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

Upon a motion by Commissioner Beverage, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik, the minutes of the Regular Meetings of October 9, 2025 and October 16, 2025, were approved with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, Beverage and Regovich "NAYS": None.

RESOLUTIONS:

On a motion by Commissioner Beverage, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik. The Board expressed its gratitude and thanks to Forbes House and its Executive Director Kathy Strancar for their continued commitment to our community in Lake County and Northeast Ohio. Forbes House is the only domestic violence shelter in Lake County so it bears an incredible responsibility to protect the many vulnerable communities that need their services. Ms. Strancar was present and stated how appreciative they are for the Commissioners' continued support for Forbes House and the work of her staff and advocates. She shared how unfortunately and tragically there were fatalities in Lake County as a result of domestic violence. She revealed that many suffer in silence; one in three women and one in four men will face intimate partner abuse. If we don't recognize the signs early, the cycle may lead to tragedy. Domestic violence is a community issue, not a private one, and silence keeps survivors trapped. It's preventable, not inevitable. Ms. Strancar stressed that Forbes House is the foundation for change and last year alone, they served 541 individuals, and sheltered 174 survivors, 70 of them children. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows : "AYES": Commissioners: Beverage, Plecnik and Regovich "NAYS": None.

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.

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.

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 FINAL ESTIMATE NO. 5 (RELEASE OF RETAINAGE) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$63,564.80 WITH FABRIZI TRUCKING & PAVING COMPANY, INC. AND ACCEPTING A THREE-YEAR MAINTENANCE BOND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$172,530.45 FOR VINE STREET WATERLINE REPLACEMENT-PHASE 3 PROJECT 467-W-2023 FOR THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES(20251023\U02)(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.

6.RESOLUTION APPROVING FINAL CHANGE ORDER NO. 3 WITH SHORELINE CONTRACTORS LLC FOR THE NEW REVETMENT AT BACON ROAD WATER TREATMENT FACILITY PROJECT NO. 473-W-2023 DECREASING THE TOTAL CONTRACT AMOUNT BY \$238,098.70(20251023\U03)(UT-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.

7. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LAKE COUNTY SANITARY ENGINEER TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND ENTER INTO A WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND (WPCLF) ON BEHALF OF LAKE COUNTY FOR DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF WASTEWATER FACILITIES AND DESIGNATING A DEDICATED REPAYMENT SOURCE FOR THE LOAN(20251023\U06)(UT-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.

8. RESOLUTION APPROVING PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATES OF COST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$528,400.00 FOR THE MARINE AND WATER STREET SANITARY LINING PROJECT NO 493S-2025, AND ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR SAME (Bid Opening: November 19, 2025)(20251023\U05)(UT-8)

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 AWARDING A BID CONTRACT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,726,000.00 TO S.E.T., INC. FOR THE EVERGREEN PUMP STATION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT 480-S-2024(20251023\U10)(UT-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.

10.RESOLUTION AWARDING A BID CONTRACT TO WINWATER OF AKRON FOR FITTINGS, REPAIR PARTS, SERVICE EQUIPMENT AND TOOLS (Exhibit A) FOR THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES(20251023\U07)(UT-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.

11.RESOLUTION AWARDING A BID CONTRACT TO CORE & MAIN LP FOR FITTINGS, REPAIR PARTS, SERVICE EQUIPMENT AND TOOLS (Exhibit B) FOR THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES(20251023\U08)(UT-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.

12.RESOLUTION AWARDING A BID CONTRACT TO FERGUSON ENTERPRISES, LLC FOR FITTINGS, REPAIR PARTS, SERVICE EQUIPMENT AND TOOLS (Exhibit C) FOR THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES (20251023\U09)(UT-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.

13.RESOLUTION APPROVING THE LAKE COUNTY RECORDER'S TECHNOLOGY FUND PROPOSAL AS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO R.C. 317.321(20251023\C01)(C-36)

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.

14.RESOLUTION APPOINTING DAVID W. BENNETT TO THE LAKE COUNTY SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY PANEL TO COMPLETE THE REMAINDER OF A THREE-YEAR TERM ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2026(20251023\C02)(B-20)

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.

15.RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, ON BEHALF OF THE LAKE COUNTY LAW LIBRARY RESOURCES BOARD, WITH WEST, A THOMSON REUTERS BUSINESS FOR THE WESTLAW ADVANTAGE GOVERNMENT SELECT ONLINE DATABASE AND WESTLAW PATRON ACCESS DATABASE(20251023\C04)(CT-19)

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.

16.RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,674,579.15(20251023\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.

17.RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS TO CT CONSULTANTS INC. AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,886.25(20251023\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.

18.RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE ORDERS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' PURCHASE ORDER APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$313,901.70(20251023\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.

**19.RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS FOR VARIOUS NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS
(20251023\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.

20.RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING CASH AND APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN VARIOUS GENERAL AND NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS(20251023\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 – Commissioner Plecnik asked Sanitary Engineer, Mr. Rothlisberger, to comment on the rain event Lake County experienced yesterday. Mr. Rothlisberger stated that depending on where you were in Lake County over the past 12 hours, there was an amazing amount of rain. In the north and the south of the County, about half an inch of rain was recorded however, throughout the center of the County including Fairport Harbor, Painesville Township, and Madison, up to eight and a half inches of rain was recorded at the landfill in about 10 hours. The last time he personally experienced this was back in 2006 when they recorded 10 or 11 inches of rain. He explained that quite a few streets are flooded and closed due to water in Fairport Harbor and the landfill has some roads flooded which is causing some delays today. Mr. Rothlisberger assured everyone that their systems are functioning as they should, but the amount of rain received in Lake County has overwhelmed the system.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – Director of Job and Family Services, Ms. Suzanne Casar, provided an update on the status of SNAP benefits stating that the latest communication she received from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services is that the federal shutdown may cause a delay in new/renewed issuance of SNAP benefits starting on Saturday, November 1st. At this time, it is unknown how long the delay will last, and updated information will be on their website as soon as it becomes available. They will continue to process new applications and client recertifications for food assistance benefits so that when federal funding resumes, those benefits can be issued. Ms. Casar wanted to stress that Lake County Job and Family Services does not have any control over when benefits will be available because these benefits are provided by the federal government. She encouraged the public and their community partners to become more aware that clients may be reaching out to food pantries and an email will be sent out today explaining that SNAP assistance for the month of November may be delayed and that local agencies can expect an increase in individuals visiting their facilities. Ms. Casar stated that her public assistance administrator will provide an update to the Board on the upcoming changes to public assistance and childcare eligibility starting November 1 due to Ohio House Bill 96 and the One Big Beautiful Bill Act.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – Mr. Boyd stated that a steel topping ceremony for the new Public Safety Center Project will take place November 13th at 9 a.m. and signifies a huge milestone in the project. He addressed the State of the County presentation which was scheduled for next week and requested an extension to the first week of November. He explained that he would need a motion from the Board for that extension to be approved. Commissioner Beverage made a motion to delay the State of the County presentation for one week, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik, motion was approved with the vote follows : "AYES": Commissioners: Beverage, Plecnik and Regovich "NAYS": None.

CLERK – Commissioners Clerk, Ms. Jennifer Bell, stated that the next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 30, 2025, at 10:00 am followed by a Workshop at 10:30.

LEGAL – none.

OLD BUSINESS: none.

NEW BUSINESS: Commissioner Regovich stated that there will be a discussion on a potential Piggyback Homestead Exemption and Piggyback Owner Occupancy Credit. Commissioner Plecnik explained that the State has voted to give every county the authority to double the current owner-occupied credit and homestead exemption for property taxes. Unlike the base homestead exemption and owner-occupied credit which are reimbursed by the state, this exemption means every local taxing entity receives proportionately less depending on their share of property taxes. This is a modest tax cut and reduces revenue to all local governments including Lake County. He does not believe that these two cuts are sufficient to address the significant problem of the inflationary increases, but every little bit helps. He stated he supports expanding both the owner-occupied credit and the homestead exemption. Commissioner Plecnik stated the Board is exercising the authority the state has given to make the biggest difference possible at this time. Commissioner Beverage stated that this is not a total solution and more work needs to be done to address this. He explained that the state budget gave counties these two provisions and unfortunately for this to go into effect for this tax year for collections next year a decision must be made by October 31st. He stated that the Board does not have all the necessary data available, so they will address this issue with the tools that are currently available and continue to advocate for the taxpayers and work with the state to address this issue going forward. This may not result in a huge impact on an individual's tax bill, but these are the tools currently available and for the taxing entities across the county whose budgets this affects. He stressed that this Board is trying to be as transparent and open as possible, and he appreciates everyone that he has spoken to within the community and other entities for their understanding and support of the decisions that the Board must make. Commissioner Regovich explained that the Boards job is to take what the state and the federal government provides and see how it works best for Lake County. Their sole power at this time is to provide some relief to seniors in our county and he

feels as a good steward of the county this change should be made. He explained how taxing entities have followed the rules that the state has in place for over 50 years but how they (the state) haven't changed in 50 years. He reiterated that this will not be a huge savings, but it will help. He shared how fortunate Lake County is to have its finance team, to be financially solvent, and to have budgets consistently come in strong every year, and the County must also protect that. He wanted to reassure the public that this decision has not been taken lightly, there have been many discussions, and he will continue to have discussions with the taxing agencies. Commissioner Plecnik wanted to thank Commissioner Beverage for taking the time to organize a forum with all the school superintendents and local governments to discuss this issue before any vote was taken. He stated that this conversation has to continue and he appreciates the effort that Commissioner Beverage has put in to bring the entire community together to discuss this. He thanked County Auditor Galloway for advocating for the County and for going to Columbus to testify on these bills and make our county's position and concerns known. Commissioner Plecnik provided some history on when the state sales tax was first adopted back in 1934 and also the state income tax which was decades later. He explained that taxes have helped fund local government and schools but as time went on more of those dollars stayed in Columbus to be spent on state priorities rather than going back to local government and schools. He stated that there was a huge acceleration under Governor John Kasich when he began slashing the local government fund and keeping the money in Columbus in order to declare a balanced budget. He further stated how we have experienced very high inflation since COVID and that property tax values go up with inflation. The County has seen record foreclosure rates which will only increase because the next revaluation is likely to result in another 25% increase in property tax values. He spoke on Article 6, Section 2 of the Ohio Constitution which makes the state responsible for funding public schools but more than 60% of our property taxes are paying for them. Commissioner Plecnik stated this is not a local issue but requires a change in the Ohio Revised Code. He encouraged residents to actively reach out to their state representatives and senators who make the laws.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: On a motion by Commissioner Beverage, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik, the Board convened an Executive Session at 10:52 a.m. to discuss Legal- Pending Litigation with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, Beverage and Regovich "NAYS": None.

The Lake County Board of Commissioners adjourned to Executive Session at 11:44 a.m.

ADJOURN: On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik seconded by Commissioner Beverage, the Board adjourned the meeting at 11:44 a.m. with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Beverage, Plecnik and Regovich "NAYS": None.

Minutes approved this thirteenth day of November, 2025.

BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

RICHARD J. REGOVICH, PRESIDENT

JOHN T. PLECNIK, COMMISSIONER

MORRIS W. BEVERAGE III, COMMISSIONER

JENNIFER BELL, CLERK