

ERIE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR SESSION

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2020

ALL PRESENT

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

On motion of Mr. Old and second of Mr. Shoffner, Board **recesses** into **Executive Session** re **Security**; Roll Call: All Aye

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

**Pete Daniel re Various Issues.**

**Sales Tax.** Pete received the sales tax for February sales. So far, October through February have been pretty good. The sales tax revenues are currently up 1.5% from last year, and a little under 1% for our budget. March sales are expected to be reduced by 8-12% due to the COVID-19.

Pete has received the first set of pricing for the County's Natural Gas Aggregation program from our consultant. This new contract will be for two years at a fixed rate, and should be ready for the Commission to sign in July.

Health Commissioner Pete Schade contacted Pete about having all Erie County employees tested for COVID-19. Pete is still looking into the possibility for this.

**Cost Saving Measure.** Due to the unknown of how much the General Fund will lose due to the COVID virus, it is the recommendation of Pete that a furlough be initiated for county employees. The county can ask its employees to take up to 80 hours of unpaid leave per Ohio Revised Code. When taking this unpaid leave, it will not affect the employees' sick leave accrual, vacation accrual, nor will it affect their health insurance. The Commissioners' agreed and stated that we have to start reducing where we can now. This will probably need to be done next year along with other cost-saving measures. The Commissioners' and Pete agreed that Pete will put a policy in place effective next payroll, allowing the employees to choose how and when to use their time off, including the option of automatically deducting approximately 5.333 per pay for the next 15 pay periods. Pete has the authority to approve the policy, so that this can be instituted quickly.

Pete asked the Commission when the next Commission meeting should be scheduled. It was decided that the schedule will be made on a meeting-by-meeting basis, with the next meeting scheduled for June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

On motion of Mr. Old and second of Mr. Shoffner, Board **schedules the next Commission meeting for Wednesday, June 3, 2020**; Roll Call: All Aye

**2020 Road Resurfacing Program.** There is a request for the Commissioners' approval of the Engineer's Estimate of Cost for the 2020 Road Resurfacing Program in the amount of \$1,201,000.00 along with \$423,470.25 for hot-in-place recycled pavement resurfacing.

Pete asked if SB 310 has been passed yet. Mr. Old stated that a non-voting meeting was held yesterday, so nothing new has been approved or denied.

The Commission has been waiting for the Engineer to respond to some questions they had regarding this estimate. They are concerned that the Engineer's office is going to lose at least \$840,000 in revenue due to the COVID-19 virus and they believe there are measures that could be taken to lower the approximate \$8.945 million budget. Richland County expects to be losing \$120,000 per month. Pete stated the only response he received from the Engineer was that he understands that his office will be losing money and doesn't know how much that will be. Mr. Farschman also stated in the letter he would not put his office in a financially strapped position and requested that the Commissioners let him run his office the way he wants to. Mr. Old pointed out that they are not asking the Engineer for anything they haven't asked other departments for. Mr. Old also mentioned that even though the gas tax was raised, Erie County is still losing a lot of that revenue due to the pandemic because not as many people are driving. Mr. Old said the Commission is trying to be fiscally responsible and all we are asking for is additional information. Pete noted that the money for this project is in the budget.

Mr. Shoffner made a motion to approve the RUMA Release and Settlement Agreement between Erie County, on behalf of its townships and NEXUS Gas Transmission, LLC. There was no second due to the fact that Mr. Old would like to make sure that the agreement states the townships involved in this project will receive a portion of the \$192,830.00 that NEXUS owes to these parties involved. Mr. Shoffner also asked who receives the check or checks and how is it distributed.

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution authorizing the execution of an agreement with **Akzo Nobel Coatings, Inc.**, making certain findings, and authorizing the appointment of a Tax Incentive Review Council with respect to the Greater Erie County Enterprise Zone;  
Roll Call: All Aye (#20-147)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board adopts resolution authorizing and directing **the filing of grant applications for Community Development Block grant (CDBG) applications for FY 2020-2022 (\$150,000)**;  
Roll Call: All Aye (#20-148)

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board awards bid for **Utility Billing Processing Services** to **Smart Bill**, Hebron, Ohio, in the amount of \$80,190.00, as the best bid which meets all specifications and upon the recommendation of the Utilities Director and Purchasing Department; Roll Call: All Aye

On motion of Mr. Shoffner and second of Mr. Old, Board authorizes the **extension of the Erie-Ottawa International Airport's interest payment of \$1,385, for the customs building loan**, until August 31, 2020. The interest payment will be deferred 90-days due to the financial impacts caused by the COVID-19 pandemic; Roll Call: All Aye

Board approves payment of Pay Estimate No. 2 to **Mosser Construction, Inc.** in the amount of \$75,241.19 re Columbus Avenue Structure P-209 Replacement in Perkins Township.

Board **denies** Request for Recruitment re **Assistant Criminal Assignment Commissioner for Common Pleas Court - Judge Binette.**

Received copy of letter to Ohio Department of Taxation, Division of Tax Equalization, Attention Amy Riffle, P.O. Box 530, Columbus, Ohio, from Pete Daniel, County Administrator, re **response to inquiries about Road to Hope Recovery housing.**

Received letter from County Engineer re **professional service agreements in effect through his office**, per O.R.C. 5705.28.

Received letter from Perkins Township Zoning re **notice of public hearing for an application for variance permit in Perkins Township** (Sandy Acres Subdivision, Parcel No. 32-03764.016)

Received letter from Environmental Design Group re **Sandusky Bay Pathway site visit notification for property located at 301 Superior Street.**

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

Received copy of **Certificate of Estimated Property Tax Revenue** to be produced from a specific amount of millage regarding **renewal of General Health District Program tax levy.**

Received copies of **2020 Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program applications for Common Pleas Court - Juvenile Division and Erie County Juvenile Justice Center.**

Received copy of memo to Erie County Budget Commission Members from Ed Widman, Finance Director, re **2020 Revised Estimated Resources.**

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

- **Supplemental appropriation** re 2020 Remote Tech Municipal Court Grant Fund, dated May 1, 2020
- **Dockets** dated May 11 and May 15, 2020
- **Then and Now Certifications** dated May 11 and May 15, 2020

- **Supplemental appropriation and budget modifications** re Emergency Management Fund; Motor Vehicle Capital Project Fund; and Landfill Operations Fund dated May 12, 2020
- **Supplemental appropriation** re VAWA 2020 Fund dated May 18, 2020
- **Authorizing the County Auditor to make payment** to Mrs. Anne Massey dated May 18, 2020 (Lakecrest Tax Increment Financing Project)
- **Interfund transfer** re General Operating Fund: Planning Department; and Metro Planning Organization Fund dated May 18, 2020

Remainder of paperwork that Board reviewed:

Revised Auditor's Certificates for **DOES**:

- **Thatcher Company** in an additional amount of \$42,830.40 re providing sodium aluminate solution for (Huron Basin Wastewater Treatment Plant) dated 5/19/20.
- **Corso's Landscape** in an additional amount of \$44,861.00 re providing lawn care and grounds maintenance services dated 5/10/20.
- **Link Computer Corporation** in an additional amount of \$41,961.00 re providing a Muni-Link billing system, dated 5/10/20.

Revised Auditor's Certificate for **County Engineer**:

- **N & N Construction, Co., Inc.** in a **decreased** amount of \$847,092.15 re Haber Road V-105 Replacement Project, dated 5/19/20.

Revised Auditor's Certificates for **ECDJFS**:

- **Erie County Sheriff's Office** in an additional amount of \$114,998.32 re assigning a deputy providing security services under Title IV-D funding, dated 5/10/20
- **Erie County Prosecutor's Office** in an additional amount of \$33,502.15 re providing Title IV-D child support enforcement legal services, dated 5/10/20
- **Erie County Common Pleas Court** in an additional amount of \$46,618.44 re providing Title IV-D clerical services for child support, dated 5/10/20

Revised Auditor's Certificate for **Prosecutor's Office**:

- **De Lage Landen** in an additional amount of \$1,400.00 re leasing a Sharp MX-M3551 digital copier

Revised Auditor's Certificate for **IT, DOES, The Meadows and ECDJFS**:

- **Ohio Telecom** in an additional amount of \$70,505.00 re Internet fiber network services, dated 5/19/20

Change Order No. 1 in a **decreased** amount of \$15,000.00 to **North Bay Construction, Inc.** re Huron Basin WPCF Sludge Dewatering Improvements Project for DOES, dated 5/19/20.

Personnel Action Forms for **ECDJFS**:

- **Laura Uhl**, Eligibility Specialist 3, longevity pay effective 5/9/20, dated 5/13/20.

Personnel Action Forms for **The Meadows at Osborn Park**:

- **Lynette Cammarn**, full-time STNA, termination due to violation of last chance agreement during probation effective 5/9/20, dated 5/18/20.
- **Lumbrita Glenn**, from part-time STNA to full-time STNA effective 5/3/20, dated 5/11/20.
- **Jabri Turner**, full-time STNA, resignation effective 5/5/20, dated 5/11/20.

**Request for Recruitment for Engineer's Office** re seasonal maintenance (six positions), dated 5/11/20.

**Requests to Carry Over Vacation for DOES** employees Eric Johnson, Dan Rickenbaugh, and Chris Decker dated 5/12/20 and 5/13/20 respectively.

**Request to Carry over Vacation for Facilities Department** employee Gary Weilnau, dated 5/12/20.

**Change in scope of contract with ARAMARK for the Erie County Jail** re lower meal price points due to lower jail population, date 5/9/20.

Copy of **First Public Hearing minutes for the 2020-2022 Community Development Block Grant**, dated 5/11/20.

On motion of Mr. Old and second of Mr. Shoffner, Board **recesses** into **Personnel Session** re **Employment**; Roll Call: All Aye

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

On motion of Mr. Old and second of Mr. Shoffner, Board **adjourns** at 2:04 p.m.; Roll Call: All Aye