

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 2024-0829)

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Plecnik called the Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, August 29, 2024.

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

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Commissioner Plecnik asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board. The Board presented a Special Certificate to Lake County government scholarship recipient Logan Walker from Lakeland Community College.

Rev. Chris Bihary of Painesville, asked for a moment of prayer for the Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Reginald Black of Painesville asked the Board to consider installing a bike lane along Mentor Avenue.

Mr. Brian Massie of Rainbow Drive in Painesville, discussed a press conference that he recently attended in Cuyahoga County. He asked for clarification on the ARPA award for the Captains Stadium. He also discussed an ongoing issue with Heisley Park and the recent storm damage.

Mr. John Marra of Timberlake read a prepared statement regarding the property re-evaluations.

Bishop Mirbel of Painesville, praised the Board and all Lake County officials for the great job they do for all of Lake County.

Mr. Chris Weiss of Leroy, continued to read from a statement he began at a previous meeting and spoke of Commissioner Plecnik's position at Cleveland State University.

Mr. Matt Hebebrand of Mentor, thanked the Board for their support for Lakeland Community College students and had several questions pertaining to an alleged incident in 2021 that he directed to Commissioner Hamercheck.

Mr. Brian Kolkowski of Leroy, asked Commissioner Hamercheck several questions regarding an alleged incident in 2021.

RESOLUTIONS:

1.RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING AUGUST 31, 2024, AS OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY IN LAKE COUNTY, OHIO (20240829\F01)(C-126)

On a motion by Commissioner Regovich, seconded by Commissioner Hamercheck. ADAMHS Board Executive Director Ms. Kim Fraser was present and stated that International Overdose Awareness Day (IOAD) seeks to create a better understanding of overdose, to reduce the stigma of drug-related deaths and to create change that reduces the harms associated with drug use. The Lake County ADAMHS Board partnered with five mental health agencies across the county to share a day of events with the community. These events were to honour the people whose lives have been altered by overdose. They were for family and friends grieving the loss of a loved one; for workers in the healthcare industry and for support services extending strength and compassion as well as spontaneous first responders who selflessly assume the role of a lifesaver at a moment's notice. The Board thanked Ms. Fraser for the very important work the ADAMHS Board does. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Regovich, Hamercheck and Plecnik "NAYS": None.

2.RESOLUTION TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE PAVEMENT MARKINGS – SR2 PROJECT, LAKE COUNTY, OHIO, LCE PROJECT NO. 2023-020 (Bid Opening: September 18, 2024)(20240829\E01)(E-2)

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

3.RESOLUTION TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE COUNTY ROADS PAVEMENT MARKINGS – 2024, LAKE COUNTY, OHIO, LCE PROJECT NO. 2023-022 (Bid Opening September 18, 2024)(20240829\E02)(E-2)

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

4.RESOLUTION CERTIFYING UNPAID WATER AND SEWER SUMS AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES TO THE LAKE COUNTY AUDITOR(20240829\U01)(UT-7)

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

5.RESOLUTION AWARDDING A BID CONTRACT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,257,700.00 TO D.B. BENTLEY, INC. FOR LAKESHORE BOULEVARD WATERLINE REPLACEMENT, (EUCLID LINE TO E 288TH STREET), PROJECT 448-W-2021 (20240829\U02)(UT-4)

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

6.RESOLUTION APPROVING LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES VOUCHERS DATE OF WARRANT SEPTEMBER 6, 2024 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$72,903.39(20240829\JFS01)(JFS-14)

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

7.SUPPORTING WEST CREEK CONSERVANCY'S CLEAN OHIO GREENSPACE CONSERVATION PROGRAM FY25 GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE GRAND RIVER CASEMENT PRESERVE PROJECT (20240829\C01)(C-92)

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

8.RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN ADDENDUM OF THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND THE CITY OF EASTLAKE FOR FUNDS RECEIVED FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY UNDER THE CORONAVIRUS STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS KNOWN AS THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021(20240829\C02)(C-107)

On a motion by Commissioner Regovich, seconded by Commissioner Hamercheck. County Administrator, Mr. Jason Boyd, explained that there were two earlier ARPA projects with Eastlake that both came in under budget. This resolution is to reallocate those funds. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Regovich, Hamercheck and Plecnik "NAYS": None.

9.RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PRESIDENT OF THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO EXECUTE A SERVICES AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE LAKE COUNTY COMMON PLEAS COURT, JUVENILE DIVISION, AND THE GEAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS(20240829\C03)(CT-3C)

On a motion by Commissioner Regovich, seconded by Commissioner Hamercheck. Juvenile Court Judge, Michael DeLeone, was present and explained that this partnership with Geauga County is a historic, unique project and is the first in the state. This agreement will allow Geauga County juveniles to be placed in the Lake County Detention Center on a per diem basis. Lake County can provide better services and programming which will benefit the youth of Geauga County. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Regovich, Hamercheck and Plecnik "NAYS": None.

10. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT WITH TRANE U.S. INC. PROCURED THROUGH OMNIA PARTNERS ON BEHALF OF THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS FOR A NEW HVAC SYSTEM AT 41 E. ERIE STREET, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,491,022.00(20240829\C04)(C-7)

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

11. RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,159,484.82(20240829\BC01)(C-4)

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

12. RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE ORDERS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' PURCHASE ORDER APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,660,047.09(20240829\BC02)(C-17)

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

13. RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS FOR VARIOUS GENERAL AND NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20240829\BC03)(C-111)

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

14.RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING CASH AND APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN VARIOUS GENERAL AND NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS(20240829\BC04)(C-111)

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

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

UTILITIES – Sanitary Engineer, Mr. Randy Rothlisberger, stated that they had 3 bid openings in the last two weeks. They received 2 bids that came in 40% lower than the engineers estimate; which aligns with pre-covid pricing and one that came in at 50% more than the estimate.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – Director of Job and Family Services, Suzanne Casar, provided an update on the SNAP benefits auto refill that occurred after the recent storm.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – County Administrator, Mr. Jason Boyd, discussed a one hour bond rating call with Moody's. Mr. Boyd was pleased to share that Moody's Ratings have assigned an Aa1 rating to Lake County's Correctional Facilities Bonds, Series 2024, which will encompass a proposed par amount of approximately \$70 million. Additionally, the County's Correctional Facilities Notes, Series 2024, with a proposed par amount of about \$50 million, has been assigned a MIG 1 rating. The Moody's release also stated, available fund balance and liquidity are exceptionally strong, totaling 49% and 143% of revenue, respectfully, at the close of fiscal 2022. Mr. Boyd also added that he will speaking at a Gilbane event this evening where they will be highlighting 3 unique projects.

CLERK – Commissioners Clerk, Ms. Jennifer Bell, stated that the next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 5, 2024 at 10:00 am. and that County offices will be closed on Monday, September 2, 2024 in observance of the Labor Day holiday.

LEGAL – none.

OLD BUSINESS: Commissioner Hamercheck addressed Mr. Hebebrand’s comments and how he continues to inhibit his ability to serve as a Commissioner. Mr. Hebebrand continues to reference ‘the greatest unsolved crime in the history of Lake County’ and make false claims. As a prosecutor and an attorney of the law, Mr. Hebebrand knows the law and is continuing to persist in bad faith with malicious and false claims in a reckless manner. Nothing came of the matter because there was nothing to come of it. His words amount to a grand conspiracy because no records can be found. The Prosecutor, Sheriff, Secretary of State, Attorney General, Federal Agencies and the Department of Defense are being called into question. What is more believable? That nothing happened or there is some grand conspiracy?

NEW BUSINESS: Commissioner Regovich wanted to share how proud he is of the staff for their hard work to ensure the County maintains an excellent Aa1 Bond Rating.

ADJOURN: On a motion by Commissioner Regovich, seconded by Commissioner Hamercheck, the Board adjourned the meeting at 10:56 a.m. with the vote as follows: AYES": Commissioners Regovich, Hamercheck and Plecnik "NAYS": None.

Minutes approved this twenty-sixth day of September, 2024.

BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JOHN PLECNIK, PRESIDENT

JOHN R. HAMERCHECK, COMMISSIONER

RICHARD J. REGOVICH, COMMISSIONER

JENNIFER BELL, CLERK