

## COMMISSIONERS MEETING – MONDAY, JULY 21, 2003

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

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

At the beginning of the meeting the oral reading of the July 7 and July 14 minutes was dispensed with. Each Commissioner has read them personally. Mrs. Geissman moved to approve the minutes; Seconded by Ms. Ray.

Mrs. Geissman noted that a change was made on the July 7 minutes to clarify on page 3 that the discussion regarding the Resource Center in Lodi was to move the center to a location owned by the Lodi Hospital at a reduced rate, not just discussion about a reduced rate.

There was no further discussion.

Roll Call on the motion and second showed Mr. Hambley voting AYE on both minutes; Mrs. Geissman voting AYE on the July 7 minutes and abstaining on the July 14 minutes; and Ms. Ray voting AYE on the July 14 minutes and abstaining on the July 7 minutes.

Doug King, Administrative Assistant in the County Engineer's Office, presented 2 resolutions to close sections of Zimmerman Road and Hamilton Road for culvert repairs, approving the use of Subdivision Drainage Maintenance Fund for repair work in River Woods Subdivision Phase I, accepting and awarding the bid for the installation of a traffic signal at Smith Road and River Styx Road, approving the final plat for the Brook Hollow Preserve Subdivision Phase 3, and 2 resolutions involving the replacement of Bridge No. 12 on Hartman Road; one, finding that public convenience and welfare requires the replacement and the second authorizing the advertisement for bids for the replacement. Mrs. Geissman moved to approve the 7 resolutions; Seconded by Ms. Ray.

Mrs. Geissman noted that she has received phone calls from residents concerned about the traffic signal installation at Smith and River Styx Roads.

Doug stated that a traffic study was done showing that traffic backs up to Route 18 at times.

Mrs. Geissman stated that the 3 residents she heard from are concerned that the light will cause traffic to back up and cause problems for them getting out of their driveways, and that they feel there are only a couple of times a day that the back up occurs.

Doug stated that during peak hours it is warranted to have the signal. He's not sure if they will run the traffic light all day.

Dave Miller, County Engineer, added that the light will be installed as a traffic light and the traffic will be reviewed after installation. Adjusting the time on the light or going with a flashing mode during certain times of the day can be done if they find it is justified.

Mr. Hambley stated that traffic lights usually help the situation. One of the concerns with traffic is that people cut through the development for access to Route 18. Once the light is in place they may find it easier to go through this intersection than cutting through.

Dave noted that they were receiving complaints about the tie ups at the intersection and that is why a traffic study was done.

Mrs. Geissman stated that she would report this to the residents she has talked with and let them know that the traffic situation will be watched.

There was no further discussion.

Roll Call on the motion and second to approve the 7 County Engineer resolutions showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Commissioners reviewed the weekly permits list.

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Bev Valentine, Finance Department, presented 9 resolutions involving amending the annual appropriation by increasing and decreasing appropriations, various fund transfers, approval of an extension of the agreement for Information & Referral Services between the Family First Council and Catholic Charities Services through September 30, authorizing use State Purchasing for Data Network and Imaging Equipment for Job & Family Services, and the weekly bills in the amount of \$691,353.49. Mrs. Geissman moved to approve the 8 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. Mrs. Geissman 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, presented and reviewed a resolution to submit and application for funding under the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program New Horizon Fair Housing Program for fiscal year 2003. This authorizes the submission of a \$10,000 application to increase fair housing activities with the consortium that has been set up. Mrs. Geissman moved to approve the submission; Seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Ken Hotz, Sanitary Engineer, had no resolution to present.

Mike Pataky, Child Support Enforcement Agency Director, reported that the federal government has completed their final check on the largest metropolitan county (Cuyahoga) relative to the state computer system (SETS). Except for a few minor issues the federal certification of the system is pending. They will now start reviewing other states for compliance. There were a lot of updates in the last 6 months and they are still working through some of those changes. The job now is to work on refining the system. He noted that in the past they were plagued with very slow screen change times and that is working much better.

Susan Hirsch, Planning Department, reported that the staff presented Subdivision Regulation amendments to “tweak” them. There has been one meeting to review them and another is set up for mid-August. Also in August the zoning assistance mutual meetings will start on August 15. This will be a regional meeting. On September 12 a bus trip is planned to view planned developments outside of Medina.

Art Verdoorn, Building Official, reviewed the Building Department report for June. The trend continues with the single family home permits breaking the previous record. For June there was a 29% increase over last June of permits issued and for the year the increase was 7%. The size of homes has reduced about 8% and with the interest rates they are more affordable homes. The commercial is staying as it has been. The number of permits is the same, but the volume or size of the projects is still down. The development is happening in the same townships as in past reports. He noted that in 4 days of this month they issued 66 new permits.

Mr. Hambley noted that the average cost of a home is still \$193,000, which doesn't include the cost of the land.

Art noted that on the report there were slight adjustments made on the year-to-date numbers. There have been a couple of cases where a developer may sell a lot 3 times and takes out a permit to build each time he sells. Those extra permits have been removed from the report and the figures adjusted accordingly.

John Jones, Transportation Service Director, reviewed Transit statistics for June. The ridership on the “L” is down to 1,096, but this is not down as bad as the previous month. For the year the “L” ridership is down 18%. Ridership on the Homerville Route was down to 61, and there was one Friday that they had no riders. Overall ridership is up 1% from last year, which was a record year. Total passenger miles were at 77,115 and vehicle miles was at 61,285. They are averaging 9.29 gallons per mile. The revenue service hours are running over budget. The trip denial rate was 1.94%; there were 6 customer complaints; bill accuracy was 99.99%; fare box recovery rate was 34.74%; and one time performance was 96.27%. There were 3 breakdowns involving wheelchair lifts, which have been repaired. ODOT has completed their management performance review and there are some minor findings such as the way the phones

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are answered, no one being present on Sundays to take reservations, and that the buses don't say they are public transportation vehicles. He has been working with Chris Jakab, Finance Director, on the cost allocation issue. They have worked on a model and checking rates for next year.

John presented a resolution authorizing the submission of a grant application to the Ohio Department of Transportation for federal and state operating and capital funds. This allows the President of the Board to apply for Transit funds for next year. The application is for \$429,000 in federal aid, \$165,000 in state aide, and about \$300,000 in federal capital aid. This includes the architecture and design phase of the proposed Transit Center. Mrs. Geissman moved to approve the grant application; Seconded by Ms. Ray.

Mrs. Geissman noted that the total application is \$912,538.

There was no further discussion.

Roll Call on the motion and second to approve the grant application showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Mr. Hambley asked if there is still a shift from the "L" to the demand response in the operating statistics.

John stated there is still somewhat of a shift. He is working on some schedule changes for the "L" that will be presented to the Consortium over the next few days. There are no drastic changes and there is no need for public meetings, but there may be some sessions with some of the users. The changes will make the flow go more smoothly and more convenient. He plans to have the changes completed by the end of today. He also reported that the new Transit website has the schedules will be posted on. A technology grant was obtained from the State and the website was developed. They will be phasing in new emails so anyone at Transit can be contacted through email. The website address is [www.ridemedinaco.org](http://www.ridemedinaco.org). It has all of their information on it and it can be administered from their office. The site has already been linked with the county website as well.

Mr. Hambley presented and reviewed resolutions commending the Brunswick Area Historical Society in the dedication of the Heritage Farm Bicentennial Historical Marker and the Elm Farm Dairy in the dedication of their Ohio Bicentennial Historical Marker. Mrs. Geissman moved to approve both commendations; Seconded by Ms. Ray.

Mr. Hambley noted that both of these occurred over the weekend and he presented the resolutions at their events.

There was no further discussion.

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

Mr. Hambley presented and reviewed a resolution proclaiming July 28, 2003 at 6:00 p.m. at the Medina County Fairgrounds as the United Way of Medina County's Official Kick Off for their annual fundraising campaign. Mrs. Geissman moved to approve the proclamation; Seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Mr. Hambley presented and reviewed a resolution approving the appointment of the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) for Medina County. It was noted that there are 28 members being appointed. Mrs. Geissman moved to approve the appointments; Seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

The Clerk read the resolution to allow expenses of county officials. Mrs. Geissman moved to allow the expenses; Seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

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

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Mr. Hambley noted that an Executive Session is scheduled next for the purpose of discussion property acquisition and pending litigation. Mrs. Geissman moved to recess into Executive Session; Seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Mr. Hambley noted that the Board will recess following the Executive Sessions and reconvene at 1:30 for the discussion session.

At 1:30 p.m. the Assistant Clerk received bids for a resurfacing project and “CC” treated rock salt for the Highway Department. Bids were received for the resurfacing project from Karvo Paving Company, Osterland, Kenmore Construction Company Inc., Kokosing Construction Company Inc., and S. E. Johnson Company Inc. Bids were received for the rock salt from American Rock Salt Company LLC, Cargill Incorporated-Deicing Technology, North American Salt Company, and Morton Salt, with letters of no bids received from Eastern Salt Company Inc., and International Salt Company LLC. All bids were turned over to the County Engineer’s Office for review and recommendation.

Commissioners reconvened the meeting at 1:30 p.m. for the discussion session.

Mr. Hambley noted that a letter was received regarding extending the hours at the Animal Shelter. This has been discussed with John Shultz, Dog Warden, and statistics are available from when extended hours were tried in 2001.

Del Saffle, Deputy Dog Warden, noted that when former Commissioner Tom Bahr oversaw the Shelter he wanted the hours extended for better access to the public for adoptions. The hours were extended in March – November 2001 from 10 to 6 p.m. on weekdays and from 10 to 3 p.m. on Saturdays. A summary was presented showing that the adoption rate during that time was 70.7% and for 2002, without extended hours, the adoption rate was 83.3%. Through discussion he noted that they work with various rescue groups and do a lot of extra work to get homes for adoptable animals. It was noted that the adoption rate is reaching the ceiling level for adoptable dogs. From August to November 2001 a tally was kept showing there were 105 work days with extended hours and they had 18 dogs sold and 65 days of no business. Some of the 65 days were Saturdays. It was difficult scheduling the staff to cover the extended hours without overtime with employee vacations and the time it takes for cleaning the kennels, etc. The extended hours were advertised and posted on the web. He noted that about 10 years ago they started keeping the Shelter open during lunch because of complaints and they do a lot of business during that time. The Shelter is operating at a deficit which makes it hard to expand the manpower hours. Starting earlier on Saturday mornings would be difficult because of the time it takes to clean the kennels and prepare for opening. They start at 8:00 a.m. and cleaning usually takes until 9:45 a.m., with the Shelter opening to the public at 10:00 a.m.

Ms. Ray stated that she would like to see the Shelter opened an additional 2 hours on Saturdays because a lot of people work half a day on Saturdays and can’t make it there by noon. She also noted that 2 letters were received regarding extension of hours.

Mr. Hambley added that it is different with the evening hours during the week, but agreed an extension on Saturdays would be a good idea.

Mrs. Geissman felt that sending the summary and explaining the finance of the Shelter to the concerned citizens might be enough of an explanation to warrant not extending the hours.

Ms. Ray and Mr. Hambley agreed that volunteers could be useful to keep the employee hours down with the extension of hours.

Del was concerned about depending on volunteers for the extended hours, noting that a lot of organizations are hurting for volunteers. A member of the staff would be required to be on duty at all times in case a vicious dog is brought in and because money and euthanasia drugs are kept on the premises.

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Mrs. Geissman agreed that depending on volunteers is hard. They really do want to help but other activities, especially family activities, will come first with them. She doesn't feel it would be wise to extend the hours with the Shelter almost being in the red.

Mr. Hambley suggested and Ms. Ray agreed, doing this for a trial period and requesting the concerned citizens to organize volunteers for this purpose.

Through questioning, Del stated that if a puppy appears to have worms they receive medication at the Shelter. When a dog is adopted the people are asked to sign a form suggesting they take the dog to a veterinarian to make sure they are healthy. Adoptable dogs are given their first set of shots. Almost all vets will test for heartworm before spaying or neutering the dog. Last Friday a program started at the Shelter for heartworm testing of adoptable dogs. The Shelter keeps dogs for 7 days for adoption. The State requirement is to keep them for 3 days. They have seen a drop in the number of impounds since the spay/neuter program was started.

Ms. Ray asked if the workers' compensation seminar last week reviewed whether volunteers would be covered.

Mr. Hambley stated that the seminar did not cover that, but Gary Berkowitz is looking into a program for coverage of volunteers to encourage volunteerism.

Through discussion it was noted that workers' compensation coverage is not required for volunteers, but it carried it would cover medical bills and it would limit a volunteer's ability to collect for liability against the county unless there was gross negligence. The Bureau of Workers' Compensation would charge an established rate for this coverage, which is relatively inexpensive.

Mr. Hambley stated that the presentation last week about workers' compensation was extended to all departments, particularly those individuals within the departments that handle the processing of claims. There was a good attendance at the meeting and the message was to stress the importance of completing and filing forms and other paperwork promptly.

Ms. Ray stated that she received a call from Leadership Ohio requesting a Commissioner to speak at their meeting on Friday, August 15 at 6:00 p.m. in Shreve. She originally thought this was to be a luncheon instead of a dinner and is unable to attend.

Mr. Hambley stated that he will check his schedule to see if he can attend.

Mrs. Geissman reported that she and John Stricker met with Pete Elliott, U.S. Marshall, Ron Muller of Congressman Ralph Regula's Office, Sheriff Neil Hassinger, and Tom Miller regarding adding a pod at the Jail. They are currently spending \$100 million a year on federal prisoners in this area and there are 97 areas they have prisoners in. They are interested in our proposal to build a 42-bed pod for the women and to use the current women's 50-bed pod for men. Last year they had \$50 million available to build federal prisons or additions for federal prisoners countrywide and most of that went to the southwestern part of the U.S. near the border. This year they have \$5 million available nationally and it is too late to apply for this year's budget. In order to get funding for 2005, everything should be in order by this time next year. Mr. Elliott and Mr. Muller will meet again to review this and our figures will be updated before another meeting is scheduled. We have the time to do this and do it right and Mr. Muller felt this was something that Congressman Regula's Office would be supportive of. She got the impression that this proposal is at the top of their list and we have a year to get a solid proposal together for them.

Mrs. Geissman stated that the NACo conference was focused on economic development and the material and information received was excellent, although no big solutions were presented. Counties across the country are experiencing the same problems.

Mr. Hambley noted that the meeting with the Lafayette Township Trustees is this evening relative to the proposed University of Akron Technology Park. He presented copies of the slides to be presented, which includes the latest concept plan and a draft of the blocks of land. There are still some specifics needed. Basically the Township will be asked to approve the plan and to create PUD zoning relative to the technology park. A land transfer has been taken care of for the

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old railroad easement land that was gifted for this project. There will be one entrance on Route 162 and there will be access points on Lake Road. Buffers and other issues of concern will be discussed. Beth Stroble from the University will be present to discuss the university portion of the project, which is separate from the technology park. The university portion is allowed under the township zoning. The university is committed to keeping green areas around the university and technology park.

John presented a letter for Commissioners to sign thanking Ellen Gildersleeve for the donation of the land for the university/technology park project. The value of the donated property has been set at \$32,750 based on property tax records and the cost of land purchased around the project area. He noted that Ms. Gildersleeve donated the entire portion. Commissioners signed the letter.

Mr. Hambley noted that Ms. Gildersleeve was at the Elm Farm Dairy historical celebration over the weekend and he personally thanked her at that time for this donation.

There was no further business before the Board for discussion.

Mrs. Geissman moved to recess into Executive Session to discuss personnel/compensation, pending litigation, and an update on property acquisition; Seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Commissioners adjourned the meeting at 3:15 p.m.

**RESOLUTIONS PASSED:**

- 03-0562            RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE BRUNSWICK AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY IN THE DEDICATION OF THE HERITAGE FARM BICENTENNIAL HISTORIAL MARKER
  
- 03-0563            RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING JULY 28, 2003 AT 6:00 PM AT THE MEDINA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS AS THE UNITED WAY OF MEDINA COUNTY'S OFFICIAL KICK OFF FOR THEIR ANNUAL FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN
  
- 03-0564            RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE ELM FARM DAIRY IN THE DEDICATION OF THE OHIO BICENTENIAL HISTORICAL MARKER
  
- 03-0565            RESOLUTION TO ALLOW CLAIMS AND AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE UPON THE TREASURER IN SETTLEMENT OF SUCH LIST OF CLAIMS
  
- 03-0566            RESOLUTION DETERMINING THE NECESSITY TO CLOSE ZIMMERMAN ROAD (C.H. 30) BETWEEN WILLIAMS ROAD (T.H. 79) AND CRAWFORD ROAD (T.H. 80)
  
- 03-0567            RESOLUTION DETERMINING THE NECESSITY TO CLOSE HAMILTON ROAD (C.H. 76) BETWEEN SUBSTATION ROAD (T.H. 38) AND PEARL ROAD (U.S. 42)
  
- 03-0568            RESOLUTION APPROVING USE OF SUBDIVISION DRAINAGE MAINTENANCE FUND FOR REPAIR WORK IN RIVER WOODS SUBDIVISION PHASE I IN HINCKLEY TOWNSHIP, MEDINA COUNTY, OHIO
  
- 03-0569            RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AND AWADING THE BIDS FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT SMITH ROAD AND RIVER STYX ROAD FOR THE MEDINA COUNTY ENGINEER IN MEDINA COUNTY, OHIO
  
- 03-0570            RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FINAL PLAT FOR THE BROOK HOLLOW PRESERVE SUBDIVISION PHASE 3, MEDINA COUNTY, OHIO

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- 03-0571 RESOLUTION FINDING THAT PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND WELFARE REQUIRES THE REPLACEMENT OF THE SUPERSTRUCTURE OF BRIDGE NO. 12 ON HARTMAN ROAD (T.H. 127) IN SHARON TOWNSHIP, MEDINA COUNTY, OHIO
  
- 03-0572 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MEDINA COUNTY ENGINEER TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF BRIDGE NO. 12 ON HARTMAN ROAD (T.H. 127)
  
- 03-0573 RESOLUTION AMENDING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION
  
- 03-0574 CASH TRANSFER OF COUNTY GENERAL FUNDS TO THE DIVERSION PROGRAM
  
- 03-0575 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM THE COUNTY GENERAL FUND (0010) TO THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FUND (0120) FOR THE NON-ALLOCATED PORTION OF CHILD WELFARE EXPENDITURES
  
- 03-0576 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM THE COUNTY GENERAL FUND (0010) TO THE CHILDREN SERVICES FUND (0050) FOR THE BOARD AND CARE OF COUNTY WARDS
  
- 03-0577 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM THE CHILDREN SERVICES IV-E FUND (0050) TO THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FUND (0120) FOR CHILDREN SERVICES (IVE) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURES
  
- 03-0578 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COUNTY AUDITOR TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM THE CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT FUND TO THE JUVENILE COURT IV-D FUND
  
- 03-0579 APPROVAL OF AN EXTENSION OF THE AGREEMENT FOR INFORMATION & REFERRAL SERVICES BETWEEN MEDINA COUNTY FAMILY FIRST COUNCIL AND CATHOLIC CHARITIES SERVICES
  
- 03-0580 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING USE OF STATE TERM SCHEDULE FOR DATA NETWORK AND IMAGING EQUIPMENT FOR MEDINA COUNTY JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES
  
- 03-0581 RESOLUTION APPROVING PERSONNEL CHANGES FOR THE EMPLOYEES UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE MEDINA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
  
- 03-0582 RESOLUTION TO SUBMIT APPLICATION FOR FUNDING UNDER THE SMALL CITIES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM NEW HORIZON FAIR HOUSING PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003
  
- 03-0583 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR FEDERAL AND STATE OPERATING AND CAPITAL FUNDS
  
- 03-0584 RESOLUTION APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF THE LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (LEPC) FOR MEDINA COUNTY
  
- 03-0585 RESOLUTION TO ALLOW EXPENSES OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

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MEDINA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

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Stephen D. Hambley

Respectfully submitted,

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Sharon A. Ray

Pamela J. Terrill, Clerk

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Patricia G. Geissman