

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 2025-0821)

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Regovich called the Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, August 21, 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 August 12, 2025 were approved with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Beverage, Plecnik and Regovich "NAYS": None.

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

Marc Ball of Painesville was presented with a Special Certificate honoring him for his bravery. Marc was present and explained that he was driving down his street getting ready to feed his animals in Perry when he noticed a completely up in flames climbing all the way up to the garage. While he was waiting for the fire department to arrive, he began putting the fire out with a garden hose. The Board thanked him for his quick thinking and bravery. Commissioner Plecnik added that his actions are a real life reflection of the golden rule. Commissioner Beverage commended Marc for trying to figure out a solution to the problem and trying to help his neighbor and protect your neighborhood.

Rev. Chris Bihary of Painesville was present to speak on item #1 of the agenda. Rev. Bihary shared a story from personal experience and asked for a moment of silence for all overdose victims and their families.

RESOLUTIONS:**1.RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING AUGUST 31, 2025, AS OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY IN LAKE COUNTY, OHIO (20250821\F01)(C-126)**

On a motion by Commissioner Beverage, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik. ADAMHS Board Executive Director Ms. Kim Fraser was present and stated that International Overdose Awareness Day (IOAD) seeks to create a better understanding of overdose, to reduce the stigma of drug-related deaths and to create change that reduces the harms associated with drug use. Ms. Kim Fraser explained that overdose doesn't just affect the individual but all the family and community. She stated that since 2022 overdose deaths have declined in Lake County which is due to a number of factors including Medicaid expansion meaning that more people have access to treatment. The Lake County ADAMHS has done a better job of raising awareness, expanding education and prevention, and expanding treatment services. There is some worry due to the cuts that have come and are still coming and that it is going to be even more difficult for people to access services. Through their experience, harm reduction works and keeping everyone aware of the services they offer such as Narcan, what treatment options are available and what recovery looks like is something they do every single day. Ms. Fraser shared that they are partnering with the Board of Commissioners and the City of Willoughby to host the first ever *Recovery Concert of Hope* on Overdose Awareness Day which is August 31. The event will be held at the Fine Arts Association in Willoughby. This is a family-friendly event offering food trucks and music therapists. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows : "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, Beverage and Regovich "NAYS": None.

2. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LAKE COUNTY ENGINEER ON BEHALF OF THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO COOPERATE WITH THE DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION ON THE SR-44 UPGRADING AND RESURFACING PROJECT, PID #114163 GEA/LAK SR 044 18.39/00.00 REHAB(20250821\E01)(E-3)

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.

3.RESOLUTION AWARDDING A BID CONTRACT TO UNION INDUSTRIAL CONTRACTORS, INC. FOR THE LAK-MANCHESTER ROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT IN PERRY VILLAGE, LCE Project #2022-008; PID 117744, AS REQUIRED BY THE LAKE COUNTY ENGINEER, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,161,971.00(20250821\E02)(E-3)

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 CERTIFYING UNPAID WATER & SEWER SUMS & ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES TO THE LAKE COUNTY AUDITOR(20250821\U01)(UT-7)

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.

5.RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS AND TRANSFERRING CASH WITHIN LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES WATER FUND AND PROJECT FUND 595, TOWNLINE ROAD WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT 433-W-2020(20250821\U02)(UT-2)

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 AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN ENGINEERING AGREEMENT WITH ARCADIS US, INC. FOR THE GARY L. KRON WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY PLC AND RTU REPLACEMENT PROJECT 499-S-2025 FOR THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES(20250821\U03)(UT-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.

7.RESOLUTION CERTIFYING UNPAID WATER AND SEWER SUMS AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES TO THE LAKE COUNTY AUDITOR(20250821\U04)(UT-7)

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 APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE LAKE COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD (20250821\JFS01)(B-34)

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 AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO ISSUE A REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR COMMISSIONING SERVICES FOR THE PROPOSED LAKE COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY CENTER PROJECT(Request for Qualifications: September 15, 2025)(20250821\C01)(207-N)

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.

10.RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,579,330.01 (20250821\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 PURCHASE ORDERS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' PURCHASE ORDER APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$830,806.88 (20250821\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.

12. RESOLUTION INCREASING AN APPROPRIATION FOR A NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNT (20250821\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.

13.RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN VARIOUS GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (202508121\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:

UTILITIES – none.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – none.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – none.

CLERK – Commissioners Clerk, Ms. Jennifer Bell, stated that the next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 28, 2025 at 10:00 am with a workshop following at 10:30 am.

LEGAL – none.

OLD BUSINESS: none.

NEW BUSINESS: Commissioner Plecnik shared that the Lake County Captains will be hosting Star Wars Day at the Captains Stadium this Friday. Commissioner Beverage wanted to bring to the community's attention that Lake County is a part of an organization called NOACA (Northeast Ohio Area Coordinating Agency). This organization was created to assist in getting federal grant dollars for transportation and infrastructure projects. Approximately one month ago, NOACA notified Lake County and its member counties of one million dollar grant from the United States EPA earmarked to develop a climate change action plan. Commissioner Beverage explained some of the details of the grant and stated while he does not dispute climate change, he feels that this money could be better spent for needs such as engineering projects to open up roads and to put lights up on our freeways as well as to those organizations that are tasked with putting dollars into streets, roads, bridges, sewers, etc. to make our community a better place. He informed the Board that at the upcoming NOACA Executive Committee Meeting, he will be voicing his displeasure and disappointment with how this grant money will be spent. He shared his frustration with only being given a couple weeks to come up with a Local Climate Action Plan and how there is not enough time to spend reviewing it and most likely having it approved in September. Commissioner Plecnik wanted to commend Commissioner Beverage for representing Lake County well on the NOACA Executive Board and he agrees that one million dollars on a local climate action plan is an obscene waste of money. He shared how in the 60's everyone

talked about global cooling, then in the 80’s and 90’s the conversation switched to global warming, and now they are saying climate change because they don’t know how the climate is impacted. He also agrees with Commissioner Beverage that money would be best served by investing it into roads, bridges, sidewalks, streets and infrastructure. Commissioner Regovich added that all grants come with strings attached and this is a Federal Grant so it must be adapted to meet what they need. He also feels money should be going into roads, bridges, sidewalks, streets and infrastructure especially with the freeze/thaw in Northeast Ohio.

ADJOURN: On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik seconded by Commissioner Beverage, the Board adjourned the meeting at 10:27 a.m. with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, Beverage and Regovich "NAYS": None.

Minutes approved this eleventh day of September, 2025.

BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

RICHARD J. REGOVICH, PRESIDENT

JOHN T. PLECNIK, COMMISSIONER

MORRIS W. BEVERAGE III, COMMISSIONER

JENNIFER BELL, CLERK