

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

The minutes of the December 29, 2020 Commissioners' meeting were emailed in advance. Mr. Hutson moved to approve the minutes; Mr. Hambley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Commissioner Hutson moved to approve a reorganization resolution that also set the dates of sessions for 2021; Mr. Hambley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE.

As the President of the Board for 2021, Mr. Hutson chaired the meeting at this point. Commissioner Hambley was welcome to the Board.

Commissioner Hutson presented and reviewed the following resolutions: (1) appointing county commissioners to various committees and areas of responsibility for the year 2021; (2) designating the official representative and alternate for the purpose of voting at the annual meeting of the County Commissioners' Association of Ohio (CCAO) in 2021; and (3) appointing representatives and alternates to the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) for 2021. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the three resolutions; Mrs. Swedyk seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE.

Highway Engineer Administrative Assistant Dan Becker presented and reviewed the following resolutions: (1) authorizing the county engineer to proceed in certain instances by force account in the reconstruction, improvement, maintenance and repair of roads, bridges and culverts; (2) approving the final change order to the contract for MED-CR97-6.61, the replacement of bridge no. 27 on Greenwich Road (CR-97) in Westfield Township, between Black Horse Bridge Construction and the Medina County Board of Commissioners; (3) authorizing the President of the Board of County Commissioners to submit applications and execute contracts to the Ohio Public Works Commission for Issue 1 funding; and (4) authorizing the Medina County Commissioners to participate in the ODOT Cooperative Purchasing Program. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the four resolutions; Mrs. Swedyk seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE.

The commissioners reviewed the permits issued December 24, 2020-December 30, 2020.

Assistant County Administrator Amy Lyon-Galvin presented and reviewed the following resolutions: (1) declaring Medina County property as excess property; (2) approving the transfer of Medina County inventory between various Medina County offices; (3) sales tax distribution to the various districts located in Medina County; (4) adoption of a revised mileage reimbursement rate; (5) authorizing agreements with various veterinarians for dog spay and neuter services for the Medina County Animal Shelter; (6) approving a contract for the provision of dental services at the Medina County Jail; (7) approving an agreement with Advanced Correctional Healthcare for inmate medical services; (8) authorizing the purchase of beverages and refreshments for various commissioner meetings; and (9) allowing claims and authorizing issuance upon the treasurer in settlement of such list of claims in the amount of \$315,208.34. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the nine resolutions; Mrs. Swedyk seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE.

Ms. Lyon-Galvin then presented and reviewed the following resolutions on behalf of the Human Resources Department: (1) approving the personnel changes for the employees under the jurisdiction of the Medina County Commissioners; and (2) authorizing an Employee Assistance Program Agreement extension with REACH EAP. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the two resolutions; Mrs. Swedyk seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE.

Interim Sanitary Engineer Jeremy Sinko presented and reviewed the following resolutions: (1) authorizing expenditures related to Solid Waste District-sponsored meetings; (2) declaring the necessity to relocate an existing water pump station to 3510 Medina Road in Medina Township, approving the detailed bid specifications and authorizing the sanitary engineer to commence advertising for construction bids; and (3) consenting to the completion of a proposed road improvement project on State Route 3 & 162 in Medina County. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the three resolutions; Mrs. Swedyk seconded the motion. Mr. Hambley inquired about the reason for moving the pump station. Mr. Sinko explained that this is due to ODOT's Route 18 widening project. A new easement has been provided by ODOT with all but approximately \$30,000 being covered by ODOT; it is a \$918,000 project. Mr. Hambley clarified that we would not have changed this or gone through this expense but for ODOT doing this widening project; Mr. Sinko confirmed. There was no further discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE.

Mr. Hutson asked if the 8730 Lake Road property renovations will be rebid; Mr. Sinko stated that the rebid advertised yesterday.

Commissioner Hambley recognized the passing of former commissioner Don Simmons noting that there is no doubt Mr. Simmons had an impact on this county. He shared that Mr. Simmons had such an energy and advocacy for the skilled trades and Medina County has benefited so much by his presence. Mr. Hambley sent condolences to the family on behalf of the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Hutson stated that he has known Don for several decades and most recently would run into him at fundraisers for various organizations throughout the county. He

and his wife, Edith, were always supporting organizations and very gracious. Commissioner Swedyk added that Mr. Simmons was a wonderful man. Besides being a community leader in business and former commissioner, he was also a huge advocate of 4-H and supported the Fair in many ways. He will be greatly missed.

Commissioner Hambley moved to go into Executive Session following Discussion Session for the purpose of consideration of compensation of a public employee; Mrs. Swedyk seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE.

Planning Services Director Denise Testa reported that in 2020, they saw 137 projects including major and minor subdivisions as well as text and map amendments. The January Planning Commission meeting will include the review of two final plats – one in Brunswick Hills (Wexford Subdivision) which includes 27 sublots and one in Granger Township (The Market at Medina Line) which includes 11 commercial sublots. Mike Lyons from the Prosecutor's office will be the guest speaker and officers will be elected. In answer to a question by Mr. Hutson about Menards, Ms. Testa explained that it's actually Menards with 11 sublots around it that includes commercial buildings.

They have completed their move to the Administration Building and are receiving positive feedback from clients and residents. She noted that she appreciated Steven Bastean and his team's assistance with the move. They have also instituted some operational improvements which have led to increased efficiencies within the department. They have also revised their RC-2 to reduce their paper footprint.

Ms. Testa stated that she submitted a request from Harrisville Township who is amending their Zoning Code. Commissioner Swedyk that she is in favor of the proposal for Harrisville Township and asked if it would require a resolution. Ms. Testa stated that she can write a resolution if they are interested. There was discussion regarding Harrisville's request and Medina County Comprehensive Plan Grant Assistance Program. Scott Miller explained that this program was set up by the commissioners years ago to assist townships with their plans and the monies are set aside in a separate fund. As townships request funding, these requests are placed on resolution for commissioner approval. Mr. Hambley added that he was glad to see this program still exists and there is still some money. It was actually intended for not only townships, but also villages and cities. The idea was to encourage local government to plan for all the growth. He noted that as he understands it, we are probably on the edge of another growth spurt in Medina County like we saw in the 90's. If we have the money in the budget, he would encourage having these various communities continue to look at their zoning updates and comprehensive plans with all the growth and development that is going on. Mrs. Swedyk stated that she is in full agreement with Ms. Testa's proposal. Mr. Hutson inquired where the funding from the grant program comes from. Mr. Hambley answered that it was originally an annual appropriation and was at the discretion of the commissioners based on the budget. He noted that he would encourage the current model, but it would need to be evaluated annually.

Prosecutor Forrest Thompson stated that COVID impacted their office for a period of time. Fortunately, the Matrix program was the perfect fit when they were hit with COVID as they were able to seamlessly work from home. They have a rotating schedule which they are able to implement as circumstances dictate. They have been able to maintain functions of the office during this time.

In 2020, they had approximately 1,000 criminal cases opened, which is down slightly from the previous year. Much of this had to do with the impact of COVID on law enforcement rather than a decline in crime. He stated that one thing that is disturbing is the increase in domestic violence. He is sure it roots at the frustration people are experiencing. If a domestic violence case gets to their office, it is because there is a history. He noted that they are continuing to work with law enforcement to gain knowledge and feedback on how to deal with these situations before it gets to a crisis level. Juvenile cases were at approximately 680 total cases for 2020, which includes delinquency and traffic cases. In 2020, they had 865 open civil matters of which included 230 contractual issues throughout the local governments in the county, 182 tax collections and 34 litigation matter. Mr. Thompson noted that his office's VOCA grant funding was cut by 45%, without any advanced notice. Additional funding had to be acquired to run the Victim's Assistance program, which is an unfunded mandate. In 2021, his office will be looking for additional grant opportunities to help fund this program and help victims in Medina County. He noted that their roof was just redone and their new offices are working out fine. Mr. Thompson stated that the county is growing and with growth comes new legal issues. He noted that his office is fully staffed and ready to get to work in 2021.

With no further business to come before the Commissioners, the meeting recessed at 9:59 a.m.

Discussion Session

At 9:59 a.m., the Commissioners began the Discussion Session in the Commissioners' Hearing Room.

Courthouse Renovation Update

Mr. Miller stated that he met with the judges and the Clerk of Courts and after making some minor adjustments, they gave the okay to move forward. Domestic Relations had concerns with the hearing rooms being split across the floors and the size of the waiting rooms, which were adjusted based on their feedback. Mr. Miller noted that since these plans were adjusted, he has not heard back from Judge Kovack on the changes. Mr. Miller stated that another issue arose on how they will operate during the renovation of the 1841 courthouse. He explained that they would be moved to the 1969 courthouse on a temporary basis. Mr. Miller stated that Judge Kovack asked if it is possible if they could stay in the 1969 courthouse instead of moving out temporarily. He noted that the current space that Domestic Relations occupies is 6,500 square feet and not including the public areas, it is about 4,400 square feet. The renovation plans that are proposed would increase their space to 13,500 square feet and 11,500 not including the public areas. The 1969 building has approximately 22,400 square feet and 14,600 square feet not

including the public areas. Mr. Miller asked for the commissioners input on how they would like to handle this situation so that the county can move into the next phase. Mr. Hutson stated that his preference would be to keep the Domestic Relations Court in the 1841 section of the building which was designed for them. Mrs. Swedyk agreed with Mr. Hutson adding that she would prefer to see all of the county court operations in one building. She also noted that she would like for the city to continue to explore the 1969 building for their needs. In response to Mr. Hambley's question, Mr. Miller stated that it would have a significant impact on the other courts and cause separation of Juvenile and Probate Courts to different floors, which are overseen by one judge. Mr. Hambley stated that to have to redesign plans and have those plans have an impact such as this is not a good idea. Mr. Hambley stated that he agrees with the other commissioners on moving forward with the designs already in place. Mr. Miller stated that he will contact Judge Kovack and get her input on the redesign of their space and let the architects know that the current design has the okay to move forward with the next phase. In conclusion, Mr. Miller stated that the architect sent out the exterior designs to the community groups for their review.

Yard Waste Management Contract

Jeremy Sinko stated that the yard waste management contract awarded to Smith Brothers is coming due on February 11, 2021 and it allows for one more one year renewal. This contract renewal will increase their costs from \$22/ton this year to \$23/ton next year. Mr. Sinko stated that the plan is to exercise the last year renewal on the contract.

Bulk Water Rate Increases

Mr. Sinko stated that they have one bulk water rate costumer and three separate master meters that they are charged them to (Erhart, Columbia and Brand Roads). The last time the bulk water rate was increased was in 2012. The current user rate is \$8.70 per thousand gallons and to get 50% of this would put us at \$4.35. Mr. Sinko stated that he would like to increase this rate in a two-step increase process; (1) July 1st – increase from \$3.00 to \$3.70 and (2) January 1, 2022 increase to the goal of \$4.35. In response to Mr. Hutson's question, Mr. Sinko stated that he had talked to Joe Waldecker at Lorain County about the increase. Mr. Hambley asked Mr. Sinko for more history on the bulk water rates. Mr. Sinko will put something together for the commissioners.

Commissioners' Meeting Location

Mrs. Swedyk stated that she would like to start to hold their meetings in the meeting room as long as there is separation and a 10 person limit rule enforced. Mr. Hambley stated that as long as it would be available live on Facebook, he would be fine with moving the location to the meeting room. Mr. Hutson stated that he is fine with the change and he noted that the next meeting for January 12th will be held in the hearing room.

Executive Session

At 10:16 a.m., the Commissioners went into the Executive Session that had been voted on earlier. The Executive Session ended at 10:55 a.m.

Adjournment

Mr. Hambley moved to adjourn the meeting; Mrs. Swedyk seconded the motion. Roll call showed both commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED JANUARY 5, 2021

<u>Number</u>	<u>Resolution Title</u>
21-0001	Reorganization Resolution and setting dates of sessions for 2021
21-0002	Appointing county commissioners to various committees and areas of responsibility for the year 2021
21-0003	Designating the official representative and alternate for the purpose of voting at the annual meeting of the County Commissioners Association of Ohio (CCAO) in 2021
21-0004	Appointing representatives and alternates to the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) for 2021
21-0005	Authorizing the County Engineer to proceed in certain instances by force account in the reconstruction, improvement, maintenance and repair of roads, bridges and culverts
21-0006	Approving the final change order to the contract for MED-CR97-6.61, the replacement of Bridge No. 27 on Greenwich Road (CR-97) in Westfield Township, between Black Horse Bridge Construction, and the Medina County Board of Commissioners
21-0007	Authorizing the President of the Board of County Commissioners to submit applications and execute contracts to the Ohio Public Works Commission for Issue 1 funding
21-0008	Authorizing the Medina County Commissioners to participate in the ODOT cooperative purchasing program
21-0009	Declaring Medina County property as excess property
21-0010	Approving the transfer of Medina County inventory between various Medina County offices
21-0011	Sales tax distribution to the various districts located in Medina County
21-0012	Adoption of a revised mileage reimbursement rate
21-0013	Authorizing agreements with various veterinarians for dog spay and neuter services for the Medina County Animal Shelter
21-0014	Approving a contract for the provision of dental services at the Medina County Jail
21-0015	Approving an agreement with Advanced Correctional Healthcare for inmate medical services
21-0016	Authorizing the purchase of beverages and refreshments for various commissioners meetings
21-0017	Allowing claims and authorizing issuance upon the treasurer in settlement of such list of claims
21-0018	Approving personnel changes for the employees under the jurisdiction of the Medina County Commissioners
21-0019	Authorizing an employee assistance program agreement extension with REACH EAP
21-0020	Authorizing expenditures related to Solid Waste District-sponsored meetings
21-0021	Declaring the necessity to relocate an existing water pump station to 3510 Medina Road in Medina Township, approving the detailed bid specifications, and authorizing the Sanitary Engineer to commence to advertising for construction bids
21-0022	Consenting to the completion of a proposed road improvement project on State Route 3 & 162 in Medina County

All deliberations concerning official business and formal actions by this Board of Commissioners were conducted in an open public meeting this fifth day of January 2021.

Respectfully submitted,	COMMISSIONERS	_____
		Stephen D. Hambley
	OF	_____
_____		Colleen M. Swedyk
Rhonda J. Beck		
Clerk to the Commissioners	MEDINA COUNTY	_____
		William F. Hutson