

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	

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(Tape 2026-0730)

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Beverage called the Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Thursday, July 30, 2026

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
Upon a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner McIntosh, the minutes of Regular Meetings of June 25 and July 9, 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 CONGRATULATING ALEXIS GODEK AS AN OUTSTANDING YOUTH OF THE YEAR BY THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION OF LAKE COUNTY(20260730\F01)(C-126)
On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner McIntosh. Commissioner Plecnik stated that in addition to being recognized as an outstanding youth, Alexis Godec is also a member of the Fair Queen's Court and is participating in the 4-H auction. Commissioner Beverage stated that she was the winner of the reserve champion ducks. Commissioner McIntosh offered his congratulations to these outstanding youth and all of the 4-H kids. He shared how impressed he was with their hard work, dedication, and the immeasurable life lessons they are learning. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows: "AYES": Commissioners: McIntosh, Plecnik and Beverage "NAYS": None.

2.RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING JULIETTE KENYON AS AN OUTSTANDING YOUTH OF THE YEAR BY THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION OF LAKE COUNTY(20260730\F02)(C-126)
On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner McIntosh, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows: "AYES": Commissioners: McIntosh, Plecnik and Beverage "NAYS": None.

3.RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING EVA KUTSCHER AS AN OUTSTANDING YOUTH OF THE YEAR BY THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION OF LAKE COUNTY(20260730\F03)(C-126)
On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner McIntosh, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows: "AYES": Commissioners: McIntosh, Plecnik and Beverage "NAYS": None.

4.RESOLUTION TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE BLACKMORE ROAD RECONSTRUCTION, PHASE 1 PROJECT, PERRY TOWNSHIP, OHIO, OPWC NO. DGAD01, LCE PROJECT NO. 2025-011 (Bid Opening August 19, 2026) (20260730\E01)(E-2)
On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner McIntosh, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows: "AYES": Commissioners: McIntosh, Plecnik and Beverage "NAYS": None.

5.RESOLUTION DECLARING AN EMERGENCY TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR REPAIR OF THE MADISON AVENUE RETAINING WALL IN PAINESVILLE TOWNSHIP ON BEHALF OF THE LAKE COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE(20260730\E02)(E-2)
On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner McIntosh. Commissioner Beverage thanked Engineer Exley for addressing this issue as quickly as possible and engaging a great contractor to take the project on. Commissioner Plecnik also thanked Mr. Exley and his staff for making this a high priority. Mr. Exley acknowledged that this is a big project and how Chief Deputy Engineer, Kirk Dimmick, dedicated a lot of time and effort working with the contractors to ensure they understood the situation and concerns. Commissioner Beverage also thanked Mr. Exley and his staff for securing grants and funding for this. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows: "AYES": Commissioners: McIntosh, Plecnik and Beverage "NAYS": None.

6.RESOLUTION AWARDDING A BID CONTRACT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,419,413.50 TO FABRIZI TRUCKING AND PAVING CO., INC. FOR GLENVIEW AND TARBELL WATERLINE REPLACEMENT- PROJECT 477-W-2024 (20260730\U01)(UT-4)
On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner McIntosh, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows: "AYES": Commissioners: McIntosh, Plecnik and Beverage "NAYS": None.

7.RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$7,000,000 AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOTES, IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS, TO PAY COSTS OF CONSTRUCTING, RECONSTRUCTING, PAVING AND OTHERWISE IMPROVING ROAD IMPROVEMENTS IN THE COUNTY,INCLUDING RELATED IMPROVEMENTS AND ALL NECESSARY APPURTENANCES THERETO (20260730\C01)(E-13)
On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner McIntosh, the foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows: "AYES": Commissioners: McIntosh, Plecnik and Beverage "NAYS": None.

8.RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,478,079.95(20260730\BC01)(C-4)

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

9.RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE ORDERS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' PURCHASE ORDER APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,521,259.79(20260730\BC02)(C-17)

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

10.RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS FOR VARIOUS NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20260730\BC03)(C-111)

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

11.RESOLUTION RETURNING ADVANCED CASH AND TRANSFERRING APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN VARIOUS GENERAL AND NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS(20260730\BC04)(C-111)

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

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

UTILITIES – none.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – none.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – Mr. Boyd provided an update on the Dog Shelter explaining that staff is receiving training on best management practices from the Humane Society. He is working with the Humane Society on a Memorandum of Understanding to formalize the relationship. Additionally, he met with another two veterinarians within the community on best practices and potential contractual relationships for spay/neuter, vet care etc. He stated that in the last week there were four vet appointments, several spays and neuters, and continued training of the staff on what's called *the safer assessment of a dog* and for determining its adoptability as well as having to make that unfortunate decision to euthanize an animal. He also provided an update on the HVAC system. While the main system was down, they took the opportunity to assess it and change miscellaneous parts with the goal to have it running by the end of the week. The temperature remains in the low to mid 70's in the shelter.

CLERK – Commissioners Clerk, Ms. Jennifer Bell, stated that the next Commissioners Meeting will be next Thursday, August 6, at 10:00 a.m., followed by a workshop at 10:30 in Chambers.

LEGAL: none.

OLD BUSINESS:

Commissioner McIntosh wanted to provide an update regarding Route 2. He stated that he has continued to have very constructive conversations with leadership in the cities along Route 2. The Commissioner's Office has brought forward a plan that he believes most of the communities are happy with regarding funding and repairing the lights for Rt. 2. He emphasized that the new contract broadens definitions and has a clearer scope of services. The funding of Route 2 is entirely the responsibility of each of the municipalities, and this office has been working with those communities to make sure that costs are balanced fairly. He explained if costs increase over time, that's going to be due to inflation, not because anything's being taken away by the Commissioner's Office or the Engineer's Office. He will be scheduling another meeting with the working group to finalize details. Commissioner Plecnik thanked Commissioner McIntosh for the work he has put into this, and he is confident that there will be a satisfactory agreement for all parties. Commissioner McIntosh stated that, now more than ever, it's critical that we work together across Lake County on these initiatives to save money and improve services in our community.

Commissioner Beverage addressed recent misinformation and mischaracterizations posted online regarding two County safety initiatives. He first discussed the State Route 2 lighting project, noting that he hopes to have the resolution prepared for adoption and ready to go out for bid in September. The anticipated timeline includes awarding the contract by November to allow materials to be ordered with work expected to begin in spring 2027.

He then addressed concerns surrounding the implementation of NextGen 911, specifically a complaint from one municipality that they would be required to staff a second dispatch officer.

Commissioner Beverage explained that approximately 80 percent of 911 calls currently come from cell phones. With NextGen 911, a geo-fence will be established around that municipality's technology, meaning that 100% of 911 phone calls will route directly to the local municipality rather than Lake County Central Dispatch. As a result, call volume is expected to increase significantly; possibly fivefold particularly in communities that run along State Route 2. He emphasized the risks associated with such an increase. When incidents such as accidents on Route 2 are combined with local medical emergencies, callers could face delays or be placed on hold, more people could be hurt or worse.

Commissioner McIntosh stated that NextGen 911 will be up active in approximately one year, people's lives are at stake, and this Board and the Sheriff's Office take this responsibility very seriously and aim to deliver the highest level of service and safety to every resident in Lake County.

Commissioner Plecnik shared that when he was a Willoughby Hills Councilperson, they voted to transition from Willoughby Hills Police dispatch to Lake County Central Dispatch. After their first year of partnership with the county they (the city) saved \$100,000 more than originally estimated but even more importantly, response times were reduced.

Commissioner Beverage stated that he appreciates Commissioner McIntosh’s comments about the NextGen 911 committee and the standards put in place as well as Commissioner Plecnik’s comments on how Central Dispatch does an amazing job. He explained that as elected officials and county leaders they don't often make comments or get involved however, this topic is one that needs to be addressed because county dispatch is the standard that needs to be met. He has never heard one negative word about our county dispatch, and those standards are what he expects to see set across the county. If local municipalities want to maintain their own dispatch and it's not up to the standards of the county dispatch, then he will continue to take issue with those local municipalities for putting lives in danger.

Commissioner Plecnik shared that the Planning Commission will meet this evening to consider approving the Vision 2050 Comprehensive Plan before it is presented to the Board of Commissioners. This is the first comprehensive plan in over 65 years, and Lake County and its 23 municipalities will have a blueprint for the future. Commissioner Plecnik thanked everyone involved in this historic plan.

NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Beverage reminded everyone that the Lake County Fair is taking place through Sunday, August 2nd. He reviewed the fair schedule and the 4-H auction times and invited everyone to participate in the auction.

ADJOURN: On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik seconded by Commissioner McIntosh, the Board adjourned the meeting at 9:40 a.m. with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: McIntosh, Plecnik and Beverage “NAYS”: None.

Minutes approved this eighteenth day of August, 2026.

BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

MORRIS W. BEVERAGE III, PRESIDENT

JOHN T. PLECNIK, COMMISSIONER

MORGAN R. McINTOSH, COMMISSIONER

JENNIFER BELL, CLERK