

COMMISSIONERS MEETING – MONDAY, MARCH 14, 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 7 and 8 was dispensed with. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the minutes; Seconded by Ms. Ray. Mrs. Geissman asked to table the minutes at this time as she was unable to review them earlier. Mr. Hambley amended his motion to table the minutes; Seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Mr. Hambley moved to recess into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel/appointment; Seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Commissioners reconvened the meeting at 9:35 a.m. for the regular session.

There was no agenda for the County Engineer today.

Chris Jakab, Finance Director, presented and reviewed resolutions approving expenditure adjustments for various funds, revenue adjustment for the Office for Older Adults and for the sale for surplus county property to distribute funds to the appropriate departments, declaring county property as excess property, various fund transfers, purchasing fuel for the Engineering Center and Highway Garage from Ports Petroleum, approving a program funding amendment for the FY05 Felony Delinquent Care/Reclaim Grant, authorizing financial participation with the City of Brunswick for 2005 and payment of MCDAC funds, adoption of a revised policy for travel-related reimbursement, authorizing the submission of Community Corrections Act Grant applications to the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation & Correction, adoption of the 2005 annual appropriation measure & repeal of all 2005 temporary appropriation measures, and the weekly bills in the amount of \$926,291.68. The program funding amendment for Reclaim Grant is to allow the administrative costs to be charged to Reclaim. The financial participation with the City of Brunswick is done annually for an allocation amount based on a percentage of the MCDAC levy. The amendments to the travel reimbursement policy will strengthen the process and increases mileage from 30 cents to 36 cents. The new travel policy will be affective April 1. The submission of the Community Corrections Act grant is for the Adult Probation Department and the Medina Municipal Court Probation Department. This is a renewal for grants in the amount of \$108,996 and \$115,039 that will be affective July 1. The adoption of the annual appropriations sets the general fund at \$35,668,794.50 with the total appropriations for all funds being at \$153,266,641. There is an estimated 19% of the annual revenue for carry-over, noting that 20% has been the target for carry-overs. This is a comfortable budget in terms of meeting the needs. There were a lot of departments that assisted in decreasing requests that were made. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the 15 resolutions and payment of the bills; Seconded by Ms. Ray.

Mrs. Geissman read a statement, which is attached as Exhibit A, in which she thanks Chris for his work on the budget and highlights 2 areas that she is opposed to in the budget. The first being excessive salary increases in the courts' budgets that ranged from 13% to 40%. Her colleagues are also concerned about these increases. There has been a history of journal entries by the courts requiring higher salary increases than what is given to the rest of the county employees. In 13 years of working on the county budget these are the highest increases in salaries that she has seen. The second is a \$5,000 donation to the American Red Cross for a mobile canteen. Although this is a legal expenditure according to the Ohio Revised Code, in light of the possible lose of the LGF's and with the many local non-profit organizations in the county, she cannot support this donation. She asked that the funding from the Commissioners' Charity Ball for next year be designated to the Red Cross.

Mr. Hambley stated that he has already designated and promised another charity his portion of the Charity Ball funding. The American Red Cross is a non-profit agency that has a

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federal charter that requires maintaining assistance for disasters under FEMA. Their proposal is for a disaster services vehicle. They started their funding request last year, and the EMA Board has tried for FEMA dollars, but was told the funds couldn't be used for "comfort" services. This disaster vehicle is used to assist those that volunteer as well as emergency personnel at disasters with nutrition and beverages. The donation is not for operating costs. This vehicle will be used in every jurisdiction in Medina County and every jurisdiction has donated.

Mrs. Geissman stated that she was told that not all townships have given to this and that some could not afford to do this especially with their concerns of the LGF's. She also talked with a member of the EMA Board that said she should talk to Buck Adams because monies would become available in this next year.

Mr. Hambley stated that the State has said the FEMA funding cannot be used for that purpose. This has been going on for the last year. The Red Cross is getting close to having the funding they need from various sources and we're one of the last to chip in. He misunderstood that all of the townships had contributed. He is also concerned about the loss of the LGF's. However, given a \$6.7 million carry-over, the \$5,000 is needed and there is sufficient to cover that.

Ms. Ray stated that if the funds were going toward their operational expenses she would agree about not donating to them. However, we have a blessing with the number of volunteers in fire, etc. that respond to emergencies and are in need of liquid refreshment at the scenes. She also agrees times are tough and decisions on the budget were difficult. If these services had to be paid for the overall cost would be much more. This vehicle will stay in Medina County, and she feels it is important to support our volunteers. EMA's command center is not set up for this; it is set up for a communication center during a disaster.

Mrs. Geissman stated that the Red Cross has provided this service for years and they will continue to provide it whether they have this vehicle or not. She feels it is wrong to support this with the possible loss of LGF's.

There was no further discussion.

Roll Call on the motion and second to approve the 15 Finance resolutions and payment of the bills showed: Mr. Hambley voting AYE, Ms. Ray voting AYE, and Mrs. Geissman voting AYE except for the 2 exceptions.

Holly Muren, Human Resources Department, 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.

Ken Hotz, Sanitary Engineer, presented a resolution authorizing the final adjusting change order for the Medina Reservoir Sanitary Sewer Replacement 2004 Project with Underground Utilities Inc. This is for the line from Route 3 to Route 18. A liner was going to be used on the 24 inch pipe on Route 18, but they were unable to use the liner and had to replace the pipe instead. This change order covers the difference in cost for replacing the pipe. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the change order; Seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Debra Radecky, Office for Older Adults Director, stated that their upcoming activities start this Wednesday with an Easter craft project, followed by a St. Patrick's Day party on the 18th, the 5th annual pool tournament on the 23rd, a program by OSU Extension on iron, and a trip to Landall's Mohican Castle. In February their services included 3 health units, 34 Alzheimer's Respite units, 86 supported units, 1132 Transit trips, 1143 congregate meals, and 3977 home-delivered meals. They currently are providing 217 home-delivered meals a day.

Virginia Mitchell, Achievement Center Superintendent, stated that they are requesting a resolution for MRDD Awareness Month. She thanked Commissioners for attending their

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breakfast last week. People with disabilities have the same feelings that everyone else does. It's about people learning more about people with disabilities that allows them to accomplish their dreams.

It was noted that a resolution had not been received and that the Commissioners would take action on a proclamation once the information is received.

Jim Doutt, Economic Development Corporation Director, presented a resolution amending the Community Reinvestment Area compensation agreement for Pride One Inc.-Sharon Group LLC. This was approved in December 2002 for a creative abatement. This was a \$1.7 million project for a multi-tenant building. This is within a section of Route 18 that is within the Medina City School's jurisdiction, and this was erroneously assigned to Highland Schools. This amendment corrects the school jurisdiction. The Medina City Schools and the Sharon Township Trustees have approved this amendment. There will be \$1,000 payments annually to the school district. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the amendment; Seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Mrs. Geissman presented a resolution amending the Table of Organization for the Department of Job & Family Services and asked if everyone had a chance to review this. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the amendment; 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. Mr. Hambley 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.

John Elder of Boston Road in Brunswick Hills Township stated that he agrees with Mrs. Geissman about the Red Cross donation. Donations are a personal thing and government has no business "sticking their nose in". Red Cross gets donations and donations of blood that they don't give away to hospitals. He also agrees about the money that is not justified at the Court House. The biggest waste is security as he has personally seen people walk around the metal detectors and not be stopped. In regards to recent events, the only way to keep guns out of the Court House is to take them away from the deputies. The reason he came here today is a case involving a child molester in Brunswick Hills Township. The little girl was molested the end of November and was removed from her home December 3. As of last Thursday no charges have been brought against the man. The man has been at the local library and there have been problems there as well. No one is letting the general public know of this. He has talked with the County Prosecutor and was told he can't discuss it. He asked that Commissioners to "light a fire" under Job & Family Services to get the charges filed. It has been over 90 days and nothing is being done. The Pledge of Allegiance says "and justice for all"; but there is no justice for this little girl to have been taken away from her home and that this man is not in jail.

Mrs. Geissman thanked him for his comments and stated that if he would give her additional information she would look into this.

Mr. Hambley also thanked Mr. Elder for bringing this to the Board's attention.

Mr. Elder questioned that they had enough evidence to take and keep the girl from her home, but there isn't enough to arrest and charge the man. Through questioning, he stated that this was originally a Brunswick Hills Township police matter.

Through discussion it was noted that there were 2 small items for the discussion session.

Mrs. Geissman noted that there are public hearings scheduled for 10:15 for the Route 162 widening and at 10:30 for the Lake Road widening. There will also be an Executive Session to discuss litigation afterwards. Mr. Hambley moved to recess into Executive Session after the

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hearings; Seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Mike Pataky, Child Support Enforcement Agency Director, stated that a new process was established by the State for developing the contracts for Title IV-D. The contract for Domestic Relations Court has been approved, but the Juvenile Court and Prosecutor contracts have not yet been approved. This need approval by April 1 or we could lose federal funding on those 2 contracts for the first quarter of the year. Bev Valentine in the Finance Department has been working with the State to work out the contracts and will hopefully have those completed in time. In line with that, there is a video conference tomorrow for judges and magistrates about the IV-D contracts. Some judges are having a difficult time complying with the requirements of the contracts. Judge Kovack is sending 5-6 of her staff to this conference. He also reported that they will be using Lexus Nexus, which had a huge information base, to improve on collections. This program will give them better leads to collect support that is in arrears.

Commissioners convened the discussion session.

The Clerk noted that calls have been received from departments asking if the offices will be closed for half day on Good Friday. After a brief discussion on what has been done in the past, it was agreed to close the administrative offices at noon on Good Friday.

Mr. Hambley noted that Ron Rhodes of the Township Association would like to have a meeting with the Commissioners to discuss some concerns. They are unable to make a Monday morning meeting and requested that Commissioners set a special meeting. It was agreed that dates would be checked into to set a meeting.

At 10:15 a.m. the public hearing on the widening of Route 162 near the University Technology Park was convened.

Mike Salay, County Engineer, and Hal Gerspacher, Civil Engineer, were present.

Hal stated that the project involves widening Route 162 west of Lake Road for the entrance into the Technology Park to meet ODOT requirements for a left turn lane and right deceleration lane. The necessary right-of-ways have been obtained on the north side of the road. Through questioning he stated that notices were sent to the residents in the area.

Lynda Bowers, Lafayette Township Trustee, stated that they had agreed to send things out to a group of residents in the area and they will receive the map showing these improvements.

Relative to the time frame, Hal stated that they plan to bid this next month and that this project is incorporated into other projects. With final approval from ODOT, they should be able to start the project in late May or early June.

Mike added that they will be bidding one project with multiple proposals. He noted that the last couple of springs have been very rainy and projects were delayed in completion due to the weather.

There were no further questions or comments.

Mr. Hambley moved to close the public hearing on the widening of Route 162; Seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

There was a brief discussion with Ms. Bowers relative to a plaque for the stone that had been moved to the County Home. She and Frank Ehrman, York Township Trustee, had said they could help find funding to pay for the plaque. She was asked to check into the cost for a small plaque. (This is a stone that had been found at Spencer Lake with the names of 3 Commissioners that were in office at the time the County Home was built.)

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After a short recess, the public hearing on the widening of Lake Road for the University Technology Park was convened at 10:30 a.m.

Hal stated that the widening will be on the west side of the road for a left turn lane. This is actually the second hearing on this proposal. The acquisition of right-of-ways will need finalized for 2 properties.

Eric Markert, Lake Road resident, asked when this project would start and whether traffic will be maintained.

Hal stated that the project will start in May or June. They do expect for access to the properties to be maintained. If they need to close it will be for a very short time and they will make arrangements before closing the road.

Mr. Markert noted that an owner to the south of him has had problems getting out of his driveway since the waterline went through. His driveway was not restored to the level it had been before that construction.

Hal stated that the driveways will be taken care of. Additional right-of-way is needed from that property owner and he will talk with him personally about this problem. Through questioning, he stated that the driveways without concrete aprons will most likely have the aprons put in.

Rebecca Markert asked how traffic will be maintained.

Hal feels they will be able to maintain the 2 lanes because the work being done is from the edge of the road. They will be digging 2 feet beyond the pavement.

Mike added that traffic will be maintained with flaggers when the concrete is being poured.

There were no further questions or comments.

Mr. Hambley moved to close the public hearing on the widening of Lake Road; Seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Commissioners recessed into Executive Session to discuss litigation, which had been voted on earlier.

At 11:30 a.m. Ms. Ray moved to adjourn the meeting; Seconded by Mr. Hambley. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED:

- 05-0175 RESOLUTION TO ALLOW CLAIMS AND AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE UPON THE TREASURER
IN SETTLEMENT OF SUCH LIST OF CLAIMS

- 05-0176 EXPENDITURE ADJUSTMENTS FOR VARIOUS FUNDS

- 05-0177 REVENUE ADJUSTMENT FOR THE OFFICE FOR OLDER ADULTS

- 05-0178 REVENUE ADJUSTMENTS FOR THE SALE OF SURPLUS COUNTY PROPERTY

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- 05-0179 RESOLUTION DECLARING MEDINA COUNTY PROPERTY AS EXCESS PROPERTY
- 05-0180 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM
VARIOUS COUNTY DEPARTMENT ACCOUNTS TO THE GASOLINE ROTARY FUND
- 05-0181 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM
VARIOUS COUNTY DEPARTMENT ACCOUNTS TO THE MEDINA COUNTY PRINT SHOP
REVENUE LINE ITEM
- 05-0182 CASH TRANSFER FOR INDIGENT COUNSEL REFUNDS TO THE GENERAL FUND
- 05-0183 CASH TRANSFER TO THE CRIPPLED CHILDREN'S HEALTH FUND
- 05-0184 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF 3,400 GALLONS OF PREMIUM
UNLEADED AND 3,300 GALLONS OF REGULAR UNLEADED GASOLINE FOR THE
ENGINEERING CENTER
- 05-0185 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF 6,000 GALLONS OF DIESEL AND 1,000
GALLONS OF REGULAR UNLEADED GASOLINE FOR THE MEDINA COUNTY HIGHWAY
GARAGE
- 05-0186 APPROVING A PROGRAM FUNDING AMENDMENT OF THE FY05 FELONY DELINQUENT
CARE/RECLAIM GRANT
- 05-0187 AUTHORIZING FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION WITH THE CITY OF BRUNSWICK FOR 2005
AND PAYMENT OF MCDAC FUNDS
- 05-0188 ADOPTION OF A REVISED POLICY FOR TRAVEL-RELATED REIMBURSEMENT
- 05-0189 AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ACT GRANT
APPLICATIONS TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION & CORRECTION
- 05-0190 RESOLUTION APPROVING PERSONNEL CHANGES FOR THE EMPLOYEES UNDER THE
JURISDICTION OF THE MEDINA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
- 05-0191 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FINAL ADJUSTING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 FOR THE
MEDINA RESERVOIR SANITARY SEWER REPLACEMENT 2004 PROJECT UNDERGROUND
UTILITIES INC. MCSE #SR-500/10-1.2
- 05-0192 AMENDIGN THE COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA COMPENSATION AGREEMENT FOR
PRICE ONE, INC.-SHARON GROUP LLC

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05-0193 RESOLUTION AMENDING THE TABLE OF ORGANIZATION FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF
JOB & FAMILY SERVICES

05-0194 RESOLUTION TO ALLOW EXPENSES OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

05-0195 ADOPTION OF THE 2005 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION MEASURE AND THE REPEAL OF ALL
2005 TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION MEASURES

MEDINA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

Patricia G. Geissman

Stephen D. Hambley

Sharon A. Ray

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela J. Terrill, Clerk

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Thank Chris for work on budget.

Two areas of budget I cannot support.

First ^{one} is the excessive salary increases for several employees in our courts ranging from 13% to 40%. These increases come at a time when LGF's have been threatened to be cut in the next State biennium budget by our Governor. Local governments across the county and state are concerned about providing basic services.

Our Finance Director, after Commissioners sent out letters to departments and elected officials to take another look at their budgets in an effort to reduce them, worked with the courts to reduce their budgets and I'm pleased by their cooperation to reduce other line items; but it does not justify the excessive salary increases which were not reduced.

This has been an on-going problem for years and I know my two colleagues sitting here are concerned too. It's not just our present judges; we have a history of the courts journal entries requiring higher salary increases to court employees than we give to the rest of the county employees. Over the past 13 years that I have worked on the county budget, these are the highest increases in salaries I've seen, and I cannot approve them. The judges must work on this issue with us.

Second is the \$5,000 donation to the American Red Cross toward their mobile canteen. According to Ohio Revised Code this is a legal expenditure. But in light of our concerns regarding the possible loss of our LGF's, I cannot support this either.

I am a strong supporter of many of our local non-profit organizations, but I believe that tax dollars should not be given to non-profits. It would set a precedence and where would it stop? There are so many worthwhile organizations in the county that could use help.

That is why I started the Commissioners' Charity Ball to assist non-profit agencies. I'm asking my colleagues to designate next year's Commissioners' Charity funding to the Red Cross rather than use tax dollars we may need to continue providing basic services.