

Colleen M. Swedyk called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. with William F. Hutson and Patricia G. Geissman present. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer. Commissioner Swedyk stated that on August 6, the Medina County Home lost its Food Service Supervisor Pam Dick and her mother in a horrible tragedy. She asked that everyone keep Pam's family, coworkers and all who knew and loved her in their thoughts and prayers.

The minutes of the August 4, 2020 commissioners' meeting 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.

*County Administrator Scott Miller* presented and reviewed the following resolutions: (1) determining the necessity to close Spieth Road (CH-65) between Abbeyville Road (CH-47) and Columbia Road (SR-252); (2) amending the appropriation measure resolution; (3) amending the 2020 appropriations resolution by transferring appropriations; (4) expenditure adjustments for various funds; (5) revenue adjustments for various funds; (6) authorizing the county auditor to transfer funds from the JFS Children Services SCPA Fund (0050) to the JFS Public Assistance Fund (0120) for SCPA administration expenditures; (7) authorizing the county auditor to transfer funds from the JFS Children Services IV-E Fund (0050) to the JFS Public Assistance Fund (0120) for Children Series (IVE) administrative expenditures; (8) cash transfers for various funds; (9) authorizing the county auditor to transfer funds for the costs of the county insurance policies; (10) authorizing the county auditor to transfer funds from various county department accounts to the Medina County Print Shop Revenue line item; (11) approving a lease extension with 620 Corporation for storage space for the Clerk of Courts; (12) allowing claims and authorizing issuance upon the treasurer in settlement of such list of claims in the amount of \$712,475.69; (13) approving personnel changes for the employees under the jurisdiction of the Medina County Commissioners; (14) confirming & levying assessments for the property owners' portion of the cost of constructing the sanitary sewer main extension Marks Road (CH-22) No. S-500/00-287.1 in Medina County Sewer District 500; and (15) approving an amendment to the agreement with Advanced Correctional Healthcare for inmate medical services. Mr. Hutson moved to approve the 15 resolutions; Mrs. Geissman seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

*Chief Building Official Dave Molnar* reported that there is plenty of work to do, but they are still trying to find additional staff. Residential plan reviews remain in the low 20s for the number of days to get processed; commercial reviews are at 20 days. Utilizing the three consultants, in one week's time they sent out 23 plan reviews and 15 have returned with 5 being processed. Mr. Molnar explained issues with the prior process for residential reviews and noted that many people are surprised when they receive non-conformance approvals and adjudication orders. If these are not provided, they lose the appeal process. They are doing a lot to educate the contractors and public to get them up to speed on these issues. There were 307 residential permits in July which is approximately \$66,500. There were 27 commercial permits issued which is approximately \$31,800. These numbers are nearly the same as last year. Mr. Molnar stated that they are receiving limited responses to staff job postings, but there are some interviews scheduled for RBO. They are doing a lot of delegating including Megan who is helping with administrative and clerical input on the plan reviews, and they are utilizing inspectors before and after their inspection routes. They are also creating a process with the telephone and the counter. The forms and checklists are being updated and frequently asked questions are being created. He noted that there were more than 1,000 inspections completed in July with 5 inspectors.

In answer to a question by Mr. Hutson, Mr. Molnar stated that the value of residential construction in July was \$10,182,000; there were 29 new home starts. Although new home starts are down from last year, additions and renovations are up. Mrs. Swedyk inquired about exactly how many days for residential plan reviews. Mr. Molnar answered that Friday they were at 18 days and on Monday they were at 22. There were 14 new plan reviews that came in on Friday and 15 on Monday. Mrs. Geissman noted that she has had wood for a fence on order for nearly two months. Mr. Molnar explained that it's been very difficult to find wood.

Mrs. Swedyk asked Mr. Molnar if he's been working weekends; Mr. Molnar answered yes although he did not work Saturday. He noted that inspectors have also been working overtime. Mrs. Geissman asked when he anticipates they will finally get caught up; Mr. Molnar answered that until he can put more hands on this – that is where they are suffering. He stated that he believes if he can bring one more person it, it will help. He and Jarrod have been working 6-7 days a week, and Megan has been helping after hours and on the weekends as well. Mr. Hutson suggested delaying some of the procedural changes in order to streamline things. Mr. Molnar stated that they are trying to pick and choose those. They have to issue adjudication letters as there is a 30 day turnaround. If they don't have that, the owner has the right to build whatever they submitted. He noted the issues with rudimentary plan submissions and those that have already built things and asking for inspections later. Mrs. Swedyk inquired if they are putting a focus on the residential builders' plans; Mr. Molnar answered that they are actually doing very well and those things are moving through. Mr. Hutson stated that it's important from the contractors', businesses', and homeowners' standpoint that we get these done timely as it holds everything up if we don't. Mr. Hutson stated that several contractors have contacted him with concerns. Mr. Molnar stated that he can't take inadequate information and put an approval on it. The builders are understanding what they are looking for and are complying. He hopes to come back with much better news the next time.

*Commissioner Swedyk* presented and reviewed a resolution commending Karla J. Forney for her 26 years of service with Medina County. Mr. Hutson moved to approve the resolution; Mrs. Geissman seconded the motion. The commissioners thanked Karla for her service to the County. There was no further discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

*Commissioner Swedyk* noted that a Certificate of Celebration will be presented to Dallas G. Few to celebrate his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. Mr. Hutson stated that Mr. Few is a veteran; he and Ed Zackery will be at Mr. Few's house on Saturday to present his certificate.

*Commissioner Hutson* presented and reviewed Medina County Commissioners' Proclamation in Support of Law Enforcement. Mr. Hutson moved to approve the resolution; Mrs. Geissman seconded the motion. Mr. Hutson stated that this should be a nice event; it's Saturday and begins at 2:00 p.m. on the Square. Mrs. Geissman stated that the spirit of involvement is what's happening in Lodi; there are signs all over the village in support of the police. Mr. Hutson noted that those signs will be available Saturday. There was no further discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

*Commissioner Swedyk* presented and reviewed a resolution reappointing a member to the Medina County Home Advisory Council. Mr. Hutson moved to approve the resolution; Mrs. Geissman seconded the motion. Mr. Hutson stated that Mr. Lofy does a good job. There was no further discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

*Commissioner Swedyk* presented and reviewed a resolution appointing a member to the Medina County Community Improvement Board (CIB). Mr. Hutson moved to approve the resolution; Mrs. Geissman seconded the motion. Mr. Hutson stated that Will Koran has been the Superintendent of the ESC for many years; he officially retired at the end of July. Mr. Koran did a fabulous job and did a lot of things for the community in many different arenas. Mr. Hutson thanked him for all of his service. Bob Hlasko is taking Mr. Koran's place at the Superintendent of the ESC; he will do a fine job. Mrs. Geissman also thanked Will Koran; he has been a key member of the Railroad Safety Task Force from its beginning. Mrs. Swedyk stated that he was very involved in the community in many ways. Mrs. Geissman stated that he will be missed. There was no further discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Mr. Hutson moved to go into Executive Session following Discussion Session to consider the employment of a public employee; Mrs. Geissman seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE. With no further business to come before the Commissioners, the meeting recessed for Discussion Session at 9:56 a.m.

#### **Discussion Session**

At 9:56 a.m., the commissioners began the Discussion Session in the Commissioners' Hearing Room.

#### Poll Workers

Scott Miller stated that the Board of Elections requested assistance with poll workers for the November election; they are having difficulty with COVID because many of their poll workers are older and are concerned about going out. ORC 3501.28 stipulates that a county employee's appointing authority may permit leave with pay for the purpose of service as a judge of elections on Election Day without loss of the employee's regular compensation. He would like to present a resolution next week which would give those employees under the commissioners the ability to assist at the polls without losing their day of pay. Mrs. Swedyk stated that Election Day is very important, and if the employees are working past 4:30, she would like for them to get overtime for the hours worked beyond 8 hours. Mr. Hutson noted that it is a 12-hour obligation plus training. Mrs. Geissman stated that she thinks it's important that they get their pay and certainly we'd have trouble finding volunteers to go in to do that as most of the poll workers are older than 65. Mr. Miller will check to see if overtime can legally be paid. Mr. Hutson stated that it should be at the discretion of the supervisor, but he supports this. He added that the Board of Elections has also reached out to the Bar Association to get attorneys involved and the Supreme Court has allowed CLE credits for attorneys who participate. This is a big commitment and is very important. Mrs. Swedyk stated that it is important to make sure the polls are properly staffed. Mr. Miller will prepare a resolution for next week and will look into the overtime issue.

#### Courthouse Project

Mr. Miller stated that the petition to prevent the City from spending any money regarding the courthouse project will be going on the ballot in November. The County will continue to move forward with the project, but he requested direction from the board on how to proceed. Mrs. Geissman stated that we need to go forward by ourselves and get it over with noting that she doesn't believe we should be waiting around until after November to go forward. She spoke to John Coyne after the last meeting and he too was concerned. She stated that we haven't been able to go forward and have had all these different changes and plans. Now we need to go back and do what we need to do for the County.

Mr. Hutson stated that she respects Pat's opinion, but he still thinks the best thing to do is to have the City involved in the project. He stated that he wanted to make it very clear that no matter what happens with the City, if it turns out that they cannot proceed forward, that the County is still going to proceed forward; Mrs. Swedyk agreed. Mr. Hutson stated that Brandstetter Carroll has indicated that they will continue to work on the project and continue to do what they have been contracted to do. The City would be responsible for approximately \$100,000 in costs for their time, and Brandstetter has indicated that they will not charge for that time if, in fact, the City cannot go forward. Mrs. Geissman stated that we need to now start planning because right now, we have the City in those plans on that first floor and we need to go forward with what we need; we may not even need as many levels. Mr. Miller stated that he spoke with Brandstetter Carroll and they indicated that if the City does not participate, it's basically a matter

of removing the floor that they are on and moving everything down; it wouldn't be a huge task. They could continue moving forward with the design development stage and if in November the voters decide to not let the City participate, then it's a matter of taking that floor off which is not that difficult to do. We could still move forward as design development is about a five month process. Mr. Hutson explained the cost of the design development phase noting that right now the City's share is approximately 22 percent, and if the vote comes back that the City is unable to spend any money, then Brandstetter Carroll is not going to bill them for their portion. This way the project can keep moving forward and the architects are taking the risk on the City's portion. Mrs. Swedyk asked for confirmation that if the vote is that the City cannot be part of the project, the County will immediately move forward on its own; Mr. Hutson answered that he thinks that is accurate. Mrs. Geissman stated that she would feel better doing that right now because that would have to save us money and get us back on schedule as it seems we are behind. We need to do what our job is which is to look for our own courts on our own courthouse and what's needed there. She noted that they are still having problems in Seneca County. Mr. Hutson stated that his preference is to continue going down that path that we have been on and continue working with the City. Mrs. Swedyk asked for assurance that waiting until November 3 isn't costing any time on our plan. Mr. Miller answered that the idea is to continue moving forward so they would continue the design development stage for the next 83 days. He stated that he believes it's better than not doing anything. Mr. Hutson stated that he believes they are all in agreement that if the vote gets turned down, we will move forward with all expediency to get our courthouse designed and completed. Mrs. Swedyk stated that she feels that we have worked with the City for more than two years and we've put a lot of time in with them. As long as we are continuing to move forward with the plans and move forward with design, then she is okay to wait until November 3, but that will be it; Mr. Hutson agreed.

#### County Financials

Mr. Miller reported that at the end of July, the cash balance is about \$1.5M greater than it was in 2019. July of 2020 was a three-pay month which wasn't until August in 2019, so next month will be a better measure of where we are. The revenues are still up \$153,000 and expenses are down by \$769,000. Sales tax continues to be greater by approximately \$20,000. Based on the numbers from Columbus, sales tax that will be collected this month will be about 3 percent greater and non-auto sales tax is up by 16 percent. Mr. Miller stated that he is very optimistic that we will end the year greater than what we expected because we actually budgeted for a loss of sales tax and casino monies. There was brief discussion regarding casino monies.

#### Commissioners' Charity Ball

Commissioner Geissman stated that by now we would be in the process of sending sponsorship material out for the Charity Ball. With the pandemic, she doesn't know how the commissioners can go forward with having the Charity Ball in February. She suggested cancelling the Charity Ball for next year; Commissioners Swedyk and Hutson agreed. Mrs. Geissman stated that she feels bad for the charities because those that they choose each year are so appreciative and really need the funds, but we have to make sure everyone stays safe and not cause any problems to make it spike any higher than it already has.

#### Medina County Jr. Fair

Commissioner Hutson stated that the Jr. Fair went very well last week. He was the lucky winner of two ducks and a pig; Mrs. Swedyk stated she got three rabbits. Mr. Hutson noted that they did a good job of social distancing and requiring masks. They also had five-gallon buckets of hand sanitizer everywhere. He congratulated the Fair Board.

#### Soil & Water Prairie

Commissioner Hutson stated that the Medina County Soil & Water District's prairie is open to the public. He encouraged everyone to stop by and see it.

#### Small Business Grants

Commissioner Swedyk noted that Friday at 4:00 p.m. is the deadline for grant applications for the CARES funding. The last she checked, there were approximately 380 applications received.

#### Census

Commissioner Swedyk stated that Census workers will begin knocking on doors for those who have not responded to the Census. Medina County is still number one in the state by more than 3 percentage points at 80 percent. In 2010, Medina County's total response was 84 percent. She anticipates we will surpass that number this year.

#### **Executive Session**

At 10:21 a.m., the Commissioners went into the Executive Session that had been voted on earlier. The Executive Session ended at 11:22 a.m.

#### **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 11:22 a.m.

**RESOLUTIONS PASSED AUGUST 11, 2020**

<u>Number</u>	<u>Resolution Title</u>
20-0674	Commending Karla J. Forney for her 26 years of service with Medina County
20-0675	Medina County Commissioners' Proclamation in support of law enforcement
20-0676	Determining the necessity to close Spieth Road (CH-65) between Abbeyville Road (CH-47) and Columbia Road (SR-252)
20-0677	Amending the appropriation measure resolution
20-0678	Amending the 2020 appropriations resolution by transferring appropriations
20-0679	Expenditure adjustments for various funds
20-0680	Revenue adjustments for various funds
20-0681	Authorizing the county auditor to transfer funds from the JFS Children Services SCPA fund (0050) to the JFS Public Assistance Fund (0120) for SCPA administration expenditures
20-0682	Authorizing the county auditor to transfer funds from the JFS Children Services IV-E fund (0050) to the JFS Public Assistance fund (0120) for Children Services (IVE) administrative expenditures
20-0683	Cash transfer for various funds
20-0684	Authorizing the county auditor to transfer funds for the costs of the county insurance policies
20-0685	Authorizing the county auditor to transfer funds from various county department accounts to the Medina County Print Shop revenue line item
20-0686	Approving a lease extension with 620 Corporation for storage space for the Clerk of Courts
20-0687	Allowing claims and authorizing issuance upon the treasurer in settlement of such list of claims
20-0688	Approving personnel changes for the employees under the jurisdiction of the Medina County Commissioners
20-0689	Confirming & levying assessments for the property owners' portion of the cost of constructing the sanitary sewer main extension Marks Road (CH-22) No. S-500/00-287.1 in Medina County Sewer District 500
20-0690	Approving an amendment to the agreement with Advanced Correctional Healthcare for inmate medical services
20-0691	Reappointing a member to the Medina County Home Advisory Council
20-0692	Appointing a member to the Medina County Community Improvement Board (CIB)

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

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