

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

The minutes of the January 18, 2022 Commissioners' meeting 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.

Health Commissioner Krista Wasowski thanked the commissioners on behalf of the Board of Health for placing the levy on the ballot for voters. She stated the current levy has been on the books for 30 years. It was renewed in both 2002 and 2012 and is a base funding for the agency. She added the levy is critical for their operation as the Health Department is neither county funded, a county agency, nor an agency of the State. Last year, they received \$86,000 in total from the state in funding. The Health Department is 31% levy funded. She added the Health Department has fees, grants, and contracts. They do a lot of work so they don't have to rely on the local taxpayer for funding. She stated they do have a renewal which is to continue to have the state portion of that money paid for — it is taxpayer relief. The .15 increase, however, is a reflection on what they know will be needed in the next 10 years as it's a 10-year levy. Many of the costs have increased including technology, computers, and firewalls, as well as everything needed to be compliant. Additionally, as a facility in Northeast Ohio that hires medical professionals, they have to compete with the entire Northeast Ohio market for people. Lastly, a major change within the state, in order to receive grants from the state, the Health Department must front the money for three months before requesting reimbursement for those first three months. Commissioner Hutson added that it is important that the levy succeeds. He added over the last two years, the Health Department has proved to be invaluable. Ms. Wasowski stated she's glad they've been here for the community.

Public Comment regarding pending resolutions

None.

Highway Engineer Administrative Assistant Dan Becker presented and reviewed the following resolutions: (1) accepting and awarding the bid for the 2022 Medina County Highway Department Hot Bituminous Plant Mixes through December 31, 2022; and (2) authorizing the Medina County Engineer to issue a permit allowing existing personal property fixtures to occupy the Fenn Road (CR-70) right-of-way as required by the Ohio Department of Transportation for MED-CR 070-3.36 (Fenn Rd), the resurfacing of Fenn Road (CR-70) from US-42 (Pearl Road) to SR-3 (Weymouth Road). Mrs. Swedyk moved to approve the two resolutions; Mr. Hutson seconded the motion. Mr. Hutson asked about the second resolution which stated there are 10 properties; however, only one letter and photos were included. He wondered about the other nine; Mr. Becker stated he would find out. Mr. Hutson stated he just wanted to make sure none were safety issues. There was no further discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

The commissioners reviewed the permits issued January 13–19, 2022.

Sanitary Engineer Jeremy Sinko presented and reviewed the following resolutions: (1) authorizing the Sanitary Engineer to enter into an agreement with Jones and Henry Engineers for professional design services; and (2) authorizing the Sanitary Engineer to enter into an agreement with GPD Group for professional design services for the Solid Waste District's residential campus. Mrs. Swedyk moved to approve the two resolutions; Mr. Hutson seconded the motion. Mr. Hutson thanked Mr. Sinko for sending the pictures of the restoration work on Columbia Road. 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 personnel changes for the employees under the jurisdiction of the Medina County Commissioners. Mrs. Swedyk moved to approve the resolution; Mr. Hutson seconded the motion. Mr. Hambley noted one of the new employees, Nels Swanson, was present at the meeting. He welcomed Mr. Swanson. There was no further discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Planning Services Director Denise Testa presented and reviewed a resolution declaring all unincorporated areas of Medina County as restricted for utility scale power projects per Senate Bill 52: Wind and Solar Electric Generation Siting Authority. Mrs. Swedyk moved to approve the resolution; Mr. Hutson seconded the motion. Mr. Hambley stated originally Granger Township corresponded that they did not want to be included; however, after Ms. Testa and he met with them, they agreed to be included in the exclusionary zone. Mr. Hambley added a recent OSU study showed over 750,000 projects composing of about 750,000 megawatts over the next few years in solar energy. He added Medina County is not opposed to solar, but to do something on a large scale, you first need to discuss with the township trustees, then present it to the public as well as the Board of Commissioners in addition to working with our county Planning Commission to make sure the project does fit within the community and the future plans of the community. Mrs. Swedyk added she believes this resolution encourages discussion. There was no further 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) revenue adjustments for various funds; (3) authorizing a cash transfer for the Medina County Emergency Management Agency; (4) cash transfer for various funds; (5) proceeding with the submission of the question of levying a renewal tax with an increase in excess of the ten mill limitation for the purpose of meeting the expenses of the Medina County Combined General Health District Program to provide an

adequate amount for the necessary requirements of the district and to provide the Board of Health with sufficient funds to carry out such health programs, pursuant to sections 5705.03, 5705.19(A), 5705.191 and 3709.29 of the Ohio Revised Code, on the May 3, 2022 ballot; (6) authorizing an agreement with Step CG, LLC for network core refresh; (7) authorizing a contract with Liturgical Publications, Inc. for publishing services; (8) allowing expenses of county officials; and (9) allowing claims and authorizing issuance upon the treasurer in settlement of such list of claims in the amount of \$1,789,499.61. Mrs. Swedyk moved to approve the nine resolutions; Mr. Hutson seconded the motion. Mr. Hambley asked the public to please consider the impact of the Health Levy which will presumably be on the May 3, 2022 ballot. He added the impact of not having this money could be detrimental to the public health and safety of many individuals. There was no further discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Commissioner Hambley presented and reviewed the following resolutions: (1) commending Randall Schmidt for his years of service with Medina County; and (2) appointing a representative and alternates to the Medina County Planning Commission. Mrs. Swedyk moved to approve the resolution; Mr. Hutson seconded the motion. Mr. Hutson added Randall Schmidt is a Marine Corp veteran who has been extremely active in all Marine Corps and military activities. He thanked Mr. Schmidt for his service and offered congratulations on his retirement. Mr. Hambley mentioned Mr. Schmidt had also served on the County Home Advisory Council. There was no further discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Transit Director Shannon Rine provided a monthly report for December 2021. Ridership did maintain for the month. He also provided some yearly numbers comparing 2021 to 2020. They maintained costs well. Last year there was an overage with fuel. They had projected about \$58,000 over due to the increase of fuel price, but did recover some of that. For next year they made some adjustments to their per mile cost for some of the agencies. There were also some staffing challenges; however, HR has helped by hiring a few drivers. Mr. Rine introduced Jason Sudy and Arthur Schmidt from OHM Advisors. Mr. Sudy stated their company does a lot of transit work in addition to planning landscape architecture, design and engineering. They have 17 offices throughout the region. Mr. Schmidt stated they have done a lot of work in Medina County and with the City of Medina as well as several of the townships and villages. Mr. Sudy outlined the strategic plan for Medina County Public Transit into four phases. The overall schedule is intended to last throughout this year. During the process they will be understanding the opportunities that exist for the transit system here, understanding the growth changes that are inherent throughout the county, and thinking of ways that new technology and existing service can merge in order to prove a wider net of opportunity for everyone. They will also come up with a funding and implementation strategy so that there's a clear cut plan. Mr. Schmidt explained that Phase 3 is basically the entirety of the project. They are working with Mr. Rine and his staff to create a steering committee to have representation throughout the county. For that committee they are looking to include current transit riders as well as youth. Mr. Hambley stated if any individuals are interested in providing input to contact Mr. Rine through our office. Mr. Hutson asked about alternative transportation and if there would be any consideration of scooters or other modes of transportation; Mr. Rine responded that multi modal ideas are coming out of the city planning and he believes it could complement transportation. Mr. Rine added there is also a desire and a need to connect with our adjacent counties.

Job & Family Services Director Debbie Kiley provided a year-end report for 2021. She stated the agency maintained at least a 99% approval rating for SNAP cases; increased timeliness of initiation of investigations of abuse/neglect; the child support division was also awarded "Best Performance in Support Establishment" Ohio's Office of Child Support. Ms. Kiley reported several technology upgrades were also implemented including Cisco Jabber software, redesigned agency website, new software programs for foster care applications and data tracking, recorded a short documentary of foster parenting, and updated/upgraded the JFS logo. Mr. Hutson asked if there is still a need for additional foster parents; Mrs. Kiley responded always. She stated she had 41 foster parents in February of last year, and they currently have 51. However, they need foster parents who are willing to take children between the ages of 10 and 18. In the Eligibility Division, they received over 5,800 applications for assistance in 2021. They issued over \$26 million in SNAP benefits. The total cash benefits issued in 2021 was \$994,603. Average Medicaid recipients per month was 25,200. In the Child Support Division, they collected over \$20 million in current support payments and over \$2 million in past due payments. In the Child Protective Division, they screened over 1,900 reports of abuse/neglect. In 2021 they also averaged 80 children in care. 25 children were reunified with their parents; another six were officially adopted.

MCBDD Superintendent Stacey Maleckar provided a 2021 Annual Report. Last year, they served 1,399 people. 768 of those people were under the age of 22 and 631 were adults over age 22. They served 304 children between ages 0-3 in Early Intervention Services, which was a 17% increase from 2020. The board also worked with 284 agencies and organizations to provide needed services to people with disabilities and their families. Last year they spent \$5.86 million on the Medicaid waiver match costs for the people they serve. She stated the board is starting its new strategic plan. The three main goal areas are Community Membership, Life Transitions and Provider Support. The DSP crisis is still very real and is a high priority. Mr. Hutson asked what kind of people they are looking for to fill those roles; Ms. Maleckar responded the private providers are looking for people who will provide day-to-day care. Mr. Hutson asked how someone would apply; Ms. Maleckar responded they can talk with individual providers, or go to the board's website where they can be connected with different providers to apply for jobs. She added earlier in January, the State Department of Developmental Disabilities gave them the highest accreditation. She stated they had no citations and the State Department was very complimentary of the staff and how they put individuals first. Additionally, the board received an approximate \$25,000 grant from DODD to do some programming for multi system youth. Mrs. Swedyk stated MCBDD has an opening on the board with the deadline for applications being tomorrow; Ms. Maleckar confirmed.

Public Comment

None.

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

Discussion Session

At 10:10 a.m., the Commissioners began the Discussion Session in the Commissioners' Hearing Room.

Courthouse Update

Mr. Miller stated they had been having some difficulty with Columbia Gas. However, Bethany Dentler and Kevin Lauterjung assisted him in getting in contact with the correct people. Therefore, the gas lines can now be installed in March rather than July after the infrastructures are already in place. He added they met with WB Mason who will be designing the furniture layout. Mr. Miller stated they're currently meeting with the corporate courts and adult probation to determine what is needed. The move consultants are also currently meeting with the courts to determine what files need moved. The steel is going up and is currently in phase two out of four phases. Another load of steel was delivered yesterday.

Easements

Mr. Miller stated the city will be doing a project on West Smith Road. They will need a temporary easement near the fairgrounds to do the work, likely in 2023. They have assured him that West Smith Road will be open during fair week.

Mr. Miller stated there is a property with an easement for a radio tower. The easement is from 1968. Mr. Miller talked with Alan Close of Cleveland Communications who handles our radio system. Mr. Close advised the property easement is probably of no value to us. The Remson Tower is 1 to 1-1/2 miles away. A request has been received that the easement is removed so that the property can be sold. Mr. Miller asked the commissioners if they are ok with granting an easement to the city for the property on West Smith. He also asked if they are ok with removing the easement that is near the SR 94 & I-71 intersection. The commissioners all agreed. Mr. Miller stated he would have a resolution for next week.

Roundabout

Mr. Hutson stated at NOACA's board meeting last week, the roundabout for SR 162 and River Styx Road has been approved. There is \$2 million coming from NOACA to assist in the funding. The project should be done in 2023.

Intel Plant

Mr. Hutson mentioned the Intel Plant coming to New Albany, Ohio. He stated it's 88 miles from here to New Albany, so is a reasonable distance for people to get to. He stated this is a fantastic win for the state of Ohio. Mrs. Swedyk added it will create 3,000 jobs. Mr. Hambley added that the average salaries were \$137,000 per year.

Heather Hedge Property

Mrs. Swedyk thanked Jeremy Sinko for the update he gave to her earlier on the Heather Hedge property for EMA. It will be going out to bid soon to move their sanitary line. Mr. Sinko stated it will open a week from Friday.

Fiber

Mr. Hambley stated he and Dave Corrado from the Port Authority met with Litchfield. They approved the memorandum of understanding and also the approval of their contribution to the project using ARPA dollars. He added he is expecting Homer Township to act on there's as well.

Broadband Access Ohio

Mr. Hambley stated the Broadband Access of Ohio Association has formed. The CCAO decided to join as a voting member of the association. Other municipalities have also joined. Mr. Hambley proposed the Board of Medina County Commissioners join at the \$1,500 level which puts them on the board of directors and a voting member of the association. He stated the idea is bringing the political power and public entities involved in broadband expansion in these kinds of services to counterbalance the corporate influences at the state level. Mr. Hambley believes this association has been formed to make sure that we have a presence at the statehouse in advocating for public broadband. Both Mrs. Swedyk and Mr. Hutson agreed we should join as a voting member. Mr. Hutson stated this is an association of governmental entities that are advancing broadband. It is not an amalgamation of both private providers and government. Mr. Hambley stated there are some private providers. He added it will be the small internet provider services that contract and actually provide services within. He stated the intent is to advocate for the smaller entities that are out there who are working with the public sector that have these type of facilities.

Commissioner Swedyk moved to go into Executive Session following Discussion Session for the purpose of consideration of the compensation of a public employee; and to discuss imminent litigation; Mr. Hutson seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Mr. Hambley noted a public hearing following this meeting at 11 a.m. for a waiver from designation requirements.

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 11:12 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 11:15 a.m.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED JANUARY 25, 2022

<u>Number</u>	<u>Resolution Title</u>
22-0071	Honoring former Medina County Veterans Service Commissioner Randall B. Schmidt for his years of service
22-0072	Accepting and awarding the bid for the 2022 Medina County Highway Department hot bituminous plant mixes through December 31, 2022
22-0073	Authorizing the Medina County Engineer to issue a permit allowing existing personal property fixtures to occupy the Fenn Road (CR-70) right-of-way as required by the Ohio Department of Transportation for MED-CR 070-3.36 (Fenn Rd), the resurfacing of Fenn Road (CR-70) from US-42 (Pearl Road) to SR-3 (Weymouth Road)
22-0074	Authorizing the sanitary engineer to enter into an agreement with Jones and Henry Engineers for professional design services
22-0075	Authorizing the Sanitary Engineer to enter into an agreement with GPD Group for professional design services for the Solid Waste District's residential campus
22-0076	Approving personnel changes for the employees under the jurisdiction of the Medina County Commissioners
22-0077	Declaring all unincorporated areas of Medina County as restricted for utility scale power projects per Senate Bill 52: Wind and Solar Electric Generation Siting Authority
22-0078	Amending the appropriation measure resolution
22-0079	Revenue adjustments for various funds
22-0080	Authorizing a cash transfer for the Medina County Emergency Management Agency
22-0081	Cash transfer for various funds
22-0082	Proceeding with the submission of the question of levying a renewal tax with an increase in excess of the ten mill limitation for the purpose of meeting the expenses of the Medina County Combined General Health District Program to provide an adequate amount for the necessary requirements of the district and to provide the Board of Health with sufficient funds to carry out such health programs, pursuant to sections 5705.03, 5705.19(A), 5705.191 and 3709.29 of the Ohio Revised Code, on the May 3, 2022 ballot
22-0083	Authorizing an agreement with Step CG, LLC for network core refresh
22-0084	Authorizing a contract with Liturgical Publications, Inc. for publishing services
22-0085	Allowing expenses of county officials
22-0086	Allowing claims and authorizing issuance upon the treasurer in settlement of such list of claims
22-0087	Appointing a representative and alternates to the Medina County Planning Commission

All deliberations concerning official business and formal actions by this Board of Commissioners were conducted in an open public meeting this twenty-fifth day of January 2022.

Respectfully submitted,	COMMISSIONERS	_____ Colleen M. Swedyk
	OF	_____ William F. Hutson
_____ Brian S. Gallatin Assistant Clerk to the Commissioners	MEDINA COUNTY	_____ Stephen D. Hambley