

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

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(Tape 2024-1212)

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Plecnik called the Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 12, 2024.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Upon a motion by Commissioner Regovich, seconded by Commissioner Hamercheck, the minutes of the Regular Meetings of September 19 and 26, October 17, 24, and 29, November 7 and 14, and Special Meeting Minutes of: December 1, 2024 were approved with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners Hamercheck, Regovich and Plecnik "NAYS": None.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Commissioner Plecnik asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board. Bishop Mirbel of Painesville, thanked the Board for all they do for the community and how the Ministers Fellowship appreciate them. He spoke of the Old and New Testament and shared Romans 8:28 with everyone.

Mr. Chris Bihary of Painesville warned of the potential heavy snow and reminded everyone to be extra careful when driving. He asked for a moment of silence for brothers and sisters.

Ms. Bernadette Blumel of Willoughby Hills, shared a press release she received recently pertaining to Commissioner Plecnik's ethics class and followed up with several questions to the Board.

Mr. Mike Scolopini of Timberlake, stated that he continues to see personal attacks against members of the board and doesn't understand why these are not dealt with one on one with the Prosecutor. He stated how he is disgusted by these attacks and feels compelled to have to babysit his government.

Mr. Brian Kolkowski of Leroy, stated that he agreed with what Mr. Scolopini said but wanted to bring up another issue. He referred to an alleged hacking back in 2021 and the actions that were taken by the Prosecutors Office in September of 2021 and how public records appear to show no actual independent investigation performed by the State Attorney General's office so he has asked for more information from the Lake County Prosecutor. He stated that he appreciates County Auditor Galloway's commitment to work with his employees to document a timeline and evidence related to this matter however, significant time has passed and he would like to know now where these stand.

RESOLUTIONS:

1.RESOLUTION APPROVING LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES VOUCHERS DATE OF WARRANT DECEMBER 20, 2024 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$443,990.28(20241212\JFS01)(JFS-14)

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 AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON BEHALF OF THE LAKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE AND THE CONCORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR POLICE PROTECTION SERVICES(20241212\C01)(CT-10A)

On a motion by Commissioner Regovich, seconded by Commissioner Hamercheck. Concord Township Trustee, Mr. Morgan McIntosh, was present and thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak. He explained that getting here today has not been an easy road and there have been many challenges. He thanked the residents of Concord Township for supporting the levy on last month's ballot. He is proud to say there is an adequate level of police protection again in Lake County townships. He took this opportunity to thank the Board for supporting the budget of the Lake County Sheriff's Department which complements the funding that the townships are bringing through their levies. Together they have effectively worked to keep our communities safe. Commissioner Plecnik stated that the Board is deeply grateful to the people of Concord, the Concord Township trustees and the Township Administrator for working together to make sure that there are sufficient patrols. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows: "AYES": Commissioners Hamercheck, Regovich and Plecnik "NAYS": None.

3.RESOLUTION CERTIFYING TO THE LAKE COUNTY AUDITOR THE 2025 DRAINAGE CHARGES FOR THE LAKE COUNTY REGIONAL SEWER, WATER, AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT(20241212\C02)(UT-46)

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 AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON BEHALF OF THE LAKE COUNTY STORMWATER MANAGEMENT DIVISION AND THE CITY OF WILLOWICK FOR THE E. 305TH STREET SEWER REHABILITATION PROJECT(20241212\C03)(UT-46a)

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 PAYMENT OF BILLS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$922,893.58(20241212\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 and Plecnik. "ABSTAIN:" Commissioner Regovich "NAYS": None.

6.RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE ORDERS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' PURCHASE ORDER APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$610,583.64 (20241212\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.

7.RESOLUTION INCREASING AND DECREASING APPROPRIATIONS FOR VARIOUS NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20241212\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.

8.RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN VARIOUS GENERAL AND NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20241212\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.

9.RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2025 TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION MEASURE FOR THE GENERAL FUND (20241212\BC05)(C-111)

On a motion by Commissioner Regovich, seconded by Commissioner Hamercheck. Commissioner Plecnik read the following report: The General Fund is the chief operating fund of the County and accounts for all the financial resources except those to be accounted for in another fund per ORC restrictions. He stated that health care costs continue to rise, law enforcement continues to represent a major expense category with medical care within the jail continuing to rise significantly each year and Judicial and Public Safety represents 70% of the proposed budget inclusive of the debt payment for the Public Safety Center. This will be the first year of the \$7 million dollar debt payment for the new Public Safety Center which is included in the 2025 budget. This Temporary Budget addresses the operating costs for the County for 2025. The Capital portion of costs will be included in the Outside General Fund Budget and discussed moving forward. Goal: The County's Elected Officials and Department Heads remain dedicated to the residents of Lake County to provide the best service possible with their current staff levels based on estimated resources. The Commissioners thanked Mr. Underwood and Mr. DiMare for their hard work and dedication preparing this budget. 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 – Mr. Boyd stated that the construction fencing should be going up around the jail site next week and there are currently surveyors onsite. He also stated he will be sending out an email offering departments alternate places to park that are within a five minute walk of their county office.

CLERK – Commissioners Clerk, Ms. Jennifer Bell, stated that the next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 19, 2024 at 10:00 am.

LEGAL – none.

OLD BUSINESS: none.

NEW BUSINESS: Commissioner Regovich was happy to announce that the Ford Road Bridge is open to traffic.

ADJOURN: On a motion by Commissioner Regovich, seconded by Commissioner Hamercheck, the Board adjourned the meeting at 10:49 a.m. with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Hamercheck, Regovich and Plecnik "NAYS": None.

Minutes approved this ninth day of January, 2025.

BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JOHN PLECNIK, PRESIDENT

JOHN R. HAMERCHECK, COMMISSIONER

RICHARD J. REGOVICH, COMMISSIONER

JENNIFER BELL, CLERK