

COMMISSIONERS MEETING, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 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 January 28, 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 authorizing the County Engineer to regulate traffic on a section of State Road (C.H. 44) south of Bellus Road (C.H. 140) in Hinckley Township on Sunday, March 18, 2008, for Buzzard Day. The Hinckley Township Trustees will provide adequate police personnel to aid the movement of traffic. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the resolution and Ms. Ray seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Commissioners reviewed the weekly permits list for permits issued January 24 through January 30, 2008.

Scott Miller, Finance Director, presented and reviewed the following resolutions: (1) amending the temporary appropriation resolution; (2) cash transfer for indigent counsel refunds to the General Fund; (3) approving an agreement between the Medina County Sheriff and the Medina County Career Center to provide ABLE/GED instruction for inmates at the Medina County Jail; and, (4) authorizing the purchase of 7,000 gallons of regular unleaded gasoline for the Engineering Center. Mr. Miller requested payment of the weekly bills in the amount of \$564,009.57. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the four 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.

Holly Muren, Assistant Human Resources Director, presented and reviewed a resolution approving personnel changes for the employees under the jurisdiction of the Medina County Commissioners and another resolution authorizing the termination of an employee of the Medina County Sanitary Engineer. Mr. Hambley moved to approve both resolutions; the motion was seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all commissioners voting AYE.

Chris Jakab, County Administrator, presented a resolution authorizing the employee health plan rates for CY08 (effective February 1, 2008). Plan A rates, which is the standard plan, remain the same as in 2007. Plan B rates increased approximately 10% from 2007. The Kaiser Plan rates represent slight increases from 2007. Mr. Jakab also presented a resolution prepared by the Medina County Prosecutor's Office supporting a proposal to the Ohio Department of Development to obtain Diesel Emission Reduction Grant funds on behalf of Great Lakes Construction, Inc. They would like to replace two unregulated Tier 0 bulldozer engines with Tier 3 Certified Engines that would provide cleaner air quality in Medina County. Mr. Jakab said this was a compromise in the legislative language. Previously, they were proposing the authorization of a public/private partnership agreement, but there were some issues as to whether that could take place. The State of Ohio is still trying to resolve some of those issues.

COMMISSIONERS MEETING, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2008

Hopefully, this resolution would be sufficient to enable Great Lake Construction, Inc. to obtain the grant. Mr. Hambley moved to approve both resolutions, seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Jim Troike, Sanitary Engineer, presented and reviewed the following resolutions: (1) terminating easements, and (2) authorizing the Sanitary Engineer to obtain easements. Mr. Troike explained that these resolutions are for the same property due to the switch in water treatment plant sites. The first resolution terminates easements on property that was used for a sanitary sewer force main to take waste from the treatment plant. The second resolution authorizes easements on the same parcels for raw water lines to draw water from the new well to the Westfield Water Treatment Plant. Mr. Hambley moved to approve both resolutions and Ms. Ray seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Lynn Remington, County Home Superintendent, reported that they had a quiet month at the County Home in January after the busy holiday season. They have 51 residents living at the Home. One person is active in the Adult Daycare Program and three more people have recently signed up. She has been working with the Medina County Mental Retardation & Developmental Disabilities (MRDD) Board to begin supervised training at the Home for MRDD students/clients. Repairs were done to the commercial dryer and the smoke detector was replaced. Capital improvements were the addition of double doors, a handicapped accessible door, and a stock room door. They finalized the state audit and they also received some donations. Seven individuals volunteered 320 hours in January.

Dr. Ross Santamaria, Diversion & Forensic Services Director, announced that the new computers were installed and they are working well. Now he has the ability to get attachments with his emails, a refreshing change! Fee collection was up significantly last month. Dr. Santamaria will be discussing forensics with some Baldwin Wallace undergraduate students and will invite some of them to see several of the county's social service programs. Everything is running quietly and efficiently at this time.

Charles "Buck" Adams, Emergency Management Agency Director, presented the Commissioners with a plaque from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the county's successful participation in the National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System. About 2-1/2 years ago, they started the project to obtain higher standards for flood plain management in Medina County. They amended subdivision regulations, flood plain regulations, updated flood plain maps, and went through the Insurance Services Office (ISO) to work toward a community rating system number, something that is very rare for communities in the State of Ohio. ISO, through the Community Rating System (CRA), has awarded Medina County as a Class 9. As a Class 9 community, residents in the unincorporated areas of the county will receive a 5% discount on the flood insurance portion of their home's insurance. On a \$100,000 house, that would be about \$75.00 savings, which is significant. The Clerk took a picture of Mr. Adams presenting the plaque to the Commissioners. Mr. Hambley said the county worked with the committee 2-1/2 years ago and they thought they could get things done more quickly. Working with the federal government, Prosecutor's Office, Flood Damage Reduction Committee, County Planning Commission, Planning Services, township representatives, and the building community took more time, but it was successful and put Medina County ahead of other counties in the State of Ohio. They worked with the local contractors resulting in no objections

COMMISSIONERS MEETING, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2008

from contractors when they upgraded the FEMA floodplain standards. Mr. Hambley thanked all the people that participated and helped with the project.

Mrs. Geissman presented a resolution proclaiming February 10-16, 2008, as “Marriage Week” in Medina County and encouraged couples to take time during this special week to celebrate their marriage. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the resolution and Ms. Ray seconded the motion. Mrs. Geissman said there were members of the Marriage Coalition at the meeting and the Commissioners would like to present the proclamation to them. There was no further discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE. The Clerk took a photograph of the Commissioners presenting the proclamation to Reverend Kevin Kutcel from the Marriage Coalition. Mrs. Geissman commented that this was very appropriate because she and her husband celebrated their 51st anniversary on Saturday.

Mrs. Geissman presented a resolution appointing the following members and alternates to the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) for 2008:

<u>Representing</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Alternate</u>
Commissioners:	Stephen Hambley	Sharon Ray
Townships:	Lynda Bowers Lafayette Township	Kathleen Scheutzow Brunswick Hills Township
Municipalities:	Chris Easton City of Wadsworth	Tom Tucker City of Wadsworth

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

Mrs. Geissman presented a resolution appointing Laurel Walker Jordan as the Commissioners’ representative to the Community Action Wayne/Medina Counties Board of Directors for the year 2008. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the resolution and Ms. Ray seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

Mrs. Geissman presented a resolution appointing Jerome Klue as the Commissioners’ alternate representative for Roger Ingraham to the Medina County Drug Abuse Commission (MCDAC) with his term expiring December 31, 2009. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the resolution, seconded by Ms. Ray. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

COMMISSIONERS MEETING, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2008

Mrs. Geissman presented a resolution appointing Michael Jervis as the villages' alternate representative to the Medina County Drug Abuse Commission (MCDAC) with his term expiring on December 31, 2009. Mr. Hambley moved to approve the resolution and Ms. Ray seconded the motion. 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 liquor license transfer for Boones Corner, Inc., DBA Boones Corner Family Restaurant, 2175-77 Pearl Road, Brunswick Hills Township, Brunswick, Ohio, to Nucci, Inc. at the same address. Benito Peticca requested the transfer of a D51 permit class, "Beer and intoxicating liquor by the glass or container for on premises consumption only until 2:30 a.m. (restaurants meeting certain criteria)". There were no comments.

Mrs. Geissman read another notice from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control regarding a liquor license transfer for G & M Tavern, Inc., 2126 Pearl Road, Brunswick Hills Township, Brunswick, Ohio, to Mance Wojton Enterprises, Inc., DBA Buddys at the same address. Mance-Wojton Enterprises, Inc. requested the transfer of D1, D2, D3, and D3A permit classes, which are, "Beer only for on premises consumption or in sealed containers for carry out", "Wine and certain prepackaged drinks for on premises consumption or in sealed containers for carry out", "Spirituous liquor for on premises consumption only until 1:00 a.m.", and "Extend issued permit privileges 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.

Anthony Ratajczak, 4430 Nettleton Road, Medina, said he was appointed to the Bicycle Advisory Council many years ago and never had a renewal of his appointment; he asked if that was necessary. Mrs. Geissman said they would be having a discussion about Medina County bicycle routes with the Highway Engineer at the Discussion Session in the Conference Room immediately following the regular meeting. She invited him to attend it and they would discuss this also. Mr. Hambley said they were not aware of any vacancy.

Lee Evans, road maintenance for Westfield Township and representative for the Westfield Township Trustees, asked that the Commissioners reconsider approving the vacation of a portion of Westfield Landing Road in Westfield Township. He said the property is still in the name of two owners who are deceased. The township has been trying to work with the sons, but they have not received notification of who is legally responsible. The County Engineers had agreed that the cul-de-sac could be put at the top of the hill due to a 15-foot drop off with floodplain below it. If the Commissioners grant the vacation, the property owners would need to obtain a variance to have access to one of the parcels so the trustees suggested they attach that parcel to the adjoining parcel on the cul-de-sac. Mr. Evans said the sons keep changing the plat and they don't want to connect the parcel. He expressed concern that the trustees would be liable if the Commissioners granted the vacation and the variances were not granted by the County Planning Commission. Mr. Evans said, as the road maintenance supervisor, he would request a guardrail around the cul-de-sac for safety purposes. Also, if the Park District wanted to put a

COMMISSIONERS MEETING, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2008

walking/biking trail around the lake, the township could put another path down from the cul-de-sac for an emergency vehicle in case of an accident.

Mr. Hambley said the public viewing and public hearing were scheduled for Monday, February 25, 2008. He asked who filed the vacation petition and Mr. Evans thought it was the property owners. Bill Thorne, Assistant County Prosecutor, said the parents are still the legal owners of the property; their estates are in Probate Court, he was told the sons were their heirs, the sons were asked to verify that for the platting process, but they never did. A replat was filed that was not in conformance and would require variances in order to receive approval by the County Planning Commission. The sons are apparently doing something different, which he was not aware of. Mrs. Geissman asked if, perhaps, the scheduling was premature. Mr. Thorne asked who filed the petition and County Engineer Mike Salay said the real estate agent filed it. Mr. Salay said if the petition is valid as filed, the viewing and hearing could move forward. The Commissioners could delay taking action until all of the separate, but related, issues are sorted out. The petition was given to the Assistant Prosecutor to review its validity. Mr. Hambley asked who could legally file a vacation petition; if it was just the property owner or the township trustees. Mr. Thorne said it is usually the property owner and the trustees could request that they take action. Mrs. Geissman asked if the real estate agent could file the petition. Mr. Thorne said perhaps she filed it on behalf of the sons; he was not sure and said he would look into it and inform the Commissioners. Mrs. Geissman thanked Mr. Evans for bringing this issue to the Commissioners' attention. They will review the request and make sure it gets done properly.

There were no further comments.

Mrs. Geissman said a Discussion Session would be held immediately following this portion of the meeting and a public hearing was scheduled for 10:30 a.m. to discuss the proposed amendments to the Medina County Subdivision Regulations.

The meeting recessed at 10:05 a.m.

Discussion Session

The meeting reconvened at 10:07 a.m. for the Discussion Session.

Mike Salay, County Engineer, said Tony Ratajczak had been serving on the Bicycle Advisory Committee for the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) consistently for about ten years. He is not sure if Mr. Ratajczak needed to be reappointed, but if he was willing to continue to volunteer his bicycle consulting services to Medina County for NOACA, he would like to reappoint him. Mr. Hambley said the Commissioners' Office would process the reappointment.

Mr. Salay distributed copies of the current version of the bicycle route map for Medina County titled "Medina County Bicycle Transportation Route System". After the May 7, 2007 Discussion Session with the Commissioners, they distributed copies of the map to the cities, villages, and townships for their review. They received several comments (mostly good) and some revisions were made to the map as a result of some discussions with the cities. In general, there was support for bicycle travel with a few people concerned with bicycle travel on roads with high traffic volumes; they would like to see separate facilities for bicycles. The reality is that there are not dollars to build those types of facilities, and it probably won't happen for a long

COMMISSIONERS MEETING, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2008

time unless gasoline prices go to \$8 per gallon and people decide to put their cars in the garage and ride their bikes to work. They would like to see some of that happen and that is part of what the design of this map is about – to try to identify routes that connect destination points. If the map is formally adopted, the next step would be to try to acquire some Congestion Mitigation Funds to pay for signage that would correspond with the map. Mr. Salay said Mr. Ratajczak did a lot of the “leg work” visiting the political entities and provided the revisions for the map that the Tax Map Office created.

Mr. Salay said the Medina County Bicycle Transportation Route System map should not be confused with the NOACA Bicycle Transportation Map of Medina County. NOACA’s map is a bicycle facility rating map that rated all of the roads in Medina County for being appropriate for experienced bicyclists or for the average bicyclist. Mr. Ratajczak also worked on that map (that is somewhat dated) and said it is available in many bike shops for \$2 each.

Mr. Salay said there is a lot of bicycle traffic in Medina County, especially in the summer, and it is mostly recreational. The goal of the Medina County Bicycle Route Systems map is to promote bicycling as a form of transportation, more than recreation. They wanted to present the revised and final map to show the Commissioners their progress since last year and ask if the Commissioners wanted to support the map, adopt it, and call it the Medina County Bicycle Transportation Route System. Mr. Hambley suggested that they put the map on the County Engineer’s web site. Mr. Salay said, once adopted, they would make it available for viewing on their web site and also consider printing some maps and selling them. Mr. Ratajczak said NOACA instructs the bicycle shops to charge \$2 each for their maps and keep the money as a service. They found that it was better to charge people for a map. They keep it and reuse it instead of throwing it away in the nearest dumpster; it adds value to it. He suggested that they keep it small enough for bicyclists to fold and carry in their pockets. Mr. Hambley commented that it would make sense to have bicycle maps available at the libraries as well. The Commissioners asked Mr. Salay to prepare a resolution for next Monday.

Mr. Ratajczak asked what happened to the bike racks that were on the front of the Transit buses. Mr. Hambley said they weren’t used; when the buses were replaced, they never put them on the new ones. Mr. Ratajczak asked if the racks were saved and Mr. Hambley thought they were. Mr. Ratajczak commented that if the racks were on the buses, perhaps with the new maps, people would realize they could take their bikes further into the county and would use the buses with the racks. Mr. Hambley said he would discuss that with the Transit Director.

Mr. Hambley asked the other Commissioners if they would like to participate in the “Bring on Brunswick 2008” Business Showcase and Health Fair on Saturday, April 12, 2008, at Brunswick High School. They participated last year and he said he would be willing to work the booth again. There was a great turnout of over 3,000 people. The other Commissioners agreed and the Clerk will prepare the contract.

Mr. Hambley stated that there was a Foreclosure Task Force meeting last week and Nancy Girton, Auditor’s Office, and Dianne Ranftl, Administrative Assistant, coordinated it on behalf of the Auditor Mike Kovack, Treasurer John Burke, Clerk of Courts Kathy Fortney, and the Commissioners. There was very good attendance with about two or three representatives from each of the 15 local banks. Although many of the banks did not have those types of investments, some of the conclusions were that many of the problems with foreclosures were due

COMMISSIONERS MEETING, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2008

to many out-of-county and even out-of-state banks and lending institutions, and they were causing a lot of the “headaches”. He said Auditor Mike Kovack announced that he would have a staff member assist property owners facing foreclosures and having monetary problems. 2-1-1 First Call for Help will be a central referral service for regional resources. Many people don’t ask for help until it is too late so there will be emphasis on education. Mrs. Ranftl added that the resource list would also be disbursed to non-profits organizations and churches so they can “get the word out”. Most banks said they were willing to meet with people individually and they are also considering having open house-type meetings around the county so people could bring their documents and receive advice.

Mr. Hambley commented the media attention has probably worsened the problem for people that do not have to sell their homes and there has been an overreaction to foreclosure. If a homeowner does not have to sell a house, the value will eventually go back up, similar to stocks. It is not a problem until the person has to sell the house and the value is less than the equity.

Mrs. Geissman stated that there were over 800 foreclosures in Medina County last year. Mrs. Ranftl said there is little they can do to help people that are already in foreclosure. The key is to get to the people before they get to that point. Banks send letters to their customers when a mortgage is 15 days late, but many people don’t want to open the letter and set it aside. Instead, a plan was devised for the banks and mortgage institutions to send those customers a county-initiated letter in a county envelope (perhaps from the Prosecutor’s Office that they would be sure to open) that would provide resources and helpful instructions on how to avoid foreclosure and provide resources for assistance. Mr. Hambley added that the banks would prefer to work with those individuals rather than go through costly foreclosure procedures. There are resources for those county residents in foreclosure proceedings such as education and mitigating their financial problems. Ms. Ray asked if there was one reason for foreclosures in Medina County that stood out, such as job loss or adjustable rates mortgages. Mrs. Ranftl said there were many reasons “all over the board”. There are also very bad prepayment clauses that people can’t afford and the homes were over-appraised to begin with. There is another Foreclosure Task Force meeting scheduled for February 15 at 9:30 a.m., in Balcony Room B of the Administration Building.

Mrs. Ranftl said that foreclosure has been listed as one of the impediments to fair housing in their analysis that is submitted to the state each year and, as such, the county would be eligible to apply for a New Horizon/Fair Housing Grant for up to \$30,000 that could target the foreclosure issue to provide help with open house-type informational meetings, printed literature, etc.

Mr. Jakab said the Medina City Schools would be going through a rating process this afternoon with Moody’s Investors Service. This is first debt issuance for use of the sales tax proceeds. They have asked him to attend the rating meeting with A.G. Edwards and school officials to help with the process. Medina City Schools are planning to use the proceeds of the debt sales to build two schools.

Mr. Thorne said there was class action lawsuit against Medina County regarding the application of the Adam Walsh Bill challenging the sheriffs for injunctive relief. He said he would forward a copy of it to Mr. Jakab.

COMMISSIONERS MEETING, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2008

Mr. Hambley said the Commissioner received a letter from Mark Iacona regarding Arborcrest Drive in Hinckley Township. There was a site visit and road vacation public hearing held on December 17, 2007. Based on the information he provided, it appears Mr. Iacona cannot come to a resolution with the adjoining property owner. Mr. Hambley recommended that the Commissioners grant the vacation. Ms. Ray commented that Mr. Iacona went “above and beyond” to try to work with the adjoining property owner. Mr. Hambley said the township would like a permanent cul-de-sac and the land would not be a viable site for an extension of the road because of the wetlands. Mrs. Geissman said she would review the letter.

At 10:32 a.m., Commissioners recessed to the Hearing Room for a Public Hearing to discuss proposed amendments to the Medina County Subdivision Regulations scheduled for 10:30 a.m.

When the Public Hearing ended at 10:42 a.m., Mr. Hambley moved to adjourn the meeting and Ms. Ray seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call showed all Commissioners voting AYE.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED 2/4/08

<u>Number</u>	<u>Resolution Title</u>
08-0055	RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY 10-16, 2008 AS MARRIAGE WEEK
08-0056	RESOLUTION TO ALLOW CLAIMS AND AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE UPON THE TREASURER IN SETTLEMENT OF SUCH LIST OF CLAIMS
08-0057	RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ENGINEER TO REGULATE TRAFFIC ON A SECTION OF STATE ROAD (C.H. 44) SOUTH OF BELLUS ROAD (C.H. 140) IN HINCKLEY TOWNSHIP ON SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 2008
08-0058	RESOLUTION AMENDING THE TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION
08-0059	CASH TRANSFER FOR INDIGENT COUNSEL REFUNDS TO THE GENERAL FUND
08-0060	APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MEDINA COUNTY SHERIFF AND THE MEDINA COUNTY CAREER CENTER
08-0061	AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF 7,000 GALLONS OF REGULAR UNLEADED GASOLINE FOR THE ENGINEERING CENTER
08-0062	RESOLUTION APPROVING PERSONNEL CHANGES FOR THE EMPLOYEES UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE MEDINA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
08-0063	RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TERMINATION OF AN EMPLOYEE OF THE MEDINA COUNTY SANITARY ENGINEER

COMMISSIONERS MEETING, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2008

- 08-0064 AUTHORIZING EMPLOYEE HEALTH PLAN RATES FOR EMPLOYEES OF MEDINA COUNTY FOR CY08
- 08-0065 A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A PROPOSAL FROM THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT TO OBTAIN DIESEL EMISSIONS REDUCTION GRANT FUNDS
- 08-0066 TERMINATING EASEMENTS VOLUME 144 PAGE 568
- 08-0067 AUTHORIZING THE SANITARY ENGINEER TO OBTAIN EASEMENTS FOR VARIOUS WATER LINE IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS
- 08-0068 RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEDINA COUNTY'S REPRESENTATIVES AND ALTERNATES TO THE NORTHEAST OHIO AREA WIDE COORDINATING AGENCY (NOACA) FOR 2008
- 08-0069 RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE COMMUNITY ACTION WAYNE/MEDINA COUNTIES BOARD OF DIRECTORS
- 08-0070 RESOLUTION APPOINTING AN ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE FOR COMMISSIONERS TO THE MEDINA COUNTY DRUG ABUSE COMMISSION (MCDAC)
- 08-0071 RESOLUTION APPOINTING AN ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE VILLAGES TO THE MEDINA COUNTY DRUG ABUSE COMMISSION (MCDAC)
- 08-0072 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 fourth day of February, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

COMMISSIONERS _____
Patricia G. Geissman

OF _____
Stephen D. Hambley

_____ MEDINA COUNTY _____
Pam Vereb, Clerk Sharon A. Ray