

COMMISSIONERS MEETING – MONDAY, MAY 6, 2002

Patricia G. Geissman called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. with Thomas R. Bahr and Stephen D. Hambley 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 April 29th was dispensed with. Each Commissioner has read them personally. Mr. Bahr moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Mr. Hambley. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Doug King, Administrative Assistant in the County Engineer's Office, presented three (3) resolutions to close roads. There was an emergency road closing on Seville Road between the Village of Seville East Corporation Line and Guilford Road at the intersection of Hubbard Valley Road last Thursday and Friday for repair of a drainage structure. Zimmerman Road between Jeffrey Road and Williams Road will be closed this Thursday and Friday for culvert replacement and Grafton Road between Station Road and West River Road will be closed Monday and Tuesday for culvert replacement as well.

Doug presented two (2) subdivision resolutions. The first one was to approve the final plat for the Meadows of Southpointe Phase IV in Brunswick Hills Township and the second one was approving annual assessments and establishing a public watercourse in that subdivision. Mr. Bahr moved to approve the five (5) resolutions and Mr. Hambley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Commissioners reviewed the weekly permits list.

Chris Jakab, Finance Director, was on vacation this week. Beverly Valentine from the Finance Department, presented and reviewed eight (8) resolutions involving various cash transfers, authorizing the purchase of gasoline, expenditure adjustments, and the weekly bills totaling \$412,134.69. Mr. Bahr moved to approve the eight (8) finance resolutions and Mr. Hambley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Roger Harris, Human Resources Director, presented and reviewed the personnel changes resolution. He accidentally read a name incorrectly, which Mr. Bahr pointed out. With that correction, Mr. Bahr moved to approve the personnel resolution. Mr. Hambley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Roger presented the resolution accepting the fact finders recommendations in the negotiations between the Medina County Child Support Enforcement Agency and the Teamsters Local 293. Mr. Bahr moved to approve the resolution and Mr. Hambley seconded the motion. Mrs. Geissman commented that she was very pleased that the fact finders were able to support the county's decision on this. There was no further discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

John Stricker, County Administrator had no resolutions to present today.

Ken Hotz, Sanitary Engineer, presented a resolution accepting and awarding the proposal for the collection, transportation, recycling, and/or disposal of unwanted and unusable paint products and other miscellaneous household hazardous waste. Vexor Technology in Medina was the low bidder on the one-year contract with an option for renewal for two more. There are various prices for the paints, aerosols, pesticides, fuels, mercury, and propane cylinders. Ken announced that they are having a paint collection drive this weekend. Mr. Bahr asked if they expect an increase in tanks for disposal because of the new law requiring relief valves on propane cylinders. Ken said that they might but when he bought his new one they took his old cylinder and disposed of it for him. Mr. Bahr moved to approve the resolution. Mr. Hambley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

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Joyce Farnsworth, County Home Administrator, reported that one of the residents moved out of the home because she received assistance from Metropolitan Housing Authority after being on their waiting list for a year. They now have 47 residents living there.

Dr. Ross Santamaria, Diversion and Forensic Services Director, said that they are busy and the fees are up for his department this month. They are in the process of looking for malpractice insurance. They have found a company that is competitive in price and they have a “hold harmless” clause that Bill Thorne, Assistant Prosecutor, will review. They want to be sure the Commissioners are covered.

Jim Doust, Economic Development Corporation Director, presented a resolution authorizing the transfer without change or amendment of the Enterprise Zone Agreement between the City of Brunswick and Trans Technology Engineered Components to the new owners, Tinnerman Palnut Engineered Products LLC. Approximately three years remain of the original 10-year agreement with Eaton Corporation. Their primary product is automotive related. Mr. Bahr moved to approve the transfer and Mr. Hambley seconded the motion. Tom Arnold added that Tinnerman is a new corporate entity that is consolidating two of their other plants outside of this area with this new acquisition in Brunswick. They are expanding their product line and their production process for small headlight pieces for cars. They also have plans to expand into the boating industry. There are no changes in any of the terms, length, requirements, benefits, or expiration of the EZ agreement. It is simply accepting the original agreement under new signatories who will be responsible for it for the remaining three years. There was no further discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

John Burke, Treasurer, gave an update on the Fix-It Funds Program for low interest home improvement loans. He announced that the initial program was a huge success. \$744,000 was loaned out of the \$1 million on the first day of the program last Wednesday. All of it was used up by Thursday. He publicly thanked the five participating county banks: First Merit, Western Reserve, Keybank, First Star, and Huntington. The average size of the loan was about \$16,500. The rates varied from 3.95% to 5.5%. This is a \$5 million dollar program over five years. John noted that not all of the loans are approved and if some are not approved, they will pull from a waiting list from banks. The faxes from the banks to the Treasurer’s Office have times posted on them and it is “first come – first served”.

John Burke stated that S.B. 193 passed and the Governor signed it to make the matching funds available for the Fix-It Funds Program. They are communicating with Joe Deters, State Treasurer, for the matching funds of \$5 million over five years for Medina County. Details such as how it will be matched and if they will offer the same 3% discount below the normal bank rates, still needs to be worked out. John is hoping that more funds will be available this summer.

Mrs. Geissman asked John how the program could be attractive and competitive if the state does not give a low interest rate.

John said that he and the Cuyahoga County Treasurer are hoping that the state will offer the same program that they already have. Medina and Cuyahoga counties are the only two in the program thus far. They do not have the details yet. He thanked the Commissioners for approving the program that made a lot of Medina County homeowners very happy.

Mrs. Geissman read the names of the fourteen county students being commended for being selected “Student of the Month” during the school year 2001-2002 as follows:

Kelly Ingold	Lindsey Pohto
Rodney Hershberger	Christine Hahn
Gail Reeves	Steve Taylor
Brittany Yoss	Shawna Pier
Tony Kirkby	Branson Nelson
Carol Hendriks	Kathy Paragiou
Seth Whitney	Andy Warner

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Mr. Bahr moved to approve the commendations and Mr. Hambley seconded the motion. Mrs. Geissman congratulated the students. There was no further discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

The Assistant Clerk read the expenses of county officials. Mr. Bahr moved to approve the expenses. Mr. Hambley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

The meeting was opened for Public Comment. No one wished to speak at this time.

Commissioners recessed the meeting and moved to the Conference Room for the Discussion Session at 9:55 a.m.

The first discussion involved Medina Police Chief Tom Hanwell's suggestion about how to handle the vehicles' insurance for the Drug Task Force. DTF Director Fred Wolk drives county vehicles but he is not a county employee. He had several accidents over the past couple of years. The Council of Governments (COG) Operating Board, of which Chief Hanwell is a member, oversees the DTF. They were made aware of the situation and needed to address CORSA's concerns. In order to conserve taxpayers' money and provide a buffer for liability for the County Commissioners, Chief Hanwell recommended that they insure individually the vehicle that Agent Wolk drives. The quotes from the insurance companies take about 30 days but preliminary indications are that insuring all seven task force vehicles individually would double or triple the insurance costs. The operating board would mandate that Fred drive his own separately insured DTF vehicle. If his vehicle were down for repair or maintenance he would either have to rent a vehicle covered under a rider of the separate insurance policy or use his private vehicle and turn in a mileage reimbursement request. It was suggested that this be reviewed in 12 months according to the CORSA letter. If there is no other accident pattern then they could reconsider putting Fred's vehicle back into the CORSA rate.

Mr. Bahr said that this seems like a good solution to a difficult problem and the other Commissioners agreed. He asked if Fred has agreed to work with this solution and Chief Hanwell said yes.

John Stricker, County Administrator, said that Chris Jakab, Finance Director, questioned the practicality of limiting Fred to the use of only one vehicle. He gave an example of perhaps his needing to drive another vehicle in a drug raid.

Chief Hanwell said that it is obviously more convenient to have the ability to drive any of the vehicles but under the restrictions imposed, another assisting agency or another agent would have to transport him if he could not get to his own vehicle. They felt that being the agency's director, Fred is more involved with the administrative end than being in the field, so those activities would be few and far between anyway.

Mr. Bahr made the motion that the Commissioners approve the scenario as presented by Chief Hanwell, which gives him the ability to proceed and determine what the actual costs will be to insure Fred individually and keeping the other vehicles in CORSA. Mr. Hambley seconded the motion.

Chief Hanwell brought up the titling issue that was discovered in the By-Laws of the COG by the Operating Board. It became apparent that there was no one else but the Commissioners to title Agent Wolk's vehicle to so that was not an option.

Bill Thorne added that putting Fred's vehicle in a separate policy would alleviate the Commissioners' concerns and it would not affect the CORSA rate even if it stays in the Commissioners' names. He will review the file and double-check to make sure of this. Upon questioning by Mrs. Geissman about the Commissioners' liability, Bill said they would still have the liability and he will check the separate policy to see that there is an anti-stacking provision in it. Otherwise they would have to go back and redo the way the COG was set up under the Commissioners, which would be a real problem.

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There was no further discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

The second issue that Chief Hanwell brought up for discussion was an invoice that the DTF operating board received on April 15th for the Radio System Improvement Project. It was their understanding that the money was fronted by the Commissioners to be paid back by the DTF in five (5) annual installments of \$6,713.31. This invoice was the first of those installments. The Operating Board requested that they wait to see how the car insurance situation turned out so that if the budget was drastically impacted, they might have to delay payment of the invoice due to limited funds. With the Commissioners' acceptance of his insurance proposal today, Chief Hanwell feels that they may not need to delay payment after all.

Mrs. Geissman said that Chief Hanwell made the Commissioners aware of the situation so he can let them know later if there is a need for a delay and he said he would.

John Stricker said he would like to discuss some articles that appeared in the newspapers last week about the county's status as it relates to the General Fund revenue. He had the Finance Director prepare some figures in advance. Comparing the General Fund revenue collections in the first quarter of 2001 to the first quarter of 2002 shows an 8.2% increase and that is what the article stated. The 8.2% increase is on the surface and it is misleading due to insufficient data. It did not take into account the investment income, which is distributed to the General Fund twice a year – in June and December. It is placed in the Auditor's undivided tax fund as the Treasurer earns it. The first quarter of 2001 investment income vs. 2002 investment was down 57.7%. So if you plug into the same General Fund collection figures what was earned in investment income, the overall General Fund is actually down 6-1/4%. This is what the Finance Director has reported and this is a fact, per John. Revenues are very shaky. He said Chris Jakab still feels comfortable with the estimate that he gave Commissioners and there are many factors that affect it. John feels that making the statement that revenue collections are up 8.2% is irresponsible because it is not correct.

Mr. Bahr asked John if we are seeing any investment arena that might turn things around and make things better.

John said that it is called the Fed. For a while they were talking about increasing the rates and then there were some more concerns with the stock market so it is not going to change any time soon. Even if it did change and they upped it a percentage or two, most of the Treasurer's investments last longer than that time frame and it would take the county some time to come out of it. The figures that Chris Jakab projected and John Burke is saying you are going to get are true. All of the factors need to be taken into consideration and we need to be careful. Mrs. Geissman said that this is important for the community to understand. John said that it is not just Medina County. Cuyahoga County is facing a budget crisis for example.

Ken Hotz announced that they expect to begin the work on the Central Processing Facility next week. They will be building new scales, additional transfer floor space, and a building to house the pellet making. They anticipate construction to be completed by the end of the year.

Mrs. Geissman said that she has been very interested in seeing what they can do about some of the unsafe railroad tracks in the county. She passed around and reviewed some information about "The Angels on Track Foundation" that helps counties get matching funds for gates, lights, and signals from the Public Utilities Commission (PUCO) and the foundation itself. It requires forming a task force that would take digital pictures of dangerous county tracks, prioritizes which are the most dangerous tracks, and handles the application paperwork. The whole process takes about a year. She asked the Commissioners approval to move forward with the Medina County Railroad Task Force. Mr. Hambley and Mr. Bahr approved and expressed the importance of increasing the traveling public's awareness. Mrs. Geissman will send out informational letters and take applications from interested parties.

Commissioners discussed prior studies by the state and NOACA. Mr. Hambley said that they had a state priority list but limited funds so Medina County did not receive any assistance.

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This does not mean that Medina County does not have dangerous crossings. It just means that because they are not getting money from the state, they will have to take care of it themselves. Mrs. Geissman added that she believes that they can make some of the crossings safer and save lives in Medina County. The Angels on Track Foundation was formed by a couple that lost a son where there were no gates or lights at the crossing. They felt his death was needless. They won a large settlement and all of the funds go into making crossing safer for others in the state.

The final item for discussion was the petition for annexation of 2.3625 acres of land known as being part of the original Brunswick Hills Township Lot 5, Tract 1 that has been pending. Mr. Hambley moved to have the Clerk prepare a resolution to accept the annexation for next Monday's Commissioners' meeting. This would be under the old annexation laws. Mr. Bahr seconded the motion. Mrs. Geissman said she recalled no problems with it. Mr. Bahr said that his former concern with the centerline was resolved. There was no further discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Mr. Bahr moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:17 a.m. Seconded by Mr. Hambley. There was no discussion. Roll Call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED:

02-0340 RESOLUTION TO ALLOW CLAIMS AND AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE UPON THE TREASURER IN SETTLEMENT OF SUCH LIST OF CLAIMS

02-0341 RESOLUTION COMMENDING KELLY INGOLD ON BEING SELECTED AS A "STUDENT OF THE MONTH" DURING THE 2002-2002 SCHOOL YEAR

02-0342 RESOLUTION COMMENDING RODNEY HERSHBERGER ON BEING SELECTED AS A "STUDENT OF THE MONTH" DURING THE 2002-2002 SCHOOL YEAR

02-0343 RESOLUTION COMMENDING GAIL REEVES ON BEING SELECTED AS A "STUDENT OF THE MONTH" DURING THE 2002-2002 SCHOOL YEAR

02-0344 RESOLUTION COMMENDING BRITTANY YOSS ON BEING SELECTED AS A "STUDENT OF THE MONTH" DURING THE 2002-2002 SCHOOL YEAR

02-0345 RESOLUTION COMMENDING TONY KIRKBY ON BEING SELECTED AS A "STUDENT OF THE MONTH" DURING THE 2002-2002 SCHOOL YEAR

02-0346 RESOLUTION COMMENDING CAROL HENDRIKS ON BEING SELECTED AS A "STUDENT OF THE MONTH" DURING THE 2002-2002 SCHOOL YEAR

02-0347 RESOLUTION COMMENDING SETH WHITNEY ON BEING SELECTED AS A "STUDENT OF THE MONTH" DURING THE 2002-2002 SCHOOL YEAR

02-0348 RESOLUTION COMMENDING LINDSEY POHTO ON BEING SELECTED AS A "STUDENT OF THE MONTH" DURING THE 2002-2002 SCHOOL YEAR

02-0349 RESOLUTION COMMENDING CHRISTINE HAHN ON BEING SELECTED AS A "STUDENT OF THE MONTH" DURING THE 2002-2002 SCHOOL YEAR

02-0350 RESOLUTION COMMENDING STEVE TAYLOR ON BEING SELECTED AS A "STUDENT OF THE MONTH" DURING THE 2002-2002 SCHOOL YEAR

02-0351 RESOLUTION COMMENDING SHAWN PIER ON BEING SELECTED AS A "STUDENT OF THE MONTH" DURING THE 2002-2002 SCHOOL YEAR

02-0352 RESOLUTION COMMENDING BRANDON NELSON ON BEING SELECTED AS A "STUDENT OF THE MONTH" DURING THE 2002-2002 SCHOOL YEAR

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02-0353 RESOLUTION COMMENDING KATHY PARAGIOU ON BEING SELECTED AS A "STUDENT OF THE MONTH" DURING THE 2002-2002 SCHOOL YEAR

02-0354 RESOLUTION COMMENDING ANDY WARNER ON BEING SELECTED AS A "STUDENT OF THE MONTH" DURING THE 2002-2002 SCHOOL YEAR

02-0355 RESOLUTION DETERMINING THE NECESSITY TO CLOSE SEVILLE ROAD (C.H. 16) BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF SEVILLE EAST CORPORATION LINE AND GUILFORD ROAD (C.H. 41)

02-0356 RESOLUTION DETERMINING THE NECESSITY TO CLOSE ZIMMERMAN ROAD (C.H. 30) BETWEEN JEFFREY ROAD (C.H. 111) AND WILLIAMS ROAD (T.H. 79)

02-0357 RESOLUTION DETERMINING THE NECESSITY TO CLOSE GRAFTON ROAD (C.H. 42) BETWEEN STATION ROAD (C.H. 23) AND WEST RIVER ROAD (T.H. 86)

02-0358 RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FINAL PLAT FOR THE MEADOWS OF SOUTHPOINTE SUBDIVISION PHASE FOUR LOCATED IN SANFORD TRACT 3, LOT NO. 8, BRUNSWICK HILLS TOWNSHIP

02-0359 RESOLUTION APPROVING ANNUAL ASSESSMENT ON IMPROVEMENTS CONSTRUCTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF SECTION 6131.63 OHIO REVISED CODE ON APPROXIMATELY 3.6363 ACRES OF LAND IN SANFORD TRACT, TRACT 3, LOT NO. 8 OF BRUNSWICK HILLS TOWNSHIP AND KNOWN AS MEADOWS OF SOUT

02-0360 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM VARIOUS COUNTY DEPARTMENT ACCOUNTS TO THE GASOLINE ROTARY FUND

02-0361 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM VARIOUS COUNTY DEPARTMENT ACCOUNTS TO THE MEDINA COUNTY PRINT SHOP REVENUE LINE ITEM

02-0362 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COUNTY AUDITOR TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM THE CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT FUND TO THE COUNTY GENERAL FUND FOR DOMESTIC RELATIONS COURT SERVICES

02-0363 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COUNTY AUDITOR TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM THE CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT FUND TO THE JUVENILE COURT IV-D FUND

02-0364 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COUNTY AUDITOR TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM THE CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT FUND TO THE PROSECUTOR TITLE IV-D FUND

02-0365 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF 3,000 GALLONS OF PREMIUM UNLEADED AND 4,300 GALLONS OF REGULAR UNLEADED GASOLINE FOR THE ENGINEERING CENTER

02-0366 EXPENDITURE ADJUSTMENTS FOR VARIOUS FUNDS

02-0367 RESOLUTION APPROVING PERSONNEL CHANGES FOR THE EMPLOYEES UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE MEDINA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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02-0368 RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE FACT FINDER RECOMMENDATION IN THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE MEDINA COUNTY CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT AGENCY (CSEA) AND TEAMSTERS LOCAL 293

02-0369 RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AND AWARDDING THE PROPOSAL FOR THE COLLECTION, TRANSPORTATION, RECYCLING AND/OR DISPOSAL OF UNWANTED/UNUSABLE PAINT PRODUCTS AND OTHER MISCELLANEOUS HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

02-0370 AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF ENTERPRISE ZONE AGREEMENT TO TRANSTECHNOLOGY ENGINEERED COMPONENTS LLC

02-0371 RESOLUTION TO ALLOW EXPENSES OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

MEDINA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia G. Geissman

Pamela M. Vereb, Asst. Clerk

Thomas R. Bahr

Stephen D. Hambley