

Lake County poised to sell building

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One of two Lake County-owned buildings put up for auction Thursday received a \$190,000 bid that could lead to its sale.

Bill Margalis, the county director of administrative services, said commissioners will likely decide whether to approve the bid and

sale of 1250 Mentor Ave. in Painesville Township at their next meeting.

The building used to house the county's vehicle maintenance facility before commissioners purchased a former car dealership on Route 20 in North Perry Village to use instead, citing the building had more space, was very new and available at a good price. No one submitted a bid for the

other property up for auction — 153 E. Erie St., which used to be an old law office building.

"We never really used that building for the purpose we thought we could so the commissioners have decided to get out of it," Margalis said.

Commissioners had put the properties up for sale previously through bidding, but only one bid was received for the 1250 Mentor Ave.

property and that was for a lower amount than what officials had wanted.

"So we rejected that back in December 2011," Margalis said. "The only other way to do that is by auction."

Dutton Auctioneers of Massillon was hired by the county to conduct the auction held in the basement assembly room in the county administration building in Paines-

ville.

Prior to the auction, Margalis said if there were no bidders on the properties, the county would likely try something new to sell them or have another auction at a later date.

"There really is no purpose for the county right now," he said.

"If no one wants them, we may find a use for them, I guess. Right now, there is no use for county purposes."