

ERIE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR SESSION

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2020

ALL PRESENT

President Shenigo called the meeting to order and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

On motion of Mr. Old and second of Mr. Shoffner, Board approves the minutes of the July 29, 2020 Commission meetings; Roll Call: All Aye

Public Hearing re Elizabeth Drive Vacation, Perkins Township. An attendance sheet was signed by those present.

Mr. Shenigo asked if the audience had any objections to this project. Mr. Gary Boyle, Perkins Townships' Administrator, stated Perkins Township has no objection. Mr. Shenigo asked about utility lines in that area, with Mr. Boyle responding that the Ohio Revised Code has provisions for utility easements near roads.

On motion of Mr. Old and second of Mr. Shoffner, Board approves the **vacating of Elizabeth Drive in Perkins Township**, Erie County, Ohio; Roll Call: All Aye (#20-203)

Mr. Boyle thanked the Commissioners for their consideration in this matter. He also mentioned that Perkins Township has made contact with the new owners of Baywinds for the possibility of attaining Baywinds Drive to make it a township road. The township is in the process of getting engineering estimates and he will keep the Board posted on this project.

Pete Daniel re Various Issues.

Mental Health and Recovery Board. Pete heard back from several Elected Officials and Department Heads who expressed interest in utilizing services for their clients that the Mental Health and Recovery Board should provide. He will be sending a letter to the Mental Health Board by the end of this week. Pete mentioned that, before tax collections, their surplus is approximately \$4.8 million. Mr. Shenigo believes they could make better use of these funds, especially during a pandemic where mental health needs are more prevalent. Pete mentioned that \$1.5 million of their surplus was transferred into a rainy day fund, which he disagrees with. Per Ohio Revised Code, a Board can only create a separate account within a fund, not create a new fund, which is what they have done.

Mr. Shoffner stated that they collect property taxes as a portion of their budget and he asked how the collections were going. The Auditor informed Pete that property tax collections have not dwindled, which is part of why the Mental Health Board has such a large surplus. Mr. Shenigo added they are also receiving additional funds from the Feds as well.

He has spoken to the Sheriff who was unhappy how they handled his request for funding for an additional nurse at the jail, where a large portion of inmates qualify for mental health services. Mr. Old said the county is trying to get their residents the services they need and the Mental Health Board is choosing to keep their money and not extend their services to people in need.

Investment practices. A letter has been prepared for the Commissioners' signatures to be sent to the Erie County Treasurer. This letter addresses the investment practices held by the Treasurer. An investment policy was established in 1996, and has not been amended since. Currently, the authority to make investments stands with the Treasurer, unless that person does not keep up with continuing education. The Committee can consist of two Commissioners and the Treasurer or all three Commissioners, Treasurer and Clerk of Courts. Mr. Old mentioned that we asked the Treasurer for all Erie County investments in December and March of 2019 and we just received them. There is currently \$2 million invested in Toyota Motor Corp. and \$250,000 in State Bank of India. This letter calls for the Treasurer to divest these funds immediately.

Sales Tax. Preliminary sales tax numbers have come in for May and June. For May, non-auto and auto, Erie County is down 20% from this time last year. For June, non-auto, Erie County is down 14%, but statewide for non-auto is up 8%. There are five counties with negative numbers and Erie County is one of them. Mr. Shoffner noted, that with the \$1,200 in CARES funds and \$600 extra in unemployment, people are out spending, they are just not spending in Erie County.

On motion of Mr. Old and second of Mr. Shoffner, Board reappoints James Miller to the **Erie County Port Authority Board of Directors** for a four-year term, expiring August 31, 2024; Roll Call: All Aye

On motion of Mr. Old and second of Mr. Shoffner, Board reappoints Mary Jane Hill to another four-year term on the **Erie County Port Authority**, expiring August 31, 2024; Roll Call: All Aye

On motion of Mr. Old and second of Mr. Shoffner, Board authorizes Board President Patrick J. Shenigo to execute the **Letter of Intent**, and other necessary documents, related to the **County Commissioners Association of Ohio Service Corporation Solar Energy Initiative**; Roll Call: All Aye

On motion of Mr. Old and second of Mr. Shoffner, Board adopts resolution entering into a service maintenance agreement with **Vasu Communications, Inc.**; Roll Call: All Aye (#20-204 - providing service on equipment sued by Sheriff's Office for one year)

On motion of Mr. Old and second of Mr. Shoffner, Board adopts resolution declaring certain items surplus and ordering same to be **discarded or salvaged**; Roll Call: All Aye (#20-205)

On motion of Mr. Old and second of Mr. Shoffner, Board adopts resolution declaring certain Erie County equipment surplus and ordering same to be sold by **Internet auction**; Roll Call: All Aye (#10-206)

Board executes letter to Erie County Treasurer Pam Ferrell re **divest Erie county of foreign investments**.

Board executes the following **Certificates of Achievement** for years of service with Erie County:

Facilities Department:

- Mark Benko, Jr. - five years
- Thomas Kingsborough - ten years
- Kevin Marenberg - twenty five years
- John Baum - thirty years

Job and Family Services:

- Chelsey Billman, Laura Uhl, and Stephanie Griffith - five years
- Lisa Irby, Karri Sharkey, Cynthia Hahn, and Beth Harris - twenty years
- Julie Kyer, Darlene King, and Lee Ann Hippely - twenty five years

Finance Department:

- Leah Trumpower - five years

The Meadows at Osborn Park:

- Terrentia Valliant, Elva Nunez, Charity Hupp, Skyler Janey, and Lumbrita Glenn - five years
- Kimberly Kirk and Jacques White - fifteen years
- Barbara Veliz - twenty five years
- Karen Mahler - thirty years

DOES:

- Anthony Schaefer, Daniel Rickenbaugh, Troy Herchler, John Rufo, and Jackson Schaefer - five years
- Fred Dubbert and Troy Hansen - twenty years
- David Streng - twenty five years
- Charles Gremling - thirty years
- Chris Decker - thirty five years
- Harold Holzhauser - forty years

Board reviews the following documents approved by the County Administrator Pete Daniel, per authority under Resolution No. 20-103 and No. 20-128:

- **Docket** dated August 7, 2020
- **Then and Now Docket** dated August 10, 2020
- **Budget modification** re General Operating Fund: Commissioners General; and General - Judge Tone

- **Interfund transfers** re Erie County Sewer Fund; Bay View Sewer Rev Bond Payment Fund; and Bayview Sewer Rev Bond Debt SV R Fund
- **Budget modification** re General Operating Fund: Veteran Services
- **Supplemental appropriation and Budget Modification** re Public Assistance Fund
- **Supplemental appropriation** re 2020 CARES Board of Election Fund
- **Supplemental appropriation** re Targeted Comm Alt to Prison Grant Fund

Agreement with Johnson Controls re fire alarm services at The Meadows at Osborn Park in the amount of \$4,950.

Request to Carry Over Vacation re Sandra Ehrhardt, DOES Billing.

Pay Estimate No. 2 (final) to **West Erie Realty Solutions, Ltd.** in the amount of \$6,792.00 re right-of-way acquisition services for Ceylon Road for County Engineer.

Travel Request Forms:

Facilities Department:

- **Matt Cross**, traveling to pick up part in Norwalk, Ohio, on 8/5/20 and traveling to pick up repaired seat in Norwalk, Ohio, on 8/20/20 at no cost.

Personnel Action Forms:

Job and Family Services:

Libby Naugle, Income Maintenance Aide 3, employment effective 8/10/20

The Meadows at Osborn Park:

Kira Bolt, full-time LPN, employment effective 7/27/20

Malinda Davis, full-time STNA, resignation effective 8/14/20

December Lawrence, full-time STNA, employment effective 7/27/20

Josie Morris, full-time STNA, employment effective 7/27/20

Angelica Villarreal, full-time LPN, employee passed away effective 7/26/20

Requests for Recruitment for **The Meadows at Osborn Park** re **Maintenance Worker 1**; and **Veterans Service Office** re **Administrative Assistant**.

Board approves **Engineer's Estimate of Cost** in the amount of 252,000.00 re Wahl Road Bridge MA-516 Replacement, Margareta Township, Erie County.

Board approves **Engineer's Estimate of Cost** in the amount of \$572,000.00 re Strub Road Resurfacing and sidewalk, Perkins Township, Erie County.

Received memo from Regional Planning Director Steve Poggiali **requesting separation pay for Cynthia Rogers** from the Compensated Reserve Fund. Board approves request.

Received cover letter and copy of **Jail Meal and Turn Key Report** for the month of July, 2020 from Sheriff Sigsworth, per O.R.C. 311.20.

Received letter and copy of public hearing notice from Dickinson Wright, PLLC, 150 E. Gay Street, Suite 2400, Columbus, re **public hearing for Firelands Wind, LLC Emerson Creek Wind Farm** to be held August 20, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.

Received letter from Kiwanis Club of Sandusky, P.O. Box 1686, Sandusky, re **donation to club for projects in Erie County.**

Received copy of **Summons on Complaint and Complaint for Mandamus and Damages** re T.K.D., Inc. dba Lake Wilmer Inn, 5012 Campbell Street, Sandusky vs. Patrick J. Shenigo, Mathew R. Old, and Stephen J. Shoffner, as Erie County Commissioners, 2900 Columbus Avenue, Sandusky; John Farschman, as Erie County Engineer, 2700 Columbus Avenue, Sandusky; and Erie Blacktop, Inc., 4507 Tiffin Avenue, Sandusky, Erie County Common Pleas Court Case No. 2020 CV 0259. Referred to Prosecutor.

On motion of Mr. Old and second of Mr. Shoffner, Board **adjourns** at 9:55 a.m.; Roll Call: All Aye

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meet20-29