

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.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the May 31, 2022 commissioners' meeting and June 2, 2022 special 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. The minutes will be placed on file as distributed.

Public Comment regarding pending resolutions

None.

Resolutions

Highway Engineer Administrative Assistant Dan Becker presented and reviewed a resolution determining the necessity to close State Road (C.H. 44) between Ledge Road (C.H. 135) and Remsen Road (C.H. 37). Mrs. Swedyk moved to approve the resolution; Mr. Hutson seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

The commissioners reviewed the permits issued May 26-June 1, 2022.

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. 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) authorizing an agreement for roof inspection services for the Medina County Courthouse project; and (2) authorizing an agreement for the purchase of tables for the Court of Common Pleas courtrooms for the Medina County Courthouse project. Mrs. Swedyk moved to approve the two resolutions; Mr. Hutson 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 county auditor to transfer funds from various county department accounts to the Medina County Print Shop revenue line item; (2) expenditure adjustments for various funds; (3) revenue adjustments for various funds; (4) cash transfers for various funds; (5) authorizing the purchase of 7,200 gallons of regular unleaded gasoline for the Engineering Center; (6) approving the transfer of Medina County inventory between various Medina County offices; (7) declaring Medina County property as excess property; (8) authorizing the commissioners to enter into an agreement with Leadership Medina County for a customized leadership training development program; (9) Allowing expenses of county officials; and (10) allowing claims and authorizing issuance upon the treasurer in settlement of such list of claims in the amount of \$666,451.13. Mr. Hambley asked that the resolution labeled Finance 8 be voted on separately. Mrs. Swedyk moved to approve the nine resolutions; Mr. Hutson seconded the motion excepting Finance 8 noting that it would be voted on separately. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried. Mr. Hambley stated that because resolution number 8 involves Leadership Medina County, he will have to abstain because he is on their Board of Directors and he has a fiduciary responsibility and a potential conflict of interest. Mrs. Swedyk moved to approve the resolution; Mr. Hutson seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed Mrs. Swedyk and Mr. Hutson voting AYE; Mr. Hambley abstained. The motion carried.

Department Updates

Planning Director Denise Testa presented and reviewed a resolutions authorizing the submission of an application for funding Community Development Block Grant program for program year 2022. Mrs. Swedyk moved to approve the resolution; Mr. Hutson seconded the motion. Mr. Hutson clarified that the City of Wadsworth automatically gets an allocation. Mr. Hambley explained that with the balance, the commissioners have the ability to rank the projects and appropriately fund them. There was no further discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried. Mrs. Testa then presented and reviewed a resolution authorizing the submission of two applications for Critical Infrastructure funding for program year 2022. Mrs. Swedyk moved to approve the resolution; Mr. Hutson seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Mrs. Testa stated that the July Planning Commission meeting will include five major subdivisions and a text amendment. They wrapping up their current CDBG projects as well as submitting applications for program year 2022. The Lafayette Critical Infrastructure Project in Chippewa Lake is now out for rebidding for the Main Drive portion. They are working with the townships to create some workshops; information will be sent out in the near future. She reported that as part of the NOACA Electric Vehicle Charging Station Program, we are set to receive a couple of charging stations in our parking lot; the public bid opening is scheduled for July 22.

Office for Older Adults Director Laura Toth reported that Senior Day held on May 17 was a great success with 543 in attendance and 80 vendors. Extra boxed lunches were donated to the Medina County Home. Picnics on the Patio will return on June 10 after a two year hiatus; two picnics will be held each month during the summer months. The

next Senior Foundation fundraiser will be the Twin Sizzler on July 4 at the Medina Square. The Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program included \$50 voucher packets for senior to spend at various farmers markets throughout the county; distribution will be held June 22.

Mrs. Toth then discussed the Adult Protective Services Division which has been housed at the Office for Older Adults since last September noting that from January 1-May 31, the department received 238 calls about elder abuse in the County with 134 of those calls screened out and the remaining calls were assigned and investigated. The highest area of concern is self-neglect and the next highest area is financial exploitation. June 15 is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day and she encouraged everyone to wear purple on that day to recognize elder abuse in the community.

Commissioner Hambley stated that elder abuse is a very serious issue and can very easily happen to anyone we love. He presented and reviewed a resolution proclaiming June 15, 2022 as “World Elder Abuse Awareness Day.” Mrs. Swedyk moved to approve the resolution; Mr. Hutson seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Erin Ruggiero, Family & Consumer Science Educator, OSU Extension reviewed current programs including Real World Real Money which has been brought to seven schools serving 1,500 eighth grade students; it was expanded to four new schools this year. They have partnered with the Health Department to provide parenting programs. They will be hosting master gardener volunteer training and Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist Training this summer. They are working on spreading awareness about the new invasive species – the spotted lantern fly. They are working to bring back Ag Day in September to third grade students. Community Development is teaching STEM classes with beginning grant writing classes being offered in the fall. The 4-H program has grown enrollment for the year 2022 and have more than 200 Medina youth attending three different 4-H camps and getting ready for prejudging at the County Fair. Mr. Hutson inquired of any cases of the spotted lantern fly in Medina County; Ms. Ruggiero answered no but it has been spotted in Cuyahoga and Lorain counties.

Public Comment

Pauline Chapman, 7328 Wooster Pike, Seville, stated that she has a lot of concerns about what’s happening in our world and community including the letters not being sent to the legislators; she doesn’t agreed with much of what they are doing. She stated she doesn’t understand why everyone is carrying guns and children are getting killed and fears for the community. She further stated that we have voted twice for fair districting in Ohio, but have been shot down by Columbus on many different levels. Ms. Chapman stated that if blowdowns are safe, why doesn’t she rent of lift the next time they have one and put the commissioners up there and see how they feel once that stuff spreads all over them.

Kathie Jones, 2606 Hidden Spring Lane, Wadsworth, stated that the legislators are leaving this week and will likely return in November and have hearings; these two bills could be voted out of committee and come before the full House and Senate. A letter was sent to all state representatives yesterday. The bill isn’t dead, and if it comes up during lame duck, it will be passed and there will be nothing people can do because it will be state law. She stated that Chatham Township had 6,476 barrels of brine spread from 2005-2021 and also being spread in other areas of Ohio and will be brought back to Medina County. She asked why the commissioners won’t send a resolution as Franklin County did. She referenced O.R.C. 2927.24 enacted in 2002 stating that it is a felony to knowingly expose any person to any hazardous chemical radioactive substance that will create a risk of serious physical harm. She stated that this product will do that. She asked the commissioners to rethink their position.

Mr. Hambley thanked Mrs. Jones for pointing out the amount that was distributed, but it’s a half-truth to say from 2005-2021 there were that many gallons. Since 2018, there has been none and in the many prior years, it was none; that practice has been removed. He has looked at the map and elsewhere, has seen the decline which is a good trend and the governor’s office, ODNR and ODOT have taken positions against it. He noted that he has read through the documents she has provided and they could send a letter, but not a single representative would actually read the letter. It wouldn’t be introduced as part of the record until there is another hearing which at this point is not anticipated until after the election. He pointed out that Franklin and Athens counties both sit on the executive committee of the Board of Trustees for the County Commissioners Association of Ohio. This is on the agenda and they have several meetings over the next several months and he is sure these items will be up for discussion. The reason he is not voting to take any action is because at this point, it doesn’t make sense to do something that nobody is paying attention to; they need to be strategic. He proposed that this be monitored and evaluated, and take appropriate action when they have that opportunity.

Mr. Hutson mentioned that Ms. Jones referred to O.R.C. 2927.24 and noted that this is a criminal statute essentially states that if anyone releases a radioactive substance in a public place that may expose someone to harm. He stated that it would seem to him that if the substance is in fact radioactive and is in fact harmful or will cause death, there is already a criminal statute that would apply where they could be prosecuted. He stated that he doesn’t know why the commissioners would need to take action on something that is already a criminal matter.

Mrs. Swedyk explained that the commissioners take their responsibilities for the health, welfare and safety of the community very seriously. When it is time for them exert their influence over this issue, they will take action. At this point, if a letter is sent to Columbus every day on numerous issues, their responsibility to the community as leaders to influence decisions in Columbus lessens. She stated that the commissioners need to be strategic when sending letters to Columbus.

With no further business to come before the Commissioners, the meeting recessed at 10:05 a.m.

Discussion Session

At 10:05 a.m., the Commissioners began the Discussion Session in the Commissioners' Hearing Room.

Courthouse Update

Scott Miller reported that the bottom floor has been framed out and dry walling has begun. Framework on the second and third floors are in progress. Through May, construction costs were at \$8,494,000 and he expects June's invoice to be between \$1M-\$2M for a total of \$11.2M which remains under budget. There is approximately \$411,000 left in contingency funds; a large portion of the contingency was expended based on changes to the 1841 Courthouse.

Scanning Department

Mr. Miller stated that costs for this department will include a one-time purchase of \$2,600 for equipment (computers), \$3,500 per month in leases for two high-volume scanners and a copier, and two employees for this department. He has asked Holly Muren to gather job descriptions for a manager and an assistant. The prosecutor has more than 3,000 boxes of records to be scanned. Maintenance will be installing data in the basement of the prosecutor's office which will be a great place for the Scanning Department to start. He would like for Susan Froussine to order the equipment and for Mrs. Muren to begin advertising for the positions with the hope of having this running in August. Mr. Miller noted that these scanners will be portable and they will move to either the Clerk of Courts or Sheriff's office upon completion of the prosecutor's project. Mrs. Swedyk mentioned that for any departments that have a large historical book of data, there is a large scanner that can do those in the Recorder's Office.

Staffing

Mr. Miller noted issues on getting individuals to apply for positions. One area of particular concern is the cleaning department. Currently there is one full time employee (supervisor) and everyone else is part time. He suggested making some of these employees full time in an effort to reduce turnover. He noted that outsourcing is an option, but based on experience, the work product isn't as good when you outsource and the cost would be higher. Mrs. Swedyk stated that she is fine with trying some full time to see if it helps with turnover, but if it doesn't help, we will have to consider outsourcing. Mr. Hambley stated that the business community is having the same issues and you need to essentially upgrade the benefits, invest more in your current employees and have them to more; this change makes sense. He agreed that he is all in with this and investing in our own current employees. Mr. Hutson agreed noting that we need to be competitive in the marketplace, and every employer he has talked to is struggling to find employees. Mr. Miller stated that he will meet with Steven to determine how many positions need to move to full time.

Employee Retention

Mr. Miller stated that Mr. Hambley had mentioned the issue of employee retention to him. He mentioned that Rhonda Beck approached him and suggested conducting a survey of current employees to determine what they like/dislike about working for the county and get an idea of how to better serve our employees. Mrs. Swedyk asked why the survey would be sent to random employees rather than all employees. Mr. Miller stated that a random sample would be less work. Mr. Hambley suggested looking at the best mechanism, and stated that he agrees with the concept of being able to identify areas that need to be addressed, and to make sure as we move forward that we are able to systematically be able to retain the people we have. Mr. Hutson stated that the survey is a great idea. Mr. Miller stated that he will work with Holly Muren in putting together a survey to be sent out to some or all employees. Mr. Hutson suggested using a mechanism like Survey Monkey. Mr. Hambley stated that one of the reasons for a random survey is due to the cost, but with electronic media, it is easier and cost effective. Mrs. Swedyk stated that it makes more sense to survey everybody and see which departments they work, it would be interesting to see the differences between some of the larger departments. Mr. Hambley noted the importance of employees having the ability to complete the survey with relative anonymity so they can get their true thoughts.

ARPA Funds

Amy Lyon-Galvin stated that Dennis DeCamillo has not yet heard when the ARPA funds will come into the county. He made the portal request on May 6; last year's allocation came in on June 2.

Navotny Water Issue

Ms. Lyon-Galvin stated that she and Dan Wilhoite met with Mrs. Navotny at her property along with a representative of Sharon Township and ODOT representatives. There are a number of things that she may be able to do herself on property to improve some of her recurrent flooding issues, but there are two 48" diameter pipes that bring intermittent stream water from the north side of S.R. 162 into an existing stream that had existed prior to the home construction in 1995. There are some limitations, but all parties at the meeting were very thoughtful at giving her some things she could potentially consider to improve what she's been experiencing. The commissioners thanked Ms. Lyon-Galvin for looking into this.

Transit Asset Management

Shannon Rine discussed a Transit Asset Management Plan which will be presented to NOACA. This is a buying schedule of vehicles for the 2023-2027 and is required by the FTA; it also monitors all other assets. A resolution will be presented next week.

Strategic Plan

Mr. Rine stated that part of the Strategic Plan is a more flexible fixed route service. They have been investigating a fixed route solutions product called Rides on Demand and need to get in line for this software to be purchased and installed; it will work with their current hardware on their vehicles. It will allow them to have fixed route technology

to communicate with the busses and provide schedules through something the community can use on a mobile device. A resolution for the agreement will be presented next week.

Sanitary Permit Fees

Jeremy Sinko stated that in 2021, CT Consultants was contracted to look at permit fee calculations, permit fees and to make recommendations to help streamline permit calculations. Sewer fees were last updated in 1994; capacity fees in 2004; and water fees in 2007. Bob McNutt from CT Consultants provided information to the commissioners regarding recommended updates to the permitting fees for the water and sanitary utilities. Mrs. Swedyk inquired about the larger meter size fees; Mr. Sinko stated that the largest they currently have on their system is a 6". She asked about the reason for the upfront \$500,000 fee for a 10" meter. Mr. McNutt explained that the historical rationale for that is that the customers have invested a lot in their system and have created a capacity to bring people in which was at a cost; the fee is to recoup some of that cost; this is a very common scenario used in a lot of places. Mrs. Swedyk noted that she doesn't want to discourage economic development by initial fees being astronomical. Mr. Hutson stated that if you have a business that comes into an existing structure with a 2" line and they aren't changing that 2" line, they would not pay a change of use fee; Mr. McNutt confirmed. Mr. Hutson stated that they may use more water, but they will pay for that additional usage. Mr. McNutt noted that that tried to simplify this and keep it on the meter size which actually mirrors the water and sewer rates. If they don't change the meter, there is no additional capacity charge. Mr. Hambley stated that capacity has to be built upfront whether they use it or not. As long as they are not going beyond that capacity, there is no reason to charge for it. There was discussion regarding the importance of comparability of these fees with other counties. Mr. McNutt stated that the idea is this simplifies it, streamlines it and will be very beneficial to the county's economic development and growth. When CT Consultants looked at this, they don't expect it to be less revenue. He recommended that the \$3,400 being proposed now and bump it by \$100 each year going forward which is about 3% inflation; this will be a way to try to keep current and still have the money needed to run the water and wastewater businesses. Mr. Sinko explained that for a resident, it would be a \$4,000 connection charge for having the infrastructure available; the sewer \$4,500. If it was a developer who installed water or sewer main, they would charge those customers \$2,600. The idea is to have one charge to average between this so simplify the process. Mr. Hutson stated that this makes sense to him. Mrs. Swedyk asked if the commissioners approve this, will Mr. Sinko keep an eye going forward in comparability as far as not reducing economic development on the higher end ones; Mr. Sinko confirmed.

Mr. Sinko stated that he hopes to present a resolution in the next couple of weeks. Mr. Hambley mentioned that this will allow time for further discussion and the opportunity for public comment. The idea would help promote the reuse of an existing facility and to make sure that the cost really does represent what the incremental costs would be to us, and in those circumstances, we would not incur incremental costs and there were be no reason to have that fee. He stated that he is good with the concept.

Rail Development

Mr. Hutson noted a letter to the governor has been prepared regarding development of rail. Mrs. Swedyk and Mr. Hambley approved of the letter; it will be sent as written.

Rugby Team

Mrs. Swedyk stated that the Medina High School Rugby Team went to the state tournament this week; Sheriff Grice's son was on the team; the team won the state title. The commissioners offered congratulations.

Food Truck Event

Mr. Hutson noted that Leadership Medina County is hosting a Food Truck Fest this evening beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the University Center. Mr. Hambley stated that he will be attending LMRE's groundbreaking at that time.

Adjournment

Mrs. Swedyk moved to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Hutson seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED JUNE 7, 2022

<u>Number</u>	<u>Resolution Title</u>
22-0449	Proclaiming June 15, 2022 as “World Elder Abuse Awareness Day”
22-0450	Determining the necessity to close State Road (C.H. 44) between Ledge Road (C.H. 135) and Remsen Road (C.H. 37)
22-0451	Approving personnel changes for the employees under the jurisdiction of the Medina County Commissioners
22-0452	Authorizing an agreement for roof inspection services for the Medina County Courthouse project
22-0453	Authorizing the county auditor to transfer funds from various county department accounts to the Medina County Print Shop revenue line item
22-0454	Expenditure adjustments for various funds
22-0455	Revenue adjustments for various funds
22-0456	Cash transfers for various funds
22-0457	Authorizing the purchase of 7,200 gallons of regular unleaded gasoline for the Engineering Center
22-0458	Approving the transfer of Medina County inventory between various Medina County offices
22-0459	Declaring Medina County property as excess property
22-0460	Authorizing the commissioners to enter into an agreement with Leadership Medina County for a customized leadership training development program
22-0461	Allowing expenses of county officials
22-0462	Allowing claims and authorizing issuance upon the treasurer in settlement of such list of claims
22-0463	Authorizing the submission of an application for funding Community Development Block Grant program for program year 2022
22-0464	Authorizing the submission of two applications for Critical Infrastructure funding for program year 2022
22-0465	Authorizing an agreement for the purchase of tables for the Court of Common Pleas courtrooms for the Medina County Courthouse project

All deliberations concerning official business and formal actions by this Board of Commissioners were conducted in an open public meeting this seventh day of June, 2022.

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