

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 July 5, 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. 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 Vandemark Road (C.H. 31) between Crow Road (C.H. 64) and Dunham Road (C.H. 6). 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 June 30–July 6, 2022.

*Sanitary Engineer Jeremy Sinko* presented and reviewed the following resolutions: (1) authorizing the final adjusting change order no. 2 for the Columbia Road riverbank stabilization project 2021 Marks Construction, Inc.; and (2) establishing how permitting fees shall be collected under a redefined connection charge system within the Medina County sanitary sewer and water districts. Mrs. Swedyk moved to approve the two resolutions; Mr. Hutson seconded the motion. Mr. Hutson inquired if the resolution regarding the riverbank stabilization if the closeout of the project; Mr. Sinko confirmed. Mr. Hambley pointed out that the resolution regarding permitting fees eliminates the frontage tap-in fee and moves to a capacity charge noting that they have been discussing this for the last couple of months. He stated he has not received any communications from anyone concerns with this and he thinks this is a good change. There was no further discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

*Facilities Director Steven Basteen* presented and reviewed a resolution authorizing the advertisement for bids for the Medina County Jail Stormwater Management & Asphalt Replacement. 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.

*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) amending the 2022 appropriations resolution by transferring appropriations; (2) expenditure 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 items; (4) adoption of the 2023 Tax Budget; (5) declaring the necessity to levy a tax about 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, and requesting the Medina County Auditor to certify the total current tax valuation of Medina County and the amount of revenue that would be generated by a renewal of a (.70) mill tax levy pursuant to Sections 5705.03, 5705.19(A), 5705.191, 5705.25, and 3709.29 of the Ohio Revised Code; (6) allowing expenses of county officials; and (7) allowing claims and authorizing issuance upon the treasurer in settlement of such list of claims in the amount of \$2,068,782.25; Mrs. Swedyk moved to approve the seven resolutions; Mr. Hutson seconded the motion. Mrs. Swedyk noted that the resolution for the Health District levy is a straight renewal; no increase in taxes. There was no further discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

**Department Updates**

*Soil & Water Conservation District Manager Eric Hange* introduced their new technician, Jim Smith who began in May. Since April, the following sales have taken place:

Tree sale	355 orders	15,000 seedlings sold
Fish Sale	92 orders	33,000 fish sold
Spring Native Plant Sale	22 orders	1,100 plants sold

Mr. Hange reviewed recent presentations and events conducted by his staff. There have been 64 technical site visits including:

- 9 acres of riparian forest buffer in Chatham Township
- 29 drainage visits
- 9 pond management visits

- 10 new ponds for the year; 6 since April
- 5 concept plan reviews
- 5 stream management visits
- 4 prairie and native plant visits

Mr. Hange noted that there are 5 participants in the Muskingham watershed cover crop program with 471 acres applied for so far. The deadline to apply is July 15 for those in the Muskingham watershed and are encouraged to contact his office.

Upcoming events include:

July 14	Medina Park District Garden Tour highlighting the SWCD rain gardens and prairie
July 14	Presentation for Master Gardeners
July 23	Medina Township Day
July 26	Native and Pollinators at Wadsworth Senior Center
August 1-7	Medina County Fair
August 15	Medina Bee Keepers Presentation
August 17	Workshop for OSU Certified Naturalist Program
August 25	Pollinator Prostration at Highland Library

He stated that the Soil & Water Conservation District is available to groups and municipalities in need of speakers. The Big Tree Contest is the white pine tree this year.

### **Public Comment**

*None*

With no further business to come before the Commissioners, the meeting recessed at 9:44 a.m.

### **Discussion Session**

At 9:44 a.m., the Commissioners began the Discussion Session in the Commissioners' Hearing Room.

#### County Finances

Scott Miller reported that combined auto/non-auto sales tax increased \$617,000 over last year at this time. Much of this occurred earlier in the year as May/June were actually lower than last year. Revenues have increased \$391,000 and expenses are down \$523,000 from last year; the county continues to do well.

#### Homelessness Assistance Program

Mr. Miller stated that in the general fund budget, \$7,500 is allocated for the Homelessness Assistance Program. Skip Sipos is requesting an additional \$2,500 for that program which Mr. Miller recommended approving this request. The commissioners agreed to the additional \$2,500 for this program.

#### Auditorium HVAC

Mr. Miller stated that HVAC systems have been approved for ARPA funding and one of the systems was for the auditorium. He noted that the auditorium is basically unusable in the summer due to the heat. The original estimate for an HVAC system in the auditorium was \$210,000. Due to some changes in the laws, we are now looking at \$370,000. Mrs. Swedyk asked if that fits in the approved ARPA amount; Steven Bastean stated that \$210,000 was the amount approved but he hasn't talked to Amy Lyon-Galvin to determine where those numbers actually are. Mr. Hambley asked if the increase is due to the specs for the equipment; Mr. Bastean confirmed noting that it is also due to new guidelines this unit must fall under for energy efficiencies. Mr. Miller recommended putting this one on hold until we see where we are with ARPA and see what's going to happen with some of the other facilities. Mrs. Swedyk stated that because Steven's list for these systems is long, we don't know if we're going to have more of these situations. Mr. Hutson asked where this project fell on Mr. Bastean's list of priorities; Mr. Bastean stated that the jail is the next priority. Mr. Hambley stated that it looks like a decision needs to be made if that is going to be useable space; Mr. Bastean confirmed. Mr. Hambley noted that he realizes if this isn't done in the short term, it won't get done due to increasing costs. He agrees that there are other facilities actively being used for public purposes and those need to be taken care of. The commissioners agreed to put this project on hold.

#### Maintenance – Staffing

Mr. Miller stated that he met with Steven Bastean regarding the department and workload. One of the things that came to light was that Steven had 26 projects going on at one time which prevents him from managing his department in a way he needs to manage it. He checked with a firm we're working with on the courthouse about being the project manager for the Heather Hedge project, and the price was shocking. Mr. Miller stated that he would like to possibly bring on a Project Manager for this department especially with all the projects going on through 2026. He would like to explore this and gather information for the commissioners' consideration. Mrs. Swedyk inquired if once the courthouse and ARPA projects are completed will there be enough to keep this person busy. Mr. Bastean stated that there will be enough work for a Project Manager. Mr. Miller noted that more money is being put into the buildings than there previously was, so there is a large increase in the number of projects. This will free Mr. Bastean up providing him the ability to truly manage his department. Mr. Hambley noted this could involve other aspects of managing the department. Mr. Hutson suggested that the gas aggregation program is a

countywide program currently managed by Mr. Miller and this is something that could be delegated to a Project Manager; Mr. Miller may be able to delegate some of his other projects as well. The commissioners agreed that Mr. Miller may look into this.

#### Courthouse Update

Mr. Miller stated that the first floor drywall is up and painting has begun. The fourth floor framing is in process. We have about \$418,000 left in our contingency; the contractors have about \$227,000 in their contingency; and Gilbane has about \$500,000 available. We are still on track to have the courthouse completed and turned over to us by December 5 and the old courthouse turned over to us sometime in July 2023. The furniture is finalized and under budget at an estimate of under \$700,000; this does not include the benches.

#### Gas Aggregation

Mr. Miller stated that Constellation Energy is the provider for the natural gas aggregation program and we were able to lock in at an all-in rate of \$8.78 per mcf for Columbia Gas customers and \$7.40 per mcf for Dominion customers; this is a 20 month contract. He explained volatility in pricing and stated that the current drop in pricing is predicted to be short-lived. Mr. Miller requested authority to negotiate natural gas rates for the period of April 2024 through March 2025. Mr. Hutson suggested a 12 month lock; Mrs. Swedyk and Mr. Hambley agreed. After brief discussion, the commissioners agreed that Mr. Miller may pursue a contract for the period of April 2024 through March 2025.

#### Residential Campus

Jeremy Sinko stated that the residential campus is expected to go out for bid in the next 2-3 weeks. In anticipation of that, with having another scalehouse, they would like to pursue adding three additional employees – two operators to man the campus and one supervisor. This would benefit Lisa Beurskin in having supervision on the campus. Ms. Beurskin reviewed the plan for the residential campus and the need for additional staff. She explained that these staff members would be funded out of the savings created by the newly amended contract with Rumpke. She noted that after these additional expenses, the District will still realize an estimated savings of \$320k. Mr. Hutson stated that this would not affect our schedule of rate increases for tipping fees going forward and would be covered by current revenue; Ms. Beurskin confirmed. Mr. Hambley stated that the savings are going to be invested in making it easier for people to coordinate traffic and will hopefully increase recycling as well as make it easier and safer for people to go there. Mr. Hutson added that this will be a big improvement for the commercial haulers.

#### Recycling Bin Removal

Mr. Hambley noted the social media announcement of the removal of recycling bins located at Buehlers, Freidt and Weatherstone Parks. Ms. Beurskin stated that both Buehlers locations have been constant sources of illegal dumping and misuse of the bins. The Solid Waste District and Buehlers have worked to resolve these issues, but after this July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend where they had a total mess in front of their bins, they asked to have them removed. Medina residents have been calling asking about other options for recycling. There remain 60 sites across the county for public use. Mr. Hutson stated that it's unfortunate that the facilities are abused. Mr. Hambley stated that Buehlers can't be blamed for requesting the bin removal because of the illegal dumping and how it diminishes their property and the experience for their customers.

#### Facility Condition Assessment

Steven Bastean stated that a facility condition assessment is currently being conducted. All county buildings will be included in the assessment and will be inclusive of roofs, parking lots, HVAC equipment, carpet, bathroom fixtures – anything within the buildings except furniture will be assessed. Mr. Hutson inquired if information received from these reports will go into the facilities planning model for capital improvements; Mr. Bastean confirmed.

Mr. Miller stated that the OSU Extension office is currently located in the Professional Building. He looked at the former YWCA building along with Kyle White and her staff; they seemed very excited about that. He will also be showing Kyle the second floor of Public Square and they will let him know which they prefer. If we are able to move them out of the Professional Building, the building can be sold sooner rather than later. He noted that Mediation will need to also be moved leaving the Educational Service Center as the only occupant of the building. They have leased another building that will be completed next year, so whoever purchases the building will assume the lease. Mrs. Swedyk asked if OSU Extension selects the YWCA building, could Mediation go to 72 Public Square; Mr. Miller confirmed.

#### ARPA – Coroner's Request

Mrs. Swedyk stated that the Coroner provided more information on her ARPA request. She reviewed options 1 & 2 noting that in addition to both options, there is \$12,000 in estimated freight and \$30,000 for the stacking trays. She stated that this will be under \$175,000, so the numbers are lower than originally discussed. Mr. Hambley asked if this required legal review, or are we certain this will qualify. Mr. Miller stated that we can use the revenue replacement to cover that cost, but the problem is there is a federal procurement process you have to go through. He recommended that we move forward with this using general fund monies and pay it back through revenue replacement. Mr. Hutson stated that for the difference in cost, he would go with option 2; Mr. Hambley and Mrs. Swedyk agreed.

#### Battered Women's Shelter

Mr. Hambley stated that Mr. Miller and Mr. Bastean recently toured the BWS to determine the condition of the building; it hasn't been used for some time. They would like to reopen the shelter again for use. He will continue working with the BWS on the funding issue. It's a necessary facility that has benefited the county for a couple of

decades providing refuge for those battered women and children in this county or Summit County. The state has provided funding over the last number of years to the organization to provide support for Medina/Summit counties.

Mrs. Swedyk moved to go into Executive Session after Discussion Session to consider the compensation of a public employee; Mr. Hutson seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE; the motion carried.

**Executive Session**

At 10:20 a.m., the Commissioners went into the Executive Session. The Executive Session ended at 11:04 a.m.

**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 11:05 p.m.

**RESOLUTIONS PASSED JULY 12, 2022**

<u>Number</u>	<u>Resolution Title</u>
22-0547	Determining the necessity to close Vandemark Road (C.H. 31) between Crow Road (C.H. 64) and Dunham Road (C.H. 6)
22-0548	Authorizing the final adjusting change order no. 2 for the Columbia Road riverbank stabilization project 2021 Marks Construction, Inc.
22-0549	Establishing how permitting fees shall be collected under a redefined connection charge system within the Medina County Sanitary Sewer and Water Districts
22-0550	Authorizing the advertisement for bids for the Medina County Jail Stormwater Management & Asphalt Replacement
22-0551	Approving personnel changes for the employees under the jurisdiction of the Medina County Commissioners
22-0552	Amending the 2022 appropriations resolution by transferring appropriations
22-0553	Expenditure adjustments for various funds
22-0554	Authorizing the county auditor to transfer funds from various county department accounts to the Medina County Print Shop revenue line items
22-0555	Adoption of the 2023 Tax Budget
22-0556	Declaring the necessity to levy a tax about 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, and requesting the Medina County Auditor to certify the total current tax valuation of Medina County and the amount of revenue that would be generated by a renewal of a (.70) mill tax levy pursuant to Sections 5705.03, 5705.19(A), 5705.191, 5705.25, and 3709.29 of the Ohio Revised Code
22-0557	Allowing expenses of county officials
22-0558	Allowing claims and authorizing issuance upon the treasurer in settlement of such list of claims

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

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