

FEBRUARY 23, 2023

LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES

JOHN R HAMERCHECK, COMMISSIONER JASON W. BOYD, ADMINISTRATOR
JOHN PLECNIK, COMMISSIONER LEGAL COUNSEL
RICHARD J. REGOVICH, COMMISSIONER MIKE MATAS, BUDGET DIRECTOR
JENNIFER BELL, CLERK NEWS MEDIA

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(Tape 2023-0223)

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Hamercheck called the Meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. Thursday, February 23, 2023

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Upon a motion by Commissioner Regovich, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik, the minutes of the Regular Meetings of December 29, 2022 and February 9, 2023, were approved with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Regovich, Plecnik and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Commissioner Hamercheck asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board. Senator Jerry Cirino was present to give an update on several items he has been working on. He, along with Senator Dolan and Representative Jamie Callender, were able to work with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to secure funding for the Mentor Harbor Erosion Project. The state allocated funds will total \$3.5 million. He explained the work to be done includes the rebuilding of a partially collapsed wall at the Mentor Harbor Channel among other repairs and improvements to the area. Senator Cirino presented the Board and Mr. David Anderson, Executive Director of the Lake Development Authority with a check for \$500,000.

Ms. Judy Burr, Executive Director and Mr. John Hutchison, Community Engagement Director for Project Hope for the Homeless, were present today to receive a special certificate in honor of the 30th anniversary of Project Hope for the Homeless. Mr. Hutchison thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak and explained that Project Hope not only provides emergency shelter, but also care and guidance to individuals and families seeking independence and that they continue to expand to meet the County's changing needs. He mentioned that they are the only homeless shelter in Lake County and, as a Christian based shelter, every guest is treated with compassion and understanding. Mr. Hutchison also explained the ways that the public can donate. Ms. Burr stated that during the past year, Project Hope served 329 guests including 43 children and more than 80% left the shelter, making a positive transition into a better living situation. Over the past few years, Project Hope has worked on four programs, which include an overnight shelter for adults, a separate wing for families and children, an optional aftercare program, as well as an offsite senior care program 'Hope House'. Commissioner Plecnik read the certificate in its entirety .

Mr. Brian Massie of 8196 Rainbow Drive, on behalf of Lobbyists for Citizens, stated that he received an email from a Willowick resident who was concerned about the increase in their water/sewer bill. Commissioner Regovich stated that wastewater services are treated and billed through the City of Euclid and that Euclid increased the treatment rates by 25%. Mr. Massie next spoke of eliminating school levies from the property taxes of senior citizens and how he will be working with Board of Elections Director, Mr. Ross McDonald on the steps necessary to prepare a petition.

Mr. John Muzik of 45 Coventry Drive in Painesville, shared information he read in the Riverside Schools Newsletter and he thanked the Sheriff and Prosecutor for all the hard work they do for the citizens of Lake County.

Mr. Kenneth Hearn thanked the Board for their support of a new jail and stated that he feels it is in the best interest of the residents to address the poor condition of the jail.

RESOLUTIONS:

1.RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LAKE COUNTY ENGINEER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ODOT COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM(20230223\E01)(E-3)

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

2.RESOLUTION APPROVING PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATES OF COST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,589,566.00 FOR VINE STREET WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT NO 447-W, AND ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR SAME (BID OPENING MARCH 22, 2023)(20230223\U01)(UT-8)

On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner Regovich. Sanitary Engineer, Mr. Randy Rothlisberger, stated that this is part of the 2023 Capital Improvement Plan. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows: "AYES": Commissioners Regovich, Plecnik and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

3.RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR CHEMICALS FOR THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES (BID OPENING: MARCH 15, 2023)(20230223\U02)(UT-8)

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

4.RESOLUTION APPROVING PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATES OF COST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$181,032.50 FOR WATERLINES FOR ANDREWS RIDGE PHASE I SUBDIVISION IN THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY (JOB NO. 22-34)(20230223\U03)(UT-9)

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

5.RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A THREE-YEAR MAINTENANCE BOND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$55,977.00 FOR SANITARY SEWERS FOR THE BROOKVIEW RESERVE PHASE II SUBDIVISION IN THE CITY OF MENTOR (JOB NO. 22 04)(20230223\U04)(UT-12)

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

6.RESOLUTION DECREASING APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES WATER PROJECT FUND 595(20230223\U05)(UT-2)

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

7.RESOLUTION CERTIFYING UNPAID WATER AND SEWER SUMS AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES TO THE LAKE COUNTY AUDITOR(20230223\U06)(UT-7)

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

8.RESOLUTION AWARDED A BID CONTRACT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$951,683.00 TO CHIVERS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR KIRTLAND OLD TOWN SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS, PHASE I PROJECT 445-S(20230223\U07)(UT-4)

On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner Regovich. Mr. Rothlisberger reminded the Commissioners that this is the assessment that they have been working on for a couple years. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows: "AYES": Commissioners Regovich, Plecnik and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

9.RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING DAWN CAPPELLI AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ON THE LAKE COUNTY VISITORS BUREAU BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM EXPIRING FEBRUARY 21, 2025(20230223\C01)(B-43)

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

10. RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING RICHARD FIKE, SR. AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ON THE LAKE COUNTY VISITORS BUREAU BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM EXPIRING FEBRUARY 21, 2025(20230223\C02)(B-43)

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

11. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MODIFICATION NO. 2 TO AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND LIFELINE, INC. AND FAIR HOUSING RESOURCE CENTER, INC. FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM- 2 (ERAP-2) FUNDS(20230223\C03)(C-34B)

On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner Regovich. HOME Program Director, Ms. Marian Norman, stated that this resolution will carry the program through until June. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows: "AYES": Commissioners Regovich, Plecnik and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

12. RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,270,998.20(20230223\BC01)(C-4)

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

13. RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE ORDERS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' PURCHASE ORDER APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,945,207.20(20230223\BC02)(C-17)

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

14.RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS FOR VARIOUS GENERAL AND NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20230223\BC03)(C-111)

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

15.RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING CASH AND APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN VARIOUS NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20230223\BC04)(C-111)

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

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

UTILITIES – Mr. Rothlisberger thanked Mr. John Diemert and all the staff that ensured residents of the City of Willoughby would not lose water or water pressure during the tremendous fire that took place this morning. He stated that the Utilities Department provided 6,800 gallons of water per minute, totaling 2 million gallons in 2 hours through the fire hydrants and an additional 1 million gallons throughout the day. He stressed the importance of keeping the water towers updated, inspected and maintained and that today's fire is proof of the quality of their services. They received very few complaints regarding low water pressure and although there were no water line breaks, they were prepared. Commissioner Plecnik stated the Utilities Department are our silent partners and encouraged residents to tour their facilities during one of the summer open houses. Commissioner Hamercheck

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asked if they would be prepared for an instance like East Palestine. Mr. Rothlisberger stated that they would be prepared adding they strive to continual provide high quality services and water.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – Director of Job and Family Services, Ms. Suzanne Casar, stated the Director of the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services toured her department yesterday. She thanked Commissioner Hamercheck, Director of Administrative Services, Mr. Joel DiMare and Public Relations Specialist, Ms. Summer Torok for joining them on their tour. Ms. Casar was happy to announce the return of the very successful Foster Parent Reverse Raffle stating that it will be held on Saturday, April 8th at LaVera Party Center in Willoughby Hills.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – Mr. Jason Boyd, also complimented the Emergency Management Director, Mr. Joe Busher, Willoughby Fire Chief, Mr. Todd Unger and Willoughby Mayor Robert Fiala for keeping the Commissioners office updated on the Willoughby fire. He stated that the roles and response teams performed perfectly in the handling of this very large fire.

FINANCE – none.

CLERK – Commissioners Clerk, Ms. Jennifer Bell, stated that once the Budget Hearings are confirmed, the dates will be posted on the website and that the next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 2, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

LEGAL – none.

OLD BUSINESS: none.

NEW BUSINESS: Commissioner Plecnik stated that the Jail Chaplain was in the audience and asked him to come forward and say a prayer for the new jail.

Commissioner Hamercheck gave an update on several projects that have received funding commitments. He also stated that he attended the “Gallery of Heroes” that was held in honor of Black History Month. He complimented everyone involved for the very informative evening which included live historical characters.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Commissioner Hamercheck asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board. Mr. John Muzik of 45 Coventry Drive in Painesville spoke of his concerns that Lake County is a border county and how there is an increase of drug cartel coming through the our County on their way to Canada.

Mr. Brian Massie of 8196 Rainbow Drive offered his prayers to the residents of East Palestine.

Mr. Jason Rosa of 6073 Campbell Road in Mentor on the Lake, discussed the company Flipping Lake County and expressed his frustrations with how they are doing business and why the Lake County Building Department has not followed up with him. Commissioner Plecnik thanked Mr. Rosa for coming forward with his concerns. Commissioner Regovich stated that he would call Willowick Mayor Michael Vanni for more information on Mr. Rosa’s concerns.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Regovich, the Board convened an Executive Session at 11:46 a.m. to discuss Personnel-Employment with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners Regovich, Plecnik and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

The Lake County Board of Commissioners adjourned to Executive Session at 11:54 a.m.

ADJOURN: On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik seconded by Commissioner Regovich, the Board adjourned the meeting at 11:54 a.m. with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, Regovich and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

Minutes approved this thirtieth day of March, 2023.

BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JOHN R. HAMERCHECK, PRESIDENT

JOHN PLECNIK, COMMISSIONER

RICHARD J. REGOVICH, COMMISSIONER

JENNIFER BELL, CLERK