

LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES

JOHN R. HAMERCHECK, COMMISSIONER	JASON W. BOYD, ADMINISTRATOR
JOHN PLECNIK, COMMISSIONER	LEGAL COUNSEL
RICHARD J. REGOVICH, COMMISSIONER	NEWS MEDIA
JENNIFER BELL, CLERK	

(Tape 2024-0523)

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Plecnik called the Meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. Thursday, May 23, 2024.

ROLL CALL: Upon roll being called, Commissioners Hamercheck, Regovich, and Plecnik were present.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Commissioner Plecnik asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board. Faith Andrews, Clerk of Courts, was present to speak about the 4th and final installment of the COPS Grant. Ms. Andrews said she was happy to support law enforcement by fully funding these additional Deputies. She thanked her staff for their assistance and added how this would not have been possible without their help. Ms. Andrews stated that through her assistance with the COPS Grant Program and the Sheriff’s gun range project, she has provided \$2.9 million without any burden to Lake County taxpayers. She explained that Commissioner Hamercheck had approached her 3 ½ years ago with the idea of the COPS Grant Program and she agreed without hesitation. Mr. Brian Massie of Rainbow Drive in Painesville, spoke on item #8 on the agenda regarding whether the Local Government Fund Ad Hoc Committee was a public body and should have had their meetings open to the public, and on how he felt at the recent Budget Commission Meeting that the public should have permitted to speak.

Mr. Reginald Black offered prayers to everyone for a safe summer.

Mrs. Spencer of Madison shared that she noticed that some things seem to be moving along on Ford Rd.

Mr. John Muzik of 45 Coventry Drive in Painesville, discussed some flooding issues that have been occurring since 2006 near his home. He expressed his concerns that the answer he continues to receive is that “it is being worked on” and that it is a very complicated and complex problem. Mr. Muzik stated that he hoped that something would be done soon, adding that the area continues to flood 4-5 times every year. Mr. Muzik also reminded everyone the true meaning of Memorial Day and asked that everyone remember those men and women that gave their lives so that we could enjoy the freedoms we have.

Bishop Mirbel of Painesville, read a list of many Lake County events and stated that he hoped everyone enjoys their summer.

Mr. Chris Weiss of Leroy, discussed his observations regarding the details of a News-Herald article concerning Commissioner Plecnik that was recently published.

RESOLUTIONS:

1.RESOLUTION TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE COUNTY LINE ROAD (CR 141) RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT – PHASE II, MADISON TOWNSHIP, OHIO, OPWC NO. TBD, LCE PROJECT NO. 2024-002 (Bid Opening: June 12, 2024)(20240523\E01)(E-2)

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

2.RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS AND TRANSFERRING CASH IN LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES WATER AND SEWER FUNDS FOR 2024 DEBT PAYMENTS(20240523\U01)(UT-2)

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

3.RESOLUTION APPROVING PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATES OF COST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$625,000.00 FOR DODD HILL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT AND CHIMNEY RIDGE PUMP STATION FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS - PROJECT NO 456-S-2021, AND ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR SAME (Bid Opening: June 26, 2024)(20240523\U02)(UT-8)

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

4.RESOLUTION APPROVING PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATES OF COST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,240,600.00 FOR LAKESHORE BOULEVARD WATERLINE REPLACEMENT (EUCLID LINE TO E. 288TH STREET) PROJECT NO 448-W-2021, AND ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR SAME (Bid Opening: July 3, 2024)(20240523\U03)(UT-8)

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

5.RESOLUTION APPROVING PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATES OF COST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,662,200.00 FOR VINE STREET WATERLINE REPLACEMENT-PHASE 3 - PROJECT NO 467-W-2023, AND ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR SAME (Bid Opening: June 26, 2024)(20240523\U04)(UT-8)

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

6.RESOLUTION CERTIFYING UNPAID WATER AND SEWER SUMS AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES TO THE LAKE COUNTY AUDITOR(20240523\U05)(UT-7)

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

7.RESOLUTION DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT WITH SERVICEMASTER ON BEHALF OF THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS FOR WATER DAMAGE AT THE LAKE COUNTY PROBATE COURTHOUSE, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$195,701.17 (20240523\C01)(C-7)

On a motion by Commissioner Regovich, seconded by Commissioner Hamercheck. County Administrator, Mr. Jason Boyd, explained that the Probate Court had a flood in early spring of this year. This contract is for the actual cost for remediation of the offices. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows: "AYES": Commissioners Hamercheck, Regovich and Plecnik "NAYS": None.

8.RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING CHARLES ZIBBEL TO THE LAKETRAN BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR A TERM ENDING MAY 15, 2027(20240523\C02)(B-37) *(RESOLUTION TABLED)*

On a motion by Commissioner Regovich, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik. Commissioner Hamercheck stated that he attempted to speak with Mr. Zibbel to discuss a potential conflict for him to serve on the Laketrans Board. Commissioner Hamercheck stated that he recently became aware that Mr. Zibbel not only serves on the LakeTran Board but also the Friends of LakeTran and voiced his concern for a potential conflict in serving on both Boards. He would like an opinion from the Ohio Ethics Commissioner as to whether or not Mr. Zibbel can serve. Commissioner Hamercheck pointed out that Mr. Zibbel did not list Friends of LakeTran as one of the Boards he is currently serving on in his reappointment application and also stated that Mr. Zibbel voted no on the sales tax suspension for LakeTran. Commissioner Plecnik stated that this is a reappointment and if there is a conflict then it already exists and Commissioner Hamercheck agreed. The Board addressed Assistant Prosecutor, Mr. David Hackman, regarding the potential conflict with Mr. Zibbel. Mr. Hackman stated this is the first he is hearing of Commissioner Hamercheck's concern with Mr. Zibbel and that he would have to do further research. Commissioner Hamercheck stated that in an abundance of caution, he feels this resolution should be tabled until a later date when clarification is received on whether or not there is a conflict with Mr. Zibbel. Commissioner Regovich asked if Commissioner Hamercheck was going to make a motion to table and he responded he would. On a motion by Commissioner Hamercheck, seconded by Commissioner Regovich, the foregoing resolution was tabled for further legal clarity with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners Hamercheck, Regovich and Plecnik "NAYS": None.

9.RESOLUTION APPOINTING JOSEPH GLAVAN TO THE LAKETRAN BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR A TERM ENDING MAY 15, 2027(20240523\C03)(B-37)

A motion was made by Commissioner Hamercheck to table this resolution. No second to the motion to table was received. Motion failed.

Commissioner Plecnik addressed Assistant Prosecutor, Mr. David Hackman, regarding a potential conflict with Mr. Glavan. Mr. Hackman stated through discussion and research in his office, they are of the opinion that no conflict exists for Mr. Glavan and he is comfortable with Mr. Glavan recusing himself from voting on any issues involving AWT, the City of Mentor and Lakeland Community College. Commissioner Regovich stated that the Prosecutors Office was contacted about a potential conflict and vetted. He also stated that several other interested parties sought opinions from their employer's legal department and were found to have a conflict, therefore could not apply for this position. On a motion by Commissioner Regovich, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows: "AYES": Commissioners Regovich and Plecnik "NAYS": None. "ABSTAIN": Commissioner Hamercheck.

10.RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,337,523.14(20240523\BC01)(C-4)

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

11. RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE ORDERS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' PURCHASE ORDER APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,504,302.65 (20240523\BC02)(C-17)

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

12.RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS VARIOUS GENERAL AND A NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20240523\BC03)(C-111)

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

13. RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING CASH AND APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN VARIOUS GENERAL AND NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS(20240523\BC04)(C-111)

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

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

UTILITIES – none.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – none.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – none.

CLERK – Commissioners Clerk, Ms. Jennifer Bell, stated that the next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 30, 2024 at 10:00 am and that County Offices will be closed Monday, May 27th in observance of Memorial Day.

LEGAL – Assistant Prosecutor, Mr. David Hackman, addressed Mr. Massie’s comment that the Ad Hoc Committee was created by the Budget Commission clarifying that it was not their creation. Commissioner Hamercheck stated that late Eastlake Mayor Dennis Morley picked up the torch along with others to gather more and deeper knowledge of the Local Government Fund. Commissioner Plecnik asked Mr. Hackman to report back to the Board regarding Mr. Zibbel and any potential conflict.

OLD BUSINESS: Commissioner Hamercheck provided some background on the COPS Grant Program, stating that he approached Clerk of Courts, Faith Andrews, about modeling a local program from one used at the State level. He thanked Painesville Township Trustee Chuck Hillier and others for the collaboration.

NEW BUSINESS: Commissioner Hamercheck introduced Alicia Hensley and Chris Lee from Concord Village Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation to speak on their recent achievement. The Board will present them with a certificate at a later date. Mr. Lee stated that Concord Village is the first and only skilled nursing facility in Lake County to achieve Joint Commission Accreditation in 2024, and is one of only 5 in the whole state of Ohio that have achieved the national quality accreditation by the Joint Commission. Mr. Lee explained that in 2023, they made a voluntary commitment to begin a journey towards Joint Commission Accreditation. This accreditation process was historically for hospitals and the commitment involved having the willingness to voluntarily elevate their care and patient safety standards, and subject them to more frequent and rigorous quality and safety inspections. He continued that they received a deficiency free annual inspection by the Ohio Department of Health in 2023, they had a stable dedicated work team during the pandemic, and then did not have to rely on agency or temporary contract staffing. They are also proud to be a clinical training site for the Auburn Career Center LPN and STNA adult and high school programs.

ADJOURN: On a motion by Commissioner Regovich, seconded by Commissioner Hamercheck, the Board adjourned the meeting at 11:03 a.m. with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Hamercheck, Regovich and Plecnik "NAYS": None.

Minutes approved this twenty-seventh day of June, 2024.

BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JOHN PLECNİK, PRESIDENT

JOHN R. HAMERCHECK, COMMISSIONER

RICHARD J. REGOVICH, COMMISSIONER

JENNIFER BELL, CLERK