

ERIE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR SESSION

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2025

ALL PRESENT

President Shenigo called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. at the Services Center and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board **approves the January 30, 2025 and February 3, 2025** Erie County Commission Meeting Minutes; Roll Call: All Aye

ConAgra Tax Increment Financing (TIF) .

Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Jason Hinners attended the session to discuss the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) proposal submitted by the City of Huron concerning the ConAgra property.

The City of Huron is proposing the establishment of an Incentive District TIF with a 100% tax exemption for 30 years on the ConAgra property. Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 5709.40 (E), this information is being submitted to the County since the TIF would exceed ten years. The TIF request is for \$35 million, which is intended to support public infrastructure improvements, including condominiums. The repair of the break wall is also included and estimated to cost between \$4 million and \$5 million dollars.

Mr. Hinners explained that the Commissioners have several options regarding this TIF proposal. These options include the following: Take no action and allow the TIF to proceed as proposed without objection; approve the proposal and formally agree to the TIF terms set by the City; or object to the proposal and submit a resolution objecting to the TIF by March 6, 2025 (30 days from receipt of the proposal). An objection would necessitate negotiations between the County and the City of Huron regarding compensation. If an agreement is not reached, the default tax exemption structure would apply which is 0-10 years at 0% exemption and Years 11-30 at 50% exemption. Mr. Hinners noted that if the Commissioners are opposed to the proposal, his recommendation would be to submit an objection notice to the City of Huron.

Mr. Shenigo expressed his concerns about the assurance that the organization Serving Our Seniors receives funding from the TIF. He inquired whether the County could negotiate with the City of Huron to secure this funding.

Mr. Shoffner sought clarification on the criteria for the TIF. Mr. Hinners explained that the TIF is designed to fund public infrastructure improvements, directly benefiting the Incentive District. The break wall repair, is also included in the public improvements permitted by the TIF.

Mr. Old questioned whether the TIF is categorized as residential or commercial. Mr. Hinners clarified that the TIF is for public improvements that will benefit residential development, which is permitted in a TIF Incentive District.

Mr. Shoffner expressed concern over the language stating that Erie County would receive 50% compensation "if applicable" starting in the 11th year of the exemption, noting that this makes the County compensation optional. He opposed granting a full 100% exemption, especially since the project would primarily benefit citizens who can afford to purchase the proposed condominiums.

Mr. Shenigo emphasized the importance of repairing the shoreline before development commences to retain more tax revenue within the County and create local jobs. He suggested that County Administrator Hank Solowiej contact City of Huron Manager Matt Lasko to discuss the County's stance on the proposal.

Public Comment.

Mr. Rick Scheel proposed designating a community trash clean-up day in Erie County this spring, emphasizing the need for volunteers to clean up ditches and streams. Mr. Old responded that he would discuss the idea with the Solid Waste Coordinators to explore how they could lead the effort.

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board **cancels** the following **March Commission Meetings**: Monday, March 3; Thursday, March 6; Thursday, March 13; Monday, March 17; Thursday, March 20; Monday, March 24; Wednesday, March 26; and Thursday, March 27, 2025; Roll Call: All Aye

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board **rejects** all bids regarding the **Lead Service Line Replacement Project** for DOES as the bid exceeded the 20% estimate; Roll Call: All Aye

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution entering into an agreement with **Thomas M. Dusza**; Roll Call: All Aye (#25-43 - providing Title IV-D child support enforcement hearing officer services for ECDJFS)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution declaring certain items surplus and ordering same to be **discarded or salvaged**; Roll call: All Aye (#25-44)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution confirming an agreement between **Erie County Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Division and Ashland County Common Pleas Court, Juvenile and Probate Divisions**; Roll Call: All Aye (#25-45 - providing juvenile detention services for Ashland County male and female juveniles between the ages of 11-17)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution confirming an agreement between **Erie County Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Division and Huron County Common Pleas Court, Juvenile and Probate Divisions**; Roll Call: All Aye (#25-46 - providing juvenile detention services for Huron County male and female juveniles between the ages of 11-17)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution confirming an agreement between **Erie County Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Division and Ottawa County Juvenile Court**; Roll Call: All Aye (#25-47 - providing juvenile detention services for Ottawa County male and female juveniles between the ages of 11-17)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution confirming an agreement between **Erie County Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Division and Holmes County Juvenile Court**; Roll Call: All Aye (#25-48 - providing juvenile detention services for Holmes County male and female juveniles between the ages of 11-17)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution **authorizing payment for services and supplies** provided to Tandem Media Network; Roll Call: All Aye (#25-49)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution executing payment of **Then and Now Certification** presented by the County Auditor pursuant to O.R.C. 5705.41(d)1, and authorizing the drawing of warrant(s) in payment of amounts due upon contract or order; Roll Call: All Aye (#25-50)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution authorizing the County Auditor to make **supplemental appropriations** re Motor Vehicle License & Gas Tax Fund; E911 Repair/Replacement Fund; Compensated Reserve Fund; and County Road Improvement Reserve Fund; Roll Call: All Aye (#25-51)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution entering into a biennial agreement with the **State of Ohio, Department of Transportation**, for State Fiscal Years 2026-2027; Roll Call: All Aye (#25-52 - designating a Metropolitan Planning Organization for Erie County and conducting an urban transportation planning process)

Board approves the following **Revised Auditor's Certificates**:

- **Medical Mutual Services LLC** in an additional amount of \$160,000 providing specific and aggregate stop loss insurance for Erie County medical benefits for Human Resources

- **Vestige GPS** in additional amounts of \$3,000 (Social Services) , \$2,000 (Public Assistance), \$65.00 (CCMEP TRANF youth), \$65.00 (CCMEP/youth), \$360.00 (WIOA), \$315.00 (CSEA) providing 25 Duress/GPS tracking devices and holsters with online training, periodic upgrades and technical support services for Erie County Department of Job and Family Services
- **Erie County Prosecutor's Office** in an additional amount of \$60,000 providing legal counsel regarding the administration of funding received under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act for ECDJFS
- **Erie County Commissioners** in an additional amount of \$48,442.56 providing lease on property located at 221 West Parish Street for ECDJFS
- **Erie County Commissioners** in an additional amount of \$20,000 providing maintenance on building located at 221 West Parish Street for ECDJFS
- **Great Lakes Petroleum** in an additional amount of \$86,000 re fuel delivery for DOES
- **Jack A. Jones** in an additional amount of \$2,000 providing consulting services for public utility environmental projects at DOES
- **Republic Services** in an additional amount of \$62,300 providing solid waste services to DOES
- **ADS, LLC** in an additional amount of \$50,940 installing and monitoring sewer master meters and rain gauges for DOES

Board executes **Radiological Emergency Response Procedures Document** for EMA re Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station.

Board executes **Certificate of Retirement** to Lori Yancy, Microfilm.

Board approves **union increases for ECDJFS employees** effective 2/16/25 for contract that begins March 1, 2025.

Board approves Request to Carry Over Vacation for **Julie Stoll**, DOES.

Board approves Travel Request form for **Barb Knapp**, Dog Warden, attending Northwest Ohio Dog Wardens Association meeting in Upper Sandusky, Ohio, on 4/12/25 at no cost.

Board authorizes expenses for **Tim Jonovich**, EMA Director, attending OEMA Spring Conference and EMAO meeting (reimbursed through grants), in Westerville, Ohio, on 4/2 and 4/3/25 in an estimated amount of \$348.00.

Board authorizes expenses for **Kim Johnson**, EMA Assistant, attending OEMA Spring Conference and EMAO meeting (reimbursed through grant funding), in Westerville, Ohio, on 4/2 and 4/3/25 in an estimated amount of \$348.00.

Board authorizes expenses for **Amber Bruno** and **Amber Jenkins**, ECDJFS, attending Spring 2025 County Operations Information Session in Toledo, Ohio, on 4/9/25 in an estimated amount of \$8.00.

Board authorizes expenses for **Tim King** and **Kevin Cannon**, Regional Planning, attending Northwest Ohio Mayors and Managers Association meeting in Pemberville, Ohio, on 3/24/25 in an estimated amount of \$100.00. Board approves Personnel Action Form for **DOES** re **Kevin Gerber**, from Maintenance Repair II - Collection to Maintenance Repair III - Collection based on five years of service effective 2/2/25.

Board approves Personnel Action Form for **ECDJFS** re **Bree Gilliam**, Social Service Worker 3, successful completion of probation effective 2/8/25.

Board approves Personnel Action Forms for **The Meadows at Osborn Park** re **Kristina Fuqua**, PRN RN, termination due to not working any hours since October 26, 2024 effective 2/7/25; **Shannon Roberts**, part-time STNA, employment effective 2/11/25; **Capri Wright**, full-time STNA, rate increase due to completion of probation effective 2/16/25; and **Carol Yoder**, full-time RN, employment effective 3/4/25.

Board approves Request for Recruitment for **Juvenile Court** re **two Deputy Clerk positions**.

Board approves Request for Recruitment for **Vehicle Maintenance/Fleet** re **Fleet Manager**.

Received letter from Craig Hecht, Clerk of Courts, **requesting separation pay from the Compensated Reserve Fund** for an employee who was terminated effective 2/12/25. Board approves request to use funds from Compensated Reserve Fund.

Received copy of **Monthly Financial Report** for the month ending January 31, 2025, from Erie County Auditor, per O.R.C. 319.15.

Received cover letter and copy of **2024 Annual Bridge Report** from Deputy Engineer Matt Rogers, per O.R.C. 5543.20.

Received cover letter and copy of **2024 Engineer's Annual Report**, from Engineer Eric Dodrill, per O.R.C. 5543.02.

On motion of Mr. Old and second of Mr. Shoffner, Board **adjourns** at 10:11 a.m.; Roll Call: All Aye