

**Regular Meeting #08-14
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
April 8, 2008**

Meeting with Jon Kochis

The Board of Commissioners met with EMA Director Jon Kochis to discuss potential Emergency Operations Center sites and other issues. Commissioners present at the meeting were Jon Myers and Judith Shupe. Also present were Jason Dolin and Scott Zody.

Mr. Kochis stated that he had talked with the owner of the former greenhouse property and she had informed him that the price would be lower than originally discussed, and there was no interested buyer. However, with state EMA grant guidance due to come out soon, Mr. Kochis would prefer to wait until he knows how much is available and what the local match parameters will be.

Mr. Kochis stated that he believes it would be more cost effective for the county to build a new building than purchase and rehabilitate an existing one, but the downside would be following the Federal environmental standards such as NEPA, which are more stringent.

Commissioner Myers asked if there were any potential impacts relative to SB 84, which was recently enacted, and Mr. Kochis stated that while he could use any funds generated by the assessment that is permitted under the bill, he would prefer to utilize the funds to address county police and fire radio communications issues first.

Commissioner Myers asked if the county was looking at the MARCS system, and Mr. Kochis stated that the county had purchased about a dozen handsets for MARCS, but felt the costs of operating the system would be greater than the costs of upgrading and operating the current system.

Commissioner Myers stated that Mr. Kochis would need to sell the assessment and use of it to the local police and fire departments and gain their approval.

Mr. Kochis requested permission from the Board to solicit some county employees to volunteer to be trained to help staff the Emergency Operations Center in the event of an emergency. Commissioner Shupe asked if this would only involve a day or two of training each year, and Mr. Kochis stated it would involve no more than that. Commissioner Myers asked if there would be any pay or liability issues, and Mr. Kochis did not believe there would be any.

Commissioner Shupe asked how many volunteers would be needed, and Mr. Kochis stated about 4 or 5. Commissioner Myers asked Mr. Dolin if he saw any concerns with this, and Mr. Dolin stated that unless the EOC would be activated and there would be any overtime issues, he thought it would work. Mr. Kochis stated the process would be strictly voluntary, and any weekend or after-hours work would be treated that way.

Commissioner Myers stated that the Board supported Mr. Kochis' request, and instructed him to contact the department heads to seek volunteers. Regarding the new EOC, the Board asked Mr. Kochis to keep them briefed on the grant guidance and how much would be available.

Mr. Dolin asked what happens in the event a disaster is declared in a neighboring county, and Mr. Kochis stated that there is a statewide Mutual Aid agreement among county EMA's and if there is a state or Federal declaration, all could respond if need be.

Commissioner Myers asked about the Public Safety Committee's concerns with respect to EMA being located in another facility, and Mr. Kochis stated that he has talked with Ed Laramie and some of the Committee members, but has made it no secret that

he intends to keep his options open, and has concerns over the ability of the jails support facilities to handle the operational needs of a fully activated emergency response. In addition, the Needs Assessment did not address EMA's critical needs, such as a garage for vehicle and equipment storage.

Review Session

The Board of Commissioners met at 9:20 a.m. to review correspondence, pending items, and future action items. Commissioners present at the review session were Jon Myers and Judith Shupe. Present also were Jason Dolin and Scott Zody.

Mr. Dolin provided an update on several legal issues and opinion he is working on. Mr. Dolin stated that he will be meeting with the legal counsel for Violet Township later on that day to see if a new agreement can be negotiated between the Sheriff and the township, and believes that some kind of transfer will be worked out. Commissioner Shupe stated that she had spoken with Violet Township Trustee Harry Myers regarding the contract, and at least one of the trustees would like to guarantee at least two deputies per shift, but understands that may not be possible. Mr. Dolin stated it may come down to what the value of providing law enforcement coverage is compared to the cost of renting the sub-station facility. Commissioner Shupe stated there should be a fair market cost arrived at for the rent.

9:30 Meeting with Staci Knisley

The Board of Commissioners met with Fiscal Clerk Staci Knisley at 9:30 a.m. to discuss the upcoming 2009 Operating Budget Guidance. Commissioners present were Jon Myers and Judith Shupe. Also present were Jason Dolin and Scott Zody.

Ms. Knisley provided a brief overview of the parameters, including cost increase guidelines. Commissioner Shupe asked if the salary limit would once again stay at 3%, and Ms. Knisley stated that based on the carryover and revenue projections, 3% would be safe. Commissioner Myers stated that the Board is aware that interest revenues will remain flat, and are expected to decrease in 2009, and asked if that had been factored in, and Ms. Knisley stated that it had.

Ms. Knisley stated that Workers' Compensation charges were probably a little over inflated, but that was normal to cover unanticipated injuries and provide a little cushion. In addition, she is anticipating an increased cost for health care expenses in 2008, but is not sure how much that would entail.

Commissioner Shupe asked what increases were budgeted for allocation, such as Job & Family Services, Soil & Water, and the Engineer. Ms. Knisley stated those were set for 2%.

Commissioner Myers asked if the allocations received 3% last year, and Commissioner Shupe stated that JFS only received 2%. Commissioner Shupe stated that the Board needed to get a plan from Mr. Orlando on how the Board could front or loan JFS funding for 2009 so they could implement changes per the recently passed levy, then pay the Board back once the levy revenue flows in 2010.

The Board directed Ms. Knisley to set the allocation increase to 2.5%, and salary increases at 3%.

10:00 a.m. Commissioners' Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, April 8, beginning at 10:00 a.m., with the following Commissioners present: Jon Myers and Judith Shupe. Absent was Commissioner Mike Kiger. Also present were Gregg Steele, Bill Yapple, Jason Dolin, and Scott Zody.

Announcements

Commissioner Myers announced the Commissioner Kiger had been released from the hospital, and was expected to return to work the following week. Mr. Zody announced that due to an error on his part, a resolution relative to a pending annexation had been left off the regular meeting agenda, but would be considered as an add-on item..

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Approval of minutes of Tuesday April 1, 2008

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the minutes for Tuesday April 1, 2008.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Judith Shupe and Jon Myers.

Approval of Re-appointment of Ryan Troup to the Fairfield County Visitor & Convention Bureau Board

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the re-appointment of Ryan Troup to the Fairfield County Visitor & Convention Bureau Board, see resolution 08-04.08.a

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

Approval of Establishing, Altering, Horizontally aligning and Improving drainage of Busey Rd. NW (TR216), Violet Township, Fairfield County, Ohio, declaration of necessity and setting a Commissioner viewing and hearing date of May 13, 2008, at 9:00 a.m., and a final hearing date of May 13, 2008, at 11:00 a.m.

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the establishing, altering, horizontally aligning and improving drainage of Busey Rd. NW, declaration of necessity, and setting a Commissioner viewing and hearing date of May 13, 2008, see resolution 08-04.08.b

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Judith Shupe and Jon Myers.

Approval of Conditional Acceptance – Sagamore Pond Subdivision – Regional Planning

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the conditional acceptance of the Sagamore Pond subdivision, see resolution 08-04.08.c

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Judith Shupe and Jon Myers.

Approval of Construction Drawings for the CLE-26, FAI-CR75-2.515 Oakland-Stoutsville Road SW over a Tributary of Salt Creek Bridge Replacement Project

On the motion of Judith Shupe and second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve construction drawings for the Oakland-Stoutsville Road SW over a Tributary of Salt Creek Bridge Replacement Project, see resolution 08-04.08.d

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Judith Shupe and Jon Myers.

Approval of Engineering Services for Design Services for a New Wastewater Reclamation Facility – Utilities

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve engineering services for design services for a new wastewater reclamation facility, see resolution 08-04.08.e

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Judith Shupe and Jon Myers.

Approval of Financial Resolutions

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

- 08-04.08.f Approval of Payment of a Voucher Without Appropriate Purchase Order –Family, Adult & Children First Council
- 08-04.08.g Approval of Payment of a Voucher Without Appropriate Purchase Order –Family, Adult & Children First Council
- 08-04.08.h Approval of Payment of a Voucher Without Appropriate Purchase Order –Job & Family Services
- 08-04.08.i Approval of Payment of a Voucher Without Appropriate Purchase Order –ADAMH
- 08-04.08.j Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Common Pleas Court
- 08-04.08.k Approval of Account to Account Transfer – County Engineer
- 08-04.08.l Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Economic Development
- 08-04.08.m Approval of Fund to Fund Transfer – Maintenance
- 08-04.08.n Approval of Fund to Fund Transfer – Job & Family Services
- 08-04.08.o Approval to Appropriate from Unappropriated – Job & Family Services
- 08-04.08.p Approval to Appropriate from Unappropriated – Auditor

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Judith Shupe and Jon Myers.

Payment of Bills

On the motion of Judith Shupe and second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the authorization for payment of bills, April 8, 2008, check date April 11, 2008, see resolution 08-04.08.q

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Judith Shupe and Jon Myers.

Approval of Annexation of 6.0977 acres of land from Violet Township to the Village of Lithopolis

On the motion of Judith Shupe and second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the annexation of 6.0977 acres of land from Violet Township to the Village of Lithopolis, see resolution 08-04.08.r

Wanda Carter, legal counsel for Violet Township, spoke in opposition to the annexation, stating that, while the township had no legal means to oppose the annexation, they do not believe it is in the best interests of the township. The main concerns expressed by the township are the unusual shape of the parcel, and a long-standing philosophical opposition to annexation by the township.

Commissioner Myers stated that while he empathizes with the trustees, the Board has little leeway on approval of annexation, and suggested the trustees work with their state legislators to address their concerns.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Judith Shupe and Jon Myers.

Review, continued.

The Board directed Mr. Zody to schedule a meeting with Jeanette Addington for a quarterly update on the county financial condition.

Mr. Zody informed the Board that he had been contacted by Columbia Gas Transmission relative to a smart pig launcher the company intends to install on county owner property adjacent to the recycling center but within Columbia's current easement. The Board directed Mr. Zody to check with the Prosecutor's Office, as they believe the county transferred ownership of that land to the Fairfield County Community Action Agency.

The Board directed Mr. Zody to prepare a resolution for the next regular meeting to re-appoint Linda Sheridan to the Fairfield County Metropolitan Housing Authority, per a request from the Authority.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board, on the motion of Judith Shupe and the second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn at 11:00 a.m.

Roll call vote on the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Judith Shupe and Jon Myers.

Mike Kiger
Commissioner

Jon Myers
Commissioner

Judith Shupe
Commissioner

Scott A. Zody, Clerk/Manager

**THE NEXT COMMISSIONERS' REGULAR MEETING IS SCHEDULED TUESDAY
APRIL 15, 2008 AT 10:00 A.M.**