

**LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES**

DANIEL P. TROY, PRESIDENT  
KEVIN D. MALECEK, COMMISSIONER  
JUDY MORAN, COMMISSIONER  
AMY ELSZASZ, CLERK

JASON W. BOYD, ADMINISTRATOR  
LEGAL COUNSEL  
JOEL DIMARE, BUDGET DIRECTOR  
NEWS MEDIA

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(Tape 2015-0219(2))

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Troy called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m., February 19, 2015.

ROLL CALL: Upon the roll being called all were present.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Commissioner Troy asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board. No one present wished to address the Board.

RESOLUTIONS:

**1. RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2015 PERMANENT APPROPRIATION MEASURE FOR THE GENERAL FUND (20150219A\BC01)(C-111)**

On a motion of Commissioner Moran, seconded by Commissioner Malecek. Commissioner Troy stated that this resolution is for the permanent General Fund budget for 2015 that will replace the temporary appropriation that was adopted in December for the county. The General Fund budget this year is approximately \$53 million, which is about a \$2.3 million increase over last year. The increase is mainly due to an extra pay period that is an additional \$1.4 million, the addition of the Heroin Task Force for \$200,000, an additional felony attorney for the Prosecutor’s Office and an increased contribution to the state program for medically handicapped children, which is an additional \$250,000 compared to last year and is required by law. The County continues to keep the General Fund employee base down. It is down approximately 20% from 2007. Healthcare costs have increased. For revenue sources, we only depend on 1 mill in property taxes. Interest earnings have decreased. The major revenue component is the 1% piggyback sales tax. The budget is a spending plan or a blue print and it is important for all parties to stay within the budget. Everyone has had an opportunity to weigh in on the document. Budget hearings were held with different departments if requested so that all involved are comfortable that this budget helps deliver statutorily required services for 2015. It protects the financial interests of the County. There is a \$5.3 million carry-over balance for emergencies and to have enough funds to operate in early 2016.

Commissioner Moran stated that the Heroin Task Force that was instituted last year is necessary for the County. Medical costs in the jail increased 233% since 2011 and the County is responsible for keeping inmates healthy. Somewhere down the road, something must be done with the jail because it costs \$300,000 a year to keep it running and operational. Commissioner Moran thanked Buildings & Grounds Superintendent Chuck Klco and his staff for all their efforts in maintaining the jail.

Commissioner Malecek stated that he has been on the job for three weeks and has had the opportunity to attend some of the budget hearings. The county is run efficiently and provides a fair and equitable budget. He thanked all parties for their cooperation during their meetings.

Commissioner Moran stated that Department Heads and Elected Officials have all come forward with reasonable requests and she thanked them all for their support and she thanked them for all of their hard work.

Commissioner Troy stated that the budget would not work without the necessary cooperation from Department Heads and Public Officials. Many services the County provides are not discretionary but mandated. The County budget is constructed so as not to be dependent on casino revenue, which is a good thing because casino revenue is not coming in as expected. The County will be monitoring what happens with the State budget and how it affects counties, as well as watching fuel costs. There will also be some contract negotiations this year. Commissioner Troy thanked Mr. Joel DiMare, Budget Director, his staff and all the Lake County Offices and Departments in the Lake County family for their hard work.

The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: “AYES”: Commissioners: Troy, Malecek and Moran  
“NAYS”: None

**2. RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2015 PERMANENT APPROPRIATION MEASURE FOR FUNDS OUTSIDE THE GENERAL FUND (20150219A\BC02)(C-111)**

On a motion of Commissioner Moran, seconded by Commissioner Malecek. Commissioner Troy stated that this resolution is for funds outside the General Fund budget that the County is statutorily required to appropriate. This includes JFS, Deepwood, Utilities (Water, Sewer, and Solid Waste) and Stormwater. There is an increase in commitment to capital improvements for sewer and water and the costs are within the current revenue streams to provide the best possible service to the users. The authorization, by law, to spend funds must come through the Board of Lake County Commissioners.

The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote as follows: “AYES”: Commissioners: Troy, Malecek and Moran  
“NAYS”: None

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES - Mr. Matt Battiatto, Director of the Lake County Job and Family Services Department, thanked the Commissioners for adopting the 2015 budget and he thanked Mr. DiMare and his staff for their hard work. He stated that Mr. DiMare was instrumental in working with the Prosecutor’s Office, Juvenile Court, Domestic Relations Court and Treasurer’s Office on the IV-D child support contracts to ensure that the contracts are maximized for the most reimbursement that the County was entitled.

OLD BUSINESS: - none

NEW BUSINESS: - none

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Commissioner Troy asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board. No one

present wished to address the Board.

Commissioner Troy stated that during previous tough economic times, many structural improvements could not be addressed in order to continue to provide statutory services. Now the County can begin to catch up on these improvements with a stable budget and dependable revenue stream. There will be future discussions on the renovation of existing facilities and possibly the construction of new facilities.

Buildings & Grounds Superintendent, Chuck Klco, stated that there will be some necessary heating and roof improvements at the jail in the near future.

The next regular Commissioners Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 26, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in Chambers.

ADJOURN: On a motion of Commissioner Moran, seconded by Commissioner Malecek, the Board adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m., with the vote as follows:

"AYES": Commissioners: Troy, Malecek and Moran "NAYS": None

Minutes approved this ninth day of March, 2015.

**BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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DANIEL P. TROY, PRESIDENT

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KEVIN D. MALECEK, COMMISSIONER

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JUDY MORAN, COMMISSIONER

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AMY ELSZASZ, CLERK