

**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

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(Tape 2025-0911)

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Regovich called the Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, September 11, 2025.

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

Commissioner Plecnik asked for a moment of silence to honor those affected by the 9/11 tragedy that occurred 24 years ago today and for the loss of political activist Charlie Kirk. Commissioners Regovich and Beverage added that we should also acknowledge the school shooting that occurred in Colorado and how this violence is happening too often.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Upon a motion by Commissioner Beverage, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik, the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 21 and August 28, 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. No one present wished to address the Board.

RESOLUTIONS:

**1.RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 2025 GRANDPARENT AND KINSHIP APPRECIATION MONTH IN LAKE COUNTY, OHIO(20250911\F01)(C-126)**

On a motion by Commissioner Beverage, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik. On behalf of the Board, Commissioner Plecnik wanted to thank all of those in Job and Family Services who work to help the many grandparents and relatives who raise and support their children for our community. He stated that it is increasingly true that some children are left without a mother and a father and they need other relatives to step up in the biggest possible way to raise and support them. It is an incredible sacrifice that so many brothers, sisters, grandparents, uncles, aunts, and cousins make to raise their family. Director of Job and Family Services, Ms. Suzanne Casar, stated that this is certainly a topic that deserves to be highlighted. She explained how JFS works very closely with grandparents and kinship providers, particularly the Substitute Care Unit, who go above and beyond trying to locate grandparents or other relatives to care for the children that come into agency custody. Ms. Casar shared some statistics stating that when you think about these numbers, they are very staggering. In Ohio right now, more than 240,000 children under the age of 18 are being cared for in homes other than with their parents and of those 240,000 children, more than 189,000 of them are living with their grandparents right now, just in the State of Ohio. She explained that research has shown that a kinship caregiver provides many important components to a child's life, including familiar and trustworthy caregivers, decreased trauma from family separation, continuation of cultural and family traditions, increased stability in the placement situation and preservation of sibling groups. Ms. Casar introduced Mr. Gene Tetrick to speak about local resources such as the Kinship Permanency Incentive Program, Ohio Kinship and Adoption Navigation Program, and the Kinship Guardianship Assistance Program that are available. Mr. Gene Tetrick, the Substitute Care Supervisor for Foster Care and Adoption (which also encompasses the Kinship Program) at Job and Family Services, explained that his department works diligently, trying to find relatives and support those relatives to get children back into their family units. He stated that as Ms. Casar explained there are many resources available, and he encouraged relatives to call 440-350-4260 to speak with them. They are there to help navigate and get them connected to the programs that they might be best eligible for. Mr. Tetrick thanked all the grandparents and aunts and uncles out there who do such a great job balancing the family dynamics. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows : "AYES": Commissioners: Beverage, Plecnik and Regovich "NAYS": None.

**2.RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LAKE COUNTY ENGINEER ON BEHALF OF THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND TRC COMPANIES FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR THE LAK-BRIDGE LOAD RATINGS PROJECT (PID NO. 122371) IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT LAKE COUNTY(20250911\E01)(E-3)**

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

**3.RESOLUTION APPROVING FINAL ESTIMATE NO. 9 (RELEASE OF RETAINAGE) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50,308.00 WITH D.B. BENTLEY, INC. AND ACCEPTING A THREE-YEAR MAINTENANCE BOND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$133,617.30 FOR LAKESHORE BOULEVARD WATERLINE REPLACEMENT (EUCLID LINE TO E. 288TH STREET) PROJECT 448-W-2021 FOR THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES(20250911\U01)(UT-12)**

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

**4.RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS IN LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES WATER FUND, WATER PROJECT FUND AND SEWER PROJECT FUND(20250911\U02)(UT-2)**

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

**5.RESOLUTION APPROVING LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES VOUCHERS DATE OF WARRANT SEPTEMBER 19, 2025 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$597,483.06(20250911\JFS01)(JFS-14)**

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

**6.RESOLUTION CERTIFYING COMPLIANCE WITH CHAPTER 5108 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE IN ADOPTING THE LAKE COUNTY PREVENTION, RETENTION, AND CONTINGENCY PLAN BIENNIAL RENEWAL FOR THE PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2025 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2027(20250911\JFS02)(JFS-16)**

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

**7.RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN PROJECT HOPE AND THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON BEHALF OF THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES TO PROVIDE HOMELESS PREVENTION SERVICES TO ELIGIBLE TANF RECIPIENTS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$242,609.50, EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025(20250911\JFS03)(JFS-14)**

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

**8.RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,058,842.68(20250911\BC01)(C-4)**

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

**9.RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS TO CT CONSULTANTS INC. AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$24,742.63(20250911\BC01A)(C-4)**

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

**10.RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE ORDERS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' PURCHASE ORDER APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$877,682.88(20250911\BC02)(C-17)**

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

**11.RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS FOR VARIOUS GENERAL AND NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20250911\BC03)(C-111)**

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

**12.RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN VARIOUS GENERAL AND NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS(20250911\BC04)(C-111)**

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

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

UTILITIES –Sanitary Engineer, Mr. Randy Rothlisberger stated that there will be a Household Hazardous Waste Special Collection event on September 20 at the Lake County Fairgrounds, 1301 Mentor Ave. in Painesville Township from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. They will accept most automotive and household cleaners; lawn, pool and unknown chemicals; lightbulbs, batteries, aerosols, empty propane tanks, kerosene, mercury, oil-based paints, polyurethanes, grout, roofing tar, shellacs, stains, thinners, turpentine and varnish. He stated that more information can be found on their website.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – Ms. Casar thanked the Board for adopting resolution #7 on today's agenda which pertains to the contract with Project Hope and Job and Family Services. She stated that one of their highest priorities is to ensure that children are not sleeping outside or unsheltered in Lake County. This agreement with Project Hope, using TANF dollars, utilizes federal funds received at the county level to support this program.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – Mr. Boyd stated that Mr. DiMare would like to provide a report today. Mr. DiMare stated that last week the County was able to successfully sell all the notes and bonds that were approved for sale at a recent meeting. He reminded the Board that they were for a sewer project in the Utilities Department, various road improvement projects for the Engineer's Office, and for the remaining portion of notes on the Public Safety Center. He briefly spoke on the combination of the \$25 million paydown and reduction in the coupon rate on the notes which was reduced from 4% to 3.75 for next year. The County will realize savings in the general fund next year of just over one million dollars in interest. He thanked the Board for their leadership and other departments in the county for banding together to make this a priority. He stated that the closing documents should be completed by the end of September or beginning of October.

CLERK – Commissioners Clerk, Ms. Jennifer Bell, stated that the next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 18, 2025, at 10:00 am and that there will be a Workshop at 10:30 today.

LEGAL – none.

OLD BUSINESS: none.

NEW BUSINESS: none.

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: Beverage, Plecnik and Regovich "NAYS": None.

Minutes approved this eighteenth day of September, 2025.

**BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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RICHARD J. REGOVICH, PRESIDENT

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JOHN T. PLECNIK, COMMISSIONER

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MORRIS W. BEVERAGE III, COMMISSIONER

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JENNIFER BELL, CLERK