

LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES

MORRIS W. BEVERAGE III, COMMISSIONER	JASON W. BOYD, ADMINISTRATOR
JOHN PLECNIK, COMMISSIONER	LEGAL COUNSEL
RICHARD REGOVICH, COMMISSIONER	NEWS MEDIA
JENNIFER BELL, CLERK	

(Tape 2025-0213)

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Regovich called the Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, February 13, 2025

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Upon a motion by Commissioner Beverage, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik, the minutes of the Regular Meetings of February 6, 2025 were approved with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, Beverage and Regovich "NAYS": None.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Commissioner Regovich asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board. Mr. Dale Fellows of Willoughby Hills, spoke about the Lakeland Board of Trustees appointments. He specifically focused on his wife Nancy who is a current trustee and had applied to be reappointed to a new full term. He stated the importance of appointing the very best and most qualified people into these positions. He detailed his wife's experience and emphasized how he feels she should be reappointed to another term. Mr. Fellows also shared that his wife and a majority of the board recognized that Lakeland was having financial issues and were able to make some corrective actions. He respectfully requested the Board put the reappointment resolutions on hold until they are sure they are appointing the most qualified people.

RESOLUTIONS:

**1.RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH BEL ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING, INC. FOR 2025 ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUPPORT SERVICES FOR THE LAKE COUNTY SOLID WASTE FACILITY(20250213\U01)(UT-4)**

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

**2.RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH BEL ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING, INC. FOR 2025 AIR COMPLIANCE SERVICES FOR THE LAKE COUNTY SOLID WASTE FACILITY(20250213\U02)(UT-4)**

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

**3.RESOLUTION APPROVING CHANGE ORDER NO. 4 WITH CHIVERS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR ARCOLA CREEK TRUNK SEWER PROJECT 454-S-2021 INCREASING THE TOTAL CONTRACT AMOUNT BY \$84,497.20 (20250213\U03)(UT-4)**

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

**4.RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR CHEMICALS FOR THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES (BID OPENING: MARCH 5, 2025)(20250213\U04)(UT-8)**

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

**5.RESOLUTION APPROVING LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES VOUCHERS DATE OF WARRANT FEBRUARY 21, 2025 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$610,305.45(20250213\JFS01)(JFS-14)**

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

**6.RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AND APPROVING THE RECOMMENDATION OF PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBER TIMOTHY C. BROTZMAN TO DESIGNATE CHRISTOPHER BERNARD TO SERVE AS HIS ALTERNATE ON THE LAKE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION(20250213\C01)(B-34)**

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

**7.RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE LAKE COUNTY, OHIO TRAVEL POLICY FOR ELECTED COUNTY OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF LAKE COUNTY(20250213\C02)(612-P)**

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

**8.RESOLUTION REVISING THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE BEGINNING JANUARY 9, 2025(20250213\C03)(C-107)**

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

**9.RESOLUTION AMENDING THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' WORKSHOP MEETING SCHEDULE BEGINNING FEBRUARY 6, 2025 AND AMENDING THE ESTABLISHED THE RULES FOR THE ORDERLY PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC COMMENT DURING WORKSHOP MEETINGS(20250213\C04)(C-107)**

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

**10.RESOLUTION APPOINTING DEANNA D'AMORE ELSING TO THE LAKELAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR A FIVE-YEAR TERM EXPIRING MARCH 6, 2025(20250213\C05)(B-51)**

On a motion by Commissioner Beverage, seconded by Commissioner Regovich. Commissioner Plecnik asked the Board to consider the wisdom that former Commissioner Fellows shared during public comment. He stated that he (Commissioner Plecnik) worked with former Councilwoman and current Lakeland Trustee Nancy Fellows for many years. He explained that he knows her very well and that she offers extraordinary contributions to every organization she volunteers for. He stated that he fully appreciates that there are many extraordinary people who are interested in these appointments. Although he cannot speak of the experience of Ms. Elsing, he is sure she is a wonderful person and that he has the highest respect for Mr. McIntosh. Commissioner Plecnik stated that Mrs. Fellows is a current Board member with a year and a half of experience and if there ultimately is a vote on these two nominations that removes Mrs. Fellows from the Board, he will abstain from both nominations. Commissioner Regovich thanked Commissioner Plecnik for his input and stated that there is a big push for Workforce Development at Lakeland and in many schools throughout the County and the State. He believes Ms. Elsing is one of the foremost experts on Workforce Development in Lake County and he shared some of her experience with Willoughby Eastlake and Mayfield Schools. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows : "AYES": Commissioners: Beverage and Regovich. "ABSTAIN": Commissioner Plecnik "NAYS": None.

**11.RESOLUTION APPOINTING MORGAN R. MCINTOSH TO THE LAKELAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR A FIVE-YEAR TERM BEGINNING MARCH 7, 2025 AND EXPIRING MARCH 6, 2030(20250213\C06)(B-51)**

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

**12. RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,313,487.88(20250213\BC01)(C-4)**

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

**13.RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS TO CT CONSULTANTS INC. AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,407.37(20250213\BC01a)(C-4)**

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

**14.RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE ORDERS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' PURCHASE ORDER APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,515,040.77 (20250213\BC02)(C-17)**

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

**15.RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS FOR VARIOUS GENERAL AND NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20250213\BC03)(C-111)**

On a motion by Commissioner Beverage, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows : "AYES": Commissioners: Beverage, Plecnik and Regovich "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, February 20, 2025 at 10:00 am. and that there will be a Workshop following Executive Session today. She also stated that the resolution reflecting the amended dates would be placed on the website this afternoon.

LEGAL – none.

OLD BUSINESS: Commissioner Plecnik stated that he would once again encourage his colleagues to consider the resolution he authored against the massive and unfair increases in property taxes on our residents in Lake County and across Ohio. He stated that Lorain County Commissioner Dave Moore requested a copy of the resolution. He explained that he took considerable time to consider the language and thinks it's a very strong proposal to reach out to our legislators and ask them to keep their campaign promise to reform property taxes. Commissioner Plecnik stated that his resolution is asking for 100% property tax relief for those residents 65 and older and that there should be a freeze on values when you buy your property that should set the value until you sell. He spoke of HB15 which

will provide property tax relief for for-profit power plants; meaning we're going to be exempting nuclear power plants. This will be discussed further in the upcoming workshop. Commissioner Plecnik continued to speak of how senior citizens are being priced out of their homes due to the ever-increasing property taxes and his desire to make a change to help them. Commissioner Regovich agreed with Commissioner Plecnik that something needs to be done to help senior citizens and the residents of Lake County. Commissioner Beverage stated that he echoes their thoughts and that when we have something concrete and actionable, he will be shoulder-to-shoulder with him as when it comes to expressing to Columbus this Boards displeasure with how they've handled property taxes.

NEW BUSINESS: Commissioner Plecnik stated that he would like to make a motion that our Clerk be directed to draft a resolution for the next meeting honoring Mentor and Lake County native and former Ohio State football coach Jim Trestle on his nomination and appointment to Lieutenant Governor of Ohio. He believes it's extraordinary that a Lake County resident has gone on to the second highest office. Commissioner Beverage seconded the motion. The foregoing motion was approved with the vote follows : "AYES": Commissioners: Beverage, Plecnik and Regovich "NAYS": None.

Commissioner Regovich stated that he chaired his first NG911 Committee Meeting yesterday and while there is still some work to be done, yesterday's meeting was quite fruitful. The Sheriff and his team are working hard on putting together a report and the next meeting will be scheduled for mid to late March.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: On a motion by Commissioner Beverage, seconded by Commissioner Plecnik, the Board convened an Executive Session at 10:16 a.m. to discuss Personnel-Discipline and Legal-Pending Litigation with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, Beverage and Regovich "NAYS": None.

The Lake County Board of Commissioners adjourned to Executive Session at 10:44 a.m.

ADJOURN: On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik seconded by Commissioner Beverage, the Board adjourned the meeting at 10:44 a.m. with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, Beverage and Regovich "NAYS": None.

Minutes approved this sixth day of March, 2025.

**BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
RICHARD J. REGOVICH, PRESIDENT

\_\_\_\_\_  
JOHN T. PLECNIK, COMMISSIONER

\_\_\_\_\_  
MORRIS W. BEVERAGE III, COMMISSIONER

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