

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

Commissioner Hambley moved to approve the minutes of the November 28, 2023 commissioners' meeting; Commissioner Harrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Public Comment regarding pending resolutions

None

Resolutions

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

1. Authorizing the Medina County Engineer to advertise for bids for the 2024 Medina County Highway Department hot bituminous plant mixes
2. Authorizing the Medina County Engineer to advertise for bids for various sizes and quantities of aggregate for the 2024 construction season for use by the Medina County Highway Department
3. Approving the final plat for Windfall Estates Phase 3 located in original Montville Township lot 104
4. Approving annual assessment on improvements constructed under the authority of Section 6131.63 Ohio Revised Code on 12.2291 acres of land in Lot 104 of Montville Township known as Windfall Estates Phase 3 and thereby establishing said improvements as a public watercourse

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

The commissioners reviewed the weekly permits issued November 16-29, 2023.

Sanitary Engineer Jeremy Sinko presented and reviewed the following resolutions:

1. Authorizing an agreement between the County Sanitary Engineer and Arbor Falls Golf, LLC for the sharing of costs for the improvement of the Deerview Lane lift station
2. Authorizing the Sanitary Engineer to enter into an agreement with Davey Resource Group for professional design services for a riverbank restoration project
3. Authorizing the Sanitary Engineer to apply for, accept, and enter into a Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) Agreement on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners for planning, design and/or construction of wastewater facilities and designating a dedicated repayment source for the loan

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

Human Resources Director Holly Muren presented and reviewed the following resolution:

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

Mr. Hambley moved to approve the resolution; Mr. Harrison 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. Amending the appropriation measure resolution
2. Amending the 2023 appropriations resolution by transferring appropriations
3. Revenue adjustments for various funds
4. Expenditure adjustments for various funds
5. Fund accounting adjustment no. 3 for local fiscal recovery fund 7121 as to partial healthcare benefit expenses incurred in CY2023
6. Authorizing a cash transfer reversal for victim assistance FY19 & FY20, fund
7. Cash transfers for various funds
8. Approving the transfer of Medina County Inventory between various Medina County offices
9. Declaring Medina County property as excess property
10. To allow expenses of county officials
11. Allowing claims and authorizing issuance upon the treasurer in settlement of such list of claims in the amount of \$1,217,812.54

Mr. Hambley moved to approve the 11 resolutions; Mr. Harrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

County Administrator Chris Jakab presented and reviewed the following resolutions:

1. Approving an agreement between the City of Medina for the provision of CY24 and CY25 Medina County Public Transit Services

2. Authorizing a change order for the Medina County Office for Older Adults Kitchen Renovation Project
3. Approving a contract for the provision of dental services and immunizations at the Medina County Jail for CY24
4. Authorizing a purchase of a cooling system at the Engineering Center Computer Server Room
5. Approving an agreement for a mental health program at the Medina County Jail for CY2024
6. Approving an agreement for a mental health program at the Medina County Juvenile Detention Center for CY2024
7. Approving an agreement for an alcohol and other drug program at the Medina County Juvenile Detention Center for CY2024
8. Approving a purchase of service agreement between the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging and the Medina County Board of Commissioners for the Office for Older Adults for FY 2024

Mr. Hambley moved to approve the eight resolutions; Mr. Harrison seconded the motion. Mr. Hambley noted the funding increase from the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging and stated that this is finally getting the adjustment for the population growth. There was no further discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Department Updates

Health Commissioner Krista Wasowski reported that they received \$539,000 in federal capital grant money and are updating their offices including the bathrooms and clinic rooms. Renovations are expected to be completed by January. She reported that at the Health Department, they have an Overdose Fatality Board. She provided a copy of a Drug-Related Fatality and Emergency Department Visit Report, 2018-2022 noting that of the 166 fatalities due to overdoses in the last five years, 131 deaths were fentanyl-related. The Health Department is offering fentanyl test strips to the public through their website or by walk-in. These test strips have been made available through a multi-year grant and can detect the presence of fentanyl in drugs prior to use, and they can help prevent an overdose if used correctly. An instructional flyer was provided to the commissioners. Entities that are currently partnering with the Health Department for distribution of Naloxone will also have the opportunity to distribute fentanyl test strips if they choose to.

Mr. Harrison stated that this is an issue that does not discriminate – his family has been touched by this recently. He stated that one thing our community does so well regarding substance abuse is the horizontal integration. He asked if the distribution of these test strips will tie into the recovery community in some way. Mrs. Wasowski explained that they have a new two-sided flyer developed by the ADAMH Board and Health Department that lists all our local supports and resources. The flyer goes out with each Naloxone distribution and will also go out with test strips. Brief discussion occurred about needle exchange programs with Mrs. Wasowski stated that she doesn't see disease associated with unclean needles as being an issue we're seeing in Medina County. She sees the test strips as the next needed step to have in our toolkit. In answer to a question by Mr. Hambley, Mrs. Wasowski stated that she is unsure about how long the grant will last but is hopeful it will continue. Mr. Hambley asked how success will be measured. Mrs. Wasowski answered that they will look at unique distribution, quantity and will look at sheer numbers. They will begin by working with the recovery community and family members.

Planning Services Director Denise Testa presented and reviewed the following resolution:

1. Authorizing the allocation of funds to Lafayette Township for construction activities for the Lafayette Township Critical Infrastructure Project for program year 2020 (PY20)
2. Demonstrating Medina County's responsibility for and authority over the program year 2023 (PY23) Community Housing Impact and Preservation (CHIP) Program

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

Mrs. Testa reported that a concept plan meeting is scheduled this month and materials have been distributed for this week's Planning Commission meeting. The January Planning Commission meeting will include officer elections, CRA appointments as well as reviewing the Hollow at Willow Lakes in Hinckley Township and a Montville Township text amendment. They are also working on member appointments/reappointments to the Planning Commission. Her department is beginning training in prevailing wages in an effort to being able to provide that service. They are launching their PY24 CDBG program with applications being released January 16 and being due April 8. Regarding Fair Housing, she will be presenting at Wadsworth's Economic Development meeting next week as well as at Medina Creative Housing. The 2024 Township Educational Workshops will begin in January.

Office for Older Adults Director Laura Toth thanked the Medina County voters and commissioners for their support of the levy. She acknowledged the life of Ron Bischof who recently passed away. He was the chairman of the Medina County Advisory Council on Aging and Disability and was a fierce advocate for senior causes in Medina County. Mr. Bischof will be missed.

Mrs. Toth reported that in 2024, the WRAAA grant was adjusted to incorporate the census and is in the amount of \$585,100. This provides funding for things including the resource center, home delivered meals, congregate meals, restaurant vouchers, supportive services, and case management. She reviewed the transportation program noting that the Flex Program in Wadsworth is really taking off for the seniors. From January through August, ridership in Wadsworth averaged 11 riders per month and 32 total rides per month. In September, they had a total of 30 riders and 132 rides for the month: October 36 riders/300 rides. Mr. Hambley noted that it is expected that Medina will exceed these numbers; Mrs. Toth agreed. She reported that the newly renovated kitchen space is nearly complete and is hopeful it will be completed before the new year. This Thursday is their Christmas Party for Medina and Brunswick at the Brunswick Rec Center, and they will host "Noon Year's Eve" on December 29 also to be held at the Brunswick Rec Center.

OSU Extension Educator Erin Ruggiero reported the more than 300 Wadsworth 7th graders experienced agricultural careers at Medina AG Day in September. They trained 16 new Master Gardener volunteers. There were 1,500 8th graders that learned about the reality of money management through their in-school Real Money, Real World program, and they mentored 30 individuals through Money 101 with Habitat for Humanity and Operation Homes. The Community Development Program connected with underserved youth at Medina City Teen Fest and continues to partner with Cups Café for programming. This year, 4-H had 993 community club members and in total reached 3,495 youth and counting. Both 4-H and Master Gardener Programs held their yearly volunteer banquets to thank volunteers for their work throughout the year. Ms. Ruggiero provided the commissioners with a handout from state 4-H about how successful Ohioans got their start in 4-H.

Commissioners Resolutions

Commissioner Swedyk presented and reviewed the following resolution:

1. Reappointing a member to the Medina County Law Library Resources Board

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

Commissioner Swedyk presented and reviewed the following resolution:

1. Appointing a member to the Community Action Wayne/Medina Counties Board of Directors

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

Public Comment

Leslie Burns, spoke in opposition to the Park District's proposal regarding rule changes at Chippewa Lake noting lack of communication from the Park District and potential negative effects on real estate in Chippewa Lake due to proposed wake restrictions.

Ty Fullerton, Lafayette Township Trustee, discussed Main Drive and plans for snowplowing, and spoke in opposition to the Park District's proposal regarding rule changes at Chippewa Lake noting that it was not thought out well.

Barbara McGrath, spoke in opposition to the Park District's proposal regarding rule changes at Chippewa Lake. She noted that she has been unable to determine the rationale for these changes and made inquiries directed to the Park District.

Rob Reidel, spoke in opposition to the Park District's proposal regarding rule changes at Chippewa Lake and stated that the Park owns many other lakes that are always no wake and don't allow power boats. Some kayakers and paddle boarders like being in wakes and this is the only county park lake that gives them that opportunity.

Mrs. Swedyk stated that the commissioners have received many emails on this matter. She stated she was glad that the Park District moved the meeting to a larger venue and was advised that there will be a lot of information provided to the public at this evening's meeting.

Mr. Hambley thanked everyone for their communication. The commissioners are invested in the community and there has historically been a partnership between the Board of Commissioners and the Park District. He stated that Nate Eppink and the Park Commissioners are good people and very mindful. He believes that a misstep occurred in terms of the process. He personally agrees that the Village's resolution is the approach that needs to be taken. They need to reconsider and evaluate the concerns of the majority and respect the rights of minority interests, and make sure the process involves as many people as possible. He is hopeful that somebody YouTube's tonight's meeting so he can hear the input. Having a lake like that and having no access makes no sense, and the intent in acquiring that property was to make sure we continue that access for not only the residents there, but also the general public. He is hopeful that they will find a way to manage the lake and continue the operations it's had in past years.

Mr. Harrison stated that the consistent message he's heard from residents, it boils down to taking a collaborative and cooperative approach. He thinks it will involve lines of two-way communication. His hope is that everybody in attendance proceeds in the spirit of collaboration and cooperation, and he has every confidence in that being the guiding principle. He stated that he doesn't think the concept of this arrived in a vacuum, but he thinks we'll get to a better outcome with collaboration. It's not the commissioners' job to sit in judgement of what the Park Commissioners do, but to the extent that the commissioners can be a resource and give a forum for residents to share their opinions, he's happy to do that.

With no further business to come before the Commissioners, the meeting recessed at 10:32 a.m.

Discussion Session

At 10:32 a.m., the Commissioners began the Discussion Session in the Commissioners' Hearing Room.

HANDS Newsletter

Mr. Hambley mentioned ad space in the HANDS publication which would provide numbers for the public to reach the commissioners. The commissioners agreed to submit an ad that includes their cell numbers.

9-1-1 Program Review Committee

Mr. Hambley stated that the O.R.C. was changed significantly as to the organization and oversight of 9-1-1 programs within a county, which causes us to have to form a separate committee that includes a whole new process. There are some additional fees that are being collected per device. This money will be divided among the state and

counties for the purpose of the next generation of 9-1-1. A plan needs to be in place by April providing how to spend that money for that support. A draft resolution was reviewed that identifies the members. Mrs. Swedyk added that the Board had discussion last week with the Sheriff and opted to appoint Commissioner Harrison as the commissioner representative and Sheriff Grice as the elected official representative. The resolution will be presented next week. Mr. Hambley pointed out that the legislative authorities of the municipalities also have to select a member, so there is a whole different process. Sheriff Grice was going to bring this to the attention of the various mayors, and the Township Association will need to be attentive in appointing the right individual. This is a very quick process to try to get these appointments in place because the plan has to be submitted in a few months. Mr. Harrison added that the board is not exclusive to the commissioners' representative and the Sheriff – others will be represented.

Brownfield Remediation Grant

Economic Development Manager Brandon Gibson discussed the Brownfield and Building Demolition grants noting that the Port Authority will meet tomorrow to approve the recommended projects. Letters of support from local governments are needed for the applications. He provided a sample letter of support for one of the projects. When Port Authority selects the approved projects, he will provide digital letters of support for each project to Brian Gallatin and Rhonda Beck for commissioners' signatures.

Law Library

Mr. Harrison stated that at a previous meeting, the Board had discussed some possibilities for moving forward for the Law Library location. This process has been made a bit difficult due to limited coordination between the Law Library Association and the Law Library Resources Board. At the November 14 meeting, the representatives of the Association in attendance expressed a preference for moving to 72 Public Square vacant space, but representatives from the Resources Board expressed a preference for remaining in their current space. In an effort to reach a compromise, the commissioners had proposed, to the extent that we would need to move the Law Library temporarily, to move it to 72 Public Square, and on the heels of any relocation like that, we would move the Law Library back to its current location and provide some afterhours computer access in 72 Public Square. The Association took some time to evaluate that proposal which addressed what they had fairly consistently stated – afterhours access. Over the weekend, the Board received a disappointing email from the Association indicating that rather than agreeing to that proposal which would unify the operations at the Courthouse and have the temporary location that would also extend the afterhours access, that they would prefer to move permanently to the lower floor of 72 Public Square. Mr. Harrison stated that in light of their email and their intention to permanently relocate, it's contrary to the stated intentions of the Resources Board and is contrary to what he thought was the compromised proposal the Board came up with, and it also leans toward this bifurcated solution which was never on the table in terms of having the Association with one solution and the Resources Board having another. He stated that while he didn't want to get in the middle of issues between the Association and Resources Board, he's not willing to move forward with any kind of proposal that further separates their operations. He doesn't think it's a good use of County space to have two different law libraries. The commissioners' statutory obligation clearly is associated with providing space for a county law library through the Resources Board. To the extent that the lack of a unified solution has presented itself, he thinks the commissioners' work going forward needs to be directed more toward the Resources Board and its request to keep the Law Library in its current location at the 1969 Courthouse. Right now, this doesn't force any issues to be dealt with, but maybe delays the clarity he was hoping to get in this process, but there are no imminent plans for them to be relocated because we don't know the timeline or the nature of the construction that is going to go on related to the municipal courthouse. We may eventually hit a point where the Association objects to the commissioners' continued coordination with the Resources Board, they have claimed some lease rights to under a 2006 Memorandum of Understanding, although the Prosecutor's office has expressed an opinion that those lease rights either lapsed or are otherwise invalid. He thinks the commissioners are in fairly good standing to proceed taking account the Resources Board's opinion because a unified solution has failed to materialize. Mr. Harrison stated that he will communicate with the president of the Association in response to her email.

Mrs. Swedyk stated that she completely agreed with Mr. Harrison. Mr. Hambley added that we're not even sure whether a temporary location will have to occur. Mr. Harrison stated that he thinks it's likely, but we don't know the timeline on that. Mr. Hambley stated that the Resources Board does not want to relocate from its current space if they can help it; Mr. Harrison confirmed. Mr. Hambley agreed with Mr. Harrison – he is not in favor of a permanent relocation.

Mr. Hambley moved to go into executive session to discuss imminent litigation; Mr. Harrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioner voting AYE; the motion carried.

Executive Session

At 10:45 a.m., the Commissioners went into the Executive Session. The Executive Session ended at 11:02 a.m.

Adjournment

Mr. Hambley moved to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Harrison seconded the motion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED DECEMBER 5, 2023

<u>Number</u>	<u>Resolution Title</u>
23-0991	Authorizing the Medina County Engineer to advertise for bids for the 2024 Medina County Highway Department hot bituminous plant mixes
23-0992	Authorizing the Medina County Engineer to advertise for bids for various sizes and quantities of aggregate for the 2024 construction season for use by the Medina County Highway Department
23-0993	Approving the final plat for Windfall Estates Phase 3 located in original Montville Township lot 104
23-0994	Approving annual assessment on improvements constructed under the authority of Section 6131.63 Ohio Revised Code on 12.2291 acres of land in Lot 104 of Montville Township known as Windfall Estates Phase 3 and thereby establishing said improvements as a public watercourse
23-0995	Authorizing an agreement between the County Sanitary Engineer and Arbor Falls Golf, LLC for the sharing of costs for the improvement of the Deerview Lane lift station
23-0996	Authorizing the Sanitary Engineer to enter into an agreement with Davey Resource Group for professional design services for a riverbank restoration project
23-0997	Authorizing the Sanitary Engineer to apply for, accept, and enter into a Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) Agreement on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners for planning, design and/or construction of wastewater facilities and designating a dedicated repayment source for the loan
23-0998	Approving personnel changes for the employees under the jurisdiction of the Medina County Commissioners
23-0999	Amending the appropriation measure resolution
23-1000	Amending the 2023 appropriations resolution by transferring appropriations
23-1001	Revenue adjustments for various funds
23-1002	Expenditure adjustments for various funds
23-1003	Fund accounting adjustment no. 3 for local fiscal recovery fund 7121 as to partial healthcare benefit expenses incurred in CY2023
23-1004	Authorizing a cash transfer reversal for victim assistance FY19 & FY20, fund
23-1005	Cash transfers for various funds
23-1006	Approving the transfer of Medina County Inventory between various Medina County offices
23-1007	Declaring Medina County property as excess property
23-1008	Allowing expenses of county officials
23-1009	Allowing claims and authorizing issuance upon the treasurer in settlement of such list of claims
23-1010	Approving an agreement between the City of Medina for the provision of CY24 and CY25 Medina County Public Transit Services
23-1011	Authorizing a change order for the Medina County Office for Older Adults Kitchen Renovation Project
23-1012	Approving a contract for the provision of dental services and immunizations at the Medina County Jail for CY24
23-1013	Authorizing a purchase of a cooling system at the Engineering Center Computer Server Room
23-1014	Approving an agreement for a mental health program at the Medina County Jail for CY2024
23-1015	Approving an agreement for a mental health program at the Medina County Juvenile Detention Center for CY2024
23-1016	Approving an agreement for an alcohol and other drug program at the Medina County Juvenile Detention Center for CY2024
23-1017	Authorizing the allocation of funds to Lafayette Township for construction activities for the Lafayette Township Critical Infrastructure Project for program year 2020 (PY20)
23-1018	Demonstrating Medina County's responsibility for and authority over the program year 2023 (PY23) Community Housing Impact and Preservation (CHIP) Program
23-1019	Reappointing a member to the Medina County Law Library Resources Board
23-1020	Appointing a member to the Community Action Wayne/Medina Counties Board of Directors
23-1021	Approving a purchase of service agreement between the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging and the Medina County Board of Commissioners for the Office for Older Adults for FY 2024

All deliberations concerning official business and formal actions by this Board of Commissioners were conducted in an open public meeting on this fifth day of December 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

COMMISSIONERS

Stephen D. Hambley

OF

Aaron M. Harrison

Rhonda J. Beck
Clerk to the Commissioners

MEDINA COUNTY

Colleen M. Swedyk