

SEPTEMBER 22, 2022

LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES

JOHN R HAMERCHECK, COMMISSIONER	JASON W. BOYD, ADMINISTRATOR
JOHN PLECNIK, COMMISSIONER	LEGAL COUNSEL
MARK A. TYLER, COMMISSIONER	MIKE MATAS, BUDGET DIRECTOR
JENNIFER BELL, CLERK	NEWS MEDIA

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(Tape 2022-0922)

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Hamercheck called the Meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. Thursday, September 22, 2022.

ROLL CALL: Upon roll being called, Commissioners: Tyler, Plecnik and Hamercheck were present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Upon a motion by Commissioner Tyler, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik, the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 8, 2022 were approved with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Tyler, Plecnik and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

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

Mr. Carl Dondorfer, a Concord Township Trustee, read a prepared statement and spoke on behalf of the Lake County Township Association. He thanked the Board and the Clerk of Courts for the local "COPS" grant program that is assisting with funding for additional officers by providing a second deputy for every deputy added to current policing contracts. He shared that part of their concern is the post-grant plan and he discussed the number of deputies they feel are needed and how they would like to discuss this further with the Board sooner rather than later. Mr. Dondorfer, on behalf of the LCTA, requested that a special public meeting might be the best forum for discussion. Mr. Morgan McIntosh, Concord Township Trustee and President of the Lake County Township Association, provided and reviewed a lengthy presentation with regard to Township Law Enforcement. Townships continue to see population growth and according to the most recent census, there was a 23% increase. Along with the population growth comes an increase in crime and that is the Association's main concern. Commissioner Hamercheck stated that he appreciates Mr. Dondorfer and Mr. McIntosh addressing the Board with their concerns on public safety. He stated that they are both trusted voices in the community. The Board takes law enforcement very seriously, and he provided some background on how the COPS program began. He also suggested a joint meeting between the Township Association, Mayors and Managers, and the Board of Commissioners. He discussed the onboarding of Lexipol. Sheriff Leonbruno thanked the Board and the Township Association for taking law enforcement seriously and for those making hard decisions in terms of resources. He shared his concerns for the future safety of not only the Townships but the County itself. The Sheriff discussed in detail some of the crime statistics over the past four years and the importance of having knowledgeable members of all three facets of the justice system. He shared his concerns regarding increasing crime and weaponry. County Prosecutor, Mr. Charles Coulson, discussed the complexities of training his young prosecutors and his hope to create a 'career prosecutor program' for his office. Commissioner Plecnik stated that he was proud of Lake County with their support of law enforcement. He thanked all law enforcement throughout not only Lake County but across Ohio and the country. Commissioner Tyler stated that, he as an individual and collectively as the Board, supports law enforcement. He thanked the Lake County Township Association for coming in and sharing their concerns and he looks forward to future discussions. Commissioner Hamercheck thanked all of the representatives from the Townships that came in for the meeting today. The Board, Sheriff Leonbruno and members of the Township Association continued discussing the increase in crime, mutual aid, funding and the need of the Sheriff's Department to hire skilled officers.

Mr. John Muzik, 45 Coventry Drive in Painesville Township, thanked the Board, Sheriff Leonbruno and members of the Township Association for the discussion and explained how he is 100% behind law enforcement and military personnel. He also complimented the Court system and prosecutors.

Concord Township Trustee, Mr. Gabe Cicconetti, thanked and commended the sheriff and recognized that the Sheriff's Department is understaffed. He stated that should the Townships remove their funding for road patrols, the sheriff will not have enough deputies to provide protection to them. Commissioner Hamercheck offered a compare and contrast with Ashtabula County. He stated that for quite a long period of time, Ashtabula County only had one deputy to respond to emergency situations and that Lake County is meeting statutory requirements in providing road patrol. Of course, the County wants to exceed the minimum requirements, but the County is meeting what is required by law. County Prosecutor, Mr. Coulson and Sheriff Leonbruno agreed that Commissioner Hamercheck's statement was correct.

Mr. Brian Massie spoke on behalf of Lobbyists for Citizens, regarding the Township patrol and he was of the opinion that the County will have to ask residents to pay more taxes. He questioned the Crime Lab levy and his concerns that they carryover \$1.6 million in excess revenue over their expenses and have accumulated \$7 million in their rainy-day fund. He stated that the Crime Lab levy is a continual levy for 15 years. He asked if the money would be better spent on the Sheriff's road patrol. Commissioner Hamercheck responded that no money from the Crime Lab levy can be redirected, and how the people of Lake County have been very generous in their support of levies. He explained that individual Townships levies would not be drawing from the County in total; meaning that they would only receive the monies collected through the individual Township levy. Assistant Prosecutor, Mr. Michael DeLeone, explained that the voters were presented with a 15-year Crime Lab Levy and they chose to adopt the 15-year plan. He also explained that through good fiscal stewardship, the Crime Lab was able to extend the 15 years to 20 years before having to go back to the voters. Mr. DeLeone stated that the Crime Lab has guidelines and requirements in order to meet certification. He added that there is ever changing, hi-tech and extremely expensive equipment needed.

RESOLUTIONS:**1.RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 FOR THE LAK-CHESTNUT STREET (CR 329) RESURFACING PROJECT CONTRACT WITH RONYAK PAVING, INC. DECREASING THE AMOUNT BY \$58,374.77, LAKE COUNTY PID NO. 112483, FEDERAL AID NO. FAN E200(680), CITY OF PAINESVILLE PID NO. 112476, LCE PROJECT NO. 2020-013(20220922\E01)(E-3)**

On a motion by Commissioner Tyler, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik. Chief Deputy Engineer, Ms. Traci Salkiewicz explained that this is the first and final change order and will close out this project. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Tyler, Plecnik and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

**2.RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING LYLE D. SHULL TO THE LAKE COUNTY SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY PANEL FOR A FOUR-YEAR TERM ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2026(20220922\C01)(B-20)**

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

**3.RESOLUTION DECLARING THE INTENT OF THE BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE VACATION OF 0.499 ACRE OF RIVER ROAD IN PERRY TOWNSHIP(20220922\C02)(C-95)**

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

**4.RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND WESTERN RESERVE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FOR THE FY-2021 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS(20220922\C03)(C-46)**

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

**5.RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A GRANT AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A SUBGRANT AWARD AGREEMENT AS PROVIDED THROUGH THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 (SUB-GRANT #2022-AR-CLB-910) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$250,000.00, BETWEEN THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON BEHALF OF THE LAKE COUNTY CRIME LABORATORY AND THE OFFICE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES(20220922\C04)(CT-10A)**

On a motion by Commissioner Tyler, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik. The Board thanked the Prosecutors Office for their assistance working on this grant with the Crime Lab. Commissioner Tyler stated that this grant will permit the Crime Lab to purchase a piece of equipment costing \$250,000. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Tyler, Plecnik and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

**6.RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,101,019.66(20220922\BC01)(C-4)**

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

**7.RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE ORDERS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' PURCHASE ORDER APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$714,009.44(20220922\BC02)(C-17)**

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

**8.RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS FOR VARIOUS NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20220922\BC03)(C-111)**

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

**9.RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING CASH AND APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN VARIOUS GENERAL AND NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS(20220922\BC04)(C-111)**

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

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

UTILITIES – Director of Operations, Mr. Gary Fedak, thanked Solid Waste Management District Coordinator, Tim Gourley and his staff for the great job they did with the drop-off program. He spoke of the ongoing landfill expansion and what they are planning in the future.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – none.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR - Mr. Boyd briefly explained that next Tuesday, the Board will be involved in a Perry Nuclear Power Plant exercise. This year's drill includes a hostile action-based drill. He also stated that the Public Safety Study is on time and on track.

FINANCE – none.

CLERK – Commissioners Clerk, Ms. Jennifer Bell, stated that the next Commissioners Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 29, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

LEGAL – none.

OLD BUSINESS: - none.

SEPTEMBER 22, 2022

NEW BUSINESS: Commissioner Plecnik stated that County Recorder, Becky Lynch provided him with her new brochure pertaining to the Veterans I.D. Program and how I.D.'s are free of charge. He thanked Mr. Jon Warmeling from the Lake County Veteran's Administration for the recent tour he had of their offices. Commissioner Plecnik thanked the Lake County Captains for a great season and stated that they ended the season as the Midwest League Eastern Division Champions.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Commissioner Hamercheck asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board. County Recorder, Ms. Becky Lynch, thanked Commissioner Plecnik for mentioning her new brochure. She also thanked Mr. Fedak for the new landfill drop-off program. Ms. Lynch stated that Veterans Day is coming soon and that the National Association of Counties (NACo) will be sponsoring the "Operation Green Light for Veterans Project". She will update the Board at a later date.

Mr. John Muzik of 45 Coventry Drive in Painesville, stressed the importance of law enforcement.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner Hamercheck, the Board convened an Executive Session at 11:11 a.m. to discuss Personnel-Collective Bargaining with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Tyler, Plecnik and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

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

ADJOURN: On a motion by Commissioner Tyler seconded by Commissioner Plecnik, the Board adjourned the meeting at 11:51 a.m. with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Tyler, Plecnik and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

Minutes approved this twenty-ninth day of November, 2022.

**BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
JOHN R. HAMERCHECK, PRESIDENT

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JOHN PLECNIK, VICE PRESIDENT

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MARK A. TYLER, COMMISSIONER

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JENNIFER BELL, CLERK