

**Regular Meeting #10-46
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
November 2, 2010**

10:00 a.m. Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, November 2, 2010 beginning at 10:00 a.m., with the following Commissioners present: Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger. Absent was Jon Myers. Also present were Ritta Seitz, Carri Brown, Jason Dolin and Scott Zody.

Announcements

Mr. Zody announced there would be at least on add-on resolution for the Maintenance office relative to the repaving of the Government Service Center.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes of Tuesday, October 26, 2010

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the minutes for Tuesday, October 26, 2010.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger

Approval of Drawing on the Letter of Credit – Oak Creek II Subdivision – Turn Lanes – Regional Planning

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve Drawing on the Letter of Credit – Oak Creek II Subdivision – Turn Lanes – Regional Planning, see resolution 10-11.02.a

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger

Approval of Authorizing Holly R. Mattei to certify the Housing Opportunities for persons with AIDS (HOPWA) grant consistency with Fairfield Community Housing Improvement Strategy

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve authorizing Holly R. Mattei to certify the Housing Opportunities for persons with AIDS (HOPWA) grant consistency with Fairfield Community Housing Improvement Strategy, see resolution 10-11.02.b

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger

Approval of Change Order #1 – Fairfield County, Village of Thurston Water Storage Tank Improvements – CDBG FY2009

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve change Order #1 – Fairfield County, Village of Thurston Water Storage Tank Improvements – CDBG FY2009, see resolution 10-11.02.c

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger

Approval of Award of Bid – CDBG FY2009 Fairfield County Courthouse – Public Washroom Improvements Project

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve an Award of Bid – CDBG FY2009 Fairfield County Courthouse – Public Washroom Improvements Project, see resolution 10-11.02.d

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger

Approval of Communications System Easement for CenturyLink on the Violet Meadows Water Tank Site

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve a Communications System Easement for CenturyLink on the Violet Meadows Water Tank Site, see resolution 10-11.02.e

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger

Approval of Request for payment resolutions

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve request for payment resolutions as follows:

10-11.02.f Approval of request for payment and status of funds report – FY2008 NSP1 Funds – Drawdown #233

10-11.02.g Approval of request for payment and status of funds report – FY2008 Housing Improvement Funds – Drawdown #234

10-11.02.h Approval of request for payment and status of funds report – FY2009 CDBG Formula Program – Drawdown #235

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger

Approval of engineer's resolutions

On the motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve resolutions for the County Engineer as follows:

10-11.02.i Approval of Purchase of a new John Deere Model CP24C Cold Planer - Engineer

10-11.02.j Approval of Construction Drawings for the GRE-42, FAI-CR37-4.22 North Columbus Street over a Tributary to the Hocking River Bridge Replacement Project - Engineer

10-11.02.k Approval of Change Order for the 2010 Resurfacing Project - Engineer

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger

Approval of Advance resolutions

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve Advance resolutions as follows:

10-11.02.l Approval of repayment of an advance to the General Fund – EMA Fund #2774 – Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

10-11.02.m Approval to Ratify previously approved advance from the General Fund for the Fairfield Hocking Major Crimes Unit & FY2010 ODNR

10-11.02.n Approval of Advance from the General Fund to the HOME – FY2008 Fund #2731 - Commissioners

10-11.02.o Approval of Advance from the General Fund to the OHTF – FY2008 Fund #2732 - Commissioners

10-11.02.p Approval of Advance from the General Fund to the NSP1 Grant Fund #2748 – Commissioners

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger

Approval of Amended Certificate resolutions

On the motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve Amended Certificate resolutions as follows:

10-11.02.q Approval to Amend Certificate, fund to fund transfer, update receipt line item and appropriate from unappropriated – Commissioners – Debt Service Fund – AEP Building

10-11.02.r Approval to Amend Certificate and request appropriations for additional unanticipated receipts of Memo Expenditure – Fund 5595 Capital Projects Utility Administration Building

10-11.02.s Approval to Amend Certificate and request appropriations for additional unanticipated receipts of Memo Expenditure – Fund 4523, Bond Retirement Liberty Center, Engineer Duns 4485 Bond Retirement Liberty Center Commissioners, Duns 4529 Bond Retirement Juvenile Detention Center, Fund 5555 Bond Retirement Sewer Consolidation, and Fund 5556 Bond Retirement Water Consolidation

10-11.02.t Approval to Amend Certificate and request appropriations for additional unanticipated receipts of Memo Expenditure – 3434 OPWC Payments

10-11.02.u Approval to Amend Certificate and request appropriations for additional unanticipated receipts of Memo Expenditure – 3434 OPWC Payments

10-11.02.v Approval to Amend Certificate and request appropriations for additional unanticipated receipts of Memo Expenditure – 3434 OPWC Payments

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger

Approval of Financial Resolutions

On the motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve financial resolutions as follows:

10-11.02.w Approval of payment of a voucher without an appropriate carry over purchase order - Utilities

10-11.02.x Approval of payment of a voucher without an appropriate carry over purchase order - Utilities

10-11.02.y Approval to Fund to Fund Transfer – Insurance (General)

10-11.02.z Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Commissioners/Maintenance
10-11.02.aa Approval of Account to Account Transfer - Airport
10-11.02.bb Approval Account to Account Transfer – Sheriff
10-11.02.cc Approval to Appropriate from unappropriated & Account to Account Transfer –
Commissioners – FY2008 HOME funds
10-11.02.dd Approval to appropriate from unappropriated – Engineer

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger

Approval of Authorization for Payment of Bills, November 2, 2010, check date November 5, 2010

On the motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Authorization for Payment of Bills, November 2, 2010, check date November 5, 2010, see resolution 10-11.02. ee

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger

Approval of Contract Award for the County Service Center Parking Lot

On the motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve a Contract Award for the County Service Center Parking Lot, see resolution 10-11.02.ff

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger

Review Session

The Board of Commissioners met to review legal issues, pending and future action items and correspondence. Commissioners present were Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger. Also present were Brian Kuhn, Aundra Cordle, Ed Laramee, Jason Dolin and Scott Zody.

Mr. Dolin provided an update on legal issues, stating that he will be meeting with Mr. Zody later in the week to discuss the process of transferring the Miller Building back to the Commissioners form the Board of Health.

Mr. Dolin noted that the Board may want to meet with the City of Lancaster to discuss the pending expiration of the inmate housing contract. Commissioner Shupe asked how long the contract was for, and Mr. Dolin stated he thought it had been a 10 year agreement, and Mr. Zody stated it was actually an 11 year agreement that was tied to the largest city issue.

Commissioner Shupe asked if the Sheriff had any opinion, and Mr. Zody stated the contract is between the Commissioners and the City, and Commissioner Shupe stated the Board should get input from the Sheriff on the contract, and Lancaster should be paying something. Mr. Dolin stated that is a matter to be negotiated between the Board and the city, and Mr. Zody noted that he had spoken with Municipal Clerk of Courts Sherry Eckman and she had informed him that for any jail-eligible offense, the Lancaster Police will charge defendants with violations of the Revised Code instead of Municipal Ordinance. That way, the city has no obligation to pay for any inmate housing.

Commissioner Shupe asked Mr. Kuhn if this subject had ever come up during City Council, and Mr. Kuhn stated not to his knowledge, but he was not on the committee that would likely discuss this issue. Commissioner Shupe asked Mr. Zody to schedule a meeting with the Mayor and Sheriff as soon as possible to discuss.

Mr. Kuhn asked if the violation is city vs. state, does it matter where the offense occurs, and Mr. Zody stated what matters is how the offender is charged, not the location. MS. Cordle asked who pays for the transportation in these instances, and Mr. Zody stated the city pays for transportation to Municipal Court, and the County is responsible for Common Pleas.

Regarding the Health Department, Ms. Cordle stated she is concerned about their parking lot, especially in the winter with snow and ice. There have been several Workers' Compensation claims resulting from slips and falls.

The Board discussed a quote received to repair the water line at the Amateur Radio Club for \$2,200. Mr. Zody stated the repairs were for copper line and the city was also requiring a backflow preventer. Commissioner Kiger asked if the facility was in or out of the city limits, and Mr. Zody stated he was under the impression that it was in the city limits. Commissioner Shupe stated she thought it was outside the city limits.

Mr. Zody asked if the Board if he could direct Mr. Vogel to make the repairs, and Commissioner Kiger asked if Mr. Vogel could obtain another quote. Commissioner Shupe stated they also needed to determine if the facility is within the city or not.

The Board discussed the request from Dog Warden Mike Miller to repair the Shelter incinerator, and Commissioner Shupe stated the estimate is much cheaper than the original, and Commissioner Kiger stated it was less than half the original estimate. The Board directed Mr. Zody to inform Mr. Vogel and Mr. Miller to proceed.

The Board discussed a letter received from Richard Huffine relative to his continued dispute over who is responsible for paying his insurance deductible for a sewer back up into his basement. Ms. Cordle stated she is coordinating with CORSA and he has been informed on numerous occasions that neither the county nor CORSA can pay for his deductible. Commissioner Kiger stated the Mr. Huffines does not appear willing to accept that.

The Board discussed a letter received from a citizen upset with the Utilities Department automatic rate increases of 3% per year. Commissioner Kiger stated they should have Mr. Vogel handle the concern, and Commissioner Shupe agreed, stating the automatic increases are built into the debt service the bonds that built the lines.

The Board discussed a request from Spyglass relative to telecommunications savings proposals, and Commissioner Shupe stated they propose to provide recovery, elimination and cost reduction savings, but wasn't that what Doug Ballou was doing with the new phone system? Commissioner Kiger stated it was, and did not see any need to bring in another consultant. Ms. Cordle asked if the company would also look at cell phone use, as there are several inconsistencies relative to county cell phones due to the various agencies each having their own plan. Mr. Zody stated he would ask Ms. Knisley to check with Spyglass to see if that is something they would look into.

Commissioner Kiger stated that Historic Parks Director Dave Fey had stopped by and dropped off a letter this morning. Commissioner Shupe stated that the Board had asked for additional information on the Parks financials and is looks as if Mr. Fey is asking for consideration on funding. Commissioner Shupe stated that Shane Farnsworth was supposed to be working with the Parks Committee to find ways to support them.

Ms. Cordle reported that she has the draft motor vehicle policy out for review prior to the Roundtable on Thursday. Ms. Cordle asked if the Commissioners would help lead the

discussion relative to the benefits of the policy as it is the right thing to do. Commissioner Shupe asked if the county currently checks employee driving records, and Ms. Cordle stated they do but some agencies do like the HR office doing so.

Commissioner Kiger asked what is checked, and Ms. Cordle stated they look back three years for any violations. Under current policy, employees are supposed to report any violations. The new policy can be somewhat scary to some agencies, but it is designed to cover areas of risk or exposure.

Ms. Cordle asked if the Board had any intention of discussing a personal day in lieu of a pay raise for employees in 2011, and Commissioner Kiger stated he is not sure about the budget and they will be meeting with Ms. Addington next Tuesday./ Commissioner Shupe stated they could touch base and have a discussion with the other elected officials at the Roundtable to see where they are at. Ms. Cordle stated it could be done as a one-year or year by year benefit. Commissioner Shupe stated that Michael Orlando had reported that JFS was losing employees, and Ms. Cordle stated that they are experiencing high turnover right now.

Mr. Dolin presented the Board with some background material relative to the succession of Commissioner Myers, stating that the Board would follow the same appointment process that was followed for the Treasurer and Auditor. Commissioner Shupe stated the timing would be difficult, since she would be in Florida the first week of January. Mr. Zody added the party central committee would likely appoint a replacement before the Commissioners because the Commissioners by law cannot meet until Monday, January 10, 2011.

Commissioner Shupe stated the timing is difficult, and depending on what happens with the election and the state retirement systems, there may be additional vacancies occurring. Ms. Cordle stated different people may have various reasons to want to leave. Mr. Kuhn asked Ms. Cordle if she was getting qualified candidates to replace those who were leaving, and Ms. Cordle stated that it depends – Child Protective Services is the most difficult, as those can be very emotional jobs.

Ms. Cordle asked the Board if they were going to discuss incentives for agencies to encourage employees to participate in the United Way campaign. Commissioner Shupe stated she did not have a problem throwing it open for discussion.

Mr. Kuhn stated he had some of his employees express concern over what to do when the warning sirens go off and keep going off. Commissioner Shupe stated the building should be having tornado drills, and Ms. Cordle stated it might be a good idea to have Jon Kochis address at the Roundtable. Mr. Zody noted one of the problems during last week's storm was several of Lancaster's sirens malfunctioned and kept going off.

11:00 a.m. Meeting with OSU Extension

The Board of Commissioners met with the Ohio State University Extension Office for a quarterly update. Commissioners present were Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger. Absent was Jon Myers. Also present were Jim Skeeles, Howard Siegrist, Hanna Kohler, Cora French-Robinson, Staci Knisley, Ed Laramee, Jason Dolin and Scott Zody.

Mr. Skeeles provided an update on agriculture programs, stating the office recently conducted a cow/calf 101 class for new beef farmers that had 45 attendees, and a pesticide applicator school that had 86 participants.

Mr. Skeeles reported that he was also in the process of applying for bio-energy grants, and is working on the agency newsletter, website and social media, as well as contributing to the Ohio Beef magazine.

One new initiative is a carcass quality study that the office is doing with fair animals, particularly beef, hogs and goats. Mr. Skeeles stated they would take the award winners from the fair and compare the carcasses to others to see how they score.

The Master Gardeners continue their work, and last weekend 18 were at the Courthouse to do some fall work.

Commissioner Kiger asked if there was much of a market for goats, and Mr. Skeeles stated the main Ohio markets are Cincinnati, Columbus and Cleveland. Ms. Kohler stated there were 109 market goats shown at the Fair this year.

Mr. Skeeles stated the dynamics are changing in agriculture and now nearly 80% of farmers are “hobby” farmers. Mr. Zody asked if the bio-energy grants are being coordinated with any particular businesses or with the economic development office, and Mr. Skeeles stated they are USDA grants through the educational system and are intended to help jump start the bio fuel industry, and Hocking College has been involved locally.

Mr. Skeeles stated in biomass the biggest project currently going is the First Energy plant at Sunnyside, but no one is sure what direction it will take. Cellulose, ethanol and direct burning are all potentials, and the use of corn in ethanol is very high – nearly 1/3 of all the corn grown in the country in going into ethanol.

Hannah Kohler provided an update on the 4-H Program, stating that their first legacy dinner was a success, raising over \$7,000. In addition, they held a breakfast fundraiser at the Fair and raised over \$900.

Ms. Kohler reported that camp numbers were up this year, and they are actively seeking 4-H Advisors to serve the county clubs. The Fair saw an increase in the number of displays and animals entered into the Junior Fair, especially in the poultry class, and the annual dinner is scheduled for November 15th at the Liberty Center.

Cora French-Robinson provided an update on Family and Consumer Sciences, stating that Extension is now an approved HUD site, and she is the only person in the county to have HUD approval, which should help with some foreclosure issues.

The Smart Money Program for 3rd-6th graders has been implemented at some local schools, and is designed to help younger students understand money and how to budget towards nutrition. The Family Nutrition Program, which is Federally funded, is having success as well, serving several low-income families.

Mr. Siegrist addressed the budget situation, stating that they understand the Board is looking to reduce spending by approximately 3%. The Extension Office budget is \$385,000 in county funding, and they are trying to plan going forward. \$350,000 is strictly personnel funding, and Mr. Siegrist asked what the Board needed.

Commissioner Kiger stated the Board would be meeting on the budget the following week, and they numbers keep changing. Mr. Siegrist asked about the 3% figure, and Commissioner Shupe stated they are not sure how they will address the shortfall at this point and may or may not do across the board cuts. Commissioner Shupe added the 2011 budget will be difficult, but the 2012 and 2013 budget may be even more difficult. The sales tax is doing well, but interest income and conveyance fees remain down.

Mr. Siegrist asked if the current funding levels were considered flat, and Ms. Krisley stated they are the same as 2010 levels. Commissioner Shupe stated some cuts may need to occur, they just are not sure what or how at this point.

11:30 a.m. Meeting with Soil & Water Conservation

The Board of Commissioners met with the staff and Board of the Fairfield County Soil & Water Conservation District for an annual update. Commissioners present were Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger. Also present were SWCD Board members Joe Young, John Albert, Mike Wolfe, and Robert Hoffman, SWCD staff Perry Orndorff, Jonathan Ferbrache, Chad Lucht, Christina Holt, Vicki Kohli, Amy Boyer and Nikki Drake. Also present were Ed Laramée, Steve Hawkins, David Libben, Jason Dolin and Scott Zody.

Mr. Orndorff stated the purpose of the meeting was to update the Commissioners and highlight accomplishments, and introduced the supervisors and staff present.

Mr. Orndorff provided an overview of participation in various conservation and farm aid programs, such as the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP), the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and the Conservation Security Program (CSP). Mr. Orndorff reported that participation in all programs has been very good and several landowners have taken advantage of the incentives offered.

In addition, ODNR continues to provide some funding for Mr. Orndorff's to provide partial support for his Wildlife Specialist duties, and the SWCD continues to actively pursue Clean Ohio Agricultural Easement funding to preserve farmland.

The entire SWCD budget is \$1.6 million, and of that the county share is \$247,000 for match.

Mr. Wolfe added that farmers are becoming more technologically advanced, utilizing GPS technology for planting, spreading fertilizer, spraying, and strip tilling which injects fertilizer into the ground.

Mr. Orndorff reported the state match for 2010 was 79%, and the match has been historically higher but recently has been declining. Commissioner Shupe asked what the 2011 budget was looking like, and Mr. Hawkins stated it is very much up in the air – the solid waste funding stream will be there but the tire disposal fees are due to sunset next year and it is unclear if they will be renewed.

In addition, Mr. Hawkins expects about a \$1 million reduction in General Revenue Fund support for the state match line item. He expects that the state match will likely be proposed to be reduced even further under the next budget, because the Soil & Water Federation usually is able to lobby the legislature to add funding to it. Mr. Orndorff added that he expects the proposed budget to be 20-25% less in the next biennium.

Mr. Laramée asked if technology has exceeded the farmers abilities to acquire and use, and Mr. Wolfe stated most definitely not, and in fact the costs have actually come down and farmers are embracing the equipment – sometimes it can be a challenge to learn how to use the systems, but once they are used to them, they see the benefits.

Mr. Young stated the variable rate application helps target areas for fertilizer and track harvest rates instead of taking a broad brush approach. Mr. Laramée asked how many farmers are actually using technology, and Mr. Wolfe stated it is hard to say but there is definitely a high level of interest but funding is just limited.

Mr. Orndorff stated there is no clear county by county comparison but he believes Fairfield is a top 5 county. Mr. Orndorff reported they have also held several workshops this year for Forestry, Ponds, and Animal Conflicts.

Ms. Boyer provided an overview of several engineering projects completed over the past year, noting that Amanda and Pleasant Townships have been busy, and the District has provided assistance with 30-40 waterways alone.

Other projects included quick fill tanks to water livestock, spring watering devices and one large animal waste control facility. In addition, they recently connected an organic

dairy with an organic brewery and the brewery is providing their waste grain to the dairy for feed.

Ms. Boyer stated they also worked with an Amish farmer near Bremen that was causing problems with drainage and flooding State Route 664, and have utilized their new GPS equipment to measure several petition ditches, including Lateral A.

Ms. Drake provided the Board with an update on an erosion control project for Fetter's Run adjacent to the Lancaster High School football stadium. The district staff and Lancaster High FFA students provided the labor to grade a portion of the embankment that was slipping and planted dogwood and grasses to stabilize the new banks.

Jonathan Ferbrache provided an update on farmland preservation efforts, stating the district has been very successful obtaining several ag easements, and continues to be one of the state leaders in applicants and awards.

Mr. Ferbrache explained they are focusing on a area of Rush Creek to secure ag easements in the floodplains below some of the conservancy district impoundments and believe they will successfully preserve several hundred acres of high quality farmland.

In addition, Mr. Ferbrache is active with on-farm energy programs, and recently obtained a model solar well pump that he is marketing to area farmers.

Vicki Kohli provided an update on education efforts, stating the Earth Camp held its 14th annual day at Alley Park this year and has been able to award some small Environmental Education grants to Liberty Union, Pickerington North, and Amanda schools. In addition, an education day was held at Clear Creek Metro Park for Amanda students.

Mr. Orndorff provided a brief overview of his wildlife activities, stating he has spent a good amount of time addressing nuisance complaints and habitat enhancement inquiries, noting that the pond clinics are very popular. The most common animal complaints are deer, vultures, raccoon, Canada goose, beaver and coyote.

Mr. Orndorff stated he is working with the County Wildlife Officer on trying to address urban deer problems, especially on the East side of Lancaster.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board, on the motion of Judith Shupe and the second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn at 12:45 p.m.

Roll call vote on the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger

Mike Kiger
Commissioner

Jon D. Myers
Commissioner

Judith K. Shupe
Commissioner

Scott Zody, Clerk/Manager

**THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' IS
SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2010 AT 10:00 A.M.**