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LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES

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

(Tape 2025-0508)

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Regovich called the Meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Thursday, May 8, 2025

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Upon a motion by Commissioner Beverage, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik, the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 24, 2025 were approved with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, Beverage and Regovich "NAYS": None.

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

RESOLUTIONS:

1.RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MAY 2025 FOSTER PARENT RECOGNITION MONTH IN LAKE COUNTY, OHIO(20250508\F01)(C-126)

On a motion by Commissioner Beverage, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik. Job and Family Services Director Suzanne Casar, thanked the Commissioners for their continued support in

recognizing May as Foster Parent Appreciation Month. She explained how extremely important foster parents are to children and how they provide a safe environment for these children in the community. Ms. Casar introduced Mr. Gene Tetrick; Supervisor of Job and Family Services Foster Care and Adoption Team. He provided a few statistics on foster homes and stressed how they are always looking for foster parents. Mr. Tetrick thanked all the individuals that have become foster parents and applauded the difference they make in the lives of these vulnerable children. Commissioners Plecnik and Beverage expressed thanks to these families that are willing to open their homes and take care of these children as their own. Commissioner Regovich stated that he is also thankful these parents have opened their homes to children in need of stability. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, Beverage and Regovich "NAYS": None.

2.RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MAY 2025 OLDER AMERICANS MONTH IN LAKE COUNTY, OHIO(20250508\F02)(C-126)

On a motion by Commissioner Beverage, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik. Commissioner Regovich introduced Senior Services Manager, Mrs. Alyea Barajas. Mrs. Barajas thanked the Board for recognizing Older Americans Month and was pleased to announce that Lake County Senior Services has received an AmeriCorps grant which will provide \$126,000 annually for the next three years to enhance volunteer outreach and engagement efforts. She stated that securing this grant was highly competitive and speaks volumes about the strength of our local programs and the growing importance of supporting our aging population. Mrs. Barajas invited Laketran CEO, Mr. Ben Capelle to speak. Mr. Capelle was happy to announce the launch of its new "Rides on Demand" service which provides customers with same-day, door-to-door transportation. This app-based service combines the reliability of LakeTran's Dial-a-Ride service with the flexibility of modern rideshare platforms. Mr. Joe Tomsick from Council on Aging, also thanked the Board and stated that Council on Aging began in 1967 and they reach out to 1,000 seniors a day to provide services. Ms. Carrie Dotson from Lifeline thanked Mrs. Barajas, Mrs. Cristen Kane and the Senior Advisory Panel for their commitment and responsiveness to meeting the needs of seniors stating how truly appreciated they are by Lifeline and all of their partners. She also wanted to recognize her staff and the many volunteers who work together to provide services to our seniors at Lifeline. Ms. Dotson explained they currently have three projects that are funded through the Senior Services Levy, one of which is the Volunteer Guardian Program. This program provides a court appointed guardian for seniors, many of which are suffering from Alzheimers or dementia, and ensures that they are able to have trained, trusted advocates to ensure their health and well-being are met at all times. She stated that without Alyea's leadership in developing this program, it would not exist in Lake County. Ms. Dotson also explained their newest program, Helping Hands for Seniors, which allows seniors in Lake County to live independently and safely in their homes as long as possible by matching volunteers to seniors who will assist with basic chores. She reminded everyone that the 2-1-1 hotline is available for seniors to call 24/7 with any need. They frequently refer them for services such as the mobile food pantry and veteran's assistance. The Board thanked everyone present and commended them for the important programs they offer. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, Beverage and Regovich "NAYS": None.

3.RESOLUTION APPROVING PLANS AND SPECIFICATION FOR HARBOR CROSSING SUBDIVISION IN PAINESVILLE TOWNSHIP(20250508\E01)(SD-444)

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

4.RESOLUTION APPROVING PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATES OF COST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$216,430.00 FOR LAKE ROAD FORCEMAIN REPLACEMENT - PROJECT NO 484-S-2024, AND ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR SAME (BID OPENING: JUNE 4, 2025)(20250508\U01)(UT-8)

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

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5.RESOLUTION APPROVING PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATES OF COST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$340,728.30 FOR SANITARY SEWERS FOR HARBOR CROSSING SUBDIVISION IN PAINESVILLE TOWNSHIP (JOB NO. 24 54)(20250508\U02)(SD-444)

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

6.RESOLUTION APPROVING PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATES OF COST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$377,025.00 FOR A WATERLINE FOR HARBOR CROSSING SUBDIVISION IN PAINESVILLE TOWNSHIP (JOB NO. 24-54) (20250508\U03)(SD-444)

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

7.RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A SUBGRANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES AND LOCAL WORKFORCE AREA 5 (LAKE COUNTY) FOR THE RECEIPT OF FUNDS FROM THE WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT (WIOA) AND OTHER FEDERAL WORKFORCE RELATED FUNDS(20250508\JFS01)(JFS-15)

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

8.RESOLUTION REJECTING THE BIDS RECEIVED ON APRIL 9, 2025 FOR THE LAKE COUNTY PROBATE COURT GARAGE PROJECT FOR THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS(20250508\C01)(CT-4)

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

9.RESOLUTION APPROVING ADVERTISING FOR REQUEST FOR COMPETITIVE SEALED PROPOSALS TO CONDUCT COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGIC PLANNING AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOR SENIOR SERVICES IN LAKE COUNTY FOR THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS (Proposal Opening: June 11, 2025)(20250508\C02)(C-20)

On a motion by Commissioner Beverage, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik. Commissioner Plecnik stated that he is grateful that the Board is moving forward with this study to make sure that senior levy dollars are providing the most services possible and this strategic plan is a great start. County Administrator, Mr. Jason Boyd, stated that there was a study completed by MCS Consultants early on that laid some positive groundwork for where we are today and he feels this study is very well timed to provide updates and possible gaps.

The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, Beverage and Regovich "NAYS": None.

10.RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,014,392.13(20250508\BC01)(C-4)

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

11.RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS TO CT CONSULTANTS INC. AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,526.40(20250508\BC01A)(C-4)

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

12.RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE ORDERS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' PURCHASE ORDER APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,287,730.77(20250508\BC02)(C-17)

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

13.RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS FOR VARIOUS NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20250508\BC03)(C-111)

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

14.RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN VARIOUS GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20250508\BC04)(C-111)

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

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

<u>UTILITIES</u> – Sanitary Engineer, Mr. Randy Rothlisberger, introduced Public Service Coordinator, Mr. Patrick Stitts. Mr. Stitts announced that the first full week of May is Drinking Water Week which is sponsored by the American Water Works Association and is designed to recognize the vital role drinking water plays in our daily lives and how we rely on clean water for cleaning, cooking and sanitation. He explained that drinking water in Lake County comes from Lake Erie; the smallest of the Great Lakes. He stated that Lake County is located on a very rare treasure having Lake Erie right in our backyards that provides not only water to us but also to approximately 11 million other customers in surrounding systems.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – Job and Family Services Director, Suzanne Casar, thanked the Board for proclaiming May as Older Americans Month and mentioned, on behalf of Job and Family Services, that if anyone in the community suspects that an older adult is being abused, neglected, or exploited, they should contact the child and

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elder abuse hotline at 440-350-4000 and press #1 to report their concerns. She also mentioned that May is Public Assistance Fraud Awareness Month and that they received grant funding from the state for our local fraud awareness campaign. She encouraged anyone who suspects public assistance fraud to report it at jfs.oh.gov/fraud.

<u>COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR</u> – Mr. Boyd shared a limited access live webcam of the Public Safety Center that the design builder, Gilbane, has activated for a number of reasons; security being the main reason for the site, the tools, the workers and quality control. He shared this so that the people who watch the meetings online can see the significant activity and breadth of construction that's currently going on. Mr. Boyd provided a detailed explanation of what was being shown on the webcam. He stated that about a week ago, they discovered an abandoned well on site and offered special thanks to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources who were there. Mr. Boyd will be going to the Gilbane office to complete the final steps for permitting in order to get the well plugged and abandoned.

<u>CLERK</u> – Commissioners Clerk, Ms. Jennifer Bell, stated that the next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 15th and there will be a workshop following the meeting

LEGAL - none.

OLD BUSINESS: none.

NEW BUSINESS: Commissioner Beverage shared that his six-year-old daughter plays flag football and he wanted to wish good luck to the girl's high school flag football teams which have not yet been sanctioned by the Ohio High School Athletic Association. He explained that currently the girls high school football leagues are managed by the Browns and the Bengals and that there's a Northern Ohio Division and a Southern Ohio Division. Their regular season concluded this past weekend and he was proud to say that the Browns are going to be hosting the Northern Ohio playoffs. Their bracket has 16 teams from Northern Ohio five of which come from Lake County. They include Mentor, Willoughby South, Lake Catholic, Wickliffe, and Perry and they will be playing on Monday, May 12th at the Browns Stadium.

<u>EXECUTIVE SESSION</u>: On a motion by Commissioner Beverage, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik, the Board convened an Executive Session at 2:40 p.m. to discuss Personnel-Discipline with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, Beverage and Regovich "NAYS": None.

The Lake County Board of Commissioners adjourned to Executive Session at 3:16 p.m.

<u>ADJOURN:</u> On a motion by Commissioner Beverage, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik, the Board adjourned the meeting at 3:16 p.m. with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, Beverage and Regovich "NAYS": None.

Minutes approved this twentieth day of May, 2025.

RICHARD J. REGOVICH, PRESIDENT JOHN T. PLECNIK, COMMISSIONER MORRIS W. BEVERAGE III, COMMISSIONER JENNIFER BELL, CLERK