

Colleen M. Swedyk called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. with William F. Hutson and Patricia G. Geissman present. The meeting was held virtually via Zoom.

The minutes of the December 15, 2020 commissioners' meeting and December 14, 16 and 17 public hearings were emailed in advance. Mr. Hutson moved to approve the minutes; Mrs. Geissman seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Assistant County Administrator Amy Lyon-Galvin presented and reviewed the following resolutions: (1) authorizing the Medina County Engineer to issue permits allowing existing personal property fixtures to occupy the Reimer Road (CR-123), Hartman Road (CR-127) and Leatherman Road (CR-260) right of way as required by the Ohio Department of Transportation for MED-VAR-CR resurfacing (FY 2021), the resurfacing of Reimer Road (CR-123) from Hinkle Drive to Medina Line Road (CR-2), Hartman Road (CR-127) from Broad Street to Reimer Road (CR-123), and Leatherman Road (CR-260) from Bridge over I-76 to Reimer Road (CR-123); (2) reducing weight limits on improved county and township highways as authorized by the Ohio Revised Code, Section 5577.07; (3) resolution of county commissioners proposing to cooperate with the Director of Transportation; (4) amending the 2020 appropriations resolution by transferring appropriations; (5) revenue adjustments for various funds; (6) expenditure adjustments for various funds; (7) cash transfers for various funds; (8) authorizing the County Auditor to transfer funds from various county department accounts to the Medina County Software Fund revenue line item; (9) creation of the Community Development Block Grant Fund FY20 and authorizing appropriations; (10) declaring interested vendors for gasoline fuel phone bids for 2021; (11) authorizing the Medina County Drug Task Force Agency to trade in two (2) used vehicles on the purchase of two (2) newer model vehicles; (12) approval of an agreement for temporary health care staffing services between the Medina County Home and interim healthcare; and (13) allowing claims and authorizing issuance upon the Treasurer in settlement of such list of claims in the amount of \$6,998,097.64. Mr. Hutson moved to approve the 13 resolutions; Mrs. Geissman seconded the motion. Mr. Hutson noted that the first Highway resolution allowing the encroachments into the right of way, no encroachments appear to create any safety issue and he thinks it is appropriate this be granted. In answer to a question by Mrs. Swedyk regarding CARES funding, Ms. Lyon-Galvin stated that there are still some pieces of equipment that are scheduled for delivery before the end of the year, but everything is in order. There was no further 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. Mr. Hutson moved to approve the resolution; Mrs. Geissman seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

County Administrator Scott Miller presented and reviewed the following resolutions: (1) amendments to charges and fees imposed at the Medina County Solid Waste Management District Facility; (2) creating a restricted Sanitary Sewer Main on Ryan Road (C.H. 40) (Sanitary Engineer Project SW-500/200-169.2); and (3) rejecting bids for the 8730 Building Renovation Project. Mr. Hutson moved to approve the 3 resolutions; Mrs. Geissman seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Commissioner Swedyk presented a resolution appointing members to the Medina County Advisory Council on Aging. Mr. Hutson moved to approve the resolution; Mrs. Geissman seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Commissioner Swedyk presented a resolution reappointing a representative for the villages to the Medina County Council of Governments (COG) on Drug Enforcement. Mr. Hutson moved to approve the resolution; Mrs. Geissman seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Nancy Nozik of Brandstetter Carroll provided a design update on the Courthouse Project. She explained that the new courthouse will be constructed in the existing parking lot and will include the County Clerk, sallyport and secure holding areas, Common Pleas Court, Domestic Relations Court, Juvenile and Probate Courts, Juvenile Probation and County Adult Probation; it will have four floors rather than five. Mrs. Nozik reviewed the current layouts of each floor. The commissioners all agreed that the designs and layouts looked very nice, but they the building should be called the Medina County Courthouse instead of the Medina Courthouse to avoid public confusion.

In answer to Mr. Miller's question, Mrs. Nozik stated that feedback from the judges are coming in and the plans are being adjusted as necessary. The next steps include new design development cost estimates based on the changes. Mr. Hutson asked about community engagement and what are the next steps there. Mrs. Nozik stated that discussions have occurred on whether the county is required to go in front of the Historic Preservation Board, but ultimately it is up to the commissioners to advise how to move forward on this step. Mr. Miller stated he will check with the Prosecutor's Office to make sure all requirements are met. Mr. Hutson stated that we should engage the community and the various groups in the city to review the plans before moving forward. Mrs. Nozik will reach out to the groups to review the designs. Mrs. Swedyk stated that she believes they will like the fact that the building is going to be one floor shorter.

With no further business to come before the commissioners, the meeting recessed for Discussion Session at 10:08 a.m.

Discussion Session

At 10:08 a.m., the commissioners began Discussion Session.

Medina County Budget for 2021

Ms. Lyon-Galvin stated that the final budget recommendations were sent out to the commissioners and she wanted to get their feedback to be ready for the passing of the budget on December 29th. She explained that the memo detailed several questions with the first being the Juvenile Detention Center asking for a 5% increase for (24) Corrections Officers. Traditionally, they don't spend all of their budget, in part because they have positions that go unfilled throughout the year. She noted that these increases can fit within their budget and have a minimal effect on their budget. In answer to Mr. Hutson's question, Ms. Lyon-Galvin stated that the increases can be approved without adjusting their budget (except for the additional 27th pay in 2021). The commissioners agreed to approve the 5% increases for the Correction Officers for the 2021 budget.

Ms. Lyon-Galvin stated that the Board of Elections' salary increases are above the commissioner's approved rate. She noted that a retirement is occurring and they want to shift an employee into that role at a higher rate – they want to pay by position and not by a scaled range. Mr. Miller stated that all of the employees being promoted will be replaced. Ms. Lyon-Galvin stated that they have two open positions and are looking to increase their staff from 9 to 11 positions, one additional person from their 2020 budget. Mrs. Geissman asked how they are justifying the need for another person. Ms. Lyon-Galvin explained that they are reforming their tech support positions and are looking for an IT assistant to complete their transition as well as a new administrative assistant instead of a clerk. She noted that the Board of Elections believes that the workload warrants the additional personnel, but comparable counties range from 6 employees to 14 employees on staff. Mr. Miller stated that salaries from different counties were acquired and Medina County is on the low end of the ranges. He stated that his recommendation would be to increase the Director and the Deputy Director rates for 2021 per their requests. Mrs. Geissman noted that the department has gone up tremendously in their expenses. Mr. Miller stated that they have increased their budget from to \$500,000 to \$1.8 million in the last few years, but that is mostly due to mandates from the State. Mr. Miller stated that the recommendation for the Board of Elections budget is \$1.3 million plus the Director and Deputy Director increases and their request was \$1.8 million for 2021. Mr. Hutson asked if we could provide IT service to them instead of hiring a position. Mr. Miller stated the Ohio Revised Code does not allow us to do that. Mr. Hutson understands their need for the raises and the administrative position, but he hesitates on the IT position. Mrs. Swedyk and Mrs. Geissman stated they agree with Commissioner Hutson.

Ms. Lyon-Galvin stated the Public Defender's Office is requesting a salary increase for an employee to \$102,000. Mr. Hutson stated that this should be a discussion for January. Mr. Miller suggested approval of a 90 day budget for the Public Defender's Office and once decisions are made a final budget can be adopted for the entire year. Mr. Hutson and Mrs. Swedyk stated that they agree to approve the 90 day budget for the Public Defender's Office. Mrs. Geissman stated that she supports the increase and based on information she has received, Medina County is not paying the Public Defender the correct rate for the county's size. Mrs. Geissman asked if they want to wait until January because a new commissioner is coming on board. Mr. Hutson stated we need to reevaluate the whole department structure and whether we even need it. Mrs. Swedyk stated the Mr. Miller has a meeting today with the Ohio Public Defender's Commission to discuss the department. Mrs. Geissman stated that after discussions with most of the judges, they are going to use the Public Defender's Office more. She noted that she wished the State of Ohio would take over the Public Defender's Office; commissioners Hutson and Swedyk agreed. Mrs. Swedyk stated that if we can't use the department because of fear of favoritism, then we should just pay for the private sector instead of both. Mr. Miller stated that we are paying the Public Defender's Office \$735,000 in 2021 and back in 2006 we were at \$287,000 – in 14 years their cost has tripled. Mr. Miller stated that the savings from using the Public Defender's Office doesn't warrant the \$735,000 budget request. Mrs. Swedyk stated that at one time it was fiscally responsible, but she isn't sure it still is fiscally responsible anymore. Mr. Miller stated that he agrees with Pat with looking at the Chief Public Defender's salary – it is low compared to other counties. Mr. Miller asked to increase the position's salary to the requested \$120,000 in the 90 day budget until a decision is made in 2021. The commissioners agreed to this request.

Mr. Miller noted that the final budget will be presented next Tuesday.

NOACA Emerging Leaders Council

Mr. Hutson asked Mrs. Swedyk and Mrs. Geissman if they could recommend anyone for the NOACA Emerging Leaders Council. Mrs. Swedyk and Mrs. Geissman stated they do not have anyone at this time. Mr. Miller recommended Denise Testa.

NOACA Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

Mr. Hutson stated electric vehicle charging stations are up and coming and becoming more prevalent. He noted a meeting in January is coming up and he would like everyone to participate and watch the presentation.

Adjournment

Mr. Hutson moved to adjourn the meeting; Mrs. Geissman seconded the motion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:33 a.m.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED DECEMBER 22, 2020

NUMBER	RESOLUTION TITLE
20-1032	Authorizing the Medina County Engineer to issue permits allowing existing personal property fixtures to occupy the Reimer Road (CR-123), Hartman Road (CR-127) and Leatherman Road (CR-260) right of way as required by the Ohio Department of Transportation for MED-VAR-CR resurfacing (FY 2021), the resurfacing of Reimer Road (CR-123) from Hinkle Drive to Medina Line Road (CR-2), Hartman Road (CR-127) from Broad Street to Reimer Road (CR-123), and Leatherman Road (CR-260) from Bridge over I-76 to Reimer Road (CR-123)
20-1033	Reducing weight limits on improved county and township highways as authorized by the Ohio Revised Code, Section 5577.07
20-1034	Resolution of county commissioners proposing to cooperate with the Director of Transportation
20-1035	Amending the 2020 appropriations resolution by transferring appropriations
20-1036	Revenue adjustments for various funds
20-1037	Expenditure adjustments for various funds
20-1038	Cash transfers for various funds
20-1039	Authorizing the County Auditor to transfer funds from various county department accounts to the Medina County Software Fund revenue line item
20-1040	Creation of the Community Development Block Grant Fund FY20 and authorizing appropriations
20-1041	Declaring interested vendors for gasoline fuel phone bids for 2021
20-1042	Authorizing the Medina County Drug Task Force Agency to trade in two (2) used vehicles on the purchase of two (2) newer model vehicles
20-1043	Approval of an agreement for temporary health care staffing services between the Medina County Home and interim healthcare
20-1044	Allowing claims and authorizing issuance upon the Treasurer in settlement of such list of claims
20-1045	Approving personnel changes for the employees under the jurisdiction of the Medina County Commissioners
20-1046	Amendments to charges and fees imposed at the Medina County Solid Waste Management District Facility
20-1047	Creating a restricted Sanitary Sewer Main on Ryan Road (C.H. 40) (Sanitary Engineer Project SW-500/200-169.2)
20-1048	Rejecting bids for the 8730 Building Renovation Project
20-1049	Appointing members to the Medina County Advisory Council on Aging
20-1050	Reappointing a representative for the villages to the Medina County Council of Governments (COG) on Drug Enforcement

All deliberations concerning official business and formal actions by this Board of Commissioners were conducted in an open public meeting this twenty-second day of December, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,	COMMISSIONERS	_____ Colleen M. Swedyk
	OF	_____ William F. Hutson
_____ Rhonda J. Beck Clerk to the Commissioners	MEDINA COUNTY	_____ Patricia G. Geissman