

Medina county commissioners meetings

Feb 10 2026 Commissioners minutes Only Passed Resolutions are recorded by commissioners. Therefore NO RECORD of RESOLUTION except short summary from Mary by commissioner's secretary.

Public Comment Several residents presented comments regarding a proposed resolution to prohibit Medina County from supporting or participating in Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) activities or housing ICE detainees in the county jail. A brief summary of the comments are as follows:

Mary Emhoff, 5065 Fox Haven Dr., Medina read a **proposed resolution** declaring that Medina County should not support or participate in ICE/CBP enforcement activities nor house ICE detainees in the Medina County jail. The resolution included sections on prohibiting ICE detention contracts, prohibiting participation in ICE civil enforcement, limiting ICE/CBP detainer requests, restricting use of county resources, protecting community trust, and transparency requirements.

Nola Lowther, 3425 Forest Lake Dr., Medina, urged commissioners to consider their role in preventing suffering related to immigration enforcement, suggesting they could at minimum express empathy toward undocumented neighbors facing fear and uncertainty.

Elaine Stone, address unknown, spoke about fear being the predominant emotion of our time and stated that 6,000 Medina County residents are of Hispanic heritage, with only 20% being undocumented. She emphasized that ICE can detain anyone with brown skin, though only 26% of those detained have any criminal record and only 5% have committed violent crimes.

Thomas Quinn, 2507 Wilbur Rd., Medina, shared his family's immigration history, including his discovery at age 18 that he had Chinese ancestry that his family had hidden due to discrimination. He encouraged commissioners to "allow room for what you may not know" when considering the resolution.

Kristen Luther, 3423 Forest Lake Dr., Medina, stated that "what is happening in America is not normal" and that ICE does not follow the Constitution or American values. She noted that Cleveland and Akron city councils had passed emergency resolutions opposing Ohio bills that would require local governments to cooperate with ICE.

Cathy Juliane, 171 Granger Rd., #168, Medina, spoke about the potential economic consequences of ICE activities in Medina, contrasting the promotion of Medina as a tourist destination with the potential for ICE operations in the community.

Michael Eisner, 32605 Stonybrook Ln., Solon, a congressional candidate, discussed how naturalized citizens are carrying copies of their documents out of fear, and mentioned that U.S. citizens have been wrongfully detained by ICE. He argued that warrantless searches put communities at risk legally and financially.

Patricia McDonald, 4182 Blue Ridge Dr., Brunswick, shared her family's immigration history and expressed concern about "ambush style tactics" being used by immigration enforcement.

Melissa Tucker, 382 Longview Rd., Medina, spoke in favor of cooperating with ICE and enforcing immigration laws, comparing illegal immigration to strangers entering a private home uninvited-**only opposition testimony**

David Walker, 185 Dawna Dr., Wadsworth, suggested the "paramount criteria" for evaluating the resolution depends on understanding what ICE's activities truly represent, arguing that ICE is being used to "intimidate the entire populace" through excessive force and disregard for constitutional rights.

Dan Walker, 613 S. Court St., Medina, expressed disgust at seeing laws selectively enforced and described actions by federal agents that he characterized as unconstitutional and discriminatory.

Kathy Jones, 2606 Hidden Spring Ln., Wadsworth, , identified herself as a first-generation American and court monitor for federal immigration court, describing situations where people with no criminal records are being detained and even those applying for asylum are being apprehended outside courtrooms.

Pauline Chapman, 7328 Wooster Pike Rd., Seville, urged passing the resolution, noting that ICE was targeting people to meet quotas rather than focusing on "the worst of the worst" as initially claimed.

Heather Nichols, 58 E. Main St., Seville, acknowledged that multiple perspectives can be valid simultaneously but argued that changing immigration rules "midstream" is unjust. She asked commissioners to validate community concerns by approving the resolution.

Sylvia Holmes, 591 Sharon Copley Rd., Wadsworth, a lifelong resident of Medina County with ancestors dating back to 1640, emphasized the importance of due process for all people.

Commissioners Comments Regarding Today's Speakers Commissioner Hambley highlighted a news article in the current Gazette, which reported about an off-duty officer who pleaded guilty to attempted abduction and consequently lost his police certification. He commended the county prosecutors and law enforcement agencies, including those in the city of Brunswick, Hinckley Township, and in collaboration with the prosecutor's office, for their effective actions in addressing the issue. *Hambley emphasized the importance of good law enforcement practices, noting that the local agencies involved acted correctly* by identifying and prosecuting officers who denied an individual's rights, thereby showing Medina County's commitment to fair and just law enforcement. Commissioner Swedyk *thanked those in attendance for their thoughtful and respectful comments*. Commissioner Harrison addressed the audience's concerns regarding the proposed ICE resolution, which calls for the county to refrain from supporting or participating in Immigration and Customs Enforcement activities. *He expressed concerns about potential unintended consequences of implementing such a resolution, particularly regarding the separation of powers*. He clarified that it is not within the commissioners' jurisdiction to direct the sheriff's operations or interfere with their duties, asserting the need to respect the rule of law and the appropriate roles of local authorities. Mr. Harrison acknowledged the commissioners' sensitivity to the views presented by residents at the meeting, but reaffirmed their primary focus on *essential county responsibilities*, such as managing infrastructure, waste management, and senior services.

The local press and Cleveland TV stations present. Testimony and accompanying rally heavily covered by press. We invited the press. Not a follow up peep by commissioners.

Commissioners meeting Sept 9 2025 minutes

Public Comment

Nola Lothar, 3425 Forest Lake, Medina, spoke against the commissioners approving local jail contracts with ICE, citing Attorney General Dave Yost's recent authorization that only county commissioners can sign contracts with ICE to indefinitely detain people facing civil immigration charges. She expressed concerns about ICE enforcement practices and the treatment of detainees in facilities.

Mary Emhoff, 5065 Fox Haven, Brunswick Hills, read a resolution opposing Medina County participation in housing immigrants arrested by ICE, citing constitutional concerns, federal vs. local government responsibilities, and community values of fairness and justice.

Kathy Juliano, 171 Granger Rd., Unit 168, Medina, expressed opposition to ICE enforcement tactics and urged local officials to take a stand against what she described as "masked mercenaries" in the community.

Jack Petrilla, 234 W. North Street, Apt. 103-C, Medina has been resident for over 33 years, shared statistics on deportations and ICE detention and expressed concerns about lack of due process for immigrants. He urged commissioners not to allow county jails to be used for ICE incarcerations.

Susan Burkett read a statement from Kathleen Knox, 900 Smokerise Dr., Medina, supporting the resolution opposing Medina County participation in housing immigrants arrested by ICE and expressing concerns about ICE operations overreaching their mandate.

Dan Walker, 613 S. Court St., Medina, shared positive experiences working with immigrants throughout his career and expressed concerns about ICE enforcement dividing communities and undermining trust in local law enforcement.

Discussion Session Sept 16 Recent Public Comments (Sept 9) Commissioner Harrison briefly discussed the recent public comments regarding ICE detainees noting that there are no current plans to house ICE detainees in the county jail and that they do not intend to take action on the proposed resolution at this time. **No publication of resolution They only record resolutions that they approve. No press coverage but press was present.**

Commissioners meeting May 27 2025 testimony without resolution

Public Comment

1. Nola Lowther, resident of Medina, urged the commissioners to end or refuse to enter into contracts with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) for detaining immigrants in local jails. She cited concerns about family separation, due process, and the impact on community safety and trust.
2. Kathie Jones, resident of Sharon Twp., inquired about any existing contracts between the county and ICE. The commissioners clarified that while there is a federal contract with the U.S. Marshals Service, there are no current contracts with ICE. Ms. Jones expressed opposition to potential ICE contracts, citing concerns about lawsuits, public safety, and community trust.
3. Pauline Chapman, resident of Montville Twp., expressed her concerns about the potential for Medina County to contract with ICE, stating her opposition to such

agreements and her desire for the county to maintain its reputation as a friendly community.

There was no further mention of topic by commissioners probably because no resolution to address. They did not suggest we write a resolution. We figured that out ourselves. No press coverage. Press was present.

Video Go to commissioners website . Is video category and meetings categorized by date. Our testimony: May 27, 2025 23:24-34:56; September 9, 2025 21:19- 41:40; Feb 10, 2026 13:56- 1:32.

Medina city council meetings

Medina City council Meeting March 9, 2026 and March 23, 2026 in response to resolution opposing 4 state legislature bills to allow ICE to invade schools, healthcare facilities and other public and private spaces and coordinate with city officials. **Video** Go to YouTube Medina Council meetings. Testimony: 3/9/26 25:-1:25; 3/23/26 20:14-1:12.