

COMMISSIONERS MEETING – MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2005

Patricia G. Geissman called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. with Stephen D. Hambley and Sharon A. Ray present.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and a Prayer.

At the beginning of the meeting the oral reading of the minutes of March 29 was dispensed with. Each Commissioner has read them personally. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the minutes; Seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Gina Frimel, County Engineer's Office, presented resolutions to lift the weight limit reduction on county and township roads, authorizing the advertisement for bids for resurfacing roads with Item 402 County Specification, and closing sections of Greenwich Road and Fixler Road. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the 4 resolutions; Seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Commissioners reviewed the weekly permits list.

Chris Jakab, Finance Director, presented and reviewed resolutions amending the annual appropriations by increasing/decreasing appropriations, expenditure adjustments, revenue adjustments, various cash/fund transfers, approving agreements for office space in 2005 at the Medina and Brunswick Human Service Centers with increases for rates and operation of the facilities, purchasing fuel for the Engineering Center from Ports Petroleum, declaring certain property as excess property for disposal or auction, and the weekly bills in the amount of \$716,380.81. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the 11 resolutions and payment of the bills; Seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Gary Berkowitz, Human Resources Director, presented and reviewed the personnel resolution. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the personnel changes; Seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

John Stricker, County Administrator, had no resolutions today.

Ken Hotz, Sanitary Engineer, presented a resolution authorizing the investment of the retainer of Underground Utilities for sanitary sewer replacement of old lines in a subdivision within Brunswick. The project is 50% complete at this time. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the investment; Seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion.

Ken presented a resolution obtaining 2 waterline easements on Medina Road (SR 18). Mr. Hambley moved to accept the easements; Seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Ken presented a resolution authorizing an agreement with the Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) for a planning loan. The loan will be rolled over into a construction loan when construction is to begin. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the agreement; Seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Art Verdoorn, Building Official, presented and reviewed their report for March. In residential there were 60 new home permits issued versus 73 issued in March 2004. The year-to-date information shows that new home permits have decreased about 9%. Nationally they are expecting a decrease of 5% to 7% in new home construction. He believes construction is just leveling off. Commercial is remaining about the same. There are a few commercial projects, such as Kohl's and Target, coming up in the Wadsworth area as well as the permits are coming in for the sanitary sewer plant in Wadsworth. The department started using the new computerized permit system exclusively in April and it is integrated with their new file system. Both systems are working well and helping the department. There is also more information available on their website.

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Sandy Downe, Transportation Services Director, presented their report for March. They set a new record in March on fare collection with the amount being over \$4,000 for the month. March is traditionally a good month for Transit services. That along with the price of gas spiking, which generally means more riders, as well as the implementation of a new fare box tracking system were part of the reasons for the higher collection. There has been a contract with Akron Metro for advertising on the buses, which worked well, but it has been determined to take the next step by bringing the advertising in-house. Several new signs have been sold and there are other prospects being followed up with. Akron Metro has been very cooperative with the transition and they will continue to service the accounts they sold until those contracts expire. A local sign company has given them a very good deal for 2-sided signs for the buses. They are looking at other ways to improve services and efficiencies for the citizens of the county.

Jim Douth, Economic Development Corporation Director, presented resolutions approving the minutes of the Housing Councils. There has been a change in the law regarding enterprise zones that requires approval of the local legislative authority for EZ's and CRA's minutes for the reviews they do annually. All current abatement projects receive an annual review; companies are required to report back on their fulfillment of commitments that they've made when they applied for the abatements; these commitments relate to level of investment, job creation and retention; every year the Tax Incentive Review Councils and; for the new model CRA's a Housing Council was put together; those are have appointments; Auditor's Office is very hands on with the process; March 9 was the meeting date to go over all the abatements in the county; after approved, the minutes get sent down to the Ohio Department of Economic Development.

Jim Douth, Economic Development Corporation Director, presented resolutions to approve the minutes of the Housing Councils representing Sharon and Hinckley Townships and the Tax Incentive Review Councils representing the City of Medina and Sharon and Liverpool Townships. A change was made in the law that requires approval of the annual minutes by the local legislative authority, which is the Board of County Commissioners. All current abatement projects receive an annual review and the companies are required to report back on their fulfillment of the commitments they made when they applied for the abatements. The Auditor's Office is very "hands on" with the process. The meetings were held March 9 to go over all of the abatements in the county. Once approved by the Board the minutes will be sent to the State. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the 2 resolutions; Seconded by Ms. Ray.

Mr. Hambley feels that this is a great idea as these become a public record as to the tax incentives in the abatement areas. There hasn't been any that we've had to eliminate the abatement.

Jim noted that there was a sale one company in the City of Medina that will be coming before this Board in a couple of weeks in which the new company didn't want to take on the abatement because it had a significant job creation requirement that they didn't feel they could live up to.

There was no further discussion.

Roll Call on the motion and second to approve the 2 resolutions approving minutes showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Mrs. Geissman presented and read a resolution supporting the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and urging Congress to restore the funding. A typographical error was noted for correction. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the support resolution; Seconded by Ms. Ray.

Mrs. Geissman stated that she read the entire resolution because it is very important for people to realize that the CDBG funds have enabled us to do things that we couldn't have

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otherwise done. This will be devastating to our county as well as counties across the nation if the funding is cut.

Mr. Hambley understands that Senator DeWine and Senator Voinovich have opposed elimination of the CDBG program. He has not heard how the House of Representatives will treat the proposal and it is important to make these statements. City councils and NOACA are also planning to pass similar resolutions.

There was no further discussion.

Roll Call on the motion and second to support CDBG funding showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

John Stricker read the resolution to allow expenses of county officials.

Ms. Ray asked that the resolution be tabled at this time to review and discuss some of the items on this.

It was agreed to table the resolution until the discussion session.

The meeting was opened for public comment and there was no one present wishing to comment.

Mrs. Geissman noted that the discussion session will be held at 10:00 a.m. and that there is an annexation review at 10:15 a.m.

Commissioners recessed the meeting and reconvened for the discussion session.

Mr. Hambley noted that he received a communication from Ken Miller from the County Home Advisory Council stating that they met last week and made recommendations regarding the rates at the Home.

Ms. Ray stated that she is comfortable with the recommendations. It is similar to what she had proposed although they didn't accept the formula she used. This is something that the Board will need to stay on top of every year.

Mrs. Geissman stated that she had talked with Ken and it is her understanding that the rate is to be effective until November at which time they hope to have the residency numbers up to 55 and to be able to give a realistic cost of living figure to use for the rates next year. She is very pleased with the action taken although it doesn't address the heart of the issue; it's a first step forward.

There was consensus to have the rate for the County Home set at \$1580 beginning July 1. Chris will prepare a resolution for next week and initiate negotiations with the ADAMH Board for their new contract.

Ms. Ray informed Mr. Hambley that John Lund has agreed to be on the Flood Plain Appeals Board.

Ms. Ray asked Chris if a journal entry was received from the judges regarding the raise in fees for foreclosures.

Chris stated that he is not aware that the fee has been increased.

Ms. Ray asked him to check on that.

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Ms. Ray stated that she wanted to talk to John Burke, Treasurer, about the National Association of Counties annual conference in Honolulu, Hawaii. She asked what this is, noting that it is rare to see things so far away like that.

John B. stated that it's the first time he's seen anything in Hawaii, and noted that he thinks Mrs. Geissman has gone to the same thing for NACo. This is actually a subgroup of NACo for Treasurers. He also belongs to IACREOT. The main course this year that they want to attend is on strategic planning, which his office has started doing.

Ms. Ray asked about the need for Angela McMillen to attend.

John B. stated that he usually has taken another person because they also receive certification. He and Ms. McMillen are working on 2 different levels of certification from the University of Missouri on public administration. Prior to Ms. McMillen, he was accompanied by Steve Kline. He noted that he is the state director for the Treasurer's subgroup and he will probably not be able to attend all seminars so Ms. McMillen will attend those. He is also the representative for the State Treasurer's Association.

Ms. Ray stated that she would be comfortable if there could be discussion on some of the out-of-state travel such as getting information about how much of it is going on. She understands that John, as an officeholder in this organization, needs to be there. She asked if the general fund is being used for this or if his special fees account is being used.

John B. stated that travel is being split between both funds.

Mrs. Geissman stated that she believes out-of-state travel was looked at in the past and it was found that some of these are not available within the state, and this conference is an area that is not available in the state.

Mr. Hambley stated that if the state's budget passes as it is, out-of-state travel by department over the last few years should be reviewed as well as our policies particularly for next year. We'll need to balance the public benefit and need with the public expense and we may need to have more information on the conferences. It is something that will need to be addressed. He doesn't believe an arbitrary cut in travel is fair, but we need to know what kind of costs are involved and develop a better way to review these. For this particular one, he is taking a portion of the cost from a fund other than the general fund, and he has identified the benefit.

Mr. Hambley moved to approve the expenses; Seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no further discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Mr. Hambley asked if Mrs. Geissman has selected someone for the Flood Plain Board of Appeals, noting that 3 members are needed from the Planning Commission. There had been discussion on either the Commissioners' alternates or another member from the Planning Commission being appointed. The Appeals Board has never met and is being set up for when the County Engineer makes a judgment regarding the Flood Plain Regulations and the applicants have to have the ability to appeal.

Mrs. Geissman stated that she will look into this.

Mrs. Geissman presented a letter from Patrice Theken, Department of Planning Services, regarding office space.

Mr. Hambley stated that there have been conversations since last year and they are really packed when they hold their workshops. If they could remodel their area they could expand their meeting room.

Mrs. Geissman stated that she would have no problem with this.

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Bill Thorne, Assistant Prosecutor, presented copies of 2 new lawsuits to Chris. According to what he understands no county people were there, but he is getting further details.

Mr. Hambley noted that he attended the Transit Board workshop and that a lot of the Transit Advisory Board members were present. It was an excellent forum and the Advisory Board received a lot of information about their responsibilities, etc.

Commissioners ended the discussion session to move into the hearing room for the review of an annexation petition for land from Lafayette Township to the City of Medina. There was no one present for the review.

In opening the review, Mrs. Geissman noted that there was a discrepancy in the timeframe for the review and there is a need to continue this review to April 25 at 10:15 a.m.

Mr. Hambley moved to continue the review to April 25th; Seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Mr. Hambley moved to adjourn the meeting; Seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED:

- 05-0318 RESOLUTION TO ALLOW CLAIMS AND AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE UPON THE TREASURER IN SETTLEMENT OF SUCH LIST OF CLAIMS

- 05-0319 RESOLUTION LIFTING THE WEIGHT LIMIT REDUCTION ON IMPROVED COUNTY AND TOWNSHIP ROADS

- 05-0320 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MEDINA COUNTY ENGINEER TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE RESURFACING OF VARIOUS COUNTY ROADS WITH ITEM 402 COUNTY SPECIFICATION

- 05-0321 RESOLUTION DETERMING THE NECESSITY TO CLOSE MEDINA LINE ROAD (C.H. 2) BETWEEN GREENWICH ROAD (C.H. 97) AND AKRON ROAD (S.R. 261)

- 05-0322 RESOLUTION DETERMING THE NECESSITY TO CLOSE MEDINA LINE ROAD (C.H.2) BETWEEN FIXLER ROAD (C.H. 75) AND SHARON COPLEY ROAD (S.R. 162)

- 05-0323 RESOLUTION AMENDING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION

- 05-0324 EXPENDITURE ADJUSTMENTS FOR VARIOUS FUNDS

- 05-0325 REVENUE ADJUSTMENT FOR THE GENERAL BOND RETIREMENT FUND AND THE GENERAL FUND

- 05-0326 REVENUE ADJUSTMENT FOR VARIOUS FUNDS

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- 05-0327 AUTHORIZING CASH TRANSFER FOR THE COUNTY HOME LEVY FUND
- 05-0328 TRANSFER OF COUNTY GENERAL FUNDS TO THE MEDINA COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
- 05-0329 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM THE COUNTY GENERAL FUND (0010) TO THE PROTECT OHIO FUND (0055) FOR THE PROGRAM MATCH
- 05-0330 CASH TRANSFER TO THE CRIPPLED CHILDREN'S HEALTH FUND
- 05-0331 RESOLUTION APPROVING AGREEMENTS WITH THE ADULT BASIC AND LITERARY EDUCATION PROGRAM, THE CORNERSTONE WELLNESS CENTER, THE HANDS ACROSS MEDINA COUNTY FOUNDATION AND THE SALVATION ARMY FOR OFFICE SPACE IN MEDINA COUNTY BUILDINGS
- 05-0332 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF 3,400 GALLONS OF PREMIUM UNLEADED AND 3,200 GALLONS OF REGULAR UNLEADED GASOLINE FOR THE ENGINEERING CENTER
- 05-0333 RESOLUTION DECLARING MEDINA COUNTY PROPERTY AS EXCESS PROPERTY
- 05-0334 RESOLUTION APPROVING PERSONNEL CHANGES FOR THE EMPLOYEES UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE MEDINA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
- 05-0335 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY SANITARY ENGINEER TO INVEST THE RETAINER OF UNDERGROUND UTILITIES, INC. FOR THE FRANCIS BLVD, MELROSE DRIVE, DOROTHY AND HUDAK DRIVES MCSE#S.R.-500/6-1
- 05-0336 AUTHORIZING THE SANITARY ENGINEER TO OBTAIN EASEMENTS FOR VARIOUS WATER LINE IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS
- 05-0337 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF MEDINA AND THE OHIO WATER DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FOR A STATE PLANNING PROJECT FOR THE MEDINA COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
- 05-0338 APPROVING MINUTES FROM THE HOUSING COUNCILS REPRESENTING SHARON TOWNSHIP AND HINCKLEY TOWNSHIP
- 05-0339 APPROVING MINUTES FROM THE TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCILS REPRESENTING THE CITY OF MEDINA, SHARON TOWNSHIP AND LIVERPOOL TOWNSHIP

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05-0340 RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AND URGING
CONGRESS TO RESTORE ITS FUNDING

05-0341 RESOLUTION TO ALLOW EXPENSES OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

MEDINA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

Patricia G. Geissman

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen D. Hambley

Pamela J. Terrill, Clerk

Sharon A. Ray