

## The Lorain County Association

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The September 16, 2021 LCTA meeting will be held at Lorain County Community College

### Minutes of the July 15, 2021 meeting at Lorain County Administration Building

**President,** Amy Richards, called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

**Approve Minutes:** President Amy Richards asked for a motion to approve the June 17, 2021 minutes. A motion was made by Carl Wesemeyer and seconded by Marsha Funk; motion carried.

**Treasures Report:** At the June 2021 meeting we had a checking balance of \$17,343.17. We had \$6200 come in for membership dues, \$100 from Matt Lundy for candy for the fair booth, & \$5708.54 from closing the Huntington CD.

Our expenses were \$16.17 to Mark Cunningham for paper, \$100 to Rochester United Methodist Church in memory of Gerald Cowie, \$114.24 to Christie Homer-Miller for round trip mileage for the county officers meeting, & \$4,420.00 to the OTA for membership dues. This leaves us with a checking balance of \$25,121.30. The Chemical Bank CD balance is \$5,222.01. Our assets total \$30,343.31

President Amy Richards asked for a motion to approve the treasures report. A motion was made by Orrin Leimbach and seconded by Rick Conrad: motion carried.

**Program:** Elizabeth Doyle Crime Lab Director gave an excellent presentation without the help of her power point presentation due to technical difficulties. She explained the services offered by the Crime Lab to the community and ask for support for passage of the Crime Lab levy this November. A tour of the Crime Lab and demonstrations of the work preformed by lab personnel followed the meeting. Neil Lynch suggest that Elizabeth research the possibility of funding through the American Rescue Plan.

#### **Officers Report:**

**President Amy Richards:** No report

**Vice President Jared Smith:** Jared and Christie shared information from the OTA county officers meeting they recently attended in Columbus. These issues included lagging attendance at county meeting and OTA Constitutional changes to be voted on at the winter conference in Columbus this January. These changes deal with new levels on memberships in the OTA and due's structure.

**Secretary Mark Cunningham:** The OTA dues process is complete LCTA has 76 Active members [trustees & fiscal officer] and 138 associate members.

**Executive Committeeman Dick Heidecker:** Still waiting on deliver of the additional LCTA Directories.

**Old business:** At the September meeting at Lorain County Community College [LCCC] we will continue discussion of LCTA supporting a scholarship with LCCC.

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**New business:** Chris Thomas and Doug Nelisse from kinetic by Windstream gave a brief update of the expanded services offered by their Company in Lorain County. Commissioner Moore asked if Windstream would supply a map of where their services are available in the county and any projected expansion in the county.

**Bill Holtzman** started a discussion on how townships are dealing with Poison Hemlock in their township.

**Neil Lynch** asked about having discussions at the October LCTA meeting regarding what townships can spend the American Rescue Plan money on in their township. **Virginia Haynes** offered to have a speaker on the American Rescue Plan at the next Lorain Community Alliance meeting **October 8, 2021**.

### Reports from LCTA Committees and Township Representatives:

**Fair Committee: Carl Wesemeyer:** There are still open slots to sign up for the fair booth and wear your LCTA shirt while working the fair booth.

**NOACA Report:** Dick Heidecker: NOACA is working on a van pooling program.

**NEOTA Report:** Dick Heidecker: No report

**OPWC:** Carl Wesemeyer: there is a new web portal for OPWC

**Solid Waste:** Dave Urig: Committee meeting in August working on plan update. Dave Blevins announced the Collection Center will now be opened on Mondays. Dave is working on a public – private partnership for organic waste at a site in the Lorain city area. September 9 is the agricultural tire collection date, registration starting September 2.

**SWAC:** Mark McConnell: No meeting till September. Mark said he has heard that SWAC grants in the future are going to focus on cleaning waterways courses as opposed to culvert replacements. Don Romancak talked about the new GIS program and encouraged townships to use it. Don thanked the Lorain County Prosecutor's Office for developing the new Ditch Petition Application. The ditch petition applicant must meet with the Lorain County Engineer before filing the petition.

**Farm Bureau:** Eric Flynn the Lorain County Farm Bureau is still working with the Lorain County Auditor Office regarding CAUV's.

### State elected official's:

**Gayle Manning:** The state budget bill passed and Gayle believes it is a very good budget. 250 million dollars for broadband upgrades in the state. Townships will share in the American Rescue Plan monies. Bill includes a 3% tax cut to taxpayers. School funding has been revised to 60% property tax and 40 % income tax. This will help all school districts going forward.

**Commissioners: David Moore:** Elizabeth is doing a fine job with the Crime Lab. Crisis Center has a million-dollar donor and working with all parties to break ground on a new building next year. Working on building a new jail and corrections center. The county government will be well represented at the Lorain County Fair this year.

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There will be an audit done on health care members this fall and improvements to the health care system. County looking into building a convention center in the county. Moral is great with county employees.

**Prosecutors Office: Tom Magnum had to leave early call him if you have any questions.**

**Board of Health: No report**

**Community Development: Don Romancak:** The county has hired Joshua Bender as an Economic Development Specialist.

**Sheriff Department:** Deputy Matt Lawson introduced new deputy Justin Hackne. There are a lot of changes at the Sheriff's Department, five new deputies and the promotion of two deputies to the rank of sergeant.

**LCCA: Dick Heidecker:** Working on a new website with Ipanda Design. Tom Williams offered the counties assistance with the website using the company deigning their new website.

**Emergency Management: Jessica Fetter** talked about the Emergency Assessment survey and the consulting firm she is working with on this project. She will be meeting with each township in the next month regarding this project and hopes to have the report finished in September. Jessica reminded everyone that has not signed up for the county's emergency notification system please do so. If you need help contact Jessica.

**Land Bank: Jim Miller:** Jim reported the sale of 15 properties this last month. The Land Bank is available to assist townships with removal of unsafe structures in townships.

**County Auditor: Craig** had updates on the Green Circle Growers brief have been filed and should here if Ohio Supreme Court will hear the case in August. The Nexus cases is to be go forward next February. The triannual reevaluation order from the state, the average increase in property valuations in Lorain County is 16%. This increase is real estate market driven. The Auditor's Office will start meeting with property owners in a couple of weeks at four different locations in the county. The Auditor's Office will be at the fair this year.

**County Recorder: No report**

**Job & Family Services: Director Tim Carrion** gave an update on the county's Emergency Rental Assistance Program. The first rounds of funds totaled 9.2 million dollars. The program just reached 2.5 million dollars invested in assisting county residents with rental assistance. The program is gaining traction in the county and two new people were hired to keep up with demand. Tim hopes to have all the funds dispersed by the deadline of September 2022. Families are grateful for the assistance they receive. Tim is excited about the staffing changes in his department to build a dynamic team.

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**Amy Richards asked for a motion to adjourn at 8:45 pm. Motion made by Orrin Leimbach and seconded by Eric Flynn; Motion carried.**

**No meeting in August. The September 16, 2021 meeting will be at Lorain County Community College.**