

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

Commissioner Hambley moved to approve the minutes of the July 6, 2023 commissioners' meeting; Commissioner Harrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Public Comment regarding pending resolutions

None.

Resolutions

County Engineer Andy Conrad presented and reviewed the following resolution:

1. Determining the necessity to close Westfield Road (C.H. 15) between Garman Road (T.R. 91) and Seville Road (C.H. 46)

Mr. Hambley moved to approve the resolution; Mr. Harrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

The commissioners reviewed the weekly permits issued June 22–28, 2023 and June 29–July 5, 2023.

Human Resources Director Holly Muren presented and reviewed the following resolutions:

1. Approving personnel changes for the employees under the jurisdiction of the Medina County Commissioners
2. Amending the table of organization for the Medina County Home

Mr. Hambley moved to approve the two resolutions; Mr. Harrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Finance Director Brett Thomas presented and reviewed the following resolutions:

1. Amending the appropriation measure resolution
2. Revenue adjustments for various funds
3. Authorizing the county auditor to transfer funds from various county department accounts to the Medina County Print Shop revenue line item
4. Approval of an agreement for a youth service coordinator between Medina County Family First Council and Alternative Paths
5. To allow expenses of county officials
6. Allowing claims and authorizing issuance upon the treasurer in settlement of such list of claims in the amount of \$5,464,339.13

Mr. Hambley moved to approve the six resolutions; Mr. Harrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

County Administrator Chris Jakab then presented and reviewed the following resolutions:

1. Approving a lease agreement with Medina Showbiz Company for use of the Administration Building Auditorium
2. Necessity to renew a levy of an additional tax in excess of the ten-mill limitation
3. Authorizing the advertisement for bids for the Medina County Emergency Management Agency Safety Services Facility

Mr. Hambley moved to approve the three resolutions; Mr. Harrison seconded the motion.

Mr. Hambley stated that there are no current discussions regarding selling the Administration Building, but the lease language gives latitude to future boards of commissioners should they desire to be able to look at the property. The need for space in Medina County offices has decreased and giving that latitude is a good idea. Regarding the levy, Mr. Hambley stated that the board is very supportive, and a great discussion was had of their needs for the future and the renewal is very clearly not a new tax. The effective millage being collected is 0.7 and a renewal will continue the decrease in the collection rate. As our tax base increases, the burden will still continue to go down. Mrs. Swedyk noted that it's always great to do renewals and not ask for additional funds; Mr. Hambley agreed. Mr. Hambley noted that regarding the advertisement for bids for Medina County Emergency Management Agency Safety Services Facility, his presumption is if they work out the details, they will be having those additions as suggested for the parking lot and some of the other construction. Mr. Jakab noted that they are waiting for the architect to turn those in.

Mr. Harrison stated that at the June meeting where the agencies came in, they made a compelling case for the need and the benefits of that levy, and he thinks that the renewal is the right path to take and also shows the restraint on everybody's part in terms of spending.

There was no further discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Department Updates

County Home Superintendent Greg Brown reported that census is currently at 41 with one ADC participant. They entered into an agreement with Lifecare Hospice, and they are also working with Hospice of Western Reserve for a similar agreement. These agreements give options to the agencies to present the Medina County Home as a residency option while someone is under hospice care. The Home remains fully staffed and they have added an intermittent position to assist with flexibility to cover vacations, etc. Recent events included a summer celebration - steak dinner, live music, and games for residents. The Medina Kids Care did their combined holiday celebration for the residents which they have been doing for more than 20 years. Upcoming events include the Sharon Center concert, 4-H Pet Pals' visit to the Home, voting and the Litchfield Town Band concert. Mr. Brown reviewed a list of recent donations including refurbished chairs, snacks, lettuce, tomatoes, etc.

Soil & Water District Manager Eric Hange thanked the commissioners for their support regarding the 2024-2025 state biennial budget. They appreciate the time and connections made to push for optimal funding for their office. He noted that the language was restored allowing an even distribution of state match through the districts and are also pleased to see a 4% increase over 2023.

Since his last report, his office has assisted with 13 technical events including four drainage site visits; four Planning Commission reviews; one pond permit application; one pond management visit; one grazing/pastureland site visit; one nutrient management visit and one stream issue. He then reviewed recent educational events. Their buy-back program has received 26 submissions to date, and they encourage everyone to do their part to assist with the invasive removal efforts. They have received four applications for the Muskingum Cover Crop Program and have begun the process of ranking the fields to determine qualification status. He noted that he spent some time with the bee inspector recently and they inspected three hives owned by the Medina County Beekeepers Association. He encourages all beekeepers in Medina to contact Michael Mohn to schedule an inspection to ensure the health of the colonies.

Mr. Hange stated that they are planning their fair booth and plan to have an interactive kids' section and will be involved in the hay show that they assist with each year. Their July board meeting will take place on the 19th at their offices.

Mr. Harrison inquired about the tracking of the two main watersheds. Mr. Hange stated that he could get the information together for him on this matter. Mr. Hambley noted that they may have this information in mapping overlay.

Liquor Permit Notice

Mrs. Swedyk noted that the commissioners received notice of a request to transfer a liquor permit from Finalmente LLC to Chrissy's LLC dba Tilted Farmer located at 7249 Wooster Pike Road, Montville Township, Seville, Ohio. This is for permit classes D5 and D6. The commissioners did not request a hearing.

Public Comment

None.

With no further business to come before the Commissioners, the meeting recessed at 9:48 a.m.

Discussion Session

At 9:48 a.m., the Commissioners began the Discussion Session in the Commissioners' Hearing Room.

Application for Lot Split

Andy Conrad stated that he received an application for a lot split located at 2825 Sharon Copley Road. They have a frontage where there is a house currently built in the back as well and are looking to split off another parcel and have one of the other kids build a house back there. There will be a common driveway which is currently in place and used, but it probably does not meet all of the specifications within the engineering code for the common drive. The things that are of concern are more of the pull-offs. Sharon Township has provided a letter from their fire department indicating that they are okay with what's there. He stated that to him, it's probably a benign request but it probably does require a variance from the engineering code.

Mrs. Swedyk stated that if the fire department and Mr. Conrad are okay with it, then she is okay with it. Mr. Hambley stated that the Planning Commission approved a variance for the county's subdivision regulations last week – he has no objections. Mr. Conrad stated that he will put together a resolution for next week. He confirmed that there is an easement in place.

Veteran Services Building Project

Chris Jakab stated that the Veterans Services Building Renovation Project has been tentatively scheduled to move forward for months. ARPA monies have been tentatively set aside to pay for the construction. Ed Zackery has been paying some preliminary architectural fees under \$25,000 which is allowed under the Ohio Revised Code. Mr. Jakab stated that he prepared a resolution which allows for a request for qualifications for architectural design and engineering services. The fees are going to be in excess of \$50,000. There are some preliminary drawings that were done approximately six months ago. This would move the process forward.

Mr. Hambley stated that he's okay with proceeding out of caution, but the bid limit actually went up with the budget. He asked when this change would take effect. Mr. Jakab stated that he does not know but can check with legal counsel. He will also be presenting a resolution next week regarding keeping qualifications on file that are under the \$50,000 threshold.

Mr. Jakab presented to the commissioners a resolution authorizing a request for qualifications process for architectural design and engineering services for the expansion and renovation of the Medina County Veteran Services building. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the resolution; Mr. Harrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Leadership Program

Mr. Jakab stated that he and Holly Muren recently met with Terri Greene of Leadership Medina County regarding options for continuing the leadership program for employees. The options included reducing the program from 12 months to 9 months, half day sessions and a cost reduction with sessions beginning late summer/early fall. Mrs. Swedyk indicated that she is fine with trying these options this year. Mr. Jakab noted that instituting an application process for interested employees is recommended. In answer to a question by Mr. Hambley, Mr. Jakab stated that this can be offered to other county departments if that is the board's desire, but their cost centers would be absorbing those costs. Mr. Harrison stated that he likes the half day option better and asked if an application process is offered, is there an option to push it off to the next class if there are not enough participants. Mr. Jakab stated that is a possibility. Mrs. Swedyk stated that we need a cap on the number of participants. Mr. Hambley added that if you open it up to the other departments, you may max out. Mr. Jakab stated that feedback from the directors on this past year's class was positive. Mr. Harrison noted that he'd like to see more of an emphasis on local rather than a global approach. Mr. Jakab will work with Mrs. Muren on the application process.

EMA Amended Agreement

Mr. Hambley noted that Mayor Carter advised him that the Village of Seville approved the EMA amended agreement yesterday. He was also advised that the Village of Lodi approved the amended agreement as well. He will be meeting with Chatham Township this evening.

Boston Road Interchange

Mr. Hambley stated that Representative Ray provided a handout regarding some of the research her office and Representative Miller had done indicating the ability of ODOT in terms of determining if there is going to be any kind of interchange with or without the cooperation of Brunswick City. This is an ongoing dynamic and many people in that area are hoping that NOACA allows greater opportunity for the public to have a voice.

Mr. Harrison stated that his understanding is that NOACA's process is going to be followed which requires at least two approvals at the board level which might be difficult to attain because of certain structural things with the interchange policy. That part of the process cannot be bypassed through the statute.

Food Service Contract

Mr. Harrison stated Aramark, the food service provider at the jail is requesting consideration of triggering a clause in the current agreement – the Material Adverse Change – which would allow the agreement to be terminated so pricing can be adjusted from the existing contract. After meeting with Aramark, the sheriff, Mr. Jakab and Mr. Harrison agreed that they don't believe the commissioners have the authority to terminate that agreement or to adjust the pricing without it going out for bids. (Aramark's agreement was most recently renewed at the end of 2022.) This was communicated to Aramark and their follow up was asking if it could be mutually terminated and trigger this material adverse change. Mr. Harrison stated that he's not inclined to terminate it and he thinks it will ultimately end up going out to bid. After discussion, the commissioners agreed not to terminate the agreement. Mr. Jakab will notify Aramark.

Letter of Support

Mrs. Swedyk mentioned an email she received from Kirk Herath at CyberOhio with the State of Ohio which requests a letter of support for the State to provide targeted cybersecurity services including assessments, planning, training, and exercises on behalf of local entities. The letter of support does not obligate the county to utilize these services and does not prevent the county from applying for future/other cybersecurity grant opportunities. The commissioners agreed to provide a letter of support.

Commissioner Hambley moved to go into Executive Session following Discussion Session to consider the compensation and employment of a public employee, and to consider the sale of real property; Mr. Harrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

Executive Session

At 10:15 a.m., the Commissioners went into the Executive Session that had been voted on earlier. The Executive Session ended at 11:38 a.m.

Adjournment

Mr. Hambley moved to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Harrison seconded the motion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:38 a.m.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED JULY 11, 2023

<u>Number</u>	<u>Resolution Title</u>
23-0537	Determining the necessity to close Westfield Road (C.H. 15) between Garman Road (T.R. 91) and Seville Road (C.H. 46)
23-0538	Approving personnel changes for the employees under the jurisdiction of the Medina County Commissioners
23-0539	Amending the table of organization for the Medina County Home
23-0540	Amending the appropriation measure resolution
23-0541	Revenue adjustments for various funds
23-0542	Authorizing the county auditor to transfer funds from various county department accounts to the Medina County Print Shop revenue line item
23-0543	Approval of an agreement for a youth service coordinator between Medina County Family First Council and Alternative Paths
23-0544	To allow expenses of county officials
23-0545	Allowing claims and authorizing issuance upon the treasurer in settlement of such list of claims
23-0546	Approving a lease agreement with Medina Showbiz Company for use of the Administration Building Auditorium
23-0547	Necessity to renew a levy of an additional tax in excess of the ten-mill limitation
23-0548	Authorizing the advertisement for bids for the Medina County Emergency Management Agency Safety Services Facility
23-0549	Authorizing a request for qualifications process for architectural design and engineering services for the expansion and renovation of the Medina County Veteran Services Building

All deliberations concerning official business and formal actions by this Board of Commissioners were conducted in an open public meeting on this eleventh day of July 2023.

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