

The Board of County Commissioners, in and for Lake County, Ohio, met this day in regular session with the following members present:

Commissioners:

Commissioner Jerry C. Cirino presented the following resolution and moved its adoption.

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A POLICY OF NON-ACCEPTANCE OF CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS BY THE INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FROM COUNTY EMPLOYEES UNDER THEIR DIRECT SUPERVISION

WHEREAS, campaign finance reports filed with the Lake County Board of Elections between the years 2005 to 2018 (year to date), disclose that various individual members of the Lake County Board of Commissioners have accepted political contributions totaling close to \$64,000.00 from county employees who are directly under their supervision and control;

WHEREAS, it is a violation of Ohio law for elected officials to solicit contributions from employees, in addition, it would further best serve the interest of Lake County tax payers if the individual members of the Board of Commissioners would refuse to accept political contributions from employees directly under their supervision and over whom the commissioners have the sole authority to hire, appoint, supervise, compensate, evaluate, promote, and discipline;

WHEREAS, the acceptance of political contributions by individual members of the Board of Commissioners from their employees results in the high likelihood of an employee feeling pressure to make a political contribution or obligated to support an incumbent county commissioner;

WHEREAS, proper management of employees should prohibit acceptance by a commissioner of political contributions from employees as it creates the appearance of impropriety and may actually compromise a commissioner's ability to hold such employees accountable, implies favoritism, and calls into question the reasons as to why some employees are hired, promoted, given raises or assigned specific duties;

WHEREAS, it is stipulated that county employees under the direct supervision of the commissioners have First Amendment rights of political expression and are encouraged to freely exercise such rights, however, such employees should feel no obligation to pay political contributions and, to remove any pressure from the employees, the members of the Board of Commissioners should refuse to accept political contributions from them.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that from this day forward, the Lake County Board of Commissioners adopts a policy to refrain from accepting or, if given, returning political contributions from employees under their direct supervision and control.

Commissioner _____ seconded the resolution and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

"AYES": Commissioners:

"NAYS":

Resolution adopted,
Jennifer Bell, Clerk

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

I, Jennifer Bell, duly appointed Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners, do hereby certify that this is a true and accurate copy of a resolution adopted by said Board on September 13, 2018, and recorded in the Commissioners' Journal, Volume 2018.

WITNESS my hand this 13th day of September, 2018, in Painesville, Ohio

Jennifer Bell, Clerk
Board of Commissioners, in and
for Lake County, Ohio