

The Lorain County Association

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The October 19, 2023 LCTA meeting is sponsored by Eaton Township but will be held at the Grafton Township Complex 17109 Avon Beldon Road Grafton, Ohio 44044

Minutes of the September 21, 2023 meeting at Columbia Township

President, Jared Smith, called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

Approve Minutes: President Jared Smith asked for a motion to approve the July 20, 2023 minutes. A motion was made by Rita Canfield and seconded by Fred Pitts; motion carried.

Treasures Report: July 2023 ended with a checking balance of \$18,467.84 We had no income; expenses: LC Fair breakfast # 1760 \$2,800.00 no outstanding checks; This leaves us with a checking balance of: \$15,667.84; submitted by John Ciarrone, LCTA Treasurer *LCTA did not meet in August.

President Jared Smith asked for a motion to approve the treasures' report. A motion was made by Amy Richards and seconded by Barb Burrill-Horton; motion carried.

Program: Andrew Lipian from Lorain County Community Development Department gave a presentation on the activities for the May 24, 2024 Lorain County Bicentennial. Anyone interested in helping with the Bicentennial contact Andrew at Community Development.

Commissioner Jeff Ridell explained Issue 20 the 7 District Lorain County Commissioners and why he supports issue 20. Jeff explained the advantages of having 7 district commissioners as opposed to the current 3 at large commissioners. Jeff answered the audiences' questions on issue 20. Jeff also talked about the Strategic Plan for Lorain County and that township trustees would be involved with the planning.

Officers Report:

President Jared Smith: He received a certificate for LCTA 100% membership in the OTA. The LCTA also has the most Affiliate members [107] of any county trustee association in the state. Jared also had the minutes from the last two OTA board of directors' meetings. The minutes will be sent out to the membership.

Vice President Christie Homer-Miller: Christie reported that the Lorain County Fair breakfast that the LCTA sponsored was a success, to date we show a profit of \$175.00. A motion was made by Mark Cunningham and seconded by Rick Conrad to appoint Christie Homer-Miller as an alternate representative from the LCTA to Solid Waste; motion carried. The OTA is looking for Board of Directors and Officers candidates for the upcoming positions. Resumes due by November 14, 2023. The OTA will have newly elected officials' training in November. The OTA scholarship applications are now available. The OTA has a new subscription plan for training for all Active, Affiliate members at cost of \$250.00 per year per township or \$175.00 per year if all townships in the county sign up for the plan. The PowerPoint presentations on Prevailing wage and train safety will be sent to members.

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Secretary Mark Cunningham: The LCTA overpaid by \$60.00 for our Active membership dues. After discussion a motion was made by Neil Lynch and seconded by Rita Canfield to ask for a refund of the \$60.00; motion carried. Mark asked if the LCTA would like to continue our annual \$750.00 Scholarship. A motion was made by Christie Homer-Miller and seconded by Amy Richards to continue our support of the scholarship; motion carried

Executive Committeeman Carl Wesemeyer: No report

Old business: Reminder of the Fiscal Officers party this weekend.

New business:

Reports from LCTA Committees and Township Representatives:

Fair Committee: Carl Wesemeyer: Carl thanked everyone who volunteer at our booth at the fair this year. Christie and Carl picked all the winning tickets for the fair raffle. Good feedback for the opening day breakfast sponsored by LCTA.

NOACA Report: Mark Cunningham: I attended the September 10, 2023 NOACA meeting a lot of discussion about the Climate Action Plan. This Plan could be voted on at the December meeting. The proposed I 71 interchange at Boston Road was discussed.

NEOTA Report: Dick Heidecker: No report

OPWC: Carl Wesemeyer: No report

Solid Waste: Dave Urig: The committee did meet this month. The Plan Update has been sent communities for ratification. Solid waste continues to operate in the black.

SWAC: Mark McConnell: The SWAC meeting for September 19, 2023 was cancelled. Mark had no updates on any of the SWAC projects. Mark did talk to Don Romancak this week and said Don was not feeling well.

Farm Bureau: Eric Flynn: No report

State elected official's: None at the meeting

County Commissioner; Dave Moore talked about the pubic hearing on wind and solar farms in the county. Dan Petticord and the commissioners are working on a number of different zoning resolutions for townships to consider adopting. There are three tax levies on the November ballot; 911, Criminal Justice Services and Lorain County Metro Parks. How to pay for the new jail will be an issue in 2024. Two ways to pay for it either a bond issue or through sales tax increase. Dave talked about the Heritage grant given to the Bicentennial committee for the events during the Bicentennial also Gold Star Memorial to be built on the ground of the old courthouse. The county donated \$150.00 to fund the Memorial. The county commissioners also appropriated money to the Lorain County Fair Board to cover losses because of the storms during fair week.

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Auditor Craig Snodgrass: To date the county has collect about 18 million dollars in county sales tax. Real estate transactions are down tax but values are way up and real estate tax collection is strong. Craig and the county auditor's association is working with Ohio legislators on bills to help relieve the tax burden to some home owners. Craig will present to LCTA early next year on the real estate tax reevaluation. Township should see raise in inside millage funds next year. The Nexus case has oral argument in October before the Ohio Supreme Court. The case is about whether the Lorain County Auditor has a right to appeal the Tax Commissioners' ruling. A discussion followed regarding the County's use of paper checks as opposed to electronic transfer of funds.

Engineer Bob Klaiber: The county is reviewing and scoring OPWC application at this time. Township will be asked to file them in the portal sometime in October. The OPWC board will meet in November to approve projects.

Prosecutors Office: Dan Petticord said that his office is working on the Solar and Wind farm zoning issues for the townships. He is planning on having at least two meetings with township official on this issue. Dan thanked all officials who attended the Prevailing Wage training session.

Board of Health: None

Community Development: Don Romancak: No report

Sheriff Department: Deputy Osborne asked all townships to submit all resolutions regarding noise complaints, dog barking complaints to her. She will compile a list so that all deputies will know of the resolutions when responding to a call.

LCCA: Setting up meeting with Commissioner Moore to discuss the future of LCCA

Emergency Management: Dave Freeman: Dave thanked everyone involved in the storm damage work. 2000 thousand homes and businesses report storm damage. Dave tried to get the state to declare a disaster but the threshold was too high. Norfolk & Southern Railroad brought their safety train to Lorain County for safety training classes for first responders. The first responders were given access to an App that will give them information if they are responding to a railroad incident.

Soil & Water: Patti Donnellan announced that they are in the process of hiring an Environmental Technician. The Farm Bureau and Soil & Water annual meeting is September 30, 2023 at the Wellington Eagles. Soil & Water will unveil their new logo at the meeting. At the meeting the largest sycamore tree in Lorain County will be announced.

Jared Smith asked for a motion to adjourn at 8:56 pm a motion was made by Mark McConnell seconded by Rick Conrad; motion carried.

The November 16, 2023 will be in Elyria Township