

## COMMISSIONERS MEETING, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2006

Stephen D. Hambley called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. with Sharon A. Ray and Patricia G. Geissman present.

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

The oral reading of the minutes of November 20 was dispensed with as each Commissioner had read them personally. Ms. Ray moved to approve the November 20 minutes; the motion was seconded Mrs. Geissman. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE.

Scott Miller, Finance Director, presented and reviewed the following resolutions: (1) amending the 2006 Appropriations Resolution by transferring appropriations between various accounts; (2) amending the annual appropriation resolution including a large increase for the Board of Elections, due mainly to the number of absentee ballots that were processed and changes in the laws; (3) authorizing the transfer of funds between various Sanitary Engineer funds and county funds; (4) expenditure adjustments for various funds; (5) transferring funds from the Public Assistance Fund to the Job & Family Services Building Debt Payment Fund; and, (6) transferring funds from the General Fund to the Public Assistance Fund for the non-allocated portion of child welfare expenditures. Mr. Miller requested payment of the weekly bills in the amount of \$790,321.94. Ms. Ray moved to approve the six finance resolutions and payment of the weekly bills; the motion was seconded by Mrs. Geissman. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE.

Gary Berkowitz, Human Resources Director, presented and reviewed a resolution approving personnel changes for the employees under the jurisdiction of the Medina County Commissioners. Ms. Ray moved to approve the resolution; the motion was seconded by Mrs. Geissman. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE.

Chris Jakab, County Administrator, presented a resolution approving the transfer of four properties in the Village of Gloria Glens to the Village of Gloria Glens. The properties located at 527, 596 and 605 Twilight Trail and 504 Playland Parkway, were previously acquired by the board as part of the FEMA funded Flood Mitigation Program. Ms. Ray moved to approve the resolution; the motion was seconded by Mrs. Geissman. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE.

Jim Troike, Assistant Sanitary Engineer, presented a resolution accepting an easement on Ridge Road (S.R. 94) for an extension of a waterline. Ms. Ray made a motion to approve the resolution; seconded by Mrs. Geissman. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Mead Wilkins, Director of Job and Family Services, presented and reviewed the following resolutions: (1) modifying their contract with the Career Center (Work School Project) to add duties to a staff member; (2) amending an agreement with the Career Center (Court Diversion) to reduce the mileage reimbursement rate to \$.40 per mile, which is the current state allowable rate; (3) amending an agreement with Alternative Paths to reduce the mileage reimbursement rate to the state rate; (4) amending an agreement with Medina Metropolitan Housing for Inter Community Assessment Team (ICAT) Coordination to assist homeless individuals; (5) amending an agreement with Goodwill Industries of Akron to reduce the mileage reimbursement rate to the state rate; (6) authorizing an agreement for professional services relating to transportation of foster children; (7) authorizing a contract with Unitronix Data Systems, Inc., for the Abacus software maintenance; (8) authorizing an agreement with Foster, Adoptive and Kinship Family Recruiters for services; (9) renewing the Cornerstone Psychological contract to coordinate and administer the collaborative family treatment team for sexually abused teens and their parents; (10) authorizing an agreement with Medina County Transit for transportation services for Medicaid recipients; and (11) authorizing an agreement

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for emergency respite for Adult Protective Services. Ms. Ray made a motion to approve the eleven resolutions and Mrs. Geissman seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Brian Nowak, Medina County Drug Abuse Commission (MCDAC) Executive Director, reported that the MCDAC members have been participating in strategic planning sessions to plan for the next five years. The sessions are facilitated by Robert Arnold of KAC Architects, Inc. They will prioritize their major goals and establish objectives on December 4. The Commission has agreed upon the following four goals:

- to sustain public support for the anti-drug levy and the work of the Commission
- to identify and fund evidence based programs in both prevention and treatment
- to develop stronger performance-based program evaluations
- to encourage programs self-sustainability where possible

Mr. Nowak said site visits are going well and the grantees will be contacted this week to remind them that the semi-annual performance and budget reports are due on January 31, 2007.

Bill Hanigan, Workforce Development Director, reported that Workforce Investment Act (WIA) and Earmark Grants' (for building trades, healthcare, and homeland security) goal performances are moving forward on schedule.

Mr. Hanigan announced that Jim Doutt, Economic Development Corporation Director, is the new chairman of the joint Summit-Medina County Workforce Investment Board. They met on November 15, 2006 at Akron's new job center on Tallmadge Avenue.

The Youth Committee has expanded its Internship Program this summer to also include Highland and Wadsworth High Schools.

Mr. Hanigan said the State of Ohio's unadjusted October 2006 unemployment rate for Medina County is 3.8%, which is the county's lowest since October 2001. Of the 88 Ohio counties, three counties have the same rate and five are lower. The State of Ohio's October 2006 unemployment rate was 4.1% and the entire USA was 4.7%.

Scott Uhas, Medina County Transit Director, presented a resolution recommending that the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) be the designated recipient for Job Access/Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedom funds. This is a formality for Medina County, but it is in support of the five-county region (Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain and Medina Counties). Ms. Ray moved to approve the resolution; seconded by Mrs. Geissman. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Mr. Uhas gave an update on what has been happening with the Transit Department in October. He is in the process of preparing the bids for supplemental transportation services. Ridership and revenue were up for the month. Transit employees completed first aid training. He met with a representative from Job & Family Services to discuss the agency's needs. He attended the monthly NOACA meeting, the recent county's diversity training, and the Ohio Department of Transportation's (ODOT) new director training. The department was reviewed by the Western Reserve Agency on Aging and RLS Consultants for the state. He proudly announced that Transit received their fourth and final new vehicle for 2006 and it has been placed into service.

Jeff Van Loon, Soil & Water Conservation District, District Manager, thanked the Commissioners for accommodating the agency with flexibility for the budget hearing date change. In his monthly report, Mr. Van Loon said the SWCD Board and staff will be attending a training meeting in Lorain County to interact with other districts and learn from each other.

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They held successful two-evening equine training sessions in conjunction with the Farm Bureau and OSU Extension and 45 people attended. They will follow up with visits to farms to make sure things are done properly and have another educational field day in the spring. They are working with the Home Builders' Association and the County Engineer's Office to train homebuilders and developers about improved soil and water conservation. He invited the Commissioners to the first countywide SWCD meeting for elected officials that they are hosting on Friday, January 5, 2007.

The ash borer is an exotic Asian beetle that was discovered in southeastern Michigan in the summer of 2002 (probably on packing material) and spread to Ohio in 2003. The larvae feed on the inner bark of the ash trees, disrupting the tree's ability to transport water and nutrients. Mr. Van Loon commented that he was discouraged that the state will be conducting Emerald Ash Borer informational sessions in Columbus next week instead of Medina County, because the county is quarantined. The state said they would consider having another session for Medina County officials. People are uncertain whether or not to cut down their ash trees before they get diseased, die and fall causing liability. The State of Ohio will be federally quarantined and forbidden from transporting ash logs out-of-state.

Clerk Pam Vereb read the resolution to allow expenses of County officials. Ms. Ray moved to allow the expenses; seconded by Mrs. Geissman. 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.

The meeting recessed at 9:51 a.m. for the commissioners to move to the Conference Room for the Discussion Session at 9:56 a.m.

### Discussion Session

Mr. Hambley announced that the schools would be attending next week's Discussion Session to talk about alternative funding for school construction. The Commissioners have been invited to the all-school boards' annual meeting on Thursday, November 30, at 7:00 p.m. in the Administration Building Auditorium.

Bill Thorne, Assistant Prosecutor, said Medina County was served in the lawsuit against 58 board of elections and Secretary of State J. Kenneth Blackwell. The lawsuit filed on November 2 by six plaintiffs claims that the Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) computerized voting systems manufactured by Diebold and Election Systems & Software, Inc. do not satisfy state law requirements for reliability, security, accuracy, verifiability, and accessibility to all Ohio voters. Mr. Thorne said he would be filing a motion to dismiss in Medina County's defense in that none of the plaintiffs voted in, or plan on voting in Medina County, and the Medina County Board of Elections has no legal authority with regard to the choice of DRE's used by other counties.

Mrs. Geissman asked what percentage of absentee ballots was not returned to the Board of Elections. Ms. Ray said 11,200 requests were made and approximately 8,000 were mailed back. Mrs. Geissman commented that the county paid a huge amount in postage to mail the ballots. She feels they are costly, not very effective, and there should be a reason for absentee ballots. Mr. Hambley said the trend in the country is to expand the availability of absentee ballots to permit people to vote in that 30-day period regardless, but it is an expensive operation.

Scott Miller, Finance Director, reminded the Commissioners of the budget hearings next week.

Charles Huber, Chief Building Official, said he would be attending the Village of Spencer's Council meeting this Wednesday, November 29 regarding the intergovernmental

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agreements to the villages for residential building code legislation. He received a verbal response from one of the two contractors that examines plans. (The state requires them to have a primary and an alternate contractor.) The alternate examiner indicated a unit cost increase. He will bring that action before the Commissioners for their consideration soon. Mr. Hambley asked if the Medina County Building Department is planning to pass on that increased cost. Mr. Huber said they would need to adjust their building permit fee schedule.

At 10:04 a.m., the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Ms. Ray that was seconded by Mrs. Geissman. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE.

### RESOLUTIONS PASSED 11/27/06

- 06-1083 RESOLUTION TO ALLOW CLAIMS AND AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE UPON THE TREASURER IN SETTLEMENT OF SUCH LIST OF CLAIMS
- 06-1086 AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS BETWEEN VARIOUS SANITARY ENGINEER FUNDS AND COUNTY FUNDS
- 06-1087 EXPENDITURE ADJUSTMENTS FOR VARIOUS FUNDS
- 06-1088 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FUND (0120) TO THE JFS BUILDING DEBT PAYMENT FUND (0300)
- 06-1089 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
- 06-1090 RESOLUTION APPROVING PERSONNEL CHANGES FOR THE EMPLOYEES UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE MEDINA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
- 06-1091 RESOLUTION APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF FOUR PROPERTIES TO THE VILLAGE OF GLORIA GLENS
- 06-1092 AUTHORIZING THE SANITARY ENGINEER TO OBTAIN EASEMENTS FOR VARIOUS WATER LINE IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS
- 06-1093 RESOLUTION AMENDING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN MEDINA COUNTY CAREER CENTER (WORK SCHOOL PROJECT) AND MEDINA COUNTY JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES
- 06-1094 RESOLUTION AMENDING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN MEDINA COUNTY CAREER CENTER (COURT DIVERSION) AND MEDINA COUNTY JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES
- 06-1095 RESOLUTION AMENDING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN ALTERNATIVE PATHS, INC. AND MEDINA COUNTY JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES
- 06-1096 RESOLUTION AMENDING AN AGREEMENT FOR INTER COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT TEAM (ICAT) COORDINATION BETWEEN MEDINA METROPOLITAN HOUSING AUTHORITY AND MEDINA COUNTY JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES

