Aaron M. Harrison called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. with Colleen M. Swedyk and Stephen D. Hambley present. The meeting was held in the commissioners' hearing room and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the October 27, 2025 Special Commissioners' meeting and October 28, 2025 were emailed in advance.

Mrs. Swedyk moved to approve the minutes; Mr. Hambley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Proclamation Presentation – *Operation Green Light*

1. Approving personnel changes for the employees under the jurisdiction of the Medina County Commissioners

Mrs. Swedyk moved to approve the resolution; Mr. Hambley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Veterans Service Commission President Jim Hoessel accepted the proclamation and thanked the Commissioners. He noted that Medina County has approximately 11,000 veterans and praised the county's veteran service office as "the best" in the state. He emphasized that veterans' programs bring significant funding into the county.

Public Comment regarding pending resolutions

None.

Resolutions

County Engineer Administrative Assistant Dan Becker presented and reviewed the following resolutions:

1. Approving the plans, specifications and estimate of cost and authorizing the Medina County Engineer to advertise for bids for the project known as MED-CR0019-00.00 (Lake Road) to resurface Lake Road (CR-19) from Greenwich Road (CR-97) to Wedgewood Road (SR-162) in Lafayette and Westfield Townships in Medina County
2. Approving the plans, specifications and estimate of cost and authorizing the Medina County Engineer to advertise for bids for the project known as MED-CR0024-00.00 (Columbia Road) to resurface Columbia Road (CR-19) from Lafayette Road (US-42) to Norwalk Road (SR-18) in Lafayette and York Townships in Medina County
3. Authorizing change order number 1 final to the contract for the 2025 Medina County 441 Thin Overlay Resurfacing Project between Melway Paving Co., Inc. and the Medina County Board of Commissioners
4. Accepting and awarding the bid for the 2026 Medina County Highway Department hot bituminous plant mixes through December 31, 2026
5. Accepting and awarding the bids for the 2026 Medina County Aggregate Bid for the Medina County Engineer

Mrs. Swedyk moved to approve the five resolutions; Mr. Hambley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

The commissioners reviewed the weekly permits issued October 16-29, 2025.

Human Resources *Assistant Nicole Lee* presented and reviewed the following resolution:

1. Approving personnel changes for the employees under the jurisdiction of the Medina County Commissioners

Mrs. Swedyk moved to approve the resolution; Mr. Hambley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Finance *Director Brett Thomas* presented and reviewed the following resolutions:

1. Expenditure adjustments for various funds
2. Cash transfer for Title IV-D reimbursement
3. Amendment of appropriations for the FY25 Victim Assistance Grant
4. Approving the transfer of inventory between various Medina County offices
5. Declaring Medina County property as excess property
6. Allowing claims and authorizing issuance upon the treasurer in settlement of such list of claims in the amount of $1,469,394.84
7. Approving an amendment to the agreement between Extreme Networks, Inc. and the Medina County Board of Commissioners for Network Infrastructure as a Service ("NIaaS")

Mrs. Swedyk moved to approve the seven resolutions; Mr. Hambley seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

County Administrator *Matt Springer* presented and reviewed the following resolution:

1. Amending the table of organization for Medina County Sanitary Engineer, Maintenance, Dog Shelter & IT Departments

Mr. Springer explained that the strategic restructuring for the IT Department and moving them to the Maintenance Department follows an extensive search for an IT Director position, during which over 20 candidates were interviewed. It was determined that the County could better utilize existing resources by this restructuring. Mr. Springer noted that Brett Thomas had done a good job stabilizing the network during his temporary oversight of IT, particularly enhancing network security. The new organizational structure would provide more efficiency at a reduced cost while giving employees opportunities for professional growth.

Commissioner Hambley commended Mr. Springer for thinking "outside the box" with the reorganization plan and for finding better ways to position employees for professional development; Commissioners Swedyk and Harrison agreed.

Mrs. Swedyk moved to approve the resolution; Mr. Hambley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Department Updates

Senior & Adult Services Director Laura Toth provided the following update:

- The agency completed strategic planning in October, involving staff members, administration, advisory council members, and foundation board members. The full plan will be presented at the December meeting.
- Staff received training on being "dementia friendly," a program championed by the Medina County District Library. Five staff members participated in a train-the-trainer program and subsequently trained the rest of the staff.
- She will be giving a presentation to the State Association of County Home Directors in November.
- The Farmers Market Program has 409 seniors participating, with utilization at 64% ($13,161.91 of the $20,450 issued). This represents an 8% increase over the last month. The program ends November 30.
- Bathroom construction is nearly complete, with tile installation and plumbing fixtures being finished. The project is about one week behind schedule due to a discrepancy in grout selection but should be completed by mid-November.

Mrs. Toth discussed a plan to address recent SNAP funding cuts by providing food assistance to senior SNAP recipients. The plan, which she will present to the Senior Adult Foundation Board, includes:

- Distribution of shelf-stable food bags containing items like peanut butter, soup, crackers, tuna, chicken salad, and snacks
- $15 gift cards to grocery stores for fresh items like produce, meat, and dairy
- Initial assembly of 320 packages, with potential for 320 more if needed
- Distribution centers in Brunswick, Medina, and Wadsworth
- This program is separate from the $50 Aldi food cards that will be distributed in December

She emphasized that while this assistance is temporary, the foundation wanted to help seniors in need. The agency has also updated its food pantry list to better assist callers seeking resources.

Planning Services Director Denise Testa reported that the Planning Commission will meet this week at 6:30 PM at the Administration Building. A concept plan for a 143 sub-lot subdivision west of Valley City will be reviewed at the November mid-month meeting. Two agenda items are scheduled for December, fewer than the nine items on this month's agenda.

She then provided the following department updates:

- She has visited 19 communities as part of her ongoing outreach with Barb Walton, with plans to finish visiting the remaining communities by year-end.
- The Development Agreement and Subdivision Regulations review is proceeding, with discussions starting with American Structure Point regarding a potential contract.
- The Fairgrounds strategic facilities plan is moving forward, with high-resolution photographs being provided for the plan.
- Community Development Grant projects are progressing well:
- The Wadsworth Sidewalk Project is nearly complete
- All three construction projects will be completed before the start of 2026
- The Wadsworth Senior Citizen Project continues with rent, utilities, and food assistance
- Work continues on vehicle specifications for the Battered Women's Shelter project
- All projects are expected to be completed by mid-2026
- The Planning Services office will temporarily relocate due to building improvements, with the new location to be announced.

Soil & Water Conservation District Manager Eric Hange reported that since his last report in July, his office has assisted on multiple technical events including 11 drainage site visits, 6 pond permit applications, 8 pond management visits, 3 stream bank erosion visits, 10 pollinator habitat visits; 1 erosion visits, 1 concept plan reviews; 3 landowner I & E's; and 1 soil health and testing.

He then reviewed the following events either held by his office, or his office participated in:

- Native & Invasive Plants Presentation – July 16
- Community Invasive Species Removal – July 11
- Medina County Fair – July 28-August 3
- Various workshops and presentations
- Several youth education programs
- Helped lead a Salt Watch program with the Izaak Walton League and hosted the Medina County Herb Society for a prairie and rain garden walk
- Participated in the Fall Foliage Tour at Beriswill Farms

Their Annual Meeting will take place on November 13 at Buffalo Creek Retreat – he thanked Commissioner Harrison for serving as Emcee. He thanked board member Zach Albrecht who is stepping down after nine years of dedicated service to the district. Their next board meeting will be held November 19 at 1:30 PM in their office and will be open to the public.

In collaboration with Lorain OSU Extension, they were awarded funding through the Ohio Environmental Education Fund to purchase a Rolling River Trailer – a mobile, interactive river simulation model. This will allow them to bring hands-on watershed education directly to schools, community events, and municipal training to help people visualize how erosion, sediment transport, and best management practices affect water quality.

Commissioners Resolution

Commissioner Harrison presented and reviewed the following resolution:

1. Appointing Michelle Bangs to the Medina County Advisory Council on Aging & Disability

Mrs. Swedyk moved to approve the resolution; Mr. Hambley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Public Comment

None.

With no further business to come before the Commissioners, the meeting recessed at 9:54 a.m. and the commissioners began the Discussion Session in the Commissioners' Hearing Room at that time.

Discussion Session

Emergency Food Assistance

Commissioner Swedyk shared a flyer that had been posted on the county website regarding emergency food assistance. She announced that Feeding Medina County and two Salvation Army locations in Wadsworth and Medina would be accepting donations from 3-7 PM today to help people whose SNAP benefits had been temporarily put on hold.

Medina County Convention & Visitors Bureau

Commissioner Hambley congratulated the MCCVB for receiving a Citation of Excellence at the Ohio Travel Association's Ruby Award in October for achievement in marketing and advertising.

Emergency Housing Shelter Funding

Commissioner Hambley stated that the Medina Metropolitan Housing Authority has requested $100,000 in support for their emergency housing shelter for next year. Mr. Hambley noted that while the final county budget won't be completed until next year, the Housing Authority needs a commitment before year-end. He mentioned that the City of Medina had turned this into a challenge grant and that the shelter needs funding security for next year since the state is not funding new shelters. He expressed hope that the commissioners would include this in future budget discussions. The commissioners discussed the need to consider the Housing Authority's request in relation to potential inside millage rollback plans. Commissioner Harrison noted that the shelter has had a significant positive impact on the community, and he believes both the rollback and funding the Housing Authority request could be accomplished.

House Bill 335

The commissioners discussed House Bill 335, which would limit the growth of inside millage to inflation. Commissioner Hambley explained that a last-minute amendment would require commissioners to get permission from the Budget Commission for any rollback of inside millage, creating a "chilling effect" for counties considering such action. The County Commissioners Association of Ohio ("CCAO") has changed from a proponent to an opponent of this provision. Mr. Hambley noted that the legislature expects to take action before Thanksgiving, which would still give the county time to make decisions if necessary.

The commissioners also discussed the current SNAP benefits situation. Commissioner Harrison expressed frustration that federal and state governments have failed to address the situation, leaving local governments and charitable organizations to provide safety nets for affected residents.

Election Day
Commissioner Hambley encouraged citizens to vote in today's elections, noting that the best government is local government, and voter participation has been low for this election.

Next Meeting
Commissioner Harrison announced that due to Veterans Day next Tuesday, the next commissioners' meeting would be held on Wednesday, November 12, 2025.

Commissioner Swedyk then moved to go into executive session to discuss an imminent court action, and to consider the compensation of public employees; Mr. Hambley seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Executive Session
At 10:10 a.m., the Commissioners went into the Executive Session that had been voted on. The Executive Session ended at 11:49 a.m.

Adjournment
Mrs. Swedyk moved to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Hambley seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:49 a.m.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED NOVEMBER 4, 2025

Number	Resolution Title
25-0845	Recognizing Operation Green Light for veterans November 1–11, 2025
25-0846	Approving the plans, specifications and estimate of cost and authorizing the Medina County Engineer to advertise for bids for the project known as MED-CR0019-00.00 (Lake Road) to resurface Lake Road (CR-19) from Greenwich Road (CR-97) to Wedgewood Road (SR-162) in Lafayette and Westfield Townships in Medina County
25-0847	Approving the plans, specifications and estimate of cost and authorizing the Medina County Engineer to advertise for bids for the project known as MED-CR0024-00.00 (Columbia Road) to resurface Columbia Road (CR-19) from Lafayette Road (US-42) to Norwalk Road (SR-18) in Lafayette and York Townships in Medina County
25-0848	Authorizing change order number 1 final to the contract for the 2025 Medina County 441 Thin Overlay Resurfacing Project between Melway Paving Co., Inc. and the Medina County Board of Commissioners
25-0849	Accepting and awarding the bid for the 2026 Medina County Highway Department hot bituminous plant mixes through December 31, 2026
25-0850	Accepting and awarding the bids for the 2026 Medina County Aggregate Bid for the Medina County Engineer
25-0851	Approving personnel changes for the employees under the jurisdiction of the Medina County Commissioners
25-0852	Amending the table of organization for Medina County Sanitary Engineer, Maintenance, Dog Shelter & IT Departments
25-0853	Expenditure adjustments for various funds
25-0854	Cash transfer for Title IV-D reimbursement
25-0855	Amendment of appropriations for the FY25 Victim Assistance Grant
25-0856	Approving the transfer of inventory between various Medina County offices
25-0857	Declaring Medina County property as excess property
25-0858	Allowing claims and authorizing issuance upon the treasurer in settlement of such list of claims in the amount of $1,141,145.95
25-0859	Approving an amendment to the agreement between Extreme Networks, Inc. and the Medina County Board of Commissioners for Network Infrastructure as a Service ("NIaaS")
25-0860	Appointing Michelle Bangs to the Medina County Advisory Council on Aging & Disability
25-0845	Recognizing Operation Green Light for veterans November 1–11, 2025

All deliberations concerning official business and formal actions by this Board of Commissioners were conducted in an open public meeting on this fourth day of November 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda J. Beck
Clerk of the Board

COMMISSIONERS

OF

MEDINA COUNTY

Colleen M. Swedyk

Stephen D. Hambley

Aaron M. Harrison