government fund. The County keeps less than .11 cents of every dollar received from the State for the local government fund. The remainder of those funds is distributed to the local communities.

Mr. Massie and the Board continued to discuss tax levies and the importance of senior citizens remaining in their homes as long as possible. Mr. Massie next asked when the public can expect the appointment of a new Commissioner. He appealed to the Republican Party to make an appointment sooner than later. Commissioner Hamercheck explained to Mr. Massie that the Commissioners position is a fulltime position contrary to some opinions. He stated that the Republican Party is doing its due diligence and it is in the sole purview of that party for this appointment. Assistant Prosecutor, Mr. David Hackman, explained that the Party can appoint a replacement as soon as five days but no later than 45 days after the vacancy. The Republican Central Committee will meet to choose the replacement for Commissioner Young's position. He addressed the compatibility issue pertaining to holding a position with the Board of Elections. He stated that the Attorney General has found that holding the office of Commissioner with the Board of Elections is not compatible. He also explained that the Attorney General does not address ethical issues and that the Prosecutor's office is awaiting the opinion the Ethics Commission of Ohio.

Mr. John Muzik of 45 Coventry Drive in Painesville Township, thanked Mr. Tomsick and his staff for his work with the seniors and stated that he agrees with Mr. Massie's stance on property taxes.

ADJOURN: On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner Hamercheck, the Board adjourned the meeting at 10:55 a.m. with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, Young and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

The Board adjourned the meeting at 10:31 a.m. with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Hamercheck and Plecnik. NAYS": None.

Minutes approved this sixteenth day of June, 2022.

BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JOHN R. HAMERCHECK, PRESIDENT

JOHN PLECNİK, VICE PRESIDENT

JENNIFER BELL, CLERK