

**ERIE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**REGULAR SESSION**

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2025**

**PJS ABSENT**

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

**County Administrator Hank Solowiej re Various Issues.**

Erie County Lead Line Replacement - County Administrator Hank Solowiej informed the Board that the Erie County Lead Line Replacement Project pre-bid meeting was held Tuesday, January 7, 2025. It was well attended and he reminded the Board that the bids for this project will be opened on Monday, January 13, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.

Board of Developmental Disabilities Board Member - Hank stated that Board of Developmental Disabilities Board member Brooke Gammie has resigned from her seat on the Board and the Commissioners will need to find a replacement.

Alcohol, Drug Addiction, Mental Health Services Board Members - Mr. Solowiej mentioned that part of the stipulations when the Mental Health and Recovery Board transitioned to a standalone Board named Alcohol, Drug Addiction Mental Health Board, was to reduce the size of the Board. Currently, there are 10 Board members and Hank inquired whether the Commissioners wanted to revisit this discussion. The Commissioners agreed it is now time to have a discussion with the current ADAMHS Board and they authorize Hank to attend the ADAMHS Boards' next meeting as their representative.

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board **appoints County Administrator Hank Solowiej to be the Commissioners' representative to attend the January 21, 2025 Alcohol, Drug Addiction, Mental Health Services' Board meeting** to discuss the size reduction of the Board; Roll Call: Both Aye

Dispatch Agreements - Mr. Solowiej noted that all dispatch agreements have been signed by the political subdivisions and will be approved at today's meeting. Mr. Old asked if the City of Sandusky signed a dispatch agreement, with Hank responding yes. Mr. Old stated he read in the newspaper that certain City employees had complaints regarding the agreement. Mr. Old stated that he has spoken with both the Chief of Police and the City Manager and they are in agreement with the contracts. Mr. Old stated that regionalization has proven to be efficient and saves money for all of the entities involved. He stated that the City of Sandusky is more than welcome to have a standalone dispatch center if they choose. Although, there would be a huge cost passed on to the Sandusky taxpayers.

**Public Comment.**

Vice President of Bio-Gas Technologies, Laura LaGodney was present to ask the Commissioners to consider an open discussion regarding the current contract between Erie County and Renewable Energy Services of Ohio. She stated that a proposal was mailed to the Commissioners regarding an interested buyer acquiring 100% interest in the shares of Renewable Energy Services of Ohio, which currently has a contract with Erie County until December 19, 2027. Ms. LaGodney believes that this proposal would increase the County's revenue immediately while continuing with environmental emissions. Ms. LaGodney is hopeful that the Commissioners will be agreeable to discuss this proposal and current contract. Mr. Shoffner thanked Ms. LaGodney for providing the Commissioners' the information and stated that no discussion would take place today, especially since there is not a full Board present.

Mr. Brian Evans, Chief Executive Officer of North American Power Systems, stated that his company has many years of experience in landfill gas energy systems. Mr. Evans has toured the site and is interested in purchasing the shares from Renewable Energy Services of Ohio. Mr. Evans stated that his company is drawn to enhancing the current property to make it run more efficient. Mr. Evans stated he sees a great opportunity to maximize output of gas emissions at the Landfill and is confident that his company can maximize the County's investment. The Commissioners thanked Mr. Evans and Ms. LaGodney for sharing their information.

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board **approves the December 11, 2024 Erie County Commission Meeting minutes**; Roll Call: Both Aye

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board reappoints Tom Tucker to the **Extraordinary Fee Committee** for another one-year term expiring on December 31, 2025; Roll Call: Both Aye

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board makes **appointments for Committees and Boards for 2025**; Roll Call: Both Aye

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution **setting regular and special meetings, and establishing rules for the meetings of the Board of Erie County Commissioners**; Roll Call: Both Aye (#25-01)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution **authorizing the County Administrator to contract and pay claims for goods received and services rendered**, and to pay General Obligation and Revenue Notes and Bonds; Roll Call: Both Aye (#25-02)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution **authorizing the Director of Job and Family Services to negotiate and sign Inter-County Adjustment Agreements** on behalf of Erie County until December 31, 2025; Roll Call: Both Aye (#25-03)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution authorizing the County Auditor to make **budget modifications and supplemental appropriations** re General Operating Fund: County Court; Motor Vehicle License & Gas Tax Fund; Capital Improvements - Muni Court Fund; Step Grant Sheriff Fund; IDEP Grant - Sheriff Fund; Special Docket Subsidy Grant - Tone Fund; CCA 2.0 2024-2025 Grant Fund; TCAP Adult Probation 2023-2025 Fund; FY22 Op. Stonegarden Fund; FY 21 OP Stonegarden - NZBI Fund; and 2025 Rape Crisis Grant Fund; Roll Call: Both Aye (#25-04)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution authorizing the County Auditor to make a **supplemental appropriation** re Landfill Operations Fund; Roll Call: Both Aye (#25-05)

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: Both Aye (#25-06)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution entering into a contract for police and dispatching services between **The Huron Township Trustees and the Erie County Sheriff**; Roll Call: Both Aye (#25-07 - three full-time Deputy Sheriffs one part-time Sheriff and one full-time Communications Officer for law enforcement and fire dispatching services)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution confirming an agreement between the **Erie County Sheriff and Margaretta Township Board of Trustees**; Roll Call: Both Aye (#25-08 - emergency dispatch services to Fire Department)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution confirming an agreement between the **Erie County Sheriff and Groton Township Board of Trustees**; Roll Call: Both Aye (#25-09 - emergency dispatch services to Fire Department)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution confirming an agreement between the **Erie County Sheriff and Perkins Township Board of Trustees**; Roll Call: Both Aye (#25-10 - emergency dispatch services to Police and Fire Departments)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution confirming an agreement between the **Erie County Sheriff and Village of Milan**; Roll Call: Both Aye (#25-11 - emergency dispatch services for Police Department)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution confirming an agreement between the **Erie County Sheriff and Village of Berlin Heights**; Roll Call: Both Aye (#25-12 - emergency dispatch services for Police Department)

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On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution entering into an agreement between the **Erie County Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Division and the Erie County General Health District Board of Health**; Roll Call: Both Aye (#25-13 - medical services, including clinician and nursing services at the Erie County Juvenile Detention Home and the Northern Ohio Juvenile Community Corrections Facility)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution entering into an agreement between the **Erie County Commissioners and the Erie County General Health District Board of Health**; Roll Call: Both Aye (#25-14 - medical services, including clinician and nursing for inmates at the Jail)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution confirming an agreement between the **Erie County Sheriff and the City of Sandusky**; Roll Call: Both Aye (#25-15 - emergency dispatch services to the Police, Fire and Service Departments)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution entering into Amendment No. 1 to the software maintenance agreement with **Courtview Justice Solutions dba Equivant**; Roll Call: Both Aye (#25-16 - extending the contract for software maintenance on Courtview system for an additional one-year expiring on 12/31/25)

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: Both Aye (#25-17)

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

- **ICP, Inc.** in an additional amount of \$16,000 providing pharmaceuticals to the Erie County Jail.
- **Erie County General Health District** in an additional amount of \$52,500 providing medical services, including clinician and nursing services, for inmates at the Erie County Jail.
- **Aramark Correctional Services, LLC** in an additional amount of \$25,000 providing inmate food services at the Jail.
- **Azavar Technologies Corporation** in an additional amount of \$36,810 providing registration module that permits payers of the lodging tax to register online for the Erie County Auditor.
- **Rea & Associates** in an additional amount of \$43,880 preparing the Erie County Comprehensive Annual Finance Report for the Erie County Auditor.
- **Rea & Associates** in an additional amount of \$142,490 providing professional services regarding the State Audit for the Erie County Auditor.

Board approves Change Order Nos. 2 and 3 to **Wadsworth Solutions Northwest** in additional amounts of \$4,990 and \$4,035 re ECDJFS HVAC Control Project.

Board executes **Satisfaction of Mortgage** to Carl Kovacs for property located at 422 Munsee Place, Huron, Ohio.

Board authorizes expenses for **Children's Services Caseworkers** to travel to for ongoing out of county children's placements, visits, etc. effective 1/1/25 through 12/31/25 in an estimated amount of \$1,000.

Board approves Travel Request Form for **Neil Yingling, four OMJ Staff and three Fiscal Staff** from ECDJFS for GOWBI - CFIS Training in Fremont, Ohio, on 1/22/25 at no cost.

Board approves Personnel Action Forms for **The Meadows at Osborn Park** re **Capri Wright**, full-time STNA, rate decrease due to moving to first shift effective 1/6/25; **Atarah Woodson**, full-time STNA, rate decreases due to moving to first shirt effective 1/4/25; **Keyana Hicks**, full-time STNA, rate increases due to moving to first shift and completion of probation effective 1/4/25; **Khalil Holt**, full-time STNA, rate increases due to completion of probation effective 12/24/24; **Donna Luttmann**, full-time RN, termination effective 1/3/25; **Tia Valliant**, full-time LPN, rate increase due to completion of ten year of employment effective 12/19/24; **Rebecca Gordon**, full-time RN, employment effective 12/30/24; **Faith Mehlow**, full-time STNA, employment effective 12/23/24; Atoya Westbrook, full-time STNA, employment effective 12/23/24; **Tabatha Sherer**, full-time STNA, resignation effective 12/26/24; **Michelle Born-Rister**, full-time STNA, resignation effective 12/16/24.

Board approves Personnel Action Form for **ECDJFS** re **Andrew Lill**, Executive Director, rate increase due to successful completion of probation effective 1/1/25.

Board approves Personnel Action Form for **DOES** re **William Fleck**, Environmental Specialist, longevity increase effective 12/22/24.

Commissioners have no objection to the issuance of a liquor license to Red Lobster Hospitality, LLC dba **Red Lobster #423**, Perkins Township.

Commissioners have no objection to the transfer of a liquor license from Tshell, LLC dba Iron Pony Bar & Grill to Cielito Lindo Supermarkets 2, Inc. dba **Cielito Lindo Supermarkets 2**, Margaretta Township.

Commissioners have no objection to the transfer of liquor license from G O D T Inc., dba Old Dutch Tavern to Old Dutch Operations, LLC dba **Old Dutch Tavern**, Perkins Township.

Received two letters from Juvenile Court Judge DeLamatre **requesting separation pay from Compensated Reserve Fund** for employees Mary Bower who is retiring effective December 31, 2024 and Glenda Miller. Board approves request.

Received letter from Sheriff Sigsworth **requesting the Commissioners appropriate \$25,000 to establish the Transportation of Prisoner Account** for 2025, per O.R.C. 325.07. Board approves request.

Received letter from Sheriff Sigsworth re **Transportation of Prisoners Report**, per O.R.C. 325.07.

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

Received copy of **Monthly Financial Report** for the month ending December 31, 2024 from County Auditor, per O.R.C. 319.15.

Received copy of **Dog & Kennel Inventory report** for 2024.

Received cover letter and copy of itemized statement of expenditures for the **2024 Furtherance of Justice Account** from the Erie County Prosecutor.

Received copy of **2024 Annual Report for Prosecuting Attorney's Office.**

On motion of Mr. Old and second of Mr. Shoffner, Board **adjourns** at 9:50 a.m.; Roll Call: Both Aye

Meet25-01