

## BUDGET COMMISSION

The Geauga County Budget Commission met in special session on Monday, June 6, 2022 at 11:03 a.m. in the Auditor's office at 215 Main Street, Chardon, Ohio. Present: Geauga County Auditor Charles E. Walder, Geauga County Prosecutor James Flaiz and Geauga County Treasurer C. P. Hitchcock. Also Present: Chief Deputy Auditor Ron Leyde, Deputy Auditors, Frank Antenucci, Tammy Most and Kristen Sinatra

Meeting was advertised: Regular Business

Review of levies for Geauga JFS and Board of Mental Health  
(collection adjustments may be made)

### Prior Minutes

Motion by Charles E Walder, seconded by James Flaiz, to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2022 - special session.

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried

### 2023 Budget Review – County Departments with Levies (cont.)

#### Geauga County Board of Mental Health 2023 Budget overview

Motion by James Flaiz, seconded by Charles E Walder, to table the approval of the 2023 budget to allow the Geauga County Board of Mental Health the opportunity to meet and move to voluntarily reduce levy collection.

3 Grant applications (2 OhioMHAS - 1 Congressional) were presented by the representatives from the Mental Health Department which represented 2 potential housing projects. One project would be for new construction (ten unit complex) on land already own by the Mental Health Board for individuals with severe mental illness. The second project would be revamping a building for individuals with mental disabilities as well as “dual” diagnosed individuals. If the grant funding for the second project is not approved the third grant would be utilized. The grant applications are in process awaiting approval from their respective governing bodies. The Budget Commission had strong reservations with regard to the project costs not being reflected anywhere in the 2023 Budget and whether their board would support the project even with the grant approved funding.

Additionally, the Commission expressed doubts that the expense numbers in the budget would be at all reflective of the actual expenditures, largely due to the fact that the revenue and expenditure amounts were identical and past historic data shows actual expenses much lower than budgeted. This pattern contributes to the high carryover balance that has been growing over the past number of years. ‘The taxpayers did not vote for you to be a bank. If the funds were not needed for Mental Health issues they should go back to the taxpayers.’

A discussion centered around opinions about the amount of revenue which is reasonable for carryover. The ORC does not state a definitive carryover amount guideline for Mental Health departments. The Budget Commission suggested the use of Reserve funds in order to earmark revenue for a specific purpose such as the above-mentioned projects. Mr. Walder agreed to send further information to Mr. Mausser regarding the creation and maintenance of Reserve funds.

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried

#### Geauga County Job and Family Services 2023 Budget overview

Motion by Charles E Walder, seconded by James Flaiz, to table the approval of 2023 budget for the Geauga County JFS to allow the Executive Director of JFS the opportunity to address and request that the County Commissioners voluntarily suspend collection of the JFS 2015 levy.

After discussion surrounding the circumstances including: COVID-19, the Opiate crisis, and staffing shortages which have resulted in the department having an excess of revenue, the decision was made to table the 2023 budget again in order to give Mr. Swenson adequate time to present his request to the County Commissioners for reducing collection on one of the two levies. The 2015 .5mill levy is preferable as this levy does not qualify for State credits.

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried

**2022 Certificate Amendments**

**Russell Township – Amendment #2**

Motion by James Flaiz, seconded by Christopher P Hitchcock, to amend the Russell Township Official Certificate of Estimated Resources to reflect the following changes to revenue previously certified:

**Special Revenue Funds**

Increase ARP Fiscal Recovery Fund #2272 other source revenue 272,248.00 from 0.00 to 272,248.00

New Special Revenue Funds Total:	<u>\$10,644,583.67</u>
<b>New 2022 Certificate Total:</b>	<b>\$15,469,321.53</b>

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried.

**Chester Township – Amendment #4**

Motion by Christopher P Hitchcock, seconded by Charles E Walder, to amend the Chester Township Official Certificate of Estimated Resources to reflect the following changes to revenue previously certified:

**Special Revenue Funds**

Decrease 2273 ARPA other source revenue (0.18) from 2,146.53 to 2,146.35

New Special Revenue Fund Total:	<u>\$11,775,716.83</u>
<b>New 2022 Certificate Total:</b>	<b>\$13,538,928.67</b>

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried.

**Chardon Township – Amendment #2**

Motion by Charles E Walder, seconded by James Flaiz, to amend the Chardon Township Official Certificate of Estimated Resources to reflect the following changes to revenue previously certified:

**Special Revenue Funds**

Increase 2031 Road & Bridge other source revenue 7,372.85 from 5,500 to 12,872.85

New Special Revenue Fund Total:	<u>\$2,229,909.48</u>
<b>New 2022 Certificate Total:</b>	<b>\$2,828,056.88</b>

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried.

**Bainbridge Township – Amendment #4**

Motion by James Flaiz, seconded by Christopher P Hitchcock, to amend the Bainbridge Township Official Certificate of Estimated Resources to reflect the following changes to revenue previously certified:

**Special Revenue Funds**

Increase 2908 EPA 319 Grant Fund other source revenue 624.73 from 807.88 to 1432.61

New Special Revenue Fund Total:	<u>\$21,907,826.75</u>
<b>New 2022 Certificate Total:</b>	<b>\$29,169,976.25</b>

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried.

**Geauga Health District Amendment #3**

Motion by Christopher P Hitchcock, seconded by Charles E Walder, to amend the 2022 Geauga Health District Official Certificate of Estimated Resources to reflect the following changes to revenue previously certified:

**Special Revenue Fund**

Increase Emergency Response Fund (6030 – new) other source revenue 154,576.00 from 0.00 to 154,576.00

<u>New Special Revenue Fund Total:</u>	<u>\$5,891,734.10</u>
<b>New 2022 Certificate Total:</b>	<b>\$8,358,295.85</b>

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried.

**Geauga Health District Financial Transactions**

Motion by Charles E Walder, seconded by James Flaiz, to acknowledge the Supplemental Appropriations and Cash Transfer listed.

**Supplement Appropriations**

<b>Fund 6011 Private Water:</b> Increase Materials & Supplies	1,000.00
Other	<u>5,000.00</u>
	<b>6,000.00</b>

**New total unappropriated balance: \$154,029.89**

<b>Fund 6030 Emergency Response:</b> Increase Material & Supplies	10,000.00
Other	<u>10,000.00</u>
	<b>20,000.00</b>

**New total unappropriated balance: \$134,576.00**

<b>Fund 6037 For sale of Property:</b> Increase Materials & Supplies	5,000.00
Legal Fees	5,000.00
Refunds	<u>7,500.00</u>
	<b>17,500.00</b>

**New total unappropriated balance: \$275,258.65**

**Cash Transfer**

**From: 6002 BOH                      To: 6030 Emergency Response    \$25,000.00 – to fund starting cash**

Voice Vote: Three ayes. Motion carried

**Geauga County – Amendment #9**

Motion by James Flaiz, seconded by Christopher P Hitchcock, to amend the 2022 Geauga County Official Certificate of Estimated Resources to reflect the following changes to revenue previously certified:

**Enterprise Funds**

Increase #5023 McFarland WWTP other source revenue 100,000.00 from 0.00 to 100,000.00.

**New Enterprise Funds Total:                      \$ 21,594,294.02**

**New 2022 Certificate Total:                      \$213,767,141.35**

Voice vote: Three ayes. Motion carried

**2022/2023 School Amendment – Re-sign**

**Berkshire Local School District 2022/2023 – Re-sign Original**

Original Certificate of Estimated Resources dated February 22, 2022 to reflect the following corrections to revenue previously certified due to calculation error:

Capital Projects Funds

Add Fund 070 Capital Projects beginning balance of 20,000. from 0.00 to 20,000.00

Increase Fund 070 Capital Projects other source revenue 24,000. from 0.00 to 24,000.00

***Net Adjustment: 44,000.00***

New Capital Project Funds Total: \$ 1,209,708.26

**New Total 2022/2023 Certificate: \$ 26,346,439.88**

Certificate was re-signed

**General Discussion:**

Confirm July Budget Commission meeting dates:

July 4<sup>th</sup> will be re-scheduled as a special due to Independence Day holiday for 7/7/22 at 10:00 a.m. Auditor’s office.

July 18<sup>th</sup> will be cancelled.

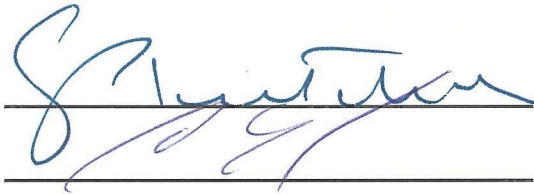
**Public Comment:** None

Being no further business to conduct it was moved by Christopher P Hitchcock to adjourn the special meeting at 12:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Charles E. Walder, Auditor  
Secretary/Budget Commission

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