

Monday, September 26, 2011

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on **Monday, September 26, 2011 at 10:05 AM** with the following members present:

Maureen T. Frederick

Tommie Jo Marsilio

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It was moved by Tommie Jo Marsilio, seconded by Christopher Smeiles to approve the meeting minutes of the September 22, 2011 meeting. Commissioner Smeiles absent, motion carries

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Commissioner Smeiles attending at 10:08 AM

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Public Comment

Jack Murphy is attending today to encourage the Board of Commissioners to carefully consider the Robinson Memorial Hospital recommendation to move to a not-for-profit status. He does want an answer to the question of whether or not Robinson Memorial Hospital President & CEO Steve Colecchi is paid by Summa. If Mr. Colecchi is not happy at Robinson Memorial Hospital, why does he not resign and go work for Summa? Mr. Murphy intends to attend the September 29th public meeting at Maplewood Career Center, if his schedule allows. Mr. Murphy also liked Commissioner Marsilio's suggestion that the Board of Trustees needs new membership; he volunteered to serve on that Board.

Commissioner Smeiles noted that the Board of Commissioners will be careful and review the facts before moving forward. The public meeting will kick off an open process; the result will be a well thought out decision. Mr. Murphy suggested that the Board of Commissioners consider holding more than one public meeting to hear comment on this matter.

Commissioner Frederick encouraged Mr. Murphy to attend the September 29th public meeting; she added that Steve Colecchi plans to hold meetings, as well.

On a different subject, Mr. Murphy asked if the county has a noise ordinance. Commissioner Smeiles responded that these types of ordinance are usually handled at the local level. Mr. Murphy added that he contacted the Sheriff last week about the racetrack, which was extremely loud at 11:30 PM. The Sheriff investigated and reported that the raceway was on its last race; he added that he is two miles from the racetrack. Deerfield Township has no zoning as it was voted out.

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Commissioner Marsilio asked if the Board of Commissioners is aware of a flyer that is circulating at the courthouse with information about a "meet and greet" for Ohio Supreme Court Justice Brown on Saturday, October 1, 2011 from 3:00-4:00 PM at the Prosecutor's Office. Commissioner Frederick replied that she knows of the event, knows that Justice Brown will be in town and that Mr. Vigluicci offered to host the event. Commissioner Marsilio is concerned that the Prosecutor's Office will be hosting a private event after hours with no required Board of Commissioners' permission form in place at this time. There is a process in place that has not been followed. She is also concerned that allowing

this event at the Prosecutor's Office will set a precedent and open the space up to requests for public use from others. 241 South Chestnut Street is a Portage County building; when another group wants to use the site, the Board will be unable to say no. Mr. Viglucci has always protected the privacy of the Grand Jury Room.

Commissioner Smeiles stated that there is a process in place and a simple solution; Mr. Viglucci should complete the required form for the use of his office for an After Hours meeting. The Clerk will send Mr. Viglucci an electronic form and Commissioner Frederick will contact him to discuss the situation.

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DEPARTMENTAL REVIEW – COMMISSIONERS' CLERK

Present: Deborah Mazanec

The Board of Commissioners has scheduled meetings with all of their departments to discuss a variety of issues including goals and mission, attendance policy and habits, vehicle driving and maintenance policy and practices, promotions, hiring practices, relevant mandates, budget trends and impact, work schedules, employee evaluation etc. The Board of Commissioners agreed to hold these departmental meetings in public session unless individual personnel matters are discussed. The Board will go into Executive Session if that is warranted.

Commissioner Frederick noted that the Board of Commissioners has discussed a restructuring of their departments in an Executive Session. Commissioner Marsilio added that the restructuring would allow the delegation of some authority and a streamlining of current processes for many of the routine tasks that come to the Board during session. The Board of Commissioners would then be able to focus on policy and outside issues, allowing staff to handle the routine items. Commissioner Frederick stated that the structure that the Board is considering is similar to the current organizational chart with General Services and the departments being the external agencies under that heading and Internal Services with the internal agencies. Routine items would come through the two Administrators and the Board of Commissioners would address matters of policy, unprecedented issues, and be able to spend more time communicating with the public. The Board only has in place a general notion of this proposal at this time.

Commissioner Frederick commented that the Board of Commissioners has not filled the General Services Director vacancy, the Internal Auditor vacancy and the Grants Coordinator vacancy. Some of those savings could be used to make these proposed changes. Commissioner Frederick agreed and added that she spends time with callers with issues that may be dealt with better at the Director level.

The Commissioners agreed that the proposal is in the early stages and any of the detail not yet decided but agreed that the restructuring will allow the Commissioners' Departments to better serve the public.

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New Portage Development Board President Brad Ehrhart attending to meet the Board of Commissioners. Board Members Elizabeth Barry and Yank Heisler also attending.

Mr. Ehrhart gave the Board of Commissioners his history and background. He would like to add staff in the future to make calls to customers; he intends to work closely with the city Economic Development

Directors. Mr. Heisler added that the President will be working alone for the first year to learn about the county and meet business leaders.

Mr. Ehrhart will be moving to Portage County next spring when his daughter graduates from high school. The Board of Commissioners welcomed Mr. Ehrhart and pledged to assist him in any way.

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The Board of Commissioners continued their discussion with the Clerk.

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11:40 AM In accordance with the Ohio Rev. Code Ann. 121.22(G) (6), it was moved by **Tommie Jo Marsilio**, seconded by **Christopher Smeiles** that the Board of Commissioners move into executive session to discuss a compensation matter. **Also present: Clerk Deborah Mazanec.** Roll call vote: Christopher Smeiles, Yea; Tommie Jo Marsilio, Yea; Maureen T. Frederick, Yea.

11:45 AM Upon conclusion of the above referenced discussion, it was moved by **Christopher Smeiles**, seconded by **Tommie Jo Marsilio** that the Board of Commissioners move out of executive session. Roll call vote: Christopher Smeiles, Yea; Tommie Jo Marsilio, Yea; Maureen T. Frederick, Yea.

After exiting Executive Session, the Board of Commissioners took action by Journal Entry.

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Commissioner Marsilio stated that she personally appreciates the Clerk and two staff members, who set the standard for efficient and ethical conduct. Since staff has taken on additional duties with no additional compensation, she suggested that the Clerk and each staff member (Amy Hutchinson and Julie Gonzales) receive three (3) additional paid days off in 2011, designated as Administrative Leave, in addition to the vacation time that is accumulated. The Commissioners noted that there is no negative budget impact with this approval. The Board will consider the approval of these additional days off again in 2012./Journal Entry.

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The Board of Commissioners discussed a rearrangement of the Board Room for the upcoming video streaming, which will make their meetings more accessible to the public. They agreed to move the framed Portage County flag to the Board Room and then rearrange the smaller items. The equipment will be installed on Wednesday, September 28th; the Clerk will have more information after the installation.

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11:55 AM Lunch Recess
1:30 PM Board of Commissioners reconvened

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DBFM WORK SESSION – 2012 Budget

Present: Audrey Tillis

The Director is meeting with the Board of Commissioners to discuss the 2012 budget.

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Commissioner Frederick reported that she did discuss the October 1st event at 241 South Chestnut Street with the Prosecutor and he told her that he will take it under advisement but noted that he will use the building as he sees fit. The Board will discuss this issue again tomorrow.

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JOURNAL ENTRY

September 26, 2011

Motion by Tommie Jo Marsilio, seconded by Christopher Smeiles to approve the following actions:

After meeting in an Executive Session today with their Clerk, the Board of Commissioners accepted her recommendation and agreed that the Clerk and Commissioners' staff members Amy Hutchinson and Julie Gonzales will receive three (3) additional paid days off in 2011, designated as Administrative Leave, in addition to their vacation time accumulated. The Commissioners noted that there is no negative budget impact with this approval and agreed to consider the approval of these additional days off again in 2012.

All in favor, motion carries.

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We do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct record of the Portage County Board of Commissioners' meeting on **September 26, 2011**. There being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Tommie Jo Marsilio, seconded by Christopher Smeiles to adjourn the official meeting at **2:55 PM**. All in favor, motion carries.

Maureen T. Frederick, President

Tommie Jo Marsilio, Vice-President

Christopher Smeiles, Board Member

Deborah Mazanec, Clerk

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