

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 August 29, 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.*

#### **Proclamation Presentation**

*Commissioner Swedyk* presented and reviewed the following resolution:

1. Resolution recognizing the month of September as "National Recovery Month" in Medina County

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.

Jon Robinson thanked the commissioners on behalf of Hope Recovery Community, Cathy's House and the large recovery community for their continued support and recognition of their recovery efforts as well as the Medina County ADAMH Board. Phillip Titterington stated that they have seen overdose numbers go down in 2022. Although one overdose is too many, we're heading in the right direction. A lot of this is because of the infrastructure and resources. We've come a long way in the past five years, but we have a lot more to go. Mr. Hambley stated that the recognition of National Recovery Month is important. He noted that the Human Services levy is on the ballot in November which helps provide the resources necessary to continue this support, the advocacy and the additional resources. So much great work is being done by nonprofits and government agencies, as well as the faith community, in making sure that we appropriately address the issues surrounding recovery and the impacted families. He hopes people will support the renewal noting that this is an essential component of our county's comprehensive approach to dealing with this issue.

#### **Resolutions**

*County Engineer Andy Conrad* presented and reviewed the following resolutions:

1. Approving the final change order to the contract for C.H. 56 Lester Road Bridge No. 18 Replacement Project O.P.W.C. No. C128Z/CI29Z between N&N Construction Company Inc. and the Medina County Board of Commissioners
2. Finding that public convenience and welfare requires the replacement of bridge no. 49 on Mark Road (C.H. 22) in Liverpool/Brunswick Hills Township, Medina County, Ohio and authorizing the Medina County Engineer to replace said bridge

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.

The commissioners reviewed the weekly permits issued August 24-30, 2023.

*Sanitary Engineer Jeremy Sinko* presented and reviewed the following resolutions:

1. Authorizing the sanitary engineer to enter into an emergency contract with Collins Excavation and Construction, per Ohio Revised Code 307.86, to repair a broken sanitary force main along Medina Road
2. Declaring the necessity to rehabilitate Gayer elevated water storage tank and authorizing the Sanitary Engineer to commence advertising for bids

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.

*Transit Director Shannon Rine* presented and reviewed the following resolution:

1. Authorizing the sanitary engineer to enter into an emergency contract with Collins Excavation and Construction, per Ohio Revised Code 307.86, to repair a broken sanitary force main along Medina Road

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.

Mr. Rine announced that the Medina Flex program will begin Monday, September 25.

*County Administrator Chris Jakab* presented and reviewed the following resolution:

1. Approving a purchase agreement and quit claim deed for the sale of property at Technology Park

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.

**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. Approving a three (3) year agreement between the Medina County Sheriff and Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association - Corrections Corporals and Corrections Sergeants

Mr. Hambley moved to approve 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. Amending the 2023 appropriations resolution by transferring appropriations
3. Expenditure adjustments for various funds
4. Approval of an agreement for fiscal agent services between Medina County and Medina County Family First Council Early Intervention
5. Declaring Medina County property as excess property
6. Allowing expenses of the County Engineer
7. Allowing expenses of county officials
8. Allowing claims and authorizing issuance upon the treasurer in settlement of such list of claims in the amount of \$1,654,549.55

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

### **Department Updates**

**Planning Services Director Denise Testa** presented and reviewed the following resolution:

1. Accepting and awarding a bid for the CDBG-funded Montville Township Park Improvement Project

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.

Ms. Testa reported that they are reviewing four subdivisions, two text amendments at their September meeting and will be reviewing a major subdivision in Sharon Township at their concept plan meeting. They have one subdivision they are anticipating for the October Planning Commission meeting. The Lafayette critical infrastructure project in Lafayette Township has been completed. They are continuing with the Lodi bridge project in the community park. The permit will come in at the end of September and they will advertise for bids at the end of October. They also recently awarded a Wadsworth sidewalk project to DL Smith. They are also in the process of working with the state to apply for the Ohio Lead Safe Program. The state has allocated \$95M and Medina County is eligible to apply for \$802,000. The application deadline has been extended to October 12 which allows more time to think more thoughtfully and strategically about this.

**Office for Older Adults Director Laura Toth** reported that the Wadsworth Soprema Café is going very well. Last week, they started a regular catering obligation with the Wadsworth Rotary who meets at the café each Thursday. They are accommodating 30+ vouchers some days with redeemed vouchers in July reaching 375 – this is more than they have ever done. The Wadsworth Older Adults Foundation generously donated \$6,000 to the voucher program. She provided an update on the kitchen renovation project noting that it's scheduled to begin next week. While under construction, their kitchen operations will be very limited in the Medina Center. Staff emphasized the importance of delivering hot meals to seniors in the community, which they will not be able to do out of Medina. She reached out to the Salvation Army knowing they have a centralized county location. The Medina Senior & Adult Foundation agreed to purchase a full-sized convection oven to be placed at the Salvation Army for use to prepare hot, home delivered meals. This will work as a temporary location for the preparation of these meals which will be prepared on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Currently, about 180 hot meals are prepared per run. After construction has been completed, the Foundation is donating the convection oven to the Salvation Army which will continue to support the community and Project Munch for years to come. The set up of a temporary kitchen for the cold meals will be in place. They remain committed to providing lunch to those who come into the center.

Mrs. Toth then reported a partnership with Habitat for Humanity to begin an Aging in Place program which began in July. This program is designed to allow Habitat for Humanity to complete small builds or repairs in seniors' homes which allows them to remain in the community. Office for Older Adults completed the intake form which allows their staff to offer additional services to seniors in the community. She stated that the response to this program has been very positive. Habitat for Humanity Director Tom O'Connell stated that their Aging in Place Coordinator officially began mid-July. As of today, they've received 10 requests which include projects such as leaky faucets, drywall repairs, gutter repairs, many grab bars, light fixtures and mailbox installation. Five of these repairs have already been completed and have been done at zero cost to the homeowners.

Mr. Hambley mentioned the Human Services levy which helps provide the funding. He congratulated Mrs. Toth on the collaboration with Habitat for Humanity and the Salvation Army. This demonstrates the leverage we are able to use with the levy dollars and how important the renewal will be to continue these collaborations.

**OSU Extension Family & Consumer Sciences Educator Erin Ruggiero** thanked the commissioners for attending their open house last month. The FSC program partnered with Medina County schools and the Ohi Treasurer's office in the spring for their "Real Money, Real World" financial literacy program for 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Fall will include Money 101 with Operation Homes, Wits Workout with Soprema Center and Peacefully Parenting programs.

Community Development was awarded a grant that will provide an opportunity for research and teaching on alternative energy. Kyle White intends to use her certification in Mike Rowe Works with the youth at Cups Café, and a draft of the Economic Impact of the Medina County Fair is being shared with the Senior Fair Board and is awaiting feedback.

The Medina County Fair was a success, and all 4-H youth did very well on their projects. To finish out the year, they have 7 more CARTEENS classes, 4-H Alumni Picnic, the volunteer banquet and Sierra Baca will be taking Ohio youth to Puerto Rico on a cultural immersion trip.

This summer, the Master Gardeners and ANR program had a booth and three raised bed gardens at the fair, educating about vegetables, pollinator plants and garden bed plants. They received new applicants to the MGCV program from their presence at the Fair. A new MGCV training class is underway with 15 new volunteers learning about soils, insects, gardening and plant diagnostics. Their ANR educator continues to on the lookout for two new invasive species – the Spotted Lanternfly and Boxtree moth. Across all their programs, they are gearing up for Ag Day where they will be hosting 7<sup>th</sup> graders from Wadsworth Middle School to the Medina County Fairgrounds to teach them about careers in agriculture.

Mr. Harrison stated that by his count, there are more than 5,000 impact points in the county of different people being touched by the programs in our extension office. Its great work being done and offers great opportunities for people. Mrs. Swedyk stated that she looks forward to seeing what else they do with the facility. Ms. Ruggerio noted that having a sign where it's visible is helpful and the parking is a big plus.

### **Commissioners Resolutions**

*Commissioner Swedyk* presented and reviewed the following resolution:

1. Approving the appointment of a member to the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) for Medina County

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.

*Commissioner Swedyk* presented and reviewed the following resolution:

1. Reappointing members to the Medina County Revolving Loan Fund Committee

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.

*Commissioner Swedyk* presented and reviewed the following resolution:

1. Commending Lisa Earle for her 32 years of service with Medina County Job & Family Services

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.

### **Public Comment**

*None.*

With no further business to come before the Commissioners, the meeting recessed at 9:59 a.m.

### **Discussion Session**

At 9:59 a.m., the Commissioners began the Discussion Session in the Commissioners' Hearing Room.

#### Aquatic Invasive Species

Andy Conrad stated that there is a project in the county that's been in the works for a long time, but it's going to be one that is pretty important. John Navarro of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources provided an outline of the project regarding the issue of preventing aquatic invasive carp species from entering Lake Erie noting that they are bad for the ecology and a human safety problem. These are not wanted in Lake Erie or any of the Great Lakes. They have plans on dealing with invasive carp and the funding is through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative which is federal funding for invasive species in the Great Lakes. In Medina County, Little Killbuck Creek located south of Lodi is considered a medium risk connection for invasion of Bighead and Silver Carp. This is a low-lying area that floods periodically, and the idea is to prevent invasive carp from getting into Lake Erie by constructing a 4-mile berm. The partners for this project include ODNR (lead), Medina County Park District, and the funders. Later phases will include Hall & Associates. This project will be completed in six phases as it is a large and expensive project. Ninety percent of the designs are completed through HDR and right now, they have \$3M for phase one with construction set to begin in March 2024. They are looking to construct a rock berm that will prevent fish from moving while allowing water to move back and forth. They are working with the County Engineer's office, and because this is an area prone to flooding, they don't want to exasperate this problem. They are actually looking to mitigate and improve the situation. Later phases will be worked on as funding becomes available. They will have an open house in the future for the public to weigh in.

Dave Moore of HDR reviewed phase one noting that their plans are to construct a stone berm that will be permeable blocking fish but allowing water to get through to some extent. They have some planned openings with fences to let the water go through more freely. There will be a compensatory storage area that will provide some additional flood storage. Franchester Road will have to be raised a little less than a foot and a half, so the exclusionary zone is the 100-year elevation plus one foot to keep the fish out. Mr. Moore stated that some of the plans will allow parking, which would provide the opportunity for the public to walk out to the berm to bird watch. In answer to a question by Mr. Hambley, Mr. Navarro stated that nothing impacts Hall Growers during phase 1. Hall's already have a berm,

so it would be maintaining that. If they have to provide protection above what he currently has, it would be through fencing as it allows water to go through. Mr. Moore added that some of the berm work will be stabilizing it but not raising it. The goal is to maintain the current drainage patterns but keep the fish out. Mr. Harrison inquired about the funding source for this project. Mr. Navarro answered that it's the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative which is \$400M+ with some of the funding directed to invasive species. It's federal funding, 100% reimbursable, and they don't have to provide a match.

Andy Conrad stated that Mr. Moore submitted a fairly comprehensive model – Dan and Dave from his office are working with him to get things expedited and approved so they can meet their early first quarter, second quarter construction. Mr. Navarro noted that they will be having an open house on this matter, most likely in October.

#### 1841 Courthouse Update

Mr. Jakab reported that the final work is being done at the 1841 Courthouse to allow the move of the Domestic Relations Court. There will be some final work done in the attic this week, a final inspection on September 11, and start to move in on or about September 12.

#### EMA Building Renovation Project

Mr. Jakab noted that he will be meeting with the EMA Director and architect this afternoon to review the rebid documents for that project.

#### Metropolitan Housing Authority Lease

Mr. Jakab stated that the MMHA Board is poised to adopt and approve the lease at its meeting later this month. He will present it to the commissioners for their review and action by resolution in the next week or two.

#### 1969 Courthouse Lease

Mrs. Swedyk inquired when the commissioners will be finalizing the Courthouse lease. Mr. Jakab answered that we are waiting until the City's 30-day period expires. At that point, they will sign, and the mayor will return it to him. He will then have the resolution for the commissioners' approval. In answer to a question by Mr. Hambley, Mr. Jakab explained that we are waiting 30 days because they will not execute the agreement until 30 days after the final reading.

#### NOACA

Mr. Harrison stated that there is a NOACA board meeting this Friday. There have been two of the three Medina County sessions held regarding the Climate Action Plan. He's been working on a memo related to some questions and concerns over the greenhouse gas inventory. He requested input on the memo noting that he'd like to get it finalized to circulate to Grace Gallucci for NOACA's staff purposes and also to the NOACA board. He stated that he thinks there are probably some additional steps that may be worthwhile, but as a preliminary matter, he thinks this is the most productive way to raise the issues at the board level. Mrs. Swedyk asked if there are any updates on potentially leaving the organization. Mr. Harrison stated that there is nothing imminent. Mr. Hambley noted that they have received communication back from LSC through Senator Romanchuk's and Representative Ray's office. Mr. Harrison stated that there could be some things working when the general assembly reconvenes in terms of giving some additional options because there is an opportunity as it relates to some of the water quality work that has been done and how those assignments to MPOs work out.

Mr. Harrison stated that there have been some discussions at the most recent Climate Action Plan session related to the Brunswick interchange. In his discussions with the staff people at NOACA related to the Brunswick interchange, they have told him in no uncertain terms that the proposed interchange does not comply with the Interchange Policy. He will be monitoring this closely and also trying to advance some formal action on the NOACA board-front to reiterate and confirm that it is not in compliance with the Interchange Policy – he would think NOACA could take action to oppose it on those grounds. Mr. Hambley stated that he agrees with formalizing that intent for the board to process. That is what Grace Gallucci communicated as well as others including the legislature and the governor, and he thinks the board itself ought to weigh in and confirm that is contrary to the policy and the process that is in place for transportation planning and that project. Mr. Harrison added that even if no action is taken, his understanding in terms of the necessary approvals from the MPOs involvement on an interstate project like this, those approvals don't get bypassed by virtue of the state law, so there are still additional steps that NOACA would have to go through to approve the project, even if nothing else changes in the meantime. His thought is why would we go through those steps if everybody acknowledges that it is not in compliance with the Interchange Policy.

#### Wadsworth Soprema Senior Center

Mr. Hambley stated that they received correspondence from Wadsworth Soprema Senior Center regarding a Healthy Aging in Place Grant as the state budget process has given the county commissioners for distribution. The Ohio Office on Aging has not come out with the requirements for the grant yet, but we know what the intent was. Wadsworth Soprema Senior Center has asked for permanent improvements within their facility. At this point, he talked to Laura Toth and explained that we have to wait until the rules come in to find out what projects are eligible for consideration.

#### Professional Building

In answer to a question by Stan Scheetz, Mrs. Swedyk stated that there is still the intent to sell the building, but MMHA needed a temporary location for their plans, so the commissioners are entering into an agreement for them to use the Professional Building for up to 30 months. Mr. Hambley explained that it depends on the timing of them finding a permanent location for their administrative offices as well as walk-in services so they can move out of their current administrative offices and utilize the state grants as well as the county commissioners funding set aside for the temporary emergency housing shelter. This is a temporary place for them, and the quicker they can find a permanent place the better. The long-term intent is to put it on the market; Mrs. Swedyk agreed. Mr. Harrison stated

that nobody is trying to push MMHA out or rush them through the decision, but it seemed like the commissioners also didn't want to have the facility tied up too long where other opportunities might present themselves, so a 24 month lease with a 6 month extension option seems to accomplish that.

### 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 10:24 a.m.

### RESOLUTIONS PASSED SEPTEMBER 5, 2023

<u>Number</u>	<u>Resolution Title</u>
23-0694	Recognizing the month of September as "National Recovery Month"
23-0695	Commending Lisa Earle for her years of service with Medina County Job & Family Services
23-0696	Approving the final change order to the contract for C.H. 56 Lester Road Bridge No. 18 Replacement Project O.P.W.C. No. C128Z/CI29Z between N&N Construction Company Inc. and the Medina County Board of Commissioners
23-0697	Authorizing the sanitary engineer to enter into an emergency contract with Collins Excavation and Construction, per Ohio Revised Code 307.86, to repair a broken sanitary force main along Medina Road
23-0698	Declaring the necessity to rehabilitate Gayer elevated water storage tank and authorizing the Sanitary Engineer to commence advertising for bids
23-0699	Declaring the necessity to rehabilitate Gayer elevated water storage tank and authorizing the Sanitary Engineer to commence advertising for bids
23-0700	Approving the submission of applications for Ohio Department of Transportation SFY2025 Transit Program Grants
23-0701	Approving a purchase agreement and quit claim deed for the sale of property at Technology Park
23-0702	Approving personnel changes for the employees under the jurisdiction of the Medina County Commissioners
23-0703	Approving a three (3) year agreement between the Medina County Sheriff and Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association - Corrections Corporals and Corrections Sergeants
23-0704	Amending the appropriation measure resolution
23-0705	Amending the 2023 appropriations resolution by transferring appropriations
23-0706	Expenditure adjustments for various funds
23-0707	Approval of an agreement for fiscal agent services between Medina County and Medina County Family First Council Early Intervention
23-0708	Declaring Medina County property as excess property
23-0709	Allowing expenses of the County Engineer
23-0710	Allowing expenses of county officials
23-0711	Allowing claims and authorizing issuance upon the treasurer in settlement of such list of claims
23-0712	Accepting and awarding a bid for the CDBG-funded Montville Township Park Improvement Project
23-0713	Approving the appointment of a member to the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) for Medina County
23-0714	Reappointing members to the Medina County Revolving Loan Fund Committee

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

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