

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

The minutes of the March 16, 2021 commissioners' meeting were emailed in advance. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the minutes; Mrs. Swedyk seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

County Engineer Administrative Assistant Dan Becker presented and reviewed the following resolutions: (1) authorizing the Medina County Engineer to advertise for bids for ODOT Item 423 crack seal of various county roads in Medina County, Ohio; and (2) determining the necessity to close Pawnee Road (CH-28) between Sanford Road (CH-102) and Black River School Road (CH-83). Mr. Becker presented the weekly permits for March 11-17 for review. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the two resolutions; Mrs. Swedyk 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) amending the appropriation measure resolution; (2) amending the 2021 appropriations resolution by transferring appropriations; (3) expenditure adjustments for various funds; (4) revenue adjustments for various funds; (5) creation of the Adult Probation Coronavirus Response Plan Fund and authorizing appropriations; (6) creation and acceptance of the Drug Task Force Office of Criminal Justice Services Justice Assistance Grant Fund and authorizing appropriations; (7) creation of Office for Older Adults Home Energy Assistance Program Fund and authorizing appropriations; (8) creation of a Sheriff's Office Health Security Services Fund and authorizing appropriations; (9) declaring Medina County motor vehicles as excess property; (10) allowing expenses of county officials; and (11) allowing claims and authorizing issuance upon the treasurer in settlement of such list of claims in the amount of \$1,371,319.39. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the 11 resolutions; Mrs. Swedyk seconded the motion. Mrs. Swedyk note that requests for travel are beginning to come in for some employees again. There was no further discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Human Resources Director Holly Muren presented and reviewed a resolution approving the personnel changes for the employees under the jurisdiction of the Medina County Commissioners. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the resolution; Mrs. Swedyk seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Sanitary Engineer Jeremy Sinko presented and reviewed a resolution authorizing the Sanitary Engineer to enter into an agreement with Jones & Henry Engineers for professional design services to upgrade the existing pumps located in our northern pump station in Sharon Township. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the resolution; Mrs. Swedyk seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Economic Developer Kathy Breitenbucher explained that there are two types of CRAs – pre-94 and post-94 which is when the law changed how they are managed. The pre-94s include 198 projects that have brought in \$235.6M in investments and created 2,174 jobs. The post-94s includes 16 projects that have brought in \$55.7M in investments and created 456 jobs. She noted that the events company that makes booths for event are busier than ever after retooling their entire business and are hiring again. She reviewed the current CRAs noting that they have 92 total agreements that they manage on a yearly basis. Mr. Hambley thanked the Housing Council members; they are volunteers reviewing these to make sure the agreements are being enforced. He explained that House Bill 123 doesn't provide any funding for the enforcement portion. Mrs. Swedyk stated that Housing Council meetings are very thorough. Mrs. Breitenbucher stated that they appreciate all of the volunteer time dedicated to this.

Mrs. Breitenbucher presented a resolution approving minutes and recommendations from the Housing Councils/Tax Incentive Review Councils representing Liverpool Township, Granger Township, Hinckley Township, Montville Township and Sharon Township. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the resolution; Mrs. Swedyk seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Transit Director Shannon Rine presented and reviewed the following resolutions: (1) approving the acceptance of funding from the Federal Transit Authority for CRSSAA Act 2021 program grants; and (2) approving the acceptance of funding from the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency 2021 Enhanced Mobility of Senior and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310) Grant Program. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the two resolutions; Mrs. Swedyk seconded the motion. In answer to a question by Mr. Hutson regarding other shelters around the county, Mr. Rine stated that he doesn't see shelters in the near future as they are going to establish bus stops and routing first. There was no further discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Mr. Rine reported that they are hopeful with destinations around the county opening that they will see an increase in ridership. They are providing a lot of services to medical appointments and are tracking some that are going for COVID vaccines. There is \$104,000 coming from ODOT for immunization transportation; they will be challenged over the next couple of months to determine how to spend these funds. Mr. Hambley stated that where they are using these funds for transportation to the mass immunizations like Cleveland and Columbus, but it is more difficult for rural systems. Mr. Hutson inquired if we have the ability to advertise and take a bus to a mass immunization site

like the Wolstein Center. Mr. Rine stated that people in the county are finding ways to get to vaccination sites; going out of county gets tricky. He added that there's enough destinations in the county, but he needs to coordinate that.

Continuing, Mr. Rine stated that he and Steven Basteau worked with Paul Barnett to obtain a large bus lift from the City of Brunswick at no cost. This is an asset move that will be a huge benefit that will help the Maintenance Department with efficiency. He expressed appreciation for the Health Department's mentioned of Transit in their newsletter.

Job & Family Services Director Debbie Kiley presented and reviewed the following resolutions: (1) approving an agreement providing Clerk of Court services pursuant to the requirements of Title IV-D of the Social Security Act; and (2) approving an agreement providing Prosecutor services pursuant to the requirements of Title IV-D of the Social Security Act. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the two resolutions; Mrs. Swedyk seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Ms. Kiley reported that they have received 160 applications through the Marketplace since February compared to 109 received during that time period when Marketplace was not open. She stated that in February, approximately 9,000 individuals received food benefits, 480 individuals received cash assistance and Medicaid recipients were over 23,000. She stated that the governor has authorized that with kinship support, the state will cover the first 6-9 months per diem rate of \$10.20 for children that are in kinship care. After that, those families have the opportunity to become licensed as foster parents. Letters were sent to these families asking if they were interested in becoming licensed; no responses have been received. If they become licensed, the rate increases to \$35.00. She explained that the funding for the \$10.20 comes from the state; the \$35.00 per diem is covered by IV-D, estate child protective allocation and the balance by levy funds. Licensing classes are offered by private agencies, but can also be done locally as well as online. There are currently 17 children in relative care of the total 83 that are currently involved with them. There are 49 children in foster care and the balance is in residential or treatment homes. The Child Support Division's collection targets for February were met; the agency collected \$2.3M in support payments. They are above the state standard for total collections as the state mandates they be at 90%; they are currently over 97.48%. Ms. Kiley stated that she continues to meet with each division asking what we can do more of. Child Protective and Public Assistance are working on internal procedures so staff know what is expected of them and when it's expected. Child Support has been asked to begin reviewing job descriptions.

Emergency Management Director Christina Fozio distributed and reviewed a grant summary spreadsheet noting that having a small staff, they were still able to secure approximately \$12M in grant funds since 1999. She stated that between 2000-2009, Flood Mitigation Assistance ("FMA") brought in approximately \$2.3M to buy out properties in Gloria Glens for the repetitive flood program. There were 24 homes demolished in order to get those families into a safer area. This remains one of the largest mitigation projects in the state to date. Mr. Hutson inquired of the \$400,000 from the State Capital Bond Grant and \$100,000 from Nexus previously earmarked for a building. Ms. Fozio explained that the Heather Hedge building is only 4,400 square feet, so the first \$400,000 will be used to add a second floor to the building to account for a training room. She mentioned that they may start pursuing satellite locations to house additional equipment in an effort to not have all of their equipment in alternate location in the event of a pattern of inclement weather coming through such as a tornado. She stated that there is something exciting in the works for the second \$400,000 that will allow a second satellite office to house additional equipment. In answer to a question by Mrs. Swedyk, Ms. Fozio stated that they are not able to use that funding for offices because it's a training facility. The Nexus money will allow them to do some remodel that is not covered under the capital bond. Ms. Fozio stated that typically, Emergency Management Agencies in each county are the receiver of the state or FEMA provided PPE. Medina County EMA has been utilizing the Montville Service Garage for a lot of the PPE that initially came in with overflow going to Chippewa Fire Department. Since the beginning of COVID, they have received 43 semi deliveries. CARES money helped them purchase the vehicle for movement of the PPE internally in the county as well as a tow motor to allow for easier movement of palletted items. They have received 1,670,475 PPE items to date with 103 Medina County entities receiving PPE items.

Ms. Fozio reported that the outdoor early warning siren in Chippewa is now operational; the old siren was previously the fire station for calling firefighters to the station and is a one-way siren. She and her team look forward to integrating into the neighborhood. Pallet racking was received through donation and has been helpful in organizing PPE. The 4,400 square feet of floor space is currently full and two vehicles also parked outside. Mrs. Swedyk inquired if there is enough footprint to expand out; Ms. Fozio answered no, they are only able to go up. Mr. Hutson asked how many incidents EMA has responded to this year. Ms. Fozio explained that they respond to all all-hazards calls with the last one being a child abduction. She estimated that they have gone out on six calls so far this year.

Commissioner Hutson stated that the commissioners received notice of a new liquor permit request from the Ohio Division Liquor Control for Cole M. Enterprises LLC located at 965 Marks Road, Unit C, Brunswick Hills, Ohio. The commissioners did not request a hearing to be held.

With no further business to come before the Commissioners, the meeting recessed at 10:14 a.m.

Discussion Session

At 10:14 a.m., the Commissioners began the Discussion Session.

Prayers for the Simmons Family

Mrs. Swedyk stated that former Seville Mayor Ralph Symonds has lost his wife, Sue, this week; she was a wonderful woman. Prayers go out to the family.

Office for Older Adults Reopening Plans

Mrs. Toth distributed and reviewed information detailing plans of the upcoming reopening of the Office for Older Adults scheduled for April 12. All staff must be tested every two weeks to have the Center open as well as any high risk visitors. The Avenue at Medina will perform the rapid testing as required. The tests are mandatory, so if staff refuses to be tested, they will not be working regardless of vaccination status or if they previously had COVID. Mrs. Toth stated that last the order for nursing homes was amended allowing longer visitations and vaccinated staff does not have to get tested as often. She stated that she is hopeful that in the next few weeks the mandates from the state will loosen the testing requirements because it is a huge burden for her office. In response to Mr. Hutson's question, Mrs. Toth stated that the testing order was written in October 2020 before people were getting vaccinated and it has not been amended since. She noted that there is a period between the 1st and 2nd vaccination where someone could get exposed as well as two weeks after the 2nd dose. Mrs. Toth stated that once the orders are lifted or changed, they will adjust their policies and procedures.

Mrs. Toth stated that the second aspect of opening is the physicality of the center. They will only have the dining room, lobby and craft rooms open. An isolation room was created in order to quarantine anyone with a positive COVID test. Sanitation policies and procedures were also updated, and temperature checks will be required for entry.

The third aspect of reopening is the activities and how they will work under these restrictions. A new system called Senior Space was acquired and each participant gets a fob to scan upon entry. It allows us to know what activities they are going to do in the Center. Once they get an invitation, they can sign up for activities online and use their fob when entering the building to make things more convenient; call-ins are welcome if online isn't an option. Mrs. Toth stated that a volunteer will call a day before activities to do a health check on all of the participants per state order. Hybrid activities via Zoom five days a week as well as in person activities will be offered four days a week. Maintenance is moving picnic tables in the courtyard in order to create space for exercise. Masks and social distancing are mandatory per state order with the only exception being when people are exercising. No food will be available at this reopening, but home delivered meals will continue. Mr. Hutson stated that it will be nice to have things coming back and getting back to normal. The commissioners thanked Mrs. Toth for her hard work to get the reopening going.

Correction to EMA's department report

Mrs. Fozio stated that she was corrected; they have responded to 14 incidents this year – not 6.

Upcoming Sanitary Projects

Mr. Sinko stated that the Chippewa Lake Village is doing a road improvement project on Clover Cliff between Rockridge and Beachside Blvd. As part of the project, they will work with them to repair aging water mains, water connections to the right of way and the sanitary sewers under the road. The hope is there won't be any issues in the future by replacing those components. Chippewa does a yearly project so they will start allocating funds each year for these types of projects. Mr. Hutson stated it is good to work with the local communities because the last thing they want is to put a new road in and then it be torn up a year later. He stated that he appreciates Mr. Sinko working with communities to avoid that issue.

Mr. Sinko stated that their north pump station in Sharon Township needs pumps added; a resolution for authorization to advertise for the project will be presented next week.

Mr. Sinko stated that he has been working with the HR Gray on rewriting their rules and regulations. Mr. Hambley asked if they will also be focusing on the pretreatment requirements. Mr. Sinko stated they his office works directly with the EPA on that section, so that section shouldn't need too much updating.

Mr. Hutson inquired about the building construction at the Recycling Center. Mr. Sinko stated that it is going well and most of the demo is done. Roof repairs have also been underway as well as the elevator electrical panel repairs. In response to Mr. Hambley's question, Mr. Sinko stated that the scale repair went great and they are back in business. They are working on getting bids out to replace the scales this year at some point. In response to Mr. Hutson's question, Mr. Sinko stated that the next Solid Waste Policy Committee will be held in April; he will be working with Rhonda to determine a date.

Long Range Transportation Plan

Mr. Hutson stated that NOACA has created an update to the Long Range Transportation Plan that is supposed to look 20-30 years into the future to give guidance on how to prioritize projects long term. He stated that in his opinion, it is very much Cuyahoga County centered. It focuses on areas in Cuyahoga County specifically to the exclusion of Medina County. A rail project coming down into Medina County was mentioned that we questioned. Mr. Hambley stated that they examined that in the 90's and gave up on it because of the right-of-ways. Mr. Hutson stated that Bethany from Economic Development drafted a very detailed letter with the help of Denise Testa, Andy Conrad and Shannon Rine that was given to the commissioners. Kathy Breitenbucher stated that if Rapid Transit was used heavily in Cuyahoga County that trains would have an opportunity, but no one uses it. We are not geographically situated to have trains make sense. She added that they analyzed each scenario that was presented in detail, and feel strongly that it steers NOACA away from the core purpose of planning for transportation and mobility. She stated that Medina County does not have the population to fill the jobs that are open. If have to be smart in job growth and understand when it is going to happen. She referenced a concept with the idea that you bring business to where the people are, invest in the infrastructure that already exists and build those areas up it is going to make things work better. She pointed out that the reality of this concept is that if it is

played in its entirety, it poses a problem for businesses when they want to expand. Expansion will affect the employees that live near the businesses according to this concept. She stated that in addition the collar counties, such as Medina, are completely ignored because there aren't any job hubs in our area. Mrs. Swedyk stated that we can't be the only county upset about this; Mrs. Breitenbucher confirmed.

Mr. Hutson stated that their fundamental assumptions seem to be incorrect due to the fact that the plan only looks at increasing population in Cuyahoga County, when really they are the ones losing population. Mrs. Breitenbucher stated that Lorain County reached out with interest in seeing the drafted letter to NOACA if the commissioners agreed to sign and share the document. The commissioners agreed to share the letter with Lorain County. Mrs. Breitenbucher stated that this plan directly ignores four out of the five counties. Mr. Hambley stated that his problem with the plan was making people move towards the transit hubs and taking away their choice. Mrs. Swedyk stated that the point of the organization is to have regional focus, ideas and future and this doesn't seem like it is completely that task. Mr. Hambley stated that the plan is coordinating largely with federal funding. This plan is the first to start looking at land use and that is the problem. Mrs. Swedyk agreed and stated and it heavily favors one community. Mr. Hambley stated that in his experience, Cuyahoga County has always wanted to get in charge of the land use plan and we have held very firm to stop this. The commissioners agreed to sign the letter to NOACA stating their concerns.

Mrs. Breitenbucher stated that Economic Development fully supports the letter. Mrs. Swedyk asked if Grace Gallucci has any idea of the concerns of Medina County. Mrs. Breitenbucher stated that she is well aware that we don't appreciate the job hub concept. She presented the example of Westfield and how they even stopped requiring employees to live in Westfield Center because it doesn't work. Mr. Hambley stated that the board is scheduled to vote on this in the next month or two. Mr. Hutson stated that next meeting will be in May. Mr. Hambley expressed that time is of the essence so other counties can also have comment to hopefully hold off the plan. He stated that it isn't just the job hubs that are a concern. The commissioners agreed to send out the signed letter to all of the communities and interested parties. Mr. Hutson stated that the job hubs are also pulling population to areas within Cuyahoga County that should cause issues for the other communities within Cuyahoga County. Mr. Hutson asked that everyone sign the letter individually to show we are unified. Mrs. Breitenbucher stated that once the signatures are obtained they will share it around the region.

Adjournment

Mr. Hambley moved to adjourn the meeting; Mrs. Swedyk seconded the motion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:41 a.m.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED MARCH 23, 2021

<u>Number</u>	<u>Resolution Title</u>
21-0201	Authorizing the Medina County Engineer to advertise for bids for ODOT Item 423 crack seal of various county roads in Medina County, Ohio
21-0202	Determining the necessity to close Pawnee Road (CH-28) between Sanford Road (CH-102) and Black River School Road (CH-83)
21-0203	Amending the appropriation measure resolution
21-0204	Amending the 2021 appropriations resolution by transferring appropriations
21-0205	Expenditure adjustments for various funds
21-0206	Revenue adjustments for various funds
21-0207	Creation of the Adult Probation Coronavirus Response Plan fund and authorizing appropriations
21-0208	Creation and acceptance of the Drug Task Force Office of Criminal Justice Services Justice Assistance Grant fund and authorizing appropriations
21-0209	Creation of Office for Older Adults Home Energy Assistance Program fund and authorizing appropriations
21-0210	Creation of a Sheriff's Office Health Security Services fund and authorizing appropriations
21-0211	Declaring Medina County motor vehicles as excess property
21-0212	Allowing expenses of county officials
21-0213	Allowing claims and authorizing issuance upon the treasurer in settlement of such list of claims
21-0214	Approving personnel changes for the employees under the jurisdiction of the Medina County Commissioners
21-0215	Authorizing the Sanitary Engineer to enter into an agreement with Jones & Henry Engineers for professional design services to upgrade the existing pumps located in our northern pump station in Sharon Township
21-0216	Approving minutes and recommendations from the Housing Councils/Tax Incentive Review Councils representing Liverpool Township, Granger Township, Hinckley Township, Montville Township and Sharon Township
21-0217	Approving the acceptance of funding from the Federal Transit Authority for CRSSAA Act 2021 Program grants
21-0218	Approving the acceptance of funding from the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency 2021 Enhanced Mobility of Senior and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310) Grant Program
21-0219	Approving an agreement providing Clerk of Court services pursuant to the requirements of Title IV-D of the Social Security Act
21-0220	Approving an agreement providing Prosecutor's legal services pursuant to the requirements of Title IV-D of the Social Security Act

All deliberations concerning official business and formal actions by this Board of Commissioners were conducted in an open public meeting this twenty-third day of March, 2021.

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