

MARCH 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 2023-0323)

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Hamercheck called the Meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. Thursday, March 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 Meeting of March 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. John Muzik, 45 Coventry Drive in Painesville, thanked the Department Heads for their hard work and discussed the hardships of Lake County seniors.

Chris Weiss of Leroy Township, stated that the wineries are self-sustaining and asked why the County would fund an archway. He also stated that he benefitted from watching the budget worksessions and he discussed the roads and bridges and the difficulties first responders have with the current detours and road closures.

Mary Ellen Abel of Barley Drive in Painesville, spoke of the new jail and what to do differently in regards to its design.

RESOLUTIONS:

1.RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE WEEK OF MARCH 21ST TO 27TH, 2023 AS NATIONAL AGRICULTURE WEEK (20230323\F01)(C-126)

On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner Regovich. Lake County Farm Bureau Public Policy Action Team Leader, Mr. Eric Cotton, was present to thank the Commissioners for their recognition of Agriculture Week. He provided the Commissioners with some locally sourced eggs, meat and vegetables and explained the importance of local farming. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows: "AYES": Commissioners Regovich, Plecnik and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

2.RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING APPROPRIATIONS IN LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES SOLID WASTE OPERATING FUND(20230323\U01)(UT-2)

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.

3.RESOLUTION CERTIFYING UNPAID WATER AND SEWER SUMS AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES TO THE LAKE COUNTY AUDITOR(20230323\U02)(UT-7)

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.

4.RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FINAL DEDICATION PLAT FOR FAIRWAY PINES PHASE 4 SUBDIVISION IN PAINESVILLE TOWNSHIP(20230323\C01)(SD-439)

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.

5.RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,357,348.23 (20230323\BC01)(C-4)

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.

6.RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE ORDERS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' PURCHASE ORDER APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,495,020.63 (20230323\BC02)(C-17)

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.

7.RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS FOR VARIOUS GENERAL AND NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20230323\BC03)(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 – none.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – none.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – Mr. Jason Boyd updated the Board on the Range Project. He thanked Clerk of Courts, Ms. Faith Andrews, for her verbal commitment to assist with the financing of the Project. The second phase of this project will be a 40' x 40' metal building that will go out to bid next week. Construction should begin late summer. Energy Harbor will be providing the three-step process to deliver electric to the site.

FINANCE – none.

CLERK – Commissioners Clerk, Ms. Jennifer Bell, stated that the next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 30, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

LEGAL – none.

ENGINEER – Commissioner Hamercheck pointed out that there will be more money coming in than anticipated under 'interest income' in the General Fund. County Engineer, Mr. James Gills, has expressed much concern about the many failing roads and bridges throughout the County. Commissioner Hamercheck stated with the anticipated higher interest income, the County would be well positioned to provide \$5 to \$9 million to get the Engineers projects moving. Deputy Engineer, Ms. Traci Salkiewicz, was present and stated that nothing in their request for funding is meant to diminish the new jail or other department's needs. She detailed the many various calls their office receives regarding highway lighting, grass cutting, and the condition of roads and bridges. She stated that their Department has received partial funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill for five bridges and pointed out that none of them are 100% funding and that the Engineers Office would be responsible for the remainder of the funds for these projects which is an 80/20 match. Commissioner Hamercheck addressed the Ford Road Bridge that is in failure. He confirmed with Ms. Salkiewicz that they have the funds for the engineering portion but not for construction. She discussed the increase in rainfall intensity that has been experienced and how there is no way to prepare for these events and the effects they have on roads, bridges or slopes; especially in Madison and Leroy. Commissioner Hamercheck pointed out the danger these closures create for first responders and the residents in need of their services. He stated that the funds coming into the General Fund from the interest income will allow for these projects to move forward. Chief Design Engineer, Mr. Alan Exley, stated that he has been with the Engineers Department for more than 28 years and discussed the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill. He pointed out that they have been awarded these funds because of the very poor condition of the bridges and their dire need for replacement or repair. He gave a detailed report of the steps involved with any projects and the costs associated with them. The Board and Mr. Exley continued to discuss specific details of some of the projects. Commissioner Hamercheck stated that there are several projects that have reached crisis mode and must be dealt with sooner than later. Ms. Salkiewicz stated that their biggest concern right now is Williams Road and they are frequently in contact with Concord Fire Department to keep them apprised as to its condition and their concerns of the heavy fire trucks using the road. Commissioner Plecnik reiterated his support for safety and law enforcement, however he recognizes the needs of many other County departments as well. He discussed several departments and their needs as pointing out that no commitments should be made before the permanent budget has been finalized and adopted. Commissioner Hamercheck stated that the information he shared regarding the interest income was provided directly from the Treasurer's Office. Commissioner Regovich pointed out that this year may be an unprecedented year for requests from all County departments for additional funds in their budgets and that Budget Director Matas needs time to finalize the permanent budget before making additional considerations.

OLD BUSINESS: none.

NEW BUSINESS: Commissioner Regovich stated that he recently toured the landfill and gave an update on the cell expansion. He thanked Mr. Rothlisberger and Mr. Gourley for their time. Commissioner Plecnik thanked Commissioner Regovich for joining him in the celebration of the Painesville Railroad Museum and the 90th birthday of the 'Collinwood 999' train car. He offered the history of the Collinwood 999 car. He also thanked Commissioner Hamercheck and NOACA for the certificate that was prepared to honor the Collinwood 999 90th birthday.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Commissioner Hamercheck asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board. Ms. Mary Ellen Abel of Painesville Township asked how many sublots the Fairway Pines Subdivision will have. Director of Planning and Community Development, Mr. David Radachy, stated that this is Phase 4 of the Fairway Pines Subdivision and that there will be 26 sublots and that they are expecting a Phase 5 for approval. Mr. John Muzik of 45 Coventry Drive in Painesville thanked the Sheriff's office for their hard work. He also discussed an issue that recently occurred at Riverside High School. Assistant Prosecutor Mr. Hackman addressed the Board and suggested to them that they schedule another worksession for further discussions and deliberations of the budget. County Administrator, Mr. Jason Boyd, suggested speaking with the Budget Director to set up the date and time as he and his staff will need time to prepare updated documents for the Boards review.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Regovich, the Board convened an Executive Session at 12:18 p.m. to discuss Real Estate-Acquisition with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners Regovich, Plecnik and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

The Lake County Board of Commissioners adjourned to Executive Session at 12:54 p.m.

ADJOURN: On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik seconded by Commissioner Regovich, the Board adjourned the meeting at 12:54 p.m. with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners Regovich, Plecnik and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

MARCH 23, 2023

Minutes approved this fifth day of July, 2023.

BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JOHN R. HAMERCHECK, PRESIDENT

JOHN PLECNIK, COMMISSIONER

RICHARD J. REGOVICH, COMMISSIONER

JENNIFER BELL, CLERK