

Patricia G. Geissman called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. with Colleen M. Swedyk and William F. Hutson present. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer.

The minutes of the November 26, 2019 commissioners' meetings were emailed in advance. Mrs. Swedyk moved to approve the minutes; Mr. Hutson seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE. The motion carried.

Finance Director Mike Pataky presented and reviewed the following resolutions: (1) amending the annual appropriations resolution; (2) cash transfers for various funds; (3) authorizing the county auditor to transfer funds from the county General Fund (0010) to the Public Assistance Fund (0120) for the non-allocated portion of child welfare expenditures; (4) authorizing the county auditor to transfer funds from various county department accounts to the Medina County Software Fund revenue line item; (5) accepting an agreement for the Office for Older Adults and Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging for Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act; (6) creation of an Adult Probation Drug Court Discretionary Grant and authorizing appropriations; (7) declaring Medina County property as excess property; (8) approving the transfer of Medina County inventory between various Medina County offices; and (9) allowing expenses of county officials. Mr. Pataky requested payment of the weekly bills in the amount of \$396,105.64. Mrs. Swedyk moved to approve the nine resolutions and to pay the bills; Mr. Hutson 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 resolutions: (1) approving personnel changes for the employees under the jurisdiction of the Medina County commissioners; (2) approving wage increases for employees of the Sanitary Engineers Department - Treatment Plant; (3) approving wage increases for employees of the Sanitary Engineers Department - Lab Technicians; (4) approving wage increases for employees of the Sanitary Engineers Department - Line Maintenance; (5) approving wage increases for employees of the Sanitary Engineers Department - Water Distribution Workers; (6) approving wage increases for employees of the Medina County Child Support Enforcement Agency; (7) approving wage increases for employees of Medina County Job and Family Services; and (8) approving wage increases for employees of the Medina County Public Transit Drivers. Mrs. Swedyk moved to approve the eight resolutions; Mr. Hutson seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Commissioner Geissman presented and reviewed a resolution approving the petition for annexation of 1.60 acres of land known as being part of Harrisville Township to the Village of Lodi, Medina County, Ohio. Mrs. Geissman asked if the petition meets all conditions; Clerk Rhonda Beck answered yes. Mrs. Geissman explained that this is an expedited type 1 annexation requiring the commissioners' approval. Mrs. Swedyk moved to approve the resolution; Mr. Hutson seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Commissioner Geissman presented and reviewed a resolution appointing a member to the Medina County District Library Board of Trustees. Mrs. Swedyk moved to approve the resolution; Mr. Hutson seconded the motion. Mrs. Swedyk noted that there were many good candidates; Mr. Hutson agreed noting that they all had a very keen interest in the library. Mrs. Geissman stated that Ms. Ostrowski had that extra quality the commissioners were looking for in a board representative. There was no further discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Commissioner Geissman noted that the commissioners had received a C1-C2 liquor permit notice from Rama Petroleum LLC DBA Rama Petroleum, 3980 Pearl Road, Medina Township, Medina, Ohio 44256. There were no comments.

Commissioner Swedyk moved to go into Executive Session after Discussion Session to consider compensation of a public employee; Mr. Hutson 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 9:36 a.m.

Discussion Session

At 9:40 a.m., the Commissioners began the Discussion Session in the Commissioners' conference room.

Courthouse Steering Committee

Commissioner Hutson noted that the Courthouse Steering Committee will be meeting today at noon to discuss the next decisions that need to be made before advancing the project.

Gift Cards

Amy Lyon-Galvin reported that they have gift cards from Valley Café in Wadsworth and Cool Beans Café in Medina for the “Get Caught Green-Handed” campaign for catching people in the act of recycling properly. There will be volunteer groups working on that between now and Christmas.

Courthouse Project

Commissioner Geissman clarified based on last Wednesday’s article in the paper that she was not upset because the City got their financing as she was expecting that. She stated that she was upset by Mr. Hutson’s comment that now we can put it on the square. She explained that it upset her because during budget hearings, Scott had brought to the commissioners’ attention what it was going to cost \$2.5-\$3.5M to move everyone offsite. She stated that she made a statement that the commissioners’ needed to think outside of the box and look at other possibilities like moving the courthouse off the Square by the jail, and at that point, Commissioner Swedyk gave her a “high five” and said yes. Mrs. Swedyk stated that she found it a very interesting proposition; it was a very interesting idea. Mrs. Geissman stated that no decision had been made and that’s what bothered her because it appeared as though Mr. Hutson was speaking for the Board and they haven’t discussed that. She noted that the commissioners need to discuss that; Mr. Hutson agreed. Mrs. Geissman stated this has gone on far too long without public discussion so they know where they are going. Mrs. Swedyk explained that since that budget hearing, there have been many people who have reached out and stated the significance and the importance to not only the economy of the Square but also the economy of entire downtown Medina City area of how devastating it would be to move the courthouse operations off the Square. She noted that it is her hope that the commissioners can find options where we stay on the Square yet we still do not have to do a temporary move of the employees. She agreed with Mrs. Geissman that the move would be costly and two years of confusion for residents with employees in makeshift office arrangements. Mrs. Geissman noted that the commissioners need to discuss this and make some decisions. Mrs. Geissman stated that at least three times she had commented that the city invited themselves and Mr. Hutson had never said until last Tuesday that he invited them. She stated that he invited them on his own and he doesn’t have the authority to do that; it has to be a decision by the Board also. Mr. Hutson stated that the commissioners voted as a Board on a contract back in April or May to jointly have the city participate with the architect to design the courthouse. They voted on another contract prior to that which included a feasibility study that included the City of Medina. He explained that we have been going down the path that the city has been included for quite some time. Mrs. Geissman stated that she’s been going along with it because she thought if they wanted to spend their money of a feasibility study and they don’t fit on the Square then it’s their business to do that. Mr. Hutson stated then they voted on another contract that involved the City of Medina to hire an architect to design a building on the Square. Mrs. Swedyk added that the second contract was absolutely to design a building. Mrs. Geissman stated that the commissioners still had not made a decision to include the city. Mr. Hutson stated that the commissioners need to make a decision as a board on what they are going to do moving forward; Mrs. Geissman agreed. Mr. Hutson stated that in the meeting this afternoon, one of the key things they want to ask the architects are what are the key decisions that they need the commissioners to make, and the city if they are included, so this project can move forward. We’ve been in a holding pattern waiting for the city to decide what their funding sources look like and whether they can participate. He stated that he wants the architects to lay out the questions they have. Mrs. Geissman stated that in response to her concerns about the cost involved and whether it would cost more to have the city with us, she won’t support it if it’s going to cost the county more money to have the city with us. She noted that she has been concerned for months that the commissioners have not been discussing this and the Board needs to discuss it. Mrs. Swedyk noted that she thinks it is absolutely detrimental to move twice; Mrs. Geissman agreed. Mrs. Swedyk stated that her preference would be to have the courthouse on the Square and not have to move employees. Mrs. Geissman added that her preference is to be on the Square too with the only difference being is it going to cost us more to include the city, and she thinks any contract we have with the city would have to include a lot of “stuff” in it to protect us. Mrs. Geissman referenced past decisions that we made that are costing us millions of dollars (the fiber optic ring) and she doesn’t want to see the commissioners getting into another very poor decision that’s going to end up costing us a lot of money.

Scott Miller stated that because there are individuals who will take this information and misrepresent it, he wanted to clarify that no decisions have been made. Even estimates as far as square footages and costs are unknown because no decisions have been made. He stated that no decisions can be made until the architects have direction from the Board. Once those decisions are made, the architects can get us some good numbers. He noted that proposals for the Construction Manager at Risk were received yesterday and interviews will be scheduled next week. He explained that the Construction Manager at Risk is an advocate for us in that they will look at what’s being proposed and will come up with cost-saving measures. Until a decision has been made, we are only estimating ranges of costs. Mrs. Swedyk stated that the only decision that has been made is the selection of an architect. Mrs. Geissman stated that she’s been concerned about comments that indicate things they have made no decisions on. Mr. Hutson stated that they have made one decision and they have all repeated this – the 1840s section of the building will not be torn down and will be preserved. Mrs. Geissman stated the commissioners will move forward from here and hopefully have some good discussions.

Executive Session

At 9:53 a.m., the Commissioners went into the Executive Session that had been voted on earlier. The Executive Session ended at 10:35 a.m.

Adjournment

Mrs. Swedyk moved to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Hutson seconded the motion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED DECEMBER 3, 2019

<u>Number</u>	<u>Resolution Title</u>
19-1023	Allowing claims and issuance upon the treasurer in settlement of such list of claims
19-1024	Amending the 2019 appropriations resolution by transferring appropriations
19-1025	Cash transfers for various funds
19-1026	Authorizing the county auditor to transfer funds from the county General Fund (0010) to the Public Assistance Fund (0120) for the non-allocated portion of child welfare expenditures
19-1027	Authorizing the county auditor to transfer funds from various county department accounts to the Medina County Software Fund revenue line item
19-1028	Accepting an agreement for the Office for Older Adults and Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging for Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act
19-1029	Creation of an Adult Probation Drug Court Discretionary Grant and authorizing appropriations
19-1030	Declaring Medina County property as excess property
19-1031	Approving the transfer of Medina County inventory between various Medina County offices
19-1032	Allowing expenses of county officials
19-1033	Approving personnel changes for the employees under the jurisdiction of the Medina County Commissioners
19-1034	Approving wage increases for employees of the Sanitary Engineers Department - Treatment Plants
19-1035	Approving wage increases for employees of the Sanitary Engineers Department - Lab Technicians
19-1036	Approving wage increases for employees of the Sanitary Engineers Department - Line Maintenance
19-1037	Approving wage increases for employees of the Sanitary Engineers Department - Water Distribution Workers
19-1038	Approving wage increases for employees of the Medina County Child Support Enforcement Agency
19-1039	Approving wage increases for employees of Medina County Job and Family Services
19-1040	Approving wage increases for employees of the Medina County Public Transit Drivers
19-1041	Approving the petition for annexation of 1.60 acres of land known as being part of Harrisville Township to the Village of Lodi, Medina County, Ohio
19-1042	Appointing a member to the Medina County District Library Board of Trustees

All deliberations concerning official business and formal actions by this Board of Commissioners were conducted in an open public meeting this third day of December, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda J. Beck
Clerk to the Commissioners

COMMISSIONERS

Patricia G. Geissman

OF

William F. Hutson

MEDINA COUNTY

Colleen M. Swedyk