LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES

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

(Tape 2026-0929)

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Beverage called the Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, September 29, 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 September 3, September 10 and September 17, 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 AWARDING A BID CONTRACT FOR TREATED AND UNTREATED BULK ROCK SALT TO MORTON SALT, INC. FOR LAKE COUNTY ROAD DEPARTMENT SALT – 2026, AS REQUIRED BY THE LAKE COUNTY ENGINEER IN THE AMOUNTS OF $2,120,160.00. (LCE Project No. 2026-004)(20260929\E01)(E-3)
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.

2.RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS AND TRANSFERRING CASH WITHIN LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES SEWER FUND AND PROJECT FUND 596, WATER STREET & MARINE LINING PROJECT 493-S-2025 (20260929\U01)(UT-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.

3.RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS AND TRANSFERRING CASH WITHIN LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES SEWER FUND AND PROJECT FUND 596, TANGLEWOOD PUMP STATION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT 504-S-2026(20260929\U02)(UT-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.

4.RESOLUTION CERTIFYING UNPAID SEWER AND WATER SUMS AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES TO THE LAKE COUNTY AUDITOR(20260929\U03)(UT-7)
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 AMENDING THE SANITARY SEWERAGE, SOLID WASTE, AND WATER SUPPLY RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES(20260929\U04)(UT-41)
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.

6.RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LAKE COUNTY SANITARY ENGINEER TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED FOR MENTOR AVENUE WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT 489-W-2025 IN THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY(20260929\U05)(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 AUTHORIZING THE LAKE COUNTY SANITARY ENGINEER TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED FOR THE MADISON TRUNK SEWER PHASE 2 REPLACEMENT PROJECT 505-S-2026 IN MADISON TOWNSHIP(20260929\U06)(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.

8.RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LAKE COUNTY LAND REUTILIZATION CORPORATION TO DEMOLISH THE BUILDING LOCATED AT 550 BLACKBROOK ROAD IN PAINESVILLE TOWNSHIP, OHIO, PARCEL #11-B-064-0-00-022-0 (20260929\C01)(C-40b)
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 AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH EVENTIDE COMMUNICATIONS FOR NEW AI CAPABILITIES FOR LAKE COUNTY CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF $190,816.00 (20260929\C02)(501-C)

On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner McIntosh. Captain Dan Bachnicki from Lake County Sheriffs Central Communications reported that this agreement is in preparation for NG911. He stated that this upgrade includes artificial intelligence capabilities which will enhance the existing Eventide recording system for 9-1-1 call review, quality assurance, and quality improvement. Central Communications currently handles approximately 90,000 9-1-1 calls annually, in addition to other emergency and administrative communications. While the current Eventide system records these interactions, traditional quality-assurance review requires personnel to manually select, retrieve, listen to, and evaluate individual calls. This request is particularly important because of new statewide requirements governing quality assurance (QA) and quality improvement (QI). New requirements took effect on May 25, 2026 to establish, implement, and maintain a QA/QI program involving the ongoing evaluation and improvement of emergency medical dispatch procedures and requires review of a minimum of two percent (2%) of calls where EMD pre-arrival instructions were or should have been provided with reviewed calls selected from all operational shifts. Quality Assurance (QA)/Quality Improvement (QI) provides Central Communications with a significant tool to assist in meeting these requirements**.** He added that this system allows them to use AI software to go through their dispatch questions and auto produce a report reviewing 100% of EMD calls. This will show where they may be lacking or excelling in providing or obtaining information from the caller. This component is critical to fulfilling all state-mandated requirements and surpasses those expectations by nearly 98%. The Board thanked Captain Bachnicki, Sheriff Leonbruno and Chief Deputy Izzo for taking initiative in preparation of NG911. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows: "AYES": Commissioners: McIntosh, Plecnik and Beverage "NAYS": None.

10. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT BETWEEN MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS AND THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON BEHALF OF THE LAKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE FOR AN UPGRADED CLOUD-BASED NEXT GENERATION 9-1-1 CALL-HANDLING SYSTEM FOR LAKE COUNTY CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS (20260929\C03)(CT-10A)

On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner McIntosh. Captain Bachnicki explained that this is the main component in preparation of Lake County 911 NextGen and onto the Emergency Services IP Network (ESInet) through the state. This is an upgrade to the current Vesta handling system and allows Central Communications to be NextGen certified on the ESInet. They will actually make connections and receive the Nextgen metadata. He shared the methodology of their decision regarding the type of hosted system; on premises or cloud based. The Cloud based system will provide them with the ability to access the data more quickly without concerns of servers on site. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows: "AYES": Commissioners: McIntosh, Plecnik and Beverage "NAYS": None.

11. RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE LAKE COUNTY VISION 2050, THE 2050 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR LAKE COUNTY, OHIO(20260929\C04)(C-107)

On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner McIntosh. Commissioner Plecnik stated how he came across a Comprehensive Plan for the City of Mentor that County Administrator, Mr. Jason Boyd, was heavily involved in completing and that Vision 2050 is the first Countywide Comprehensive Strategic Plan since 1965. He stated how interesting it was to look back at the old plan to see the anticipated boom in post-World War II population growth and how building communities would continue in Lake County to become as dense as Wickliffe, Willowick, and Willoughby. This plan will help all Lake County local governments work together toward a better planned future for the County. He stated how proud he is that this board took up this very important task. He thanked County Administrator Boyd and Planning and Community Development Director Mr. David Radachy, and his staff for adding their expertise to this process. Commissioner McIntosh shared that he was proud to be a contributor to this plan as a part of the Steering Committee before being appointed a Commissioner. He shared that as a Concord Township Trustee and also member of the Zoning Commission, he has seen 3 comprehensive plan versions in 16 years. He stated that the Vision 2050 Comprehensive Plan is an incredibly valuable tool for all Lake County communities. Commissioner McIntosh also thanked County Administrator Boyd and Planning and Community Development Director, Mr. David Radachy and his staff. Commissioner Beverage thanked everyone involved and stated that he is excited to get to work trying to help communities implement some of these strategies as well as giving the County some valuable direction for the future. Mr. Boyd wanted to remind everyone that this is a macrolevel look as it is a county plan. The County has the utmost respect for local comprehensive plans, zoning initiatives and land use decisions and those initiatives and decisions will be theirs. He explained that there are some overarching principles in this document that Mr. Radachy and his team can assist with communities who are without a planning staff. The Plan also identified several development areas, including the Eastlake Power Plant, the Great Lakes Mall, and various vacant properties in Painesville and Perry. He explained that this will be a valuable tool for presenting and encouraging grant opportunities for our local communities, as well as supporting land use planning, zoning practicality, and fiscal assistance that may be available when soliciting funding. He also thanked Mr. Radachy and his team as well as Ryan from the Envision Group. The foregoing resolution was adopted with the vote follows: "AYES": Commissioners: McIntosh, Plecnik and Beverage "NAYS": None.

12. RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL JOURNAL INTHE AMOUNT OF $8,902,561.38(20260929\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.

13. RESOLUTION APPROVING PURCHASE ORDERS AS LISTED ON THE COMMISSIONERS' PURCHASE ORDER APPROVAL JOURNAL IN THE AMOUNT OF $1,785,246.47(20260929\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.

14. RESOLUTION INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS FOR VARIOUS NON-GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20260929\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.

15. RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING AN APPROPRIATION WITHIN VARIOUS GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS (20260929\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 – Sanitary Engineer, Mr. Randy Rothlisberger, reminded everyone that the Lake County Department of Utilities will be hosting an Open House of the Aquarius Water Treatment Plant, located at 38265 Aquarius Parkway in Willoughby, this Saturday, October 3rd from 10am-2pm. This free, family-friendly event includes educational walking tours, a touch-a-truck area, and demonstrations.

JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES – Director of Job and Family Services, Ms. Suzanne Casar, wanted to address previous comments she made regarding the reduction of federal funding for SNAP administration. She stated that they have received several questions over the last couple weeks and wanted to clarify for the public's understanding what these reductions mean. Ms. Casar explained that the reduction in federal funding is set to begin on October 1 but will have absolutely no impact on Lake County residents or the SNAP benefits they receive. They will continue to receive their usual SNAP benefits each month. This reduction in funding will impact local JFS agencies throughout the state and country and they will be facing some staffing challenges. Commissioner Beverage stated that it is going to affect our residents not on their benefits, but on budgeting and on the process of how the County will have to pay to provide these services. Ms. Casar stressed that the benefits, as of right now, will continue unchanged and are not affected by the October 1 change. Commissioner Plecnik stated this is an example of an unfunded mandate where the federal and state government tell counties they need to provide a service, but don't fully pay therefore placing more of the burden on local governments and local tax dollars to fund services.
She announced that Ohio Means Jobs Lake County is going to host a workshop which is scheduled for Wednesday, October 14 from 10:00 a.m. until noon. This is an opportunity for job seekers to come into the Ohio Means Job Center to practice their interviewing skills.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – Mr. Boyd stated that EMA Director Joe Busher would be providing a more formal report on the recent Perry evaluated exercise but shared that the County received some extremely positive initial findings from the representation. This exercise had 461 players from various agencies. He also spoke of Resolution number 8 on the agenda regarding the demolition of the former Engineers Office. He explained that essentially this permits the County to work with the Landbank to garner some potential funds. Mr. Boyd also stated that he will be having a Public Safety Center meeting tomorrow with the Gilbane team, Sheriff's staff and the County's Chief Building Official, Dave Stritchko. Discussions will include what occupancy may look like from a temporary perspective, what does the living space look like and how they can potentially phase in equipment and office supplies.
Commissioners Beverage and McIntosh spoke of their participation in the Perry Power Plant drill and complimented everyone that was involved. This evaluated exercise is completed every two years. The level of coordination and constant practicing is extremely beneficial should an emergency happen at the power plant, or for any other emergencies that may happen in our community.

CLERK – Commissioners Clerk, Ms. Jennifer Bell, stated that the next regular Commissioners meeting will be next Thursday, October 8 at 10:00 a.m., and prior to the regular meeting at 9:45 a.m. there will be a Public Hearing on a name change of Timberlane. She also stated that the next workshop will be on October 15th at 10:30.
Ms. Bell read the following for the record. "Noting for the Board's record that an expedited type 2 annexation petition was filed on September 28, 2026 for the annexation of 27.91 acres in Painesville Township to the City of Painesville. This item is for the Board's acknowledgement only and requires no formal action at this time."

LEGAL: none.

OLD BUSINESS: Commissioner McIntosh wanted to provide a brief update on Route 2 and shared that city leaders involved in the maintenance agreement will be discussing several topics this afternoon including long-term maintenance of the new installation of lights and other points that need clarification. He stated that this Board remains very focused on trying to do what is best for the residents of Lake County. There have been good faith negotiations for months now with a lot of comments from him and his fellow Commissioners in response to challenges and statements that were made publicly and online by other individuals that were somewhat outside of the discussion process. The Board of Commissioners wants to reassure the community that there is no underhanded intent. The County is not trying to take anything over but trying to supplement an obligation that belongs to the cities and ensure that this important thoroughfare in Lake County is appropriately maintained. The leadership of the Board and the Mayors and Managers are working together on a contract that they (Mayors and City Managers) will provide to their city councils. He added that the suggestion that people are being excluded simply isn't accurate. Council members will be presented a final agreement in the near future and have an opportunity to comment. Commissioner Plecnik wanted to thank Commissioner McIntosh for his hard work on the Route 2 contract. He stated

how he (Commissioner McIntosh) has been a very effective liaison between the cities along Route 2, the County, and the County Engineers Office. Commissioner Plecnik wanted to again stress that one of the principal recommendations by the Ohio State Auditor's performance audit of the Engineers Office was to update the SR2 contract which had not been updated for decades, and he pointed out that the mileage accorded to each of the six cities was incorrect.

Commissioner Beverage stated that he had the opportunity to attend the Wickliffe City Council meeting last night to answer any questions Council may have had regarding the SR2 agreement. He reported that there were no questions regarding any miscommunication, the process or the contract which he takes as reassuring. He reminded everyone that if any resident, council member or township trustee has questions or concerns they are welcome to attend any of the open forum Commissioners Workshops and can also call or email anytime. Commissioner Beverage thanked Wickliffe City Mayor Joe Sakacs for inviting him to attend. He took notice after the meeting how beautiful former mansion and current Wickliffe City Hall and Coulby Park were, noting there were football and baseball teams and cheerleaders practicing in the park. These activities reminded him of the political distractions he and others experience. The fact that so many residents are living their everyday lives taking care of and raising their families and just wanting their elected officials to make life a little less hard for them.

NEW BUSINESS: none.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik, seconded by Commissioner McIntosh, the Board convened for an Executive Session at 10:38 a.m. for Personnel - Compensation with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Plecnik, McIntosh and Beverage "NAYS": None.

The Lake County Board of Commissioners adjourned to Executive Session at 10:38 a.m.

ADJOURN: On a motion by Commissioner Plecnik seconded by Commissioner McIntosh, the Board adjourned the meeting at 11:47 a.m. with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: McIntosh, Plecnik and Beverage "NAYS": None.

Minutes approved this twenty-second day of October, 2026.

BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

_____	_____
MORRIS W. BEVERAGE III, PRESIDENT	JOHN T. PLECNIK, COMMISSIONER
_____	_____
MORGAN R. McINTOSH, COMMISSIONER	JENNIFER BELL, CLERK