

Geauga County and Skip Claypool asking for a fourth NOACA seat for Geauga.

During my time as a commissioner and during my time as an alternate, I made multiple requests to add a fourth seat (the county engineer). When I was a commissioner, the board sent a resolution to NOACA, asking for the county engineer to be added as a fourth member. Any claim that I asked for a commissioner's seat to be replaced with the county engineer is simply ridiculous and dishonest. To make my case, let me offer this comment from Grace Gallucci that I copied out of the NOACA June 13 2025, meeting minutes. Carolyn was in the meeting.

“Director Gallucci stated that Geauga County had requested multiple times that its County Engineer be included in its representation on the NOACA Board. She noted that even when Mr. Claypool was a Commissioner the County had asked to add another member, creating a fourth representative. However, NOACA cannot grant Geauga County an additional seat for its Engineer. Director Gallucci explained that including the County Engineer can only be done by adjusting the county's existing representation.”

There are multiple references in meeting minutes of me pressing for a fourth seat to include the following. Again the following comes from the June 13th meeting minutes. I can provide multiple such references over the years.

“Mr. Claypool commented that the issue had been largely an internal political matter for Geauga County, and while he had not wanted to delve into the specifics, ... He noted that historically, the NOACA Board had been more balanced, with three commissioners from each county, along with a mayor and a HUD representative. Over time, however, imbalances had developed. He had disagreed with **Director Gallucci's claim that adding an extra seat for Geauga County was impossible, contending that the Board could have made such a decision if it chose to. He pointed out that adding a fourth seat would not have affected the voting outcome**, as Cleveland and Cuyahoga County would still have held the majority of votes. Mr. Claypool suggested that adding the seat would have helped make the Board fairer and more balanced.”