

LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES

MORRIS W. BEVERAGE III, COMMISSIONER	JASON W. BOYD, ADMINISTRATOR
JOHN PLECNIK, COMMISSIONER	LEGAL COUNSEL
RICHARD REGOVICH, COMMISSIONER	NEWS MEDIA
JENNIFER BELL, CLERK	

.....
(Tape 2025-0306)

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Regovich called the Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, February 20, 2025

ROLL CALL: Upon roll being called, Commissioners Plecnik and Regovich were present.
Commissioner Beverage was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
Upon a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner Regovich, the minutes of the Regular Meetings of February 6, 2025 were approved with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, and Regovich "NAYS": None.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Commissioner Regovich asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board.
No one present wished to address the Board.

RESOLUTIONS:
1. RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MARCH 2025 AS DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH (20250306\F01)(C-126)
On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner Regovich. Commissioner Regovich introduced Lake County Board of Developmental Disabilities/Deepwood Executive Director, Ms. Elfie Roman. Ms. Roman thanked the Board for recognizing this important month and stated that the theme this year is "Strive to Thrive in 2025". This theme focuses on the many ways individuals we serve have gained greater independence, employment, creative expression, facility with assistive technology, and inclusion in community activities. She introduced co-presenter and 2024 Deepwood Idol winner Ms. Tanisha Carlgren. Ms. Carlgren provided the Board with some of her background which includes being a college graduate, model and future business owner. She shared stories on her positive upbringing and how her parents were always her biggest supporters and cheerleaders. Commissioners Plecnik and Regovich complimented Ms. Calgren for being such an inspiration to all. They thanked Ms. Roman for the amazing work Deepwood does to ensure everyone has an opportunity to learn and grow. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows : "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik and Regovich. "NAYS": None.

2.RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MARCH 2-8, 2025 AS OHIO 4-H WEEK IN LAKE COUNTY, OHIO(20250306\F02)(C-126)
On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner Regovich. Commissioner Regovich introduced Ms. Lisa Manning, 4-H and Family Consumer Science Educator from Ohio State University Extension to speak on 4-H. Ms. Manning thanked the Board for this recognition and explained that 4-H is the largest youth group in the Country. She spoke of the many, many programs offered by 4-H . Each of the ten 4-H members and two advisors that were present had an opportunity to speak on their experiences and all that they have learned. The Board thanked them for coming in today and stated how they look forward to the Fair and 4-H Auction. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows : "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, and Regovich "NAYS": None.

3.RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS AND TRANSFERRING CASH WITHIN LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES WATER PROJECT FUND AND PROJECT FUND 595, GREEN STREET WATERLINE REPLACEMENT 488-W 2025, A JOINT PROJECT WITH PERRY VILLAGE(20250306\U01)(UT-2)
On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner Regovich, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows : "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik and Regovich "NAYS": None.

4.RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A COMMERCIAL LICENSE AGREEMENT FOR STRUCTURE ACCESS NOT TO EXCEED \$50,000.00 WITH AT & T FOR THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES (20250306\U02)(UT-4)
On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner Regovich, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows : "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik and Regovich "NAYS": None.

5.RESOLUTION AMENDING THE CERTIFICATION OF THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES UNPAID SEWER SERVICE, WATER, AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES TO THE LAKE COUNTY AUDITOR (20250306\U03)(UT-7)
On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner Regovich, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows : "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik and Regovich "NAYS": None.

6.RESOLUTION CERTIFYING UNPAID WATER AND SEWER SUMS AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES TO THE LAKE COUNTY AUDITOR(20250306\U04)(UT-7)
On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner Regovich, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows : "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik and Regovich "NAYS": None.

7.RESOLUTION SETTING THE DATE, TIME, AND PLACE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING TO LOCATE THE CARTER ROAD CENTERLINE, LOCATED IN CONCORD TOWNSHIP AND LEROY TOWNSHIP (Hearing: Thursday, April 3, 2025, 9:45a.m. in the Commissioner’s Chambers)(20250306\C01)(C-79)
On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner Regovich, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows : "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik and Regovich "NAYS": None.

8.RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON BEHALF OF THE LAKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S - CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT AND VARIOUS LAKE COUNTY POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS FOR CENTRAL DISPATCH AND COMMUNICATION SERVICES(20250306\C02)(501-c)

On a motion by Commissioner Regovich, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik. Commissioner Plecnik thanked Sheriff Leonbruno for providing this extraordinary service to all of the Police and Fire Departments in Lake County. The Foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows : "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik and Regovich "NAYS": None.

9.RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION FROM LAKE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY AND APPROVING THE CONTRACT FOR A LAKESHORE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT IN THE CITY OF EASTLAKE, OHIO (20250306\C03)(209-g)

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

10.RESOLUTION APPOINTING ROBERT L. MOORE AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE LAKE COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT TO COMPLETE THE REMAINDER OF A TERM EXPIRING MARCH 23, 2026 (20250306\C04)(B-52)

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

11.RESOLUTION TO REAPPOINT LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONER RICHARD J. REGOVICH AS A MEMBER OF THE REGION 13 ONEOHIO GOVERNANCE BOARD TO REPRESENT THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER FOR A THREE-YEAR TERM BEGINNING MARCH 29, 2025(20250306\C05)(407-b)

On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner Regovich. Commissioner Regovich explained that that he just completed the remainder of a previous members term and this resolution reappoints him to the Region 13 Board. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows : "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik and Regovich "NAYS": None.

12.RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH SME ENGINEERING SERVICES, INC. FOR GEOTECHNICAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES AND GEOTECHNICAL TESTING SERVICES FOR THE LAKE COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY CENTER PROJECT (20250306\C06)(207-n)

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

13.RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,021,011.88 (20250220\BC01)(C-4)

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

14. RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE ORDERS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' PURCHASE ORDER APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$755,970.16(20250220\BC02)(C-17)

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

15. RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS FOR VARIOUS GENERAL AND NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20250220\BC03)(C-111)

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

16. RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING AN APPROPRIATION WITHIN VARIOUS NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20250220\BC04)(C-111)

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

17. RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2025 PERMANENT APPROPRIATION MEASURE FOR THE GENERAL FUND (20250306\BC05)(C-111)

On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner Regovich. Commissioner Plecnik stated that he is grateful to be passing a balanced budget again this year. Commissioner Regovich thanked all of the elected officials, County Administrator Boyd, Administrative Services Director DiMare, and Budget and Finance Manager Underwood for all of their hard work in putting this budget together and for everyone working together to make that happen. Mr. Boyd thanked Mr. Underwood for his work on this and stated that they are already beginning to take a look at what 2026 might look like for the County. Mr. DiMare stated that the County is lucky to enjoy a great working partnership with elected officials and department heads. Commissioner Regovich explained that the General Fund is the chief operating fund of the County and accounts for the financial resources except those to be accounted for in another fund per ORC restrictions. He stated that health care costs continue to rise and law enforcement represents a major expense category with medical care within the jail continuing to rise significantly each year. Judicial and Public Safety represent 70% of the proposed budget inclusive of the debt payment for the Public Safety Center and this will be the first year of the \$7 million debt payment for the new Public Safety Center which is included in the 2025 budget. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows : "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik and Regovich "NAYS": None.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

UTILITIES – Commissioner Plecnik thanked Sanitary Engineer, Mr. Randy Rothlisberger and his staff for always taking the time to look into the complaints and issues messages he receives from his constituents.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – none.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – Mr. Jason Boyd updated the Board on the Public Safety Center Project explaining that the pilings that have been going in the past two weeks should be completed today and they should begin demobilizing soon. The project continues to run on time and within budget. He would like to arrange for the Board to do a site walk next Wednesday along with the Sheriff and his team, Telecom Director Mr. Stefanko, and Buildings and Grounds Superintendent Mr. Iafelice as well as a couple of the County Building Inspectors. He also reminded all employees to continue to be patient and take advantage of the new parking lots that have been provided adding that the average walk is 4 minutes or less.

CLERK – Commissioners Clerk, Ms. Jennifer Bell, stated that the next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 13, 2025 at 10:00 am.

LEGAL – none.

OLD BUSINESS: Commissioner Plecnik mentioned that he and Auditor Galloway had an opportunity to meet with State Representative Dave Thomas of Ashtabula to discuss House Bill 15 and how the bill needs to be amended to reflect the needs of Lake County. He explained that, as of now, the House Bill exempts power plants from personal property tax and would be a major revenue hit for not only Perry Schools but all of Lake County. He would prefer the Senate version which does not exempt pre-existing power plants but he would further prefer proposals by the Ohio Business Roundtable that would only give a temporary exemption of 5 years to new plants. He thanked Auditor Galloway for going down to Columbus to testify and shared that he continues to be vigilant on HB15. Commissioner Plecnik also discussed property taxes and offered some advice for residents to try and lower their property taxes. Commissioner Regovich stated that Auditor Galloway’s email had some very good points listed.

NEW BUSINESS: none.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner Regovich, the Board convened an Executive Session at 10:50 a.m. to discuss Personnel – Collective Bargaining with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik and Regovich "NAYS": None.

The Lake County Board of Commissioners adjourned to Executive Session at 11:00 a.m.

ADJOURN: On a motion by Commissioner Regovich seconded by Commissioner Plecnik, the Board adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m. with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik and Regovich "NAYS": None.

Minutes approved this twentieth day of March, 2025.

BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

RICHARD J. REGOVICH, PRESIDENT

JOHN T. PLECNIK, COMMISSIONER

MORRIS W. BEVERAGE III, COMMISSIONER

JENNIFER BELL, CLERK