

## COMMISSIONERS MEETING, MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 2008

Sharon A. Ray called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. with Patricia G. Geissman and Stephen D. Hambley present.

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

The oral reading of the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting on January 7, 2008, was dispensed with as each Commissioner had read them personally. Mrs. Geissman moved to approve the Commissioners' meeting minutes; the motion was seconded Mr. Hambley. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Ms. Ray presented the reorganization resolution and setting the dates of sessions for the year 2008. Monday shall be the regular session day typically commencing at 9:30 a.m., and Tuesday shall be the regular session when Monday is a legal holiday during the year 2008. Thursday shall be an alternate meeting day as needed for a special meeting and, if the Board chooses, an evening meeting could be held. Mrs. Pat Geissman was elected President of the Board for 2008 and she took over the meeting.

Doug King, Administrative Assistant in the County Engineer's Office, presented and reviewed the following resolutions: (1) approving the use of the Subdivision Drainage Maintenance Fund for repair work in Fox Meadow Subdivision Phase 2 in Montville Township; and, (2) selecting a consultant to perform the 2008 Guardrail Inventory and Inspection Study for Medina County roads. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the resolution and Ms. Ray seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Commissioners reviewed the weekly permits list for permits issued January 3 through January 9, 2008.

Scott Miller, Finance Director, presented and reviewed the following resolutions: (1) transferring funds from the Child Support Enforcement Agency Fund to the General Fund for Domestic Relations Court services; (2) approving the request for an advance of taxes collected for the Medina County Drug Abuse Commission (MCDAC) to meet its grant and operating expense needs; (3) authorizing the purchase of 7,400 gallons of regular unleaded gasoline for the Engineering Center from the lowest bidder, Ports Petroleum, in the amount of \$2.4525 per gallon; (4) approving agreements and services for mental health and parenting programs at the Medina County Jail; (5) approving an internship agreement between Medina County Department of Planning Services and the University of Akron; and, (6) declaring Medina County property as excess property. Mr. Miller requested payment of the weekly bills in the amount of \$730,415.85. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the six Finance resolutions and payment of the weekly bills; the motion was seconded by Ms. Ray. 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. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the resolution; the motion was seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE.

Chris Jakab, County Administrator, presented a resolution authorizing the amendment of administrative services and stop loss agreements with Medical Mutual of Ohio for the provision of employee healthcare plan services for CY 2008. The administrative services contract and fees associated with it represent approximately a 3% increase over the 2007 rates and the stop loss structure is approximately 12% higher than last year. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the resolution and Ms. Ray seconded the motion. Mrs. Geissman commented that she checked with the County Commissioners Association of Ohio (CCAO) and found that the county was still doing better with this program. Mr. Jakab said they routinely check with the County Employee Benefits Consortium of Ohio (CEBCO) to compare rates. There was no further discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

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Debra Radecky, Office for Older Adults (OOA) Director, reviewed some of the activities that the senior citizens are being offered in January and early February as follows:

- January 15 – Sheila Klimas from OSU Extension reports on calcium
- January 16 – Craft Project
- January 17 – Community Legal Aid
- January 18 – Raptor Society discusses birds
- January 21 – Closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- January 25 – Colleen Rice from the Health Department
- January 28 – Free cholesterol screening
- January 30 – Bingo and movie
- February 1 – Arthritis program
- February 6 – Bingo
- February 7 – Game day
- February 8 – Downsizing program

Ms. Radecky reported that they had three health units, 72 supportive units, and 25 Alzheimer’s units. They served 1,098 congregate meals and 4,729 home-delivered meals, and took 1,310 transit trips for December.

Mike Pataky, Child Support Enforcement Agency Director, reported that they collected five cases for a total of \$12,000 through the Financial Institution Data Match (FIDM) Program in December. The agency’s goal is to be even more aggressive with this program in 2008 to increase the collection of child support arrears. Mrs. Geissman asked if it was making a difference and Mr. Pataky said it was making a big difference. They have also been working on the Passport Denial Program, which is part of the Federal Offset Program designed to help states enforce delinquent child support obligations. They will not withhold passports of those needing them for work. Through communications with their bargaining unit, they were told that the agency should obtain ID cards. Job and Family Services helped them to get the pictures taken and made ID cards for which they are very grateful. These are required when they attend meetings at other counties due to increased security measures being taken.

Mrs. Geissman presented a resolution appointing County Commissioners to various committees and various areas of direct responsibility for 2008 as follows:

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Board</u>
Patricia A. Geissman	Board of Elections	Board of Health ( <i>as President of the Board</i> )
	Child Support	Board of Revisions ( <i>as President of the Board</i> )
	Clerk of Courts	Community Action
	Human Resources	County Planning Commission
	Job & Family Services	Drug Enforcement Council of Governments (COG)
	Planning Services	District Library
	Print Shop	Fair Board
	Prosecutor	Investment Advisory Board
	Treasurer	Joint Office of Economic Development (JOED)
		Medina County Drug Abuse Commission (MCDAC)
		Mental Retardation & Developmental Disabilities (MRDD)
		Public Defender Commission
		Records Commission ( <i>as President of the Board</i> )
Stephen D. Hambley	County Home	OSU Extension
	Diversion & Forensic Services	Railroad Safety Task Force
	Finance	Western Reserve Resource Conservation & Development
	Highway Engineer	Community Improvement Board
	Office for Older Adults	County Planning Commission
	Recorder	Drug Enforcement Council of Governments (COG)
	Sanitary Engineer	Economic Development Corporation
	Transit	Emergency Management
		Family First Council
		Housing Network
		Investment Advisory Board
		Issue #2/OPWC Integrating Committee
		Joint Economic Planning Committee

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		Park District NOACA Port Authority Solid Waste Policy Committee Soil & Water Conservation District Transportation Improvement District Veterans Service Office
Sharon A. Ray	Animal Shelter Auditor Building Department Buildings/Grounds/Maintenance Courts Sheriff Workforce Development	911 Planning Committee ADAMH Board Community Corrections Planning County Planning Commission Data Processing/Microfilm Emergency Management Investment Advisory Board Issue #2/OPWC Integrating Committee MCUC Advisory Curriculum Committee NOACA NE Ohio League of Leadership & Advocacy (NOLLA) Youth Services

Mr. Hambley moved to approve the resolution; the motion was seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE. Mrs. Geissman instructed the Clerk to put this information on the county's web page.

Mrs. Geissman presented a resolution re-appointing Conrad Sarnowski as the villages' representative to the Transportation Improvement District (TID) with his term ending December 31, 2009. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the resolution and Ms. Ray seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Mrs. Geissman presented a resolution appointing Leslie Miller as the villages' representative to the Medina County Drug Abuse Commission (MCDAC) with her term expiring on December 31, 2010. Mr. Hambley pointed out a typographical error and the Clerk said it would be corrected.

Mrs. Geissman presented a resolution re-appointing James Gerspacher as the Medina County Economic Development representative, with James Douth as his alternate, to the Transportation Improvement District (TID) with their terms ending December 31, 2009. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the resolution and Ms. Ray seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

The Clerk read the resolution to allow the expenses of County officials. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the expense resolution with the amendment that the date of the Economic Development annual meeting is January 29, and Ms. Ray seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Mr. Hambley pointed out that they neglected to vote on Leslie Miller's appointment. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the resolution, seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

The meeting was opened for public comment and no one wished to speak.

The meeting recessed at 9:50 a.m.

### Discussion Session

The meeting reconvened at 9:52 a.m. for the Discussion Session in the Conference Room.

Mr. Hambley stated that he voted on behalf of the Medina County Commissioners last month against the proposed state implementation plan recommendations for fine particulate matter (PM2.5) that is microscopic soot. The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

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plans to designate Summit, Stark, Portage, Medina and Cuyahoga counties, plus 16 others, as failing to meet tighter federal limits for soot and creating a health threat. After discussion with the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) staff, they discovered that Medina County's readings are below those levels (both the daily limit and the annual limit) that are going to be required in 2010; therefore, they should not be included in the non-attainment area. The County would need to appeal the status in order to be exempted from some of the state-mandated controls such as diesel testing, banning outside fires and restaurants' char-grills, etc., on bad air days. NOACA has offered to assist in the preparation of the technical documents. There will be a public hearing with the Environment Protection Agency (EPA) on Tuesday, January 22, at 2:00 p.m. in Columbus, where the county will present its case that they are in attainment and should be excluded from that classification. The EPA is accepting comments on its plan until January 25. Mr. Hambley explained that PM2.5 is very localized. When people were farming in the area by the Park District Office on Deerview Lane (where the measuring device is located), they "kicked up" a lot of dust and the ammonia that is generated increased the reading. There has been less farming in that area in recent years due to the University Center. He asked the other Commissioners if they were in agreement to have Patrice Theken and the Planning Services Department staff work with the NOACA staff to prepare the appeal, attend the hearing, and present the documents. The other Commissioners supported that action; therefore, a resolution of support for removal from the non-attainment counties would be presented next Monday with the information to present. The Northeast Ohio counties under federal orders to curtail soot levels by 2010 because of violations of an annual standard are Summit, Medina, Portage, Cuyahoga, Lake, Lorain, Geauga, and Ashtabula Counties. Medina County is still under the ozone non-attainment and e-check. A resolution will be prepared for next Tuesday and this will be coordinated with Representatives Gibbs and Batchelder.

Ms. Ray reported that the Animal Shelter received another check for \$14,332.91 from the Violet Blair estate that brings the total amount that she left to the Shelter upon her death to \$62,166.63.

Ms. Ray said she talked to Soil and Water Conservation officials at the public officials' luncheon last Friday. They invited the Commissioners to have a booth and take shifts running it at the Medina County Earth Day Celebration on Saturday, April 19, 2008, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at the Buffalo Creek Retreat. The Commissioners agreed to have a booth and Ms. Ray will run it from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; Mrs. Geissman will run it from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., and Mr. Hambley will run it from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Mrs. Geissman said she received a phone call and letter from a Westfield Township resident, Ryan Gregoire, asking the Commissioners to support his request to name a street after his mother in Westfield Township. She felt it was a reasonable request as the woman was very involved in the community and had many accomplishments. She did not know the township trustees' reluctance to name it after the gentleman's mother and offered to find out why there was a resistance. Ms. Ray agreed that the woman seems like a lovely lady, but was hesitant to get involved in telling the township who they should name roads after because there are so many special people. Mrs. Geissman said it would simply be a letter of recommendation since the facts would support that this would be a candidate for a good name for the street. Mr. Hambley asked if the family owned the property where the service road is located. Assistant Prosecutor Bill Thorne said the township held several meetings on naming roads, but he was not sure what the problem was. Mr. Hambley said the family should have the ability to name a road on their property. Mr. Thorne said they do not; it is not a new subdivision being created. Mr. Hambley said he had no objections, but he would like to know what the trustees' objections were. Mrs. Geissman said she would discuss it with the Westfield Township Trustees.

Chris Jakab, County Administrator, reported that he and Ms. Ray discussed the lack of parking for Courthouse expansion at the current location at the meeting at Medina City Hall last week. They told them that no official decision has been made and the Board of Commissioners was still reviewing the options. Ms. Ray added that there were some members of the group that were not aware of all the due diligence that the county had done regarding the parking situation exacerbated by the newly-expanded library and the Historic Preservation Committee's position.

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From a financial standpoint, city officials realize they have some financial obligations that they need to discuss internally. Mr. Jakab stated that they asked the county to consider jointly working with the Medina Municipal Court to co-locate that facility as well, but there is not a consensus on that project - whether to expand the existing facility or to locate a facility elsewhere. Mr. Jakab provided a cost estimate analysis of the three options studied by the architectural firm, all with the approximate 29,400 square feet of new construction plus renovation of the existing Courthouse (approximately 48,000 square feet) and an addition of a 5,500 square foot portion to the existing Courthouse for a new lobby, sally port, etc. All of the pricing options would provide approximately the same number of parking spaces. The architectural firm's study showed that the projected parking requirement over the next ten years would equal about 600 spaces. These options allow for between 548 and 574 total spaces. Two of the options call for a parking garage construction. One is for a 394 space, three-level garage, and the other is a 248 space two-level garage. Ms. Ray pointed out that the cost listed does not reflect any operational costs, just construction costs.

Option #1 (Expansion of the Courthouse at the current site) – \$17,923,586

Option #2 (Off-site construction west of the city) – \$13,950,586

Option #3 (Off-site construction within the City Center) - \$18,582,936

Mrs. Geissman commented that, in looking at those figures, it seems like there is one option that “stands head and shoulders above the other two”. Mr. Jakab said there is not only the issue of constructing a parking garage; there is also the ongoing maintenance and operation of a parking garage that he does not think the county would want to undertake at this time. Ms. Ray said what came out of the meeting was that the City of Medina needed to come together with some kind of cohesive parking plan to take the city into the future. Anything they are doing now is a reactionary move to what is being done, but they have never addressed any of the recommendations that have been made by previous parking committees. Trying to get a deck up in one location is not going to solve all of the problems and they understand that this is something they need to address. Ms. Ray said they made it clear that the county's goals and the city's goals are different with the Courthouse Expansion Project. The county also considers future expansion, and while land is fairly inexpensive, it makes sense to start planning for the future. She thinks the City of Medina knows they need to eventually do something with their municipal court so perhaps the option is for them to look at some other sites and construct a parking garage. It is more the city's obligation than the county's obligation.

Mrs. Geissman pointed out that the county has already provided a lot of parking for the city. The library needs parking for 55 employees and 40 visitor spaces so, obviously, they would be encroaching on the county's parking lot. She said she thinks the county needs to discuss the matter with the library regarding reimbursement for the use of the parking. Ms. Ray said the original intent of the library was to take down the three houses for parking, but she heard that was not going to happen. Mr. Hambley added that they lost parking when they had to move the buildings back from the street. Mr. Thorne said the meeting on the demolition of the houses was continued. Ms. Ray said there seems to be some internal conflict within the City of Medina that needs to be solved.

Mr. Hambley stated that there would also be operational costs savings with Option #2 with the transportation of inmates across the street as opposed to the downtown area. They could subtract some annual costs by going off-site, but if they locate in the downtown area, they ought to be adding operating costs. Ms. Ray said many departments have high costs for file storage so they are also investigating the possibility of putting in a basement and handling that in-house for a substantial savings for the county. Mr. Hambley commented that it pushes the \$14 million versus \$18 million gap out even further when annualized payments are taken into consideration.

Mrs. Geissman asked Mr. Jakab what the next step would be. Mr. Jakab said he has a meeting with Mayor Jane Leaver on Thursday to discuss details about what the county is trying to accomplish long-term and why it might make sense to locate closer to county facilities for

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certain functions of the court. There are ongoing concerns about the vitality of Medina Square, with or without the county doing anything. He recommended that the Commissioners have an appraisal done of any property that they were planning on potentially purchasing to make sure the price of the appraisal was consistent with what they would potentially offer on the property.

Mr. Hambley said their focus is to be considerate of the public that has to use the services and gain access to those services, whether they are library or county services. He agreed with Mrs. Geissman that there is one option that is “head and shoulders above all the rest” when it comes to that public access. Ms. Ray pointed out that Mayor Leaver has attended all of the meetings over the past year, reviewed all the studies, and has been very objective and understanding of the county.

At 10:27, Mr. Hambley moved to adjourn the meeting, and Ms. Ray seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

### RESOLUTIONS PASSED 1/14/08

<u>Number</u>	<u>Resolution Title</u>
08-0011	RESOLUTION TO ALLOW CLAIMS AND AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE UPON THE TREASURER IN SETTLEMENT OF SUCH LIST OF CLAIMS
08-0012	REORGANIZATION RESOLUTION AND SETTING DATES OF SESSIONS FOR THE YEAR 2008
08-0013	RESOLUTION APPROVING USE OF SUBDIVISION DRAINAGE MAINTENANCE FUND FOR REPAIR WORK IN FOX MEADOW SUBDIVISION PHASE 2 IN MONTVILLE TOWNSHIP MEDINA COUNTY OHIO
08-0014	RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MEDINA COUNTY ENGINEER TO SELECT A CONSULTANT TO PERFORM THE 2008 GUARDRAIL INVENTORY AND INSPECTION STUDY FOR COUNTY ROADS IN MEDINA
08-0015	RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM THE CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT AGENCY FUND TO THE GENERAL FUND FOR DOMESTIC RELATIONS COURT SERVICES
08-0016	APPROVING THE REQUEST FOR AN ADVANCE OF TAXES COLLECTED FOR THE MEDINA COUNTY DRUG ABUSE COMMISSION
08-0017	AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF 7,400 GALLONS OF REGULAR UNLEADED GASOLINE FOR THE ENGINEERING CENTER
08-0018	APPROVING AGREEMENTS AND SERVICES FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND PARENTING PROGRAMS AT THE MEDINA COUNTY JAIL
08-0019	APPROVAL OF AN INTERNSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN MEDINA COUNTY PLANNING SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON
08-0020	RESOLUTION DECLARING MEDINA COUNTY PROPERTY AS EXCESS PROPERTY
08-0021	RESOLUTION APPROVING PERSONNEL CHANGES FOR THE EMPLOYEES UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE MEDINA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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- 08-0022                    AUTHORIZING THE AMENDMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND STOP LOSS AGREEMENTS WITH MEDICAL MUTUAL OF OHIO FOR THE PROVISION OF EMPLOYEE HEALTH PLAN SERVICES FOR CY 2008
  
- 08-0023                    RESOLUTION APPOINTING COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO VARIOUS COMMITTEES AND AREAS OF DIRECT RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE YEAR 2008
  
- 08-0024                    RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (TID)
  
- 08-0025                    RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING A MEMBER AND ALTERNATE TO THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (TID)
  
- 08-0026                    RESOLUTION APPOINTING REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE VILLAGES TO THE MEDINA COUNTY DRUG ABUSE COMMISSION (MCDAC)
  
- 08-0027                    RESOLUTION TO ALLOW EXPENSES OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

All deliberations concerning official business and formal actions by this Board of Commissioners were conducted in an open public meeting this fourteenth day of January, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

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Pam Vereb, Clerk

COMMISSIONERS \_\_\_\_\_  
Patricia G. Geissman

OF \_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen D. Hambley

MEDINA COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_  
Sharon A. Ray