

ERIE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR SESSION

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2025

ALL PRESENT

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

Bid Opening re **Lead Service Line Replacement Project for DOES**; Purchasing Coordinator Emily Galloway opened same:

COMPANY	AMOUNT	BID BOND
Mayes and Sons Plumbing Co. Garrettsville, Ohio 44231	\$2,900,000.00	X
ESTIMATE \$1,080,000		

On motion of Mr. Old and second of Mr. Shoffner, Board receives bids for the **Lead Service Line Replacement Project** and refers same to Utilities Director and Purchasing for review and recommendation back to the Board; Roll Call: Both Aye

On motion of Mr. Old and second of Mr. Shoffner, Board **recesses** into **Investment Board Meeting**; Roll Call: Both Aye

On motion of Mr. Old and second of Mr. Shoffner, Board **reconvenes**; Roll Call: All Aye

County Administrator Hank Solowiej re Various Issues.

Blue Ribbon Commission - County Administrator Hank Solowiej noted that the next Blue Ribbon Commission meeting will be held Tuesday, February 11, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. at the downtown Office Building Chambers. Hank noted this will be the last evening meeting for the Blue Ribbon Commission. The following meeting will take place Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. also at the downtown Office Building Chambers. These Blue Ribbon meeting dates are listed on the Blue Ribbon website, which can be obtained from the Erie County website. On the main page, there is a Blue Ribbon tab that will take you directly to the site.

Erie County Port Authority - Mr. Solowiej noted that on February 3, 2025, Timothy Mayles resigned from his position on the Erie County Port Authority. There is a motion going through the meeting today to appoint Lisa Crescimano to fill his unexpired term.

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board appoints Lisa Crescimano to the unexpired term of Timothy Mayles on the **Erie County Port Authority**, through August 31, 2027; Roll Call: All Aye

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution **authorizing payment for services** and supplies provided to Kroger; Roll Call: All Aye

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution entering into an agreement with **Ninke Lawn Services, Inc.**; Roll Call: All Aye (#25-38 - providing lawn and landscape maintenance services at The Meadows at Osborn Park)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution **authorizing the County Engineer to proceed by force account** for normal maintenance and repair of county roads, bridges, culverts and associated roadside drainage; Roll Call: All Aye (#25-39)

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 (#25-40)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution authorizing the County Auditor to make **supplemental appropriations and budget modifications** re General Operating Fund: General - Judge Tone and Special Project - Judge Tone Fund; compensated Reserve Fund; and Employee Self-Insurance Fund; Roll Call: All Aye (#25-41)

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 (#25-42)

Board approves Revised Auditor's Certificate for **Morton Salt, Inc.** in an additional amount of \$51,000 providing salt on various roads in Erie County for County Engineer's Office.

Board approves Revised Auditor's Certificate for **Corso's Flower & Garden Center** in an additional amount of \$20,000 re providing snow removal services for County facilities.

Board approves Revised Auditor's Certificate for **Erie County Sheriff's Office** re assigning two deputies at the Erie County Department of Job and Family Services, providing security services under Title IV-D funding.

Board executes **Proclamation** re Transit Week in Erie County.

Board approves Travel Request Form for **Tory Yarbrow** and **Richard Alexander**, Family and Children First Council, traveling to drop off and pick up youth at Camp Nuhop in Perrysville, Ohio on 2/7/25 and 2/9/25 at no cost.

Board authorizes expenses for **Melissa Pelletier** and **Craig Hecht**, Clerk of Courts, attending The Ohio Clerk of Courts District Title Meeting in Norwalk, Ohio, on 2/5/25 in an estimated amount of \$40.00.

Board approves Personnel Action Forms for **The Meadows at Osborn Park** re **Ashlynn Ayers**, from part-time STNA to part-time LPN effective 2/3/25; **Taylor Ball**, part-time STNA, changing hours from 32 hours per pay to 36 hours per pay effective 2/2/25; and **Ashley Johnson**, decrease in pay due to going from full-time RN Staff Development/Infection to full-time RN Supervisor effective 2/3/25.

Received letter from Judge Roger Binette **requesting separation pay from the Compensated Reserve Fund** for Vicki Fitzgerald, who retired on January 30, 2025. Board approves request to use Compensated Reserve Fund.

Received Journal Entry from Ohio Department of Taxation re **status of reappraisals for Counties in Ohio**.

Received letter from Sheriff Sigsworth requesting \$250.00 to be charged on **gasoline credit cards** for the month of March 2025, per O.R.C. 301.27.

Received letter from Sheriff Sigsworth regarding **Transportation of Prisoner's Report**, per O.R.C. 325.07.

Public Comment.

Ms. Laura LaGodney, Bio-Gas Technologies, stated that Bio-Gas Technologies is remaining committed to the contract between Erie County and Renewable Energy Services of Ohio (RESO). She previously requested to amend and extend the contract past 2027. She acknowledged that the Commissioners have declined the proposal, which included the purchase of RESO from Northeastern Power Systems, LLC, but expresses concerns regarding the decision the County made to not amend the contract and would like them to reconsider.

Ms. LaGodney stated in 2022, RESO performed an analysis on the property and found ways to improve efficiencies and revenue for the County. She stated that, per the deed to the property, RESO is legally permitted to turn the property into a renewable gas plant, but is interested in continuing the partnership with all involved. She explained the benefits of the new proposal, including: \$120,000 upfront payment to the Landfill to upgrade the gas collection system, providing \$3,000 per month towards the hiring of a dedicated employee which would assist in the increase of gas flow. This proposal would also increase gas payments, calculated as a percentage of the gross revenue rather than a fixed price per unit. Ms. LaGodney stated it does not make fiscal sense to not approve this proposal, and she is urging the County to reconsider.

Mr. Shenigo stated that the County Administrator and Utilities Director have reviewed the contract, and are not interested in re-evaluating.

He mentioned that if the Board were to approve this agreement, it commits the current Board and future Board of Commissioners from making changes in the future. The Commissioners' objective is to honor the current obligation.

Mr. Rick Scheel stated that micro-plastics continuously flow into Lake Erie and are not filtered out of the lake. He proposed having a "Citizens Day" in the Spring where citizens would gather to pick up plastics out of the waterways. Mr. Old stated this been done in the past utilizing inmates to pick up trash.

On motion of Mr. Old and second of Mr. Shoffner, Board **adjourns** at 10:18 a.m.; Roll Call: All Aye

Meet25-06