

COMMISSIONERS MEETING, MONDAY, JUNE 25, 2007

Sharon A. Ray called the meeting to order at 9:31 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 May 21 Commissioners' meeting was dispensed with as each Commissioner had read them personally. Mr. Hambley asked that they table the minutes until he had time to review the requested changes and his request was granted.

Mike Salay, County Engineer, presented and reviewed the following resolutions: (1) closing Ryan Road (C.H. 40) between Buffham Road (T.H. 72) and Greenwich Road (C.H. 97) for a concrete deck pour on the Ohio Department of Transportation Interstate 71 Bridge over Ryan Road; (2) closing Mattingly Road (C.H. 62) between Stony Hill Road (C.H. 48) and Ridge Road (S.R. 3) for culvert work; (3) closing Bear Swamp Road (C.H. 52) between Fixler Road (C.H. 75) and Sharon Copley Road (S.R. 162) for culvert repair; (4) authorizing the County Engineer to advertise for bids for the replacement of Bridge No. 32 on Spencer Lake Road (C.H. 45) in Lafayette Township; (5) approving the final plat for the Bennett Lake Farm Subdivision Phase 1, located in Liverpool Township; and, (6) approving annual assessment on improvements on approximately 35.0366 acres in Lots 2 & 3, Section 25, of Liverpool Township known as Bennett Lake Farm Subdivision and establishing thereby said improvements as a public watercourse. Mrs. Geissman moved to approve the six resolutions and Mr. Hambley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Commissioners reviewed the weekly permits list for permits issued June 14-20, 2007.

Scott Miller, Finance Director, presented and reviewed the following Finance Department resolutions: (1) amending the annual appropriations resolution; (2) amending the 2007 appropriations resolution by transferring appropriations; (3) expenditure adjustments for various funds; (4) revenue adjustment for the Victim Assistance Grant Fund; (5) authorizing the transfer of funds from the Child Support Enforcement Agency Fund to the General Fund for Domestic Relations Court Services; (6) cash transfer to the Crippled Children's Health Fund; (7) transferring of County General Funds to the County Diversion Program; (8) creating the Felony Delinquent Care FY08 Fund and authorizing appropriations; (9) creating a Family First Council Help Me Grow FY08 Grant Program Fund; (10) creating a Community Corrections Act Intensive Supervision Probation Grant Fund for the Adult Probation Department for FY08; (11) creating a Community Corrections Act Intensive Supervision Probation/Diversion Grant Fund for FY08; (12) creating the Drug Task Force FY07 Fund and authorizing appropriations; (13) creating the Workforce Development FY08 Fund and authorizing appropriations; (14) creating a Public Transit/Planning Fund and authorizing appropriations; and, (15) authorizing the submission of a Visitation & Safe Exchange Center Grant. Mr. Miller requested payment of the weekly bills in the amount of \$815,753.55. Mrs. Geissman moved to approve the 15 finance resolutions and payment of the weekly bills; the motion was seconded by Mr. Hambley. 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. Mrs. Geissman moved to approve the resolution; the motion was seconded by Mr. Hambley. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE.

Chris Jakab, County Administrator, presented a resolution approving the acquisition of property in Westfield Township corresponding to the Flood Mitigation Program Grant. The property is located at 78 and 79 Maple Street in Clayton Heights. Mr. Jakab also presented a resolution accepting and awarding proposals to Response Elevator Company of Westlake, Ohio, for infrared door reversal devices at the Medina County Administration Building, County Home, Human Service Building, and the Courthouse in the amount of \$11,830. Mrs. Geissman moved to approve both resolutions and Mr. Hambley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

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Jim Troike, Sanitary Engineer, presented a resolution authorizing the preparation of detailed plans, estimates of costs, and tentative assessments for the construction of the Rustic Hills Subdivision Sanitary Sewer Project. Mr. Troike also presented a resolution to obtain easements for the S.R. 42 Sanitary Sewer Project. Mrs. Geissman moved to approve both resolutions. Mr. Hambley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Cheryl Scheck, Job & Family Services (JFS) Business Manager, presented and reviewed six resolutions as follows: (1) authorizing an agreement for TANF Tutoring Services-Children Services between Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center and JFS; (2) authorizing an agreement for professional services relating to Protective Services for Adults between Elmcroft of Medina and JFS; (3) authorizing a contract with Windfall Industries for JFS; (4) authorizing an agreement relating to Help Me Grow between Medina County Family First Council and JFS; (5) amending an agreement between Medina County Family First Council for Teen Pregnancy Prevention Services and JFS; and, (6) authorizing an agreement for Teenage Pregnancy Services between Medina County Family First Council and JFS. Mrs. Geissman moved to approve the six resolutions and Mr. Hambley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Bill Hanigan, Workforce Development Director, presented a resolution accepting and awarding the proposal relating to WIA Adult and Dislocated Workers Services in the amount of \$270,000, for the period of July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008, for the Medina County Department of Workforce Development. Mr. Hanigan also presented a resolution authorizing a renewal agreement for Workforce Development Services with Tri-County Jobs for Ohio's Graduates in a total amount not to exceed \$225,000, for the period of July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. Mrs. Geissman moved to approve the resolution and Mr. Hambley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Jeff Van Loon, Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD), District Manager, was pleased to announce that they had about 50 people attend the equine event held at the Miller Horse Farm on June 12 where they presented information about pasture management, grazing, soils, and horse paddocks. There will be a "Rain Garden and Wildlife Pond Clinic" on Tuesday, July 10, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the SWCD, 6090 Wedgewood Road. Mr. Van Loon said there are about 2,000 ponds in the county and many people do not know how to take care of their pond. A game protector will discuss geese control, muskrat problems, and other pond issues. The Balanced Growth Initiative presentation will take place on Thursday, June 27, 7:00 p.m., in the Choral Room of the Administration Building and he invited the Commissioners, public officials, zoning officials, and the public to attend. They invited 12 northern Medina County jurisdictions (including the Cities of Medina and Brunswick, and parts of ten townships) to discuss the grant the Soil & Water Conservation District received from the Ohio Lake Erie Commission to fund watershed protection pilot projects. The development community, environmental community, and other county agencies have reached consensus on areas of priority for development, conservation and agriculture in this watershed. The information will also be presented in detail to the jurisdictions at their locales over the summer. The goal is to have at least 9 of the 12 jurisdictions support the Balanced Growth Initiative by resolution. This might result in state grants for projects to the local jurisdictions in the watershed.

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

The Clerk read the resolution to allow the expenses of county officials. Mrs. Geissman moved to approve the expenses and Mr. Hambley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Ms. Ray said an Executive Session was requested at 10:15 a.m. for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining. Mr. Hambley moved to allow the Executive Session and Mrs. Geissman seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

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The meeting recessed at 9:45 a.m. for the Commissioners to move to the Conference Room for the Discussion Session at 9:51 a.m.

Discussion Session

Scott Miller, Finance Director, said he was awaiting the Prosecutor's opinion on how to proceed on HB 694, Ohio's Pay to Play Law, from Assistant Prosecutor Bill Thorne. Legislature passed HB 694 on April 4, 2007. Ms. Ray asked if Medina County was making plans to comply. Mr. Miller said they were going to start with the larger contracts by adding verbiage in the contract stating they are in compliance. There have been several lawsuits and the Auditor's Office is still unsure about how they would audit that. Mrs. Geissman said she did not think there would be enforcement because of the anticipated changes. Mr. Hambley pointed out that the law was still legally in effect.

Mr. Hambley asked if they received advice from the Prosecutor's Office regarding the pre-employment drug testing policy from the Ohio Attorney General. Mr. Jakab said they had not. Mrs. Geissman said it has been a good practice the county has had in place for many years. Mr. Hambley said he agreed; they needed to get it resolved so they can address that policy appropriately. Mr. Jakab said he would contact Prosecutor Dean Holman. Ms. Ray said it would be helpful to also have an update on all the pending lawsuits against the county.

Mr. Hambley asked the status of the MCDAC Grant. On May 29, 2007, the Commissioners approved all of the grant recommendations except for the Medina Police Department (Medina Police Narcotics Officer) for \$ 35,000 and they held that amount back in abeyance for further discussion. Mrs. Geissman said she would like to hear, firsthand, from Medina Police Chief Dennis Hanwell exactly what the problems are so she will set up a meeting. She said Prosecutor Dean Holman would like to be a part of the discussion and said the Medina Police Department should have let them know there were problems. Mr. Hambley said, in talking to some of the other Police Chiefs from other jurisdiction, they have said they would be putting in applications, for sure, for MCDAC funds if the Medina Police Department gets this grant. Mrs. Geissman said it is time to look at the total package as to what they are doing with the levy funds, and Mr. Hambley agreed. Ms. Ray asked if they had a copy of the guidelines that MCDAC uses in awarding the grants. Mr. Hambley said MCDAC decided to waive the guidelines. Mr. Jakab said that was an interpretation they made. Mr. Hambley said, in talking to some of the MCDAC members, the argument was made in the manner of distribution; there was a complaint that Medina does not get as much as Brunswick and Wadsworth and the board found that persuasive. The guidelines do not call for distribution on that basis, but on the basis of the criteria. If they distributed by per capita and distributed proportionately, the board would not be needed. The board is supposed to address and coordinate countywide needs.

Ms. Ray said the larger problem is the division between the drug agencies and asked if that would be addressed at the next Council of Governments (COG) meeting. Mrs. Geissman said they first needed to resolve the problem that has just been revealed to them, that there is not cooperation between Medway, the Drug Task Force (DTF), and the local police department and their different philosophies about how they want to go about fighting drugs. The DTF goes after the "big guys" and the others go for the "little guy on the street" (intermediate level couriers). She feels the Commissioners should see how they formed MCDAC and see if it is still an appropriate guideline for today, as people have changed and look at drug enforcement differently. Mr. Hambley agreed and suggested they have the Operating Board address the questions and come back with recommendations. Prosecutor Holman, Chief Hanwell and the other police chiefs, and the Sheriff all have memberships; he trusts their collective judgement.

Mrs. Geissman said there were people on the Operating Board that were unaware there were any problems. She said her interpretation was that the Medina Police Department was looking for an excuse for coming forward and wanting their own money rather than continue to work and borrow equipment from the DTF. The excuse is that there is no cooperation, or the equipment is always somewhere else when they wanted to use it. She does not know what that "non-cooperative" part is. Mr. Hambley said the Operating Board knows the distribution of the agents and how the agencies operate. They oversee the details and that is where that discussion

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ought to occur. From the distribution of funds, they can address what the best approach ought to be for drug enforcement and where they should target their efforts. That ought to be within the confines of the Prosecutor and Medina County's law enforcement. Ms. Ray said they need to make sure Medina County levy dollars are spent as effectively as they can be.

Mrs. Geissman pointed out that there has been a very large increase in funding for the DTF with their new offices, etc. It does not make sense to continue to fund them the same amount of money if some of their responsibility is given to other organizations and there are fewer people they are representing. She said she would meet with Chief Dennis Hanwell and Prosecutor Dean Holman. She likes Mr. Hambley's suggestion of turning over the issue to the Operating Board for some further discussion. Then the Commissioners will have to look at the total picture.

Ms. Ray said she and Mr. Jakab are doing research on the different Courthouse options that were presented last week. They will collect more information for the next two weeks and bring it to the Board for discussion that will be helpful to narrow it down to two options.

Ms. Ray pointed out that the foreclosure rate is sky high in Medina County, as well as the rest of the State of Ohio. Administrative Assistant Dianne Ranftl has been referring people that call for the Prescription Help Program and the Community Development Block Grant home improvement loans to a hotline that the Ohio Department of Development set up for foreclosure help and support: 1-888-995-HOPE (4673). One of the agencies the state is recommending is Neighborhood Conservation Services in Barberton, Ohio. She, Mrs. Ranftl, and Mr. Jakab will be meeting with them on July 3 to see if there is anything else they can do to help the citizens going through the foreclosure process or to try to prevent them from going through the foreclosure process. There may be grants through the Ohio Housing Trust Fund to utilize.

Mr. Hambley said the Housing Network's Goals and Objectives Committee has identified foreclosures as a key concern. They will be a meeting on Tuesday, July 10, at 2:00 p.m., at the United Way building to identify and work in a partnership with the Housing Network to help address that problem. The focus will be on education, personal responsibility, and debt management. They will also be working cooperatively with legislators such as Representative Batchelder. He is helping an initiative for a more regulatory environment for the behavior of "pay day loan companies".

Ms. Ray said education is the key because, typically, by the time someone calls that is in foreclosure, there is not much that can be done unless they call at the beginning of the problem. Mrs. Geissman pointed out that many foreclosures happen because there were two people working to make the mortgage payment and one of them loses their job. At a recent County Commissioners Association (CCAO) meeting, the board members were surprised to hear that there were so many foreclosures in Medina County because it is seen as being so well off. Medina County is financially well off, but there are also many people that have over-bought expensive homes. Ms. Ray said the advice given about five years ago, to buy the most expensive home possible because of the investment potential and being able to write off the interest, has caught up with many people.

Nancy Girton, Auditor's Office, added that Auditor Mike Kovack formerly had his web site address the foreclosure problem and he has done a lot of research. Ms. Girton said she enters the Sheriff's Sales on the web site every month and this month has the highest (about 85) that are up for bid in July.

Ms. Ray asked if the high schools have a mandatory financial class that seniors must take to get some guidelines about finances and credit. Mrs. Geissman said the Extension Service educates Middle School students about budgeting and the responsibility of spending. Ms. Ray said it is too bad if they don't have something their senior year because they might learn about it in Junior High, but over the years they forget it. Ms. Girton told them about a college student she heard about who accumulated \$60,000 in credit card debt.

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Debbie Atkinson, Treasurer's Office, said State Treasurer Cordray is trying to put together a finance program in the schools. Ms. Ray said that would be very relevant to educate students before they start getting credit cards applications in the mail.

At 10:08 a.m., the Commissioners went into the Executive Session that was voted on earlier.

At 11:15 p.m., Mr. Hambley moved to adjourn the meeting and Ms. Ray seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed both Commissioners voting AYE.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED 6/25/07

<u>Number</u>	<u>Resolution Title</u>
07-638	RESOLUTION TO ALLOW CLAIMS AND AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE UPON THE TREASURER IN SETTLEMENT OF SUCH LIST OF CLAIMS
07-639	RESOLUTION DETERMINING THE NECESSITY TO CLOSE RYAN ROAD (C.H.40) BETWEEN BUFFHAM ROAD (T.H. 72) AND GREENWICH ROAD (C.H.97)
07-640	RESOLUTION DETERMINING THE NECESSITY TO CLOSE MATTINGLY ROAD (C.H.62) BETWEEN STONY HILL ROAD (C.H. 49) AND RIDGE ROAD (S.R.3)
07-641	RESOLUTION DETERMINING THE NECESSITY TO CLOSE BEAR SWAMP ROAD (C.H. 52) BETWEEN FIXLER ROAD (C.H. 75) AND SHARON COPLEY ROAD (S.R. 162)
07-642	RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MEDINA COUNTY ENGINEER TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF BRIDGE NO. 32 ON SPENCER LAKE ROAD (C.H. 45) IN LAFAYETTE TOWNSHIP
07-643	RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FINAL PLAT FOR THE BENNETT LAKE FARM SUBDIVISION PHASE 1 LOCATED IN LIVERPOOL TOWNSHIP SECTION 25 LOTS 2 & 3
07-644	RESOLUTION APPROVING ANNUAL ASSESSMENT ON IMPROVEMENTS CONSTRUCTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF SECTION 6131.63 OHIO REVISED CODE ON APPROXIMATELY 35.0366 ACRES IN LOTS 2&3 SECTION 25 OF LIVERPOOL TOWNSHIP KNOWN AS BENNETT LAKE FARM SUBDIVISION AND ESTABLISHING A PUBLIC WATERCOURSE
07-645	RESOLUTION AMENDING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION
07-646	RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 2007 APPROPRIATIONS RESOLUTION BY TRANSFERRING APPROPRIATIONS
07-647	EXPENDITURE ADJUSTMENTS FOR VARIOUS FUNDS
07-648	REVENUE ADJUSTMENT FOR THE VICTIM ASSISTANCE GRANT FUND
07-649	RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM THE CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT AGENCY FUND TO THE GENERAL FUND FOR DOMESTIC RELATIONS COURT SERVICES

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- 07-650 CASH TRANSFER TO THE CRIPPLED CHILDREN'S HEALTH FUND
- 07-651 TRANSFER OF COUNTY GENERAL FUNDS TO THE COUNTY DIVERSION PROGRAM APPROPRIATIONS
- 07-653 CREATION OF A FAMILY FIRST COUNCIL HELP ME GROW FY08 GRANT PROGRAM FUND
- 07-654 CREATION OF A COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ACT INTENSIVE SUPERVISION PROBATION GRANT FUND FOR THE MEDINA COUNTY ADULT PROBATION DEPARTMENT FOR FY08
- 07-655 CREATION OF A COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ACT INTENSIVE SUPERVISION PROBATION/DIVERSION GRANT FUND FOR FY08
- 07-656 CREATION OF THE DRUG TASK FORCE FY07 FUND AND AUTHORIZE APPROPRIATIONS
- 07-657 CREATION OF THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT FY08 FUND AND AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATIONS
- 07-658 CREATION OF PUBLIC TRANSIT/PLANNING FUND AND AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATIONS
- 07-659 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A VISITATION AND SAFE EXCHANGE CENTER GRANT
- 07-660 RESOLUTION APPROVING PERSONNEL CHANGES FOR THE EMPLOYEES UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE MEDINA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
- 07-661 APPROVING THE ACQUISTION OF PROPERTY IN THE TOWNSHIP OF WESTFIELD
- 07-662 RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AND AWARDDING PROPOSALS FOR INFRARED DOOR REVERSAL DEVICES AT THE MEDINA COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, COUNTY HOME, HUMAN SERVICE BUILDING, AND THE COURTHOUSE
- 07-663 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PREPARATION OF DETAILED PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, ESTIMATES OF COSTS, AND TENTATIVE ASSESSMENTS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE RUSTIC HILLS SUBDIVISION SANITARY SEWER PROJECT NO. S-500/10-22.1 IN MEDINA COUNTY SEWER DISTRICT 500
- 07-664 AUTHORIZING THE SANITARY ENGINEER TO OBTAIN EASEMENTS FOR VARIOUS SANITARY SEWER IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS
- 07-665 ACCEPTING AND AWARDDING THE PROPOSAL RELATING TO WIA ADULT AND DISLOCATED WORKER SERVICES FOR THE MEDINA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
- 07-666 AUTHORIZING A RENEWAL AGREEMENT FOR WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

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SERVICES WITH TRI-COUNTY JOBS FOR OHIO'S GRADUATES

- 07-667 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT FOR TANF TUTORING SERVICES-CHILDREN SERVICES BETWEEN MEDINA COUNTY SCHOOLS' EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER AND MEDINA COUNTY JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES
- 07-668 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RELATING TO PROTECTIVE SERVICES FOR ADULTS BETWEEN ELMCROFT OF MEDINA AND MEDINA COUNTY JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES
- 07-669 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH WINDFALL INDUSTRIES FOR MEDINA COUNTY JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES
- 07-670 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT RELATING TO HELP ME GROW BETWEEN COUNTY FAMILY FIRST COUNCIL AND MEDINA COUNTY JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES
- 07-671 RESOLUTION AMENDING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN MEDINA COUNTY FAMILY FIRST COUNCIL FOR TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION SERVICES AND MEDINA COUNTY JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES
- 07-672 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT FOR TEENAGE PREGNANCY PREVENTION SERVICES BETWEEN MEDINA COUNTY FAMILY FIRST COUNCIL AND MEDINA COUNTY JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES
- 07-673 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 twenty-fifth day of June, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Vereb, Clerk

COMMISSIONERS _____
Sharon A. Ray

OF _____
Patricia G. Geissman

MEDINA COUNTY _____
Stephen D. Hambley