



# Geauga County Budget Commission

Christopher P. Hitchcock, Chairman

James R. Flaiz, Vice Chairman

Charles E. Walder, Secretary

May 1, 2023

Geauga Public Health  
12611 Ravenwood Drive  
Suite 300  
Chardon, OH 44024

Re: Geauga Public Health 2024 Budget

Dear Board Members,


Recently, it has come to our attention that the Geauga Public Health ("GPH") Board formally approved GPH's 2024 Budget at the April 26, 2023 GPH Board meeting.

Please be advised that GPH had previously submitted their 2024 Budget and represented to be a GPH Board approved. The Geauga County Budget Commission reviewed, considered, and acted on that GPH submission under the belief that it had been lawfully approved and submitted.

Consequentially, please be advised that going forward, the Budget Commission will now require formal proof of GPH's Budget's passage in a public meeting of GPH's Board as required by law. *See* R.C. R.C. 3709.28(A) ("If a general health district will not receive any part of its revenue for a fiscal year from an appropriation apportioned among the townships and municipal corporations composing the district, the board of health of the district shall adopt an annual appropriation measure for that fiscal year under this section or sections 5705.38, 5705.39, and 5705.40 of the Revised Code."); *see also* R.C. 1.02(F). This requirement will help ensure that GPH's actions under Geauga County Budget Commission consideration better comply with statutory requirements.

We as public officials must be accountable for our management of public money. Fortunately, in Geauga County, the people overwhelmingly favor checks and balances for our local government officials. In our role as one such check, the Geauga County Budget Commission strongly encourages local government officials' statutory compliance, which better ensures transparency and accountability to the good people of Geauga County, who have a right to know how their money will be spent.

Sincerely,

  
Christopher P. Hitchcock  
Chairman

  
James R. Flaiz  
Vice Chairman

  
Charles E. Walder  
Secretary

Cc: GCBudget  
file

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