

COMMISSIONERS MEETING, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2008

Patricia G. Geissman called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. with Sharon A. Ray present. Mr. Hambley was absent due to a family emergency.

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

The oral reading of the minutes of the Commissioners' special meeting on Tuesday, October 21, and the minutes of the November 3, 2008 Commissioners' meeting were dispensed with as each Commissioner had read them personally. Ms. Ray moved to approve the Commissioners' meeting minutes; the motion was seconded Mrs. Geissman. There was no discussion. Roll call vote showed both Commissioners voting AYE.

Scott Miller, Finance Director, presented and reviewed the following resolutions: (1) amending the 2008 Appropriations Resolution by transferring appropriations; (2) amending the Annual Appropriation Resolution; (3) authorizing the transfer of funds from various County department accounts to the Medina County Print Shop Revenue Line Item; (4) authorizing the transfer of funds from various County department accounts to the Gasoline Rotary Fund; and, (5) expenditure adjustments for various funds. Mr. Miller requested payment of the weekly bills in the amount of \$741,061.95. Ms. Ray moved to approve the five Finance resolutions and payment of the weekly bills; the motion was seconded by Mrs. Geissman. There was no discussion. Roll call vote showed both Commissioners voting AYE.

Gary Berkowitz, Human Resources Director, presented a resolution approving personnel changes for the employees under the jurisdiction of the Medina County Commissioners. He noted that Transit Director Scott Uhas had resigned effective November 21, 2008. Ms. Ray moved to approve the resolution; the motion was seconded by Mrs. Geissman. There was no discussion. Roll call vote showed both Commissioners voting AYE.

Jim Troike, Sanitary Engineer, presented and reviewed the following resolutions: (1) intent to establish the designation (pursuant to O.R.C. § 343.014) of the Medina County Central Processing Facility and the Medina County Class IV Compost Facility as the only facilities authorized to receive the solid waste generated in the Medina County Solid Waste District; (2) accepting and awarding the bids for bulk chemicals to be utilized at the Medina County Treatment Facilities; and, (3) adjusting the Final Adjusting Change Order No. 3 for the Westfield Water Main Extension 2008 for Stillion Brothers Excavating, Inc., MCSE #W-700/00-32.2. Ms. Ray moved to approve the three resolutions and Mrs. Geissman seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call vote showed both Commissioners voting AYE.

Debra Radecky, Office for Older Adults Director, presented the upcoming events that will take place at the Senior Center during the end of November as follows:

- November 11 - Closed for Veterans Day
- November 12 - Bingo
- November 13 - "Make it and take it" recipes from OSU Extension
- November 14 - Bingo, therapy dogs, and memory screenings
- November 17 - Cholesterol screenings
- November 18 - Downsized meals recipes from OSU Extension
- November 19 - Community Legal Aid
- November 20 - Jolly Jammers musical jam session (very popular!)
- November 21 - Stroke presentation

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- November 25 - Day trip to the Art Museum
- November 26 - Bingo and movie, "Mamma Mia!"
- November 27 - Closed for Thanksgiving
- November 28 - Closed for kitchen maintenance and cleaning

Last month they had 75 supportive units, 32 Alzheimer visits, 1,009 congregate meals, 4,096 home-delivered meals, and 1,928 transit trips.

Ms. Radecky announced that they were able to give away 192 Farmers' Market coupons to senior citizens in Medina County at the cost of \$50.00 each.

Mike Pataky, Child Support Enforcement Agency (CSEA) Director, reported that the agency has been conducting their annual food drive for the past six weeks. They collected 15 boxes of food and hygiene products to stock the food pantry at the Medina United Methodist Church. Although times are tough, they had one of the highest years for donations.

Mr. Pataky informed the Commissioners about a man that had his passport blocked because his child support arrears were in excess of what the Federal government allows. He asked to have it unblocked and paid the additional amount to reduce his arrears to be below the Federal threshold for passport release. When the payment was issued to the custodial parent, Medina County CSEA issued the paperwork to have his passport released.

The Federal Institution Data Match (FIDM) Program "killed the competition" (the other CSEA's in the State of Ohio) by collecting over \$16,000 last month; the closest county collected \$4,000. The agency does a banner job in collecting money for children by seizing bank accounts. Obligor's are not happy about that method, but it works. The obligor's continue to pay because it is constantly monitored. Ms. Ray asked how much the program has collected. Mr. Pataky said he would present the data in his report next month.

Tim Lutz, Public Defender (PD), presented some statistics on the number of clients the PD Office is serving this year compared to last year:

<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>		
98	58	September	Medina Municipal Court
91	86	October	Medina Municipal Court
40	44	September	Wadsworth Municipal Court
52	40	October	Wadsworth Municipal Court

Representation for juveniles began in June 2008 and those cases are on the rise:

31	June	Juvenile Court
38	July	Juvenile Court
47	August	Juvenile Court

Mr. Lutz said that he attended a State of Ohio Public Defender's conference last month to discuss common problems. He said that the state has been very helpful in setting up his office's computer system, saving a considerable amount of money in software and support. Regarding continuing education, the attorneys have been able to take advantage of many discounted and free courses.

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Mrs. Geissman presented a resolution supporting a Medina County Park District Clean Ohio Grant Fund application to the District 9 Natural Resource Assistance Council. The purpose of the funds would be to purchase 80 acres of land in Litchfield Township located at the headwaters of the Black River Watershed. This would provide open space and opportunities for future passive recreational activities for Medina County Residents. Ms. Ray moved to approve the resolution and Mrs. Geissman seconded the motion. Mrs. Geissman pointed out that Park District Director Tom James was in the audience and asked him if he would like to comment. Mr. James said he was available to answer any questions. John Metter, Sr., 7966 Norwalk Road, Litchfield, commented that the residents need the parks because they will need a place to pitch tents when the economy goes down even further and their homes are foreclosed. Mrs. Geissman said she and her husband, Lee, saw a tent pitched in Seville last week. Lee said that the scouts were camping, but she made the similar comment that they may have to start putting people in tents because they can no longer afford their homes. There was no further discussion. Roll call vote showed both Commissioners voting AYE.

Mrs. Geissman presented a resolution commending Stacy Reep for her 30 years of service in the Clerk of Courts' Office and to offer their best wishes on her retirement. Ms. Ray moved to approve the resolution and Mrs. Geissman seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call vote showed both Commissioners voting AYE.

The Clerk read the resolution to allow the expenses of County officials and another resolution to allow the expenses of the County Engineer. Ms. Ray moved to approve both expense resolutions and Mrs. Geissman seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call vote showed both Commissioners voting AYE.

The meeting was opened for public comment.

Mr. Metter said he recently received a letter from the Ohio Department of Transportation that the Director was going to raise the cost of over-width and over-weight permits up to 400% over the next two years. That is not going to help Ohio's businesses compete, especially in Medina County where they get large loads and machinery in and out of factories. In an economy that is consistently getting worse, the politicians continue to keep raising the costs of doing business. He asked the Commissioners if they could influence the legislators in Columbus to rescind the increase in hauling fees. He presented a letter from State Representative Bob Gibbs saying that there was not much they could do to reverse the rule; however, he would look into legislative action that could be taken to avoid that kind of situation in the future. Ms. Ray said that the overload fees will hurt Medina County because they have a lot of commercial building taking place. Mrs. Geissman said sometimes they look at it as a "vicious circle" because those that are using the roads are paying, given that they are causing some of the deterioration of the roads. She said that she can understand some of their reasoning, but she offered to review the letter and discuss it with Representative Gibbs and other legislators and would get back with him.

There was no one else wishing to speak.

The meeting recessed at 9:58 a.m.

Discussion Session

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The meeting reconvened at 10:00 a.m. for the Discussion Session in the Commissioners Conference Room.

Chris Ruf, Help Me Grow Program Director, reported that the State Family First Council (FFC) is discussing moving the Help Me Grow administration from the FFC and the Ohio Department of Health to potentially either the Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (MRDD) or the Ohio Department of Education. According to an email that was circulated, the County Commissioners Association of Ohio (CCAO) is in opposition of the change. Dr. Vince DeGeorge, Family First Council Director, supports keeping Help Me Grow under the administration of FFC. She presented information about the history of Help Me Grow that started in 2001. Its performance improved when it was under the Ohio Department of Health. She also presented a report by Dr. Vince De George about Help Me Grow on the local level and a request for support from the Medina County Commissioners to present to the Ohio Family and Children First Council to support keeping Help Me Grow under FFC jurisdiction. She works very closely with the Ohio Department of Education and MRDD, both locally and on the State level. Her concern is if Help Me Grow left FFC jurisdiction, they would lose some holistic approaches that they can take with families. They deal with the entire family and not just the child. Also, FFC is a collaborative agency and partners with several different service agencies in the County, not just the Ohio Department of Education and MRDD. FFC would still be responsible for the collaboration, but would have no fiscal responsibilities if Help Me Grow should move. This decision is in the Governor's hands now and he will be making the decision.

Mrs. Geissman said she would present the information to the CCAO Board meeting and see what the other counties are doing regarding this proposed move. She said she would get back with her. If there is support from other counties, that would certainly help the cause.

Chris Jakab, County Administrator, asked what the impetus was for the possible change. Ms. Ruf said no one has said for sure, but it is probably money. FFC receives Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) money, State general revenue money, and Part C money to run Help Me Grow. Before they took it over in 2001, the only money that was circulated was Part C money. When they combined the three programs into one under Help Me Grow, they got the TANF money and the general revenue money, which has increased substantially because of TANF funding. She thinks that money probably looks good to some other State organizations. Mrs. Geissman said that there would be many cutbacks on programs on the State level. This might be one of their ways to streamline or cut costs.

Ms. Ray suggested that Clerk Pam Vereb put something in the Commissioners Newsletter about the 2-1-1 giveaway in collaboration with Dominion East Ohio and the Plain Dealer's Holiday Spirit Program. They will be giving away 1,200 gift certificates worth \$10 from Dave's Supermarkets and Giant Eagle Supermarkets. The Clerk said she would write about it in the newsletter.

Ms. Ray asked if they had responded to the request to sell pastries and coffee from a van in the Administration Building's parking lot. Mr. Jakab said he would take care of that correspondence. The Commissioners discussed it last week and decided not to allow vendors on the premises.

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Ms. Ray said that she and Mr. Jakab would be attending the Medina City Finance Committee that evening at 5:30 p.m. in the basement of City Hall to discuss the proposed parking deck maintenance agreement. Mrs. Geissman said she would also be attending the meeting.

Mr. Jakab presented correspondence from attorneys Greg Huber (Medina City Law Director) and Michael Sharb (Medina County's attorney) regarding their comments and suggestions for the parking deck maintenance agreement.

Mr. Jakab said that the Commissioners adopted a resolution appointing CompManagement Services as the third-party administrator (TPA) for the County's self-insured Workers' Compensation Program on October 20, 2008. Since then, some questions have arisen; therefore, he, Human Resources Director Gary Berkowitz, and Finance Director Scott Miller wanted to clarify some information so the Commissioners could better understand their recommendation of CompManagement. Mr. Jakab said that there was a question about the rates of the three official proposals received from TPAs. CompManagement was recommended partly based on cost, familiarity of the organization, and the level of service performance in the past.

The Commissioners received a letter from University Hospitals Compcare (Medina County's MCO) on October 21, questioning why they were not provided with the opportunity to submit a proposal. He and Mr. Miller did not seek proposals for the managed care side of services for the self-insured program because those services will be provided in-house. They were merely seeking proposals for the required TPA services. A TPA pays claims on the county's behalf and helps administer the self-insured program. He spoke with the individual who wrote the letter and explained the situation. He told them they were welcome to submit a proposal for TPA services. They submitted a proposal, but according to the costs and a reference, there was a misunderstanding of what services the County was seeking. Mrs. Geissman asked if University Hospitals Compcare offered TPA services and Mr. Jakab said they do not.

Ms. Ray asked why they did not choose the other proposal that was lower. Mr. Jakab said there was a concern about the size of the company and their limited services as opposed to CompManagement that offers a greater array of comprehensive services. Mr. Miller added that CompManagement assisted the County with going self-insured and they were very familiar with the operations. When an entity becomes self-insured, they are on a trial basis for six months. They felt that the consistency and knowledge that CompManagement had at this time was very important to keep the County in compliance with the regulations. Also, the other company never provided a sample contract; therefore, they did not know what additional costs there would likely be.

Mr. Berkowitz said that CompManagement Services is a vertically integrated agency and has both sides of the business - TPO and MCO. University Hospitals Compcare is strictly a MCO. If the County would need some type of claim review under the self-insured status, CompManagement is in the position to review it from a medical standpoint. CompManagement Services also has a stronger network of physicians enabling them to discount services paid for medical treatment. That strong relationship with the healthcare network should result in cost savings to the County. The County has had a good relationship with CompManagement Services; their involvement in the claim analysis has steered Medina County in a direction that has saved money in Workers' Compensation.

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Mrs. Geissman said that there is a lot to be said for working with a company that can be trusted. She just wanted to be sure that anyone that wanted the opportunity had the chance to express themselves. Mr. Jakab said there was confusion on the part University CompCare on what the County was seeking proposals for and they may have overreacted. He said University CompCare could possibly perform services in the future for specific difficult case reviews on a per-case fee. He asked for approval to proceed with the December 1, 2008 starting date for the Workers' Compensation Self-Insurance Program and the Commissioners agreed.

Mr. Berkowitz said he had given the Commissioners a letter and overview of the union contract with the Sheriff and there are only two contracts remaining. He will be bringing the contracts for approval next Monday. Mrs. Geissman asked if the Sheriff signed the contract. Mr. Berkowitz said that he signed them. Mr. Berkowitz said the contract for the Transit Department is still in the process of being "cleaned up", and should be ready to be brought before the Board in a couple of weeks.

Mr. Berkowitz discussed the recent Employee's Health Fair held on October 8. They will be distributing the results of the audiograms. There were some individuals that did not pass their hearing tests. They will recommend for them to follow up with their personal physicians. Ms. Ray commented how nice it was to have the results immediately for the cholesterol and blood pressure tests. Mr. Berkowitz also noted that several County employees took advantage of the flu shots that were given in the Administration Building last week and he would provide that information. Mrs. Geissman said that the Commissioners want healthy employees.

On a motion by Ms. Ray and a second by Mrs. Geissman, the meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED 11/10/08

<u>Number</u>	<u>Resolution Title</u>
08-1027	INTENT TO ESTABLISH DESIGNATION PURSUANT OT O.R.C 343.014
08-1028	RESOLUTION COMMENDING STACY REEP FOR HER 30 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH MEDINA COUNTY
08-1029	RESOLUTION TO ALLOW CLAIMS AND ISSURANCE UPON THE TREASURER IN SETTLEMENT OF SUCH LIST OF CLAIMS
08-1030	SUPPORTING A MEDINA COUNTY PARK DISTRICT CLEAN OHIO FUND GRANT APPLICATION
08-1031	RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 2008 APPROPRIATIONS RESOLUTION BY TRANSFERRING APPROPRIATIONS
08-1032	RESOLUTION AMENDING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION
08-1033	RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM VARIOUS COUNTY DEPARTMENT ACCOUNTS TO THE MEDINA COUNTY PRINT SHOP REVENUE LINE ITEM
08-1034	RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM VARIOUS COUNTY DEPARTMENT ACCOUNTS TO THE GASOLINE ROTARY FUND

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- 08-1035 EXPENDITURE ADJUSTMENTS FOR VARIOUS FUNDS
- 08-1036 RESOLUTION APPROVING PERSONNEL CHANGES FOR THE EMPLOYEES UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE MEDINA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
- 08-1037 RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AND AWARDED BIDS FOR BULK CHEMICALS TO BE UTILIZED AT THE MEDINA COUNTY TREATMENT FACILITIES
- 08-1038 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO.3 FOR THE WESTFIELD WATER MAIN EXTENSION 2008 STILLION BROTHERS EXCAVATING INC MCSE#W-700/00-32.2
- 08-1039 RESOLUTION TO ALLOW EXPENSES OF COUNTY OFFICIALS
- 08-1040 RESOLUTION TO ALLOW EXPENSES OF THE COUNTY ENGINEER

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

Respectfully submitted,

COMMISSIONERS _____
Patricia G. Geissman

OF _____
Stephen D. Hambley

Pam Vereb, Clerk

MEDINA COUNTY _____
Sharon A. Ray