

LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES

MORRIS W. BEVERAGE III, COMMISSIONER	JASON W. BOYD, ADMINISTRATOR
JOHN PLECNIK, COMMISSIONER	LEGAL COUNSEL
MORGAN R. McINTOSH, COMMISSIONER	NEWS MEDIA
JENNIFER BELL, CLERK	

(Tape 2026-0507)

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Beverage called the Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, May 7, 2026

ROLL CALL: Upon roll being called, Commissioners: Plecnik, McIntosh and Beverage were present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Upon a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner McIntosh, the minutes of Regular Meeting of April 23, 2026 were approved with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: McIntosh, Plecnik and Beverage "NAYS": None.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Commissioner Beverage asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board. No one present wished to address the Board.

RESOLUTIONS:

**1.RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MAY 2026 OLDER AMERICANS MONTH IN LAKE COUNTY, OHIO(20260507\F01)(C-126)**

On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner McIntosh. Senior Services Manager, Ms. Alyea Barajas was present and thanked the Board for recognizing Older Americans Month. She stated that May as Older Americans Month, is a time to celebrate the contributions and impact of older adults in our community. The 2026 theme, "Champion Your Health," focuses on prevention, wellness, and taking an active role in managing one's health to support independence and healthy aging. Present today are representatives from the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging and many of the agencies that make up the Lake County Senior Services Levy Coalition which include Family Pride of Northeast Ohio, Lifeline, Western Reserve Community Development Corporation, the Council on Aging, Laketrans, the Fairport Senior Center, Adult Protective Services, Project Hope for the Homeless, and Catholic Charities. Their collective work ensures older adults across our community have access to the services and supports they need to live safely and independently, and their collaboration continues to strengthen Lake County. Ms. Barajas was pleased to recognize Bob Selan, who is a dedicated volunteer with the Lake County Volunteer Network/RSVP program, and whose time, skills, and commitment have made a meaningful difference in the lives of older adults in Lake County. She introduced Mr. Dante Giancola, the Director of Government Affairs for the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging, representing five counties, Lake, Medina, Lorain, Geauga, and Cuyahoga to share a few words and present a proclamation honoring Bob and recognizing his service. Mr. Giancola stated that there is an aging trend, particularly in Northeast Ohio, where we are a rapidly aging part of the state. His role in talking to state officials, federal officials, oftentimes county officials is to help them have a better grasp and understanding of the direction the population is going and making sure those policies are thought about proactively instead of reactively because there's a fiscal component that comes with that. The mission of Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging is to help older adults stay in their homes independently. Foundationally, there's only so many dollars that are public and philanthropic. On behalf of CEO, Dr. Doug Beach, he presented and read the proclamation in its entirety for Mr. Selan. Commissioner Plecnik stated that when seniors are forced to leave their community and their home, outcomes are poor and the community must do everything possible to give seniors the opportunity to age in place, to stay in their home and to enjoy their golden years. He spoke of the Water and Sewer Fees Senior Discount, the doubling of the Homestead Exemption for low-income seniors, LakeTran's Dial-a-Ride and the Strategic Plan for the Senior Levy. The Board is proud to put senior citizens first. He thanked Senior Advisory Panel Chair, Mr. Sterk and volunteer, Mr. Selan, for being present today. He also thanked Mrs. Barajas and Mrs. Kane for their work. Commissioner McIntosh added that this is another opportunity for the Board to recognize one of the things that makes Lake County a great community to live in and how volunteers bring value to our community. He thanked Mr. Selan and all volunteers for their willingness, time, and energy and the value they bring to our community. Commissioner Beverage thanked everyone present today to recognize Older Americans Month as well as Mr. Selan and the volunteers for the work they do in the community. He also thanked Mrs. Barajas for the work she does with the Senior Levy and Mrs. Kane for the video and presentation she provided recently. Commissioner Beverage explained that the volunteer informational video is available on the website and how volunteering is worthwhile cause. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows : "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, McIntosh and Beverage "NAYS": None.

**2.RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MAY 2026 FOSTER PARENT RECOGNITION MONTH IN LAKE COUNTY, OHIO(20260507\F02)(C-126)**

On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner McIntosh. Job and Family Services Director Suzanne Casar thanked the Commissioners for their continued support in recognizing May as Foster Parent Appreciation Month. She explained how extremely important foster parents are to children and how they provide a safe environment for these children in the community. Ms. Casar introduced Mr. Gene Tetrick, Supervisor of Job and Family Services Foster Care and Adoption Team. Mr. Tetrick stated that there were nearly 120 children in Job and Family Services custody last year and explained how they rely on our foster parents to assist in caring for these children. He wanted to take this moment to shine a light on the 41 amazing foster parents of Lake County and foster parents all over the world who willingly open their homes and hearts to offer

these children roots and protection and help them find their way during this extremely hard time in their life. He briefly spoke of some of this year's initiatives to get more foster parents and volunteers. Commissioner Plecnik thanked all those who gave so much of themselves to make it possible to build new homes for those kids. He spoke of how Senator Husted shared that he was in foster care before he was adopted. Commissioner McIntosh agreed with Commissioner Plecnik's sentiments and stated that he continues to be impressed with the job that JFS does and the incredibly valuable service they provide our community. Commissioner Beverage expressed his thanks to these families that are willing to open their homes and take care of these children as their own. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows : "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, McIntosh and Beverage "NAYS": None.

**3.RESOLUTION APPROVING PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATES OF COST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$128,832.00 FOR THE VILLAGES AT CASEMENT SANITARY SEWER EXTENSION IN PAINESVILLE TOWNSHIP (JOB NO. 26-03)(20260507\U01)(UT-9)**

On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner McIntosh. Commissioner Plecnik wanted to note that the Villages at Casement are named for General Casement and his wife and as some might recall as part of America 250 people voted for Francis Jennings Casement to be the official bobblehead in celebration of the semi-quincentennial. He reminded everyone to come to the Lake County Fair on America 250 Day and get your free bobblehead to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the United States. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows : "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, McIntosh and Beverage "NAYS": None.

**4.RESOLUTION CERTIFYING UNPAID WATER AND SEWER SUMS AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES TO THE LAKE COUNTY AUDITOR(20260507\U02)(UT-7)**

On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner McIntosh, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows : "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, McIntosh and Beverage "NAYS": None.

**5.RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND FORBES HOUSE FOR FY-2025 HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM FUNDS(20260507\C01)(C-34B)**

On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner McIntosh, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows : "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, McIntosh and Beverage "NAYS": None.

**6.RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$250,000.00 FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ON BEHALF OF THE LAKE COUNTY CRIME LABORATORY, EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2027(20260507\C02)(CT-18)**

On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner McIntosh, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows : "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, McIntosh and Beverage "NAYS": None.

**7.RESOLUTION FIXING THE DATE FOR DESIGNATING PUBLIC DEPOSITORIES OF ACTIVE MONIES FOR THE FOUR (4) YEAR PERIOD COMMENCING AUGUST 23, 2026(20260507\C03)(C-18)**

On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner McIntosh, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows : "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, McIntosh and Beverage "NAYS": None.

**8.RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,664,434.01(20260507\BC01)(C-4)**

On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner McIntosh, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows : "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, McIntosh and Beverage "NAYS": None.

**9.RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE ORDERS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' PURCHASE ORDER APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,872,066.20(20260507\BC02)(C-17)**

On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner McIntosh, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows : "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, McIntosh and Beverage "NAYS": None.

**10. RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS FOR VARIOUS NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20260507\BC03)(C-111)**

On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner McIntosh, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows : "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, McIntosh and Beverage "NAYS": None.

**11. RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN VARIOUS GENERAL AND NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS(20260507\BC04)(C-111)**

On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner McIntosh, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows : "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, McIntosh and Beverage "NAYS": None.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

UTILITIES – Commissioner Plecnik addressed Sanitary Engineer, Mr. Randy Rothlisberger, asking him to reassure the residents on Girdled Road in Concord that the County is continuing to investigate the issue discussed at our last workshop. Mr. Rothlisberger responded that his staff is putting together an informal informational meeting to be scheduled sometime next month. Data is being gathered to provide the residents with some information on how a water line in that area could be built. He next wanted to pass along a complaint he received today about the \$1.50 processing fee for those who pay utilities bills online and how he understands the county is not taking that money, that it's a fee that goes to the vendor.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – Ms. Suzanne Casar, Director of Job and Family Services, wanted to share with individuals and members of the public who receive food assistance that beginning May 13, SNAP EBT cards, including summer EBT or Sunbox cards; which are designated for children, will default to a *block high-risk transaction* status for anyone shopping out of the State of Ohio or online. For those individuals, they will need to temporarily remove the block. To do so, they must go to the official connect EBT app, visit the connect EBT website at [www.connectebt.com](http://www.connectebt.com) or call 1-866-386-3071. She next wanted to share that our Ohio Means Jobs Lake County team held a career fair yesterday and was in honor of Commissioner Rich Regovich. She stated that it was a great turnout for job seekers and employers, and that Mr. Joel DiMare and Commissioner McIntosh were in attendance. Director of Administrative Services, Mr. Joel DiMare, stated that yesterday was a very successful event. There were more than 40 local employers and over 100 job seekers in attendance, which is a great way for us to support both our business community and our citizens. He explained that the decision to name this in demand jobs week career fair in honor of Commissioner Regovich was fitting as he was a huge proponent of workforce development. Mr. DiMare thanked the Ohio Means Jobs staff for putting together such a successful event. Commissioner McIntosh shared that Commissioner Regovich was very dedicated to workforce development and it was good to see so many businesses and people hiring in Lake County and so many jobseekers in attendance.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – Mr. Boyd stated that to follow up on the Girdled Road topic, he has been spending a good amount of time researching any state or federal grants and has Mr. Durdle, who assists the county on legislative issues, to do the same. He wanted to let the residents know that they are and will continue to investigate any grant funding available.

CLERK – Commissioners Clerk, Ms. Jennifer Bell, stated that the next Commissioners Meetings will be next Thursday, May 14, at 10:00 a.m., there will be a workshop at 10:30 in Chambers today or after executive session and an America 250th meeting today at 11:30 here in Chambers.

LEGAL: none.

OLD BUSINESS: none.

NEW BUSINESS: none.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner McIntosh, the Board convened for an Executive Session at 10:33 a.m. for Legal-Imminent Litigation, Personnel-Employment (2) and for the purpose of protecting the interests of an applicant or the possible investment or expenditure of public funds to be made in connection with an economic development project pursuant to R.C. 121.22(G)(8)with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, McIntosh and Beverage "NAYS": None.

The Lake County Board of Commissioners adjourned to Executive Session at 11:40 a.m.

ADJOURN: On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik seconded by Commissioner McIntosh, the Board adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m. with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, McIntosh and Beverage "NAYS": None.

Minutes approved this twenty-first day of May, 2026.

**BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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MORRIS W. BEVERAGE III, PRESIDENT

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JOHN T. PLECNIK, COMMISSIONER

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MORGAN R. McINTOSH, COMMISSIONER

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JENNIFER BELL, CLERK