

**LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES**

JERRY C. CIRINO, COMMISSIONER	JASON W. BOYD, ADMINISTRATOR
JOHN R HAMERCHECK, COMMISSIONER	LEGAL COUNSEL
RON YOUNG, COMMISSIONER	MIKE MATAS, BUDGET DIRECTOR
JENNIFER BELL, CLERK	NEWS MEDIA

.....  
(Tape 2020-0109)

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Hamercheck called the Meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Thursday, January 9, 2020.

ROLL CALL: Upon roll being called, Commissioners Cirino, Young and Hamercheck were present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Upon a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young, the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 12, 2019, December 19, 2019 and December 27, 2019 were approved as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Commissioner Hamercheck asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board.

Lake County Port Authority Executive Director Mark Rantala, was present to give a PowerPoint presentation reviewing the history of the Port Authority and their many accomplishments and activities from 2013 to 2019. His report included several statistics regarding the Lake County workforce, economic development, job creation, retention and unemployment, services and special financing offered by the Port. Mr. Rantala highlighted that the Port has provided over \$135 million in bond financing for companies such as Lake Health, the Lake County YMCA, and Tapestry of Wickliffe Assisted Living just to name a few. Other projects that the Port has been involved in are the Lost Nation Airport, the Lake Health Miracle Field and Lubrizol Miracle Field playground, and several new hotels which have brought 436 new hotel rooms to Lake County. He stated that they have partnered with LakeTran for a one year pilot program. Mr. Rantala further discussed the Better Flip Project, and the 2% bed tax that can be used for coastal improvements. Mr. Rantala also gave a report on the very successful first annual Career Day and Internship Fair that they recently hosted to attract Lake County college students to come back to Lake County for the summer. He stated that there were more than 50 companies present and more than 100 college students attended. The Board and Mr. Rantala continued to discuss many details regarding coastal development, taxes and levies, and future employment rates as well as several other topics.

Mr. Rantala stated that he will be retiring at the end of this month and thanked the Board of Commissioners and his staff for their support.

Mr. John Muzik of 45 Coventry Drive in Painesville Township, announced that today is National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day and he thanked all those who serve and protect the citizens of this country. The Board recognized and thanked Deputy Sheriff Tuttle who was present at today's meeting.

Board of Elections Director, Mr. Ross McDonald, stated that the primary election is 68 days away. Early voting will begin on February 19<sup>th</sup> and voting for those in the service or living overseas can request absentee ballots beginning January 31<sup>st</sup>. The deadline for voter registration is February 18<sup>th</sup>. Mr. McDonald stated that they are in need of poll workers for the primary election. He asked the Board to assist the Board of Elections in finding poll workers and also encourage County employees to become involved. He thanked County Recorder, Ms. Becky Lynch and Clerk of Courts, Ms. Maureen Kelly, for their support in encouraging their employees to become involved. Commissioner Cirino, Assistant Prosecutor, Mr. David Hackman, and Director of Administrative Services, Mr. Joel DiMare, briefly discussed the possibility of employees working the polls. Mr. Hackman and Mr. DiMare will meet at a later date to discuss policy and procedures for the possibility. Mr. McDonald added that they have reached out to the high schools in the County and that high school seniors that are at least 17 years old are also eligible to become poll workers.

RESOLUTIONS:

**1. RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING APPROPRIATIONS AND TRANSFERRING CASH FROM LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES PROJECT FUND 595 TO THE WATER OPERATING FUND(20200109\U01)(UT-2)**

On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Cirino, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

**2. RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING APPROPRIATIONS AND TRANSFERRING CASH FROM LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES PROJECT FUND 595 TO THE WATER OPERATING FUND(20200109\U02)(UT-2)**

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

**3. RESOLUTION AWARDDING A BID CONTRACT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$975,549.00 TO TRAX CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR ERIE STREET WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT 413-W(20200109\U03)(UT-4)**

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young. Sanitary Engineer, Mr. Randy Rothlisberger, explained that this is a joint project with the City of Willoughby. His department will be replacing the water mains through Downtown Willoughby and the City of Willoughby will replace sidewalks and paving of the roads. Mr. Rothlisberger stated that this is a larger project that will begin in the next few weeks with an estimated completion date sometime in March. He stated that they have had a preconstruction meeting, have been in contact with the local businesses and will also personally visit the businesses. They are in the process of working out the details of the annual events hosted by the City of Willoughby that will be impacted by the construction. The foregoing

resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

**4. RESOLUTION APPROVING LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES VOUCHERS DATE OF WARRANT JANUARY 10, 2020, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$236,922.62(20200109\JFS01)(JFS-14)**

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

**5. RESOLUTION ASSIGNING AUTHORITY TO MATTHEW BATTIATO, DIRECTOR OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES TO ACT AS THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' DESIGNEE FOR APPROVING INTER-COUNTY ADJUSTMENTS OF ALLOCATED FUNDS(20200109\JFS02)(JFS-11)**

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Hamercheck. Job and Family Services Director, Mr. Matthew Battiato, explained that this is an annual resolution. The law allows for the Board of Commissioners to assign authority to the Director of Job and Family Services to sign inter-county agreements. He explained this will allow for the 'trading' of funds between other Jobs and Family Services Departments throughout the State. The federal and state funds are not given away but can be given to other Counties where a funding need may be within a particular County. He added that before any transfer of funds is made, approval of the Budget Director and the County Administrator is necessary. Commissioner Hamercheck clarified that these are specific purpose funds. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

**6. RESOLUTION APPROVING FINAL ESTIMATE NO. 2 (RELEASE OF RETAINAGE) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,423.94 WITH MATT WINTERS EXCAVATING LLC AND ACCEPTING A ONE-YEAR MAINTENANCE BOND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$103,898.50 FOR THE WINCHELL ROAD CULVERT REPLACEMENT PROJECT FOR THE LAKE COUNTY STORMWATER MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT (20200109\C01)(UT-46a)**

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Hamercheck, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

**7. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON BEHALF OF THE LAKE COUNTY STORMWATER MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT AND THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY EAST 364<sup>TH</sup> STREET, EAST 365<sup>TH</sup> STREET, AND HARVARD STORM SEWER REPLACEMENT PROJECT (20200109\C02)(UT-46a)**

On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Cirino. Director of Stormwater Management, Mr. Tim Miller, explained that the total cost of the project is estimated at \$2,750,000. The City has arranged financing through a loan with the Ohio EPA Water Pollution Control Loan Fund and an Ohio Public Works Commission Loan and has requested the use of Stormwater funds to reimburse them for their payments. The project will replace existing storm water sewers with approximately 7,790 feet of storm sewer, 17 storm manholes, 29 inlet basins, and service connections. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

**8. RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FINAL DEDICATION PLAT FOR FAIRWAY PINES SUBDIVISION PHASE 2 IN PAINESVILLE TOWNSHIP (20200109\C03)(SD-432)**

On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Cirino, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

**9. RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,941,923.75 (20200109\BC01)(C-4)**

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Hamercheck, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

**10. RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE ORDERS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' PURCHASE ORDER APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,952,524.29 (20200109\BC02)(C-17)**

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

**11. RESOLUTION INCREASING AN APPROPRIATION FOR A NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNT(20200109\BC03)(C-111)**

On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Hamercheck, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

**12. RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING CASH WITHIN VARIOUS GENERAL AND NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20200109\BC04)(C-111)**

On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

UTILITIES – none.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – none.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – Mr. Boyd thanked Mr. Rantala for his dedication to Lake County.

FINANCE – Mr. Michael Matas stated that 3 departments have requested and been scheduled for budget hearings and a few other departments have requested meetings with the Board which will be scheduled at a later date. Mr. Matas explained that he is working on rolling over notes for the new administration building. Previously the Board passed a resolution authorizing the issuance of notes to not exceed \$10 million. In discussions between the County, Bond Counsel and our Underwriter, it was decided to apply to OMAP (Ohio Market Access Program) and he had to provide various information pertaining to the County’s financial position before approval. His office did receive the approval letter and also a Standard and Poor’s Rating. The rating was SP-1+, which is the highest rating we could have received concerning short term notes. He stated that the final note yield is 1.13% and is the lowest of all the Ohio notes that were priced in 2018 and 2019 if not longer. Mr. Matas and the Board continued to discuss details of the financing and thanked Mr. Matas for his hard work. Mr. Matas thanked Mr. Rudy Campagne from the Utilities Department, underwriter, Ms. Michelle Hillstrom and bond counsel, Ms. Amanda Gordon, for their efforts and for all the work in this note issuance.

CLERK –Commissioners Clerk, Ms. Jennifer Bell, stated that the next Commissioners Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 16, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. She also reported that there is an opening on the Planning Commission. Anyone interested can find more information and the instructions to apply on the Commissioners website. Ms. Bell also stated that the budget hearings will begin next week, the dates are posted on the website and they are open to the public.

LEGAL – none.

OLD BUSINESS: - none.

NEW BUSINESS: - none.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Commissioner Hamercheck asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board. Ms. Ellen Chamberlin of Willoughby, read a prepared statement regarding this year’s budget process. She feels that by asking the elected officials and department heads to submit comments or concerns about their budget in writing to the Budget Director and County Administrator is limiting public involvement and comment.

Commissioner Hamercheck stated that the next Commissioners Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 16, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: On a motion by Commissioner Cirino, seconded by Commissioner Young, the Board convened an Executive Session at 2:59 p.m.to discuss Personnel-Employment, with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

The Lake County Board of Commissioners adjourned to Executive Session at 2:59 p.m.

ADJOURN:

On a motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Hamercheck, the Board adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m. with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Cirino, Young, and Hamercheck "NAYS": None.

Minutes approved this sixteenth day of January, 2020.

**BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
JOHN R. HAMERCHECK, PRESIDENT

\_\_\_\_\_  
RON YOUNG, VICE PRESIDENT

\_\_\_\_\_  
JERRY C. CIRINO, COMMISSIONER

\_\_\_\_\_  
JENNIFER BELL, CLERK