

COMMISSIONERS MEETING, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2008

Patricia G. Geissman called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m. with Stephen D. Hambley and Sharon A. Ray present.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer.

The oral reading of the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting on February 11, 2008, was dispensed with as each Commissioner had read them personally. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the Commissioners' meeting minutes; the motion was seconded Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Doug King, Administrative Assistant in the County Engineer's Office, presented a resolution approving the use of the Subdivision Drainage Maintenance Fund for repair work in the following subdivisions: Grafton Hills Phase 1, Lafayette Meadows Phase 2, Reserve Phase 2B, 2C, 3A, and 3B, and Normandy Park Phase 1, in the Townships of Brunswick Hills, Lafayette, Medina, and Montville. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the resolution and Ms. Ray seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Beverly Valentine, Budget Officer, presented and reviewed the following resolutions: (1) amending the temporary appropriation resolution; (2) cash transfer to the Crippled Children's Health Fund; (3) transferring County General Funds to the County Diversion Program for February 2008 operating expenses; (4) accepting a lease agreement with the Medina County Educational Service Center in the amount of \$20,450 for the two-year period from March 1, 2008 through February 28, 2010; (5) declaring Medina County property as excess property to be discarded or sold by the internet auction; (6) authorizing the purchase of 7,500 gallons of regular unleaded gasoline for the Engineering Center from Ports Petroleum in the amount of \$2.3925 per gallon; and, (7) authorizing the purchase of 5,500 gallons of diesel and 1,200 gallons of regular unleaded gasoline for the Medina County Highway Garage from Ports Petroleum for the combined bid price of \$2.7310 per gallon. Ms. Valentine requested payment of the weekly bills in the amount of \$789,577.02. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the seven Finance resolutions and payment of the weekly bills; the motion was seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE.

Gary Berkowitz, Human Resources Director, presented and reviewed a resolution approving personnel changes for the employees under the jurisdiction of the Medina County Commissioners. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the resolution; the motion was seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE.

Chris Jakab, County Administrator, had nothing to present.

Patrice Theken, Director of the Planning Services Department, reported that the application and guidelines for the Comprehensive Plan Grant Assistance Program were revised again this year to allow for comprehensive planning and the implementation of the recommendations or policies derived from the plan. There are funds remaining in the account from last year for use this year.

Ms. Theken said that the Basics of Zoning Workshop taught by the Prosecutor's Office in January was very well attended; they had 48 people in their small conference room. The Ethics

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Workshop on February 13 had a speaker from the Ohio Ethics Commission and they had a good turnout of about 40 people in the Choral Room. Also in February, there was a zoning inspection meeting at the Prosecutor's Office with record attendance. There will be a Flood Plain Management Workshop on March 12 at the Emergency Management Agency. A mock public hearing will be held on April 17 at the Medina Library Community Room and they are seeking volunteers to participate. On April 18, they will be having a Green Building Virtual Bus Tour at the Department of Planning Services. There will be a day-long workshop on June 6 on Sustainability and Economic Development – Intergovernmental Partnerships, to be held at the Medina County University Center. The workshops begin at 6:30 p.m.

Charles Huber, Chief Building Official, presented the Medina County Building Department January 2008 Monthly Report. The report compared estimated construction costs for January 2008 to January 2007 showing a 60.41% decrease in residential costs and a 50.39% decrease in commercial costs. There was a 27.92% decrease in the average cost of a new home comparing January 2008 to January 2007. There were 24 new housing starts in January 2008 compared to 40 in the same month in 2007, 39 in 2006, 60 in 2005, and 51 in 2004. The revenue collected for residential building activity reflected a 24.84% decrease in permit counts that was almost completely offset by the 21.06% increase in revenue for the non-residential permits. The net decrease was 2.95% for combined residential and non-residential activity. The residential permitting activity broken down by political jurisdiction showed Montville Township as having the most residential permitting activity with 29 permits, followed closely by Brunswick Hills Township with 27 permits, and York Township with 23. Non-residential and commercial permits issued in January 2008 broken down by political jurisdiction showed Granger Township had the most activity with four permits, Medina Township had three permits, and Wadsworth City had two permits.

Dr. John Waddell, Tobacco Coordinator, presented a resolution permitting the modification of contracts for the Medina County Tobacco Prevention Project. The Medina County Tobacco Prevention Coalition (MCTPC) received a \$265,224 grant for projects last year and they performed well enough under the terms of the grant contract that the Tobacco Use Prevention and Control Foundation extended the contract another six months to June 30, 2008. That provided another \$125,000 to distribute to the four sub-grantees and two vendors with whom they have contracts as follows:

Solutions Behavioral Healthcare, Inc.
Medina General Hospital
Oaks Family Care Center
Cornerstone Wellness Center
Medina County Health Department
hype, LLC (formerly Hudson Printing of Medina)

Mr. Hambley moved to approve the resolution. Ms. Ray seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Dr. Waddell stated that MCTPC has received almost \$1 million from the Foundation. He presented a fact card that they created to distribute to community leaders to highlight their accomplishments such as the number of pregnant women and students that were treated, the quit rates that were achieved, and the school campuses that have gone smoke-free. MCTPC has done

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a great deal for tobacco control in Medina County. They will receive word in April on whether they will be awarded another grant for a three-year opportunity that would be a “giant step” toward tobacco control in Medina County. Mrs. Geissman commented that it is important for the general public to be aware of the benefits and results of the grant money. She suggested that the information be posted on the county’s web site. Dr. Waddell said they also have a web site, mctpc.org. Mr. Hambley asked when the fact card would be available for distribution. Dr. Waddell said it would be available at the end of this month.

Mrs. Geissman presented a resolution amending the Medina County Housing Network member organizations and professional fields to:

- ADAMH Board
- Battered Women’s Shelter
- Catholic Charities Housing Corporation
- Community Legal Aid Services, Inc.
- Fair Housing Consortium
- Fair Housing Contact Services
- Medina County Board of MRDD
- Medina County Commissioners
- Medina County Creative Housing
- Medina County Job & Family Services
- Medina County Department of Planning Services
- Medina Metropolitan Housing Authority
- Office for Older Adults
- Operation HOMES
- Real Estate Representative
- Society for Handicapped Citizens
- United Way of Medina County

The amendment was necessary due to a change in the bylaws of Resolution No. 07-1010 adopted on October 15, 2007. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the resolution with a correction in the spelling of Community Legal Aid Services, Inc. and Ms. Ray seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Mrs. Geissman presented a resolution reappointing Anthony Ratajczak as the Commissioners’ representative on the Bicycle Advisory Committee of the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) and to the Medina County Bicycle Advisory Council. Mrs. Hambley moved to approve the resolution; seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

For the record, Mrs. Geissman read the notice from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control regarding a new liquor license application for Trico Pizza, Inc., DBA Pizza Hut, 3131 Medina Road, Medina Township, Medina, Ohio. Trico Pizza requested D1, D2, and D3 permit classes, which are “Beer only for consumption or in sealed containers for carry out”, “Wine and certain prepackaged drinks for on premises consumption or in sealed containers for carry out”, and “Spirituous liquor for on premises consumption only until 1:00 a.m.”. There were no comments.

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Mrs. Geissman read the notice from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control regarding a liquor license transfer for Yak LLC, DBA Tonias Sports Lounge and Grill, 729 West 130th Street, Hinckley Township, Hinckley, Ohio, to Blue Banana LLC, DBA Blue Banana Club, at the same address. William Nails requested a D5 permit class, which is "Spirituous liquor for on premises consumption only, beer and wine for on premises, or off premises in original sealed containers, until 2:30 a.m.". There were no comments.

The Clerk read the resolution to allow the expenses of County officials. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the expense resolution and Ms. Ray seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

The meeting was opened for public comment.

John Burke, Medina County Treasurer, announced that, as of today, all of the real estate tax bills were in the mail. The due date for the first half tax bills was set for March 14, 2008. The certified figures were received from the Auditor in February that are usually received in December. Then there is a sequence of events and approvals that take place between the Auditor's Office and Treasurer's Office before the bills can go out. An upgrade in the computer in October and the reevaluation of properties by the Auditor delayed the process. This was the first time that the bills were generated on the new computer system so additional testing was required to assure the accuracy of the bills. They send over 80,000 tax bills and collect over \$200 million in revenue for the year. The main goal was to have accurate tax bills and extend the due date to accommodate the taxpayers.

Mr. Hambley made a motion to allow the Commissioners to enter into an Executive Session after the Discussion Session for the purpose of discussing labor negotiations. Ms. Ray seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

The meeting recessed at 9:58 a.m.

Discussion Session

The meeting reconvened at 10:01 a.m. for the Discussion Session in the Conference Room.

Ms. Ray said she attended the business advocacy meeting of the Medina Chamber of Commerce on Friday morning. They discussed the Courthouse Renovation Project and where Medina City and Medina County stand at this point.

Bill Thorne, Assistant Prosecutor, said he reviewed the vacation petition for Westfield Landing Road and feels it is not sufficient. A valid petition requires the signatures of at least 12 landowners of the county residing in the vicinity of the proposed vacation; there were only ten valid signatures. Of the other six signatures, one signature was from a person that is not a Medina County resident and the other five do not live close to the site. A viewing and public hearing were scheduled for Monday, February 25, and they would need to be cancelled. Mr. Hambley said the Clerk would need to inform all of the parties involved.

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Mr. Thorne said he discussed the status of the contract that Medina County had with Cuyahoga County and the City of Brunswick to provide water to the eastern portion of the City of Brunswick. Mr. Thorne said he would obtain the information about the property and provide it to the City of Cleveland's Law Department as requested.

Chris Jakab, County Administrator, said the Medina County Federal Credit Union would be installing an ATM machine today on the lower level of the Administration by the Tax Map Office.

Mr. Jakab said he would be meeting with the City of Medina officials and the library director that afternoon. Medina City contracted for the services of a consultant to review, from their perspective, the Courthouse Expansion/Parking Project. He said he would provide feedback from today's meeting and city officials will be requesting a meeting with the Commissioners.

Mr. Jakab said he and Finance Director Scott Miller would be scheduling a budget meeting with the Board of Commissioners as a whole some time next week and he would meet with them to check their schedules.

Mr. Jakab said the Fair Board met last Wednesday. They reviewed and adopted an agreement that would transfer the operation management of the Community Center facility and surrounding property back to the Fair Board effective April 1, 2008. He recently drafted an agreement and gave it to Brian Richter, Assistant Prosecutor, who reviewed and approved it, and that is the document the Fair Board took action on. This would also transfer the ownership of the equipment that is housed in the Community Center to the Fair Board that includes the kitchen equipment, tables and chairs. Mr. Hambley added that the agreement was originally to be terminated on February 21, 2009 and they would terminate approximately one year early. Mr. Jakab said the Fair Board is anxious to take over the operations of the facility. There was an original 20-year lease and one 10-year renewal option that was exercised by the Board of Commissioners in 1999 and expires in February 2009. Mrs. Geissman said, if the Commissioners agree to approve the agreement, she and Mr. Jakab would meet with the Executive Committee to discuss issues such as employees. Mr. Jakab said the agreement requires that the Fair Board honor the existing contracts and contractual rates between the Commissioners and various vendors that booked the facility in 2008. They notified the possibly affected staff to inform them of the change and that it was being discussed.

Jim Conrad, who booked many of the events at the Community Center such as the flea markets and gun shows, commented that he thought that transferring the Community Center to the Fair Board would be a very poor decision. Thirty years ago, the Fair Board campaigned for the Community Center to be turned over to the Commissioners. The personnel have changed, but they have not changed methods of operation and the same things are in place now that were in place then. He cited the problems other counties have had, such as Summit County, with the same kind of building. The Community Center is part of the face of Medina County for thousands of people a month. The Fair Board can't rent the fairgrounds and there is a reason they can't rent it; because there are 33 Board members. He said he had rented from them numerous times and was driven out. He got tired of one Board member making a decision and then another Board member would tell him to make a change during an event. It seems a shame to turn the Community Center over to people that don't have a good history. They should do

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whatever they can to preserve what they have. He said he realized he was speaking self-serving, but at the same time, the Commissioners' responsibility is to the citizens of the county instead of the Fair Board. The Fair Board is looking to make money and the County Administrator told him that the facility breaks even. He doesn't see why it would be a good idea, except to save the Commissioners a little bit of work, and that is not enough to justify it. There has not been a fair in 30 years where the county has not spent money to help the Fair Board and things won't change.

Mrs. Geissman thanked him for his comments and said they would take them into consideration. She said she would do some homework to find out about other counties and if they have had bad experiences when turning it over to the Fair Board. She agreed that with 33 people, it is very difficult to accomplish anything. Mr. Conrad said with other county's Fair Boards, he deals with one person and the answer that person tells him is the answer. Mrs. Geissman said the Commissioners would find out what the Fair Board plans to do and that would make a difference in what the Commissioners do. They would be meeting with the smaller executive group and have a further discussion.

Charles Huber, Chief Building Official, commented that the Community Center was the emergency relocation site for the Building Department and the other departments at the Engineering Center. If they pass ownership of the building to the Fair Board, he asked the Commissioners to bear in mind that they would be tenants in an emergency if they had to relocate the Engineering Center employees. Mr. Jakab said they would enter into some type of contractual arrangement with the Fair Board to allow that to continue.

Mrs. Geissman said the Eastlake Road railroad crossing improvements were put in service the end of last week. State Road and Neff Road gates and lights are waiting for power. Soon, all three would be in operation and that was wonderful.

At 10:17 a.m., Commissioners recessed to go into the Executive Session that was voted on earlier for the purpose of discussing labor negotiations.

Mr. Hambley moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 a.m. and Ms. Ray seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED 2/19/08

<u>Number</u>	<u>Resolution Title</u>
08-0084	RESOLUTION TO ALLOW CLAIMS AND AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE UPON THE TREASURER IN SETTLEMENT OF SUCH LIST OF CLAIMS
08-0085	RESOLUTION APPROVING USE OF SUBDIVISION DRAINAGE MAINTENANCE FUND FOR REPAIR WORK IN GRAFTON HILLS PHASE 1, LAFAYETTE MEADOWS PHASE 2, RESERVE PHASE 2B,2C, & 3A, RESERVICE PHASE 3B, AND NORMANDY PARK PHASE 1 IN BRUNSWICK HILLS, LAFAYETTE, MEDINA, & MONTVILLE TOWNSHIPS
08-0086	RESOLUTION AMENDING THE TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION

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- 08-0087 CASH TRANSFER TO THE CRIPPLED CHILDREN'S HEALTH FUND
- 08-0088 TRANSFER OF COUNTY GENERAL FUNDS TO THE COUNTY DIVERSION PROGRAM
- 08-0089 RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE MEDINA COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
- 08-0090 RESOLUTION DECLARING MEDINA COUNTY PROPERTY AS EXCESS PROPERTY
- 08-0091 AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF 7,500 GALLONS OF REGULAR UNLEADED GASOLINE FOR THE ENGINEERING CENTER
- 08-0092 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF 5,500 GALLONS OF DIESEL AND 1,200 GALLONS OF REGULAR UNLEADED GASOLINE FOR THE MEDINA COUNTY HIGHWAY GARAGE
- 08-0093 RESOLUTION APPROVING PERSONNEL CHANGES FOR THE EMPLOYEES UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE MEDINA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
- 08-0094 RESOLUTION PERMITTING THE MODIFICATION OF CONTRACTS FOR THE MEDINA COUNTY TOBACCO PREVENTION PROJECT
- 08-0095 AMENDING THE MEDINA COUNTY HOUSING NETWORK MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS AND PROFESSIONAL FIELDS
- 08-0096 RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING A COMMISSIONERS' REPRESENTATIVE ON THE BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF NOACA AND TO THE MEDINA COUNTY BICYCLE ADVISORY COUNCIL
- 08-0097 RESOLUTION TO ALLOW EXPENSES OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

All deliberations concerning official business and formal actions by this Board of Commissioners were conducted in an open public meeting this nineteenth day of February, 2008.

Respectfully submitted, COMMISSIONERS _____
Patricia G. Geissman

OF

Pam Vereb, Clerk

MEDINA COUNTY _____
Stephen D. Hambley