

**Regular Meeting #10-52
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
December 9, 2010**

9:00 a.m. Executive Session

On the motion of Jon Myers and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to enter into Executive Session at 9:00 a.m. for the purpose of discussing pending litigation against the county. Commissioners present were Judith Shupe, Jon Myers and Mike Kiger. Also present were Mark Landis, Mark Troutman and Scott Zody.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jon Myers, Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger

On the motion of Jon Myers and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn from Executive Session at 9:30 a.m.

Roll call voted of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jon Myers, Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger

No formal actions were taken

9:30 a.m. TEFRA Public Hearing – Issuance of Bonds by Fairfield Medical Center

The Board of Commissioners convened a public hearing to consider a proposed bond issuance by Fairfield Medical Center of \$10,000,000 for improvements to the hospital facilities. Commissioners present were Judith Shupe, Jon Myers and Mike Kiger. Also present were Sky Gettys, Drew Linnebom and Scott Zody.

Commissioner Kiger asked Mr. Zody to read the title of the proposed bond resolution, and asked Mr. Gettys to provide an explanation of the proposal.

Mr. Gettys stated there is a limited opportunity for FMC to take advantage of to issue bonds for infrastructure improvements this year, and they had issued some debt earlier in the spring to make improvements that led to the creation of 40-50 jobs. This round of bonds would be used to renovate the 6th floor of the medical center, replace a cath laboratory, and improve medical technology. In addition, by taking advantage of this limited window to secure lower interest rates, the hospital will save over \$1.5 million in interest payments over the 10-year life of the bonds.

Commissioner Myers asked if there would be any exposure for the county, and Mr. Linnebom stated there would be no liability for the county.

On the motion of Jon Myers and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to close the hearing at 9:40 a.m.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jon Myers, Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger

Review 9:40 a.m.

The Board of Commissioners met to review legal issues, pending and future action items and correspondence. Commissioners present were Judith Shupe, Jon Myers and Mike Kiger. Also present were Sheriff Dave Phalen, Elisa Dowdy, Jarod Collins, Staci Knisley, and Scott Zody.

Sheriff Phalen stated that in the past few days they have determined that their budget is approximately \$60,000 short for the remainder of 2010. They have tried to transfer monies around as best they can, but are still short. Sheriff Phalen stated he is going to ask his employees to possibly forego some items and expenditures for 2011 to try to

help save some funds, and noted that he will need to provide notice to the Major Crimes Unit if he needs to eliminate any positions there.

Commissioner Myers asked where the budget is short, and Sheriff Phalen stated his overtime expenditures have been excessive this year. Commissioner Shupe asked if there was any reason for the increase, and Ms. Dowdy explained that there was a large amount of overtime for the most recent pay period, which included Thanksgiving and the day after. Commissioner Shupe asked if that was anticipated in the budget, and Ms. Dowdy stated it had been, but with other increases in overtime and a larger than planned for overtime expense over the holiday, it made them short in that line item. Ms. Dowdy noted they had spent \$13,000 more in this one pay period alone.

Ms. Knisley asked if the \$60,000 request would cover the remainder of the year, and Ms. Dowdy stated it would. Commissioner Myers asked where the funding would be appropriated, and Ms. Knisley stated she would have to take it from the unappropriated cash balance.

Commissioner Myers stated there does not appear to be much of a choice, and he recalled that he had told the Sheriff at the beginning of the year that if he thought he might run short to let the Board know. Commissioner Kiger stated that he agreed that it was not something he wanted to do either, but it is needed.

Commissioner Myers stated this may require the Commissioners to find \$60,000 to save for the 2011 budget. Sheriff Phalen stated that with regard to the 2011 budget, if his numbers were not going to change, he would need to send a 60-day notice to the Major Crimes Unit. Commissioner Shupe stated she would have thought with all the work the MCU does to combat drug abuse that the Sheriff would make cuts elsewhere, and Commissioner Myers stated he was concerned about the proposed cuts to the MCU as well.

Commissioner Shupe noted that at the recent County Commissioners Association of Ohio (CCAO) winter conference, there was a session involving three County Sheriff's (Lorain, Erie & Wood) and most Sheriff's are reducing road patrols because it is not a mandated function like the jail. Sheriff Phalen stated would does not wish to make any cuts, but he would prefer to cut detectives rather than road patrol.

Sgt. Collins stated that they have reduced training to concerning levels, noting that several deputies need to be recertified in CPR, and no defensive tactics training has occurred for 2 years. In addition, the agency's special weapons and rifles are old and need replaced, but there is no funding for that. In addition, there are no training funds for the deputies to qualify with the rifles so they may have to pull them out of the vehicles until the training can be completed.

Commissioner Myers noted that they keep hearing things are going to improve and get better, but they are not, and everyone expects 2012 to be worse than 2011. Sheriff Phalen stated he understands, and for that reason he is placing a higher value over his road patrol for public safety rather than the MCU and the drug issues.

Commissioner Shupe stated that some counties are having success contracting with other locals for enforcement, and Sheriff Phalen stated he has actively done so as well, but some villages simply can't afford it, such as Pleasantville. Commissioner Kiger asked if mutual aid agreement could be obtained with other jurisdictions, particularly for the specialized weapons, and Sgt. Collins stated his concern would be that in a serious situation, you might be waiting for 20 minutes or more for a SWAT unit to arrive on the scene.

Commissioner Shupe stated another consideration would be regionalization, and Sheriff Phalen agreed that is the direction things seem to be heading.

10:00 a.m. Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, December 9, 2010 beginning at 10:00 a.m., with the following Commissioners present: Judith Shupe, Jon Myers and Mike Kiger. Also present were Carl Burnett, Carri Brown, Jean Wolfinger, Brian Kuhn, Jon Slater, and Scott Zody.

Announcements

Mr. Zody stated there could possibly be one or two add-on items pending the outcome of the Commissioner's Review Session.

Public Comment

Jean Wolfinger, 1120 Sugar Grove Road, Lancaster, spoke, stating that she had been reading some recent Board meeting minutes and was concerned relative to the discussion of providing county employees with incentives to donate to the United Way. Ms. Wolfinger questioned why the United Way was being singled out, and why other charities were not being given consideration. Ms. Wolfinger stated she believes such a policy would have an adverse pressure on employees to feel compelled to donate, and does not believe it would be proper to "bribe" employees to donate, and compared the practice to that of ACORN. Ms. Wolfinger questioned where the monies donated go, and believes it sends the wrong message to the public.

Commissioner Shupe stated that the incentive proposal had been discussed by the Board but was no longer under consideration.

Approval of Minutes of Tuesday, November 30, 2010

On motion of Jon Myers and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the minutes for Tuesday, November 30, 2010.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jon Myers, Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger

Approval of Determining the Necessity and Authorizing the issuance and sale of Hospital Facilities Revenue Bonds, Series 2010B (Fairfield Medical Center Project) of the County of Fairfield, Ohio in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$10,000,000, authorizing the execution and delivery of an Agreement of Lease and a sublease in connection therewith; authorizing the execution and delivery of an assignment of sublease to secure such bonds; authorizing execution of a bond purchase agreement with respect to said bonds; authorizing the execution of a tax exemption certificate and agreement; and other documents in connection with the issuance of the bonds

On motion of Jon Myers and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve Determining the Necessity and Authorizing the issuance and sale of Hospital Facilities Revenue Bonds, Series 2010B (Fairfield Medical Center Project) of the County of Fairfield, Ohio in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$10,000,000, authorizing the execution and delivery of an Agreement of Lease and a sublease in connection therewith; authorizing the execution and delivery of an assignment of sublease to secure such bonds; authorizing execution of a bond purchase agreement with respect to said bonds; authorizing the execution of a tax exemption certificate and agreement; and other documents in connection with the issuance of the bonds, see resolution 10-12.09.a

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jon Myers, Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger

Approval of request for payment and status of funds report – FY2009 CDBG Formula Program – Drawdown #241

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve a request for payment and status of funds report – FY2009 CDBG Formula Program – Drawdown #241, see resolution 10-12.09.b

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

Approval of a Letter of Engagement between Jones, Cochenour & Company and the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners to provide financial consulting services

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve a Letter of Engagement between Jones, Cochenour & Company and the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners to provide financial consulting services, see resolution 10-12.09.c

Commissioner Myers stated that this is a practice that was implemented several years ago and has paid many dividends to the Board to have budgetary consulting throughout the year.

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

Approval of delinquent sewer rentals – Licking County Water & Wastewater

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve delinquent sewer rentals for Licking County Water & Wastewater, see resolution 10-12.09.d

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

Approval of Job & Family Service Agency contracts

On motion of Jon Myers and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve contract for Fairfield County Job & Family Services as follows:

- 10-12.09.e Approval of Purchase of Social Service Contract by & between Fairfield County Job & Family Services and the Child Advocacy Center of Fairfield County
- 10-12.09.f Approval of a Contract Amendment by & between Fairfield County Job & Family Services and East Central Ohio Transportation

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

Approval of Engineers resolutions

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

- 10-12.09.g Approval of Advertising for the 2011 Spraying for Weed Control Project - Engineer
- 10-12.09.h Approval of Advertising for the HOC-44, FAI-33A-07.34 Bridge Repair Project - Engineer

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

Approval of appointments to the Fairfield County Revolving Loan Fund Review Committee

On the motion of Jon Myers and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve appointments to the Fairfield County Revolving Loan Fund Review Committee as follows:

- 10-12.09.i Approval of reappointment of a board member to the Fairfield County Revolving Loan Fund Review Committee – Ms. Marsha Hall, Village of Baltimore, Ohio
- 10-12.09.j Approval of reappointment of a board member to the Fairfield County Revolving Loan Fund Review Committee – Mr. Michael Distelzweig, Standing Stone National Bank

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

Approval of The Ravines at Toll Gate – Final Acceptance – Regional Planning

On the motion of Judith Shupe and second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Ravines at Toll Gate – Final Acceptance – Regional Planning, see resolution 10-12.09.k

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

Approval of Financial resolutions

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

- 10-12.09.l Approval to Ratify previously approved financial resolutions for the Fairfield County Commissioners
- 10-12.09.m Approval to Ratify previously approved financial resolutions for the Fairfield County Board of Elections
- 10-12.09.n Approval of deactivating or closing a fund no longer needed for county financial reporting purposes – Job & Family Services
- 10-12.09.o Approval to Amend Certificate & lower appropriations within the utilities Fund
- 10-12.09.p Approval to Amend Certificate and reduce appropriations for Fund 7016 – County Lodging Tax
- 10-12.09.q Approval to Amend Certificate and reduce appropriations for Fund 2423 – County Lodging Tax
- 10-12.09.r Approval to Reduce Appropriations and estimated receipts – Indigent Defense Fund #7651
- 10-12.09.s Approval to Amend Certificate & reduction in estimated receipts and appropriations – Commissioners Fund #2095 – Marriage License Fund
- 10-12.09.t Approval of advance from the General Fund to the NSP1 Grant Fund #2748 - Commissioners
- 10-12.09.u Approval of repayment of an Advance to the General Fund – FY2008 NSP1 Fund #2748

10-12.09.v	Approval of repayment of an Advance to the General Fund – FY2008 OHTF Fund #2732
10-12.09.w	Approval of partial repayment of an Advance to the General Fund and extension of due date – Lateral A Ditch Maintenance Fund #2055
10-12.09.x	Approval of partial repayment of an Advance to the General Fund and extension of due date – FAA Grant Fund #3011 – Cash #8000
10-12.09.y	Approval of reduction of appropriations - FACFC
10-12.09.z	Approval of reduction of appropriations - FACFC
10-12.09.aa	Approval of reduction of appropriations - Sheriff
10-12.09.bb	Approval of Fund to Fund Transfer – Prosecutor – FOJ
10-12.09.cc	Approval of Fund to Fund Transfer – Sheriff – FOJ
10-12.09.dd	Approval of account to account transfers – Data Processing
10-12.09.ee	Approval of account to account transfers – Juvenile Court
10-12.09.ff	Approval of account to account transfer – Water Fund #5046
10-12.09.gg	Approval of account to account transfer – FACFC
10-12.09.hh	Approval of account to account transfers – Soil & Water Conservation
10-12.09.ii	Approval of account to account transfer – EMA Emergency Management Performance Grant
10-12.09.jj	Approval of account to account transfer – Major Crimes Unit
10-12.09.kk	Approval of account to account transfer – Engineer Motor Vehicle Fund
10-12.09.ll	Approval of account to account transfer – Auditor
10-12.09.mm	Approval of account to account transfer – Dog & Kennel Fund
10-12.09.nn	Approval of account to account transfer – Common Pleas Court
10-12.09.oo	Approval of account to account transfer – Fund #2689 – Adult Community Based Correction
10-12.09.pp	Approval to appropriate from unappropriated – Major Crimes Unit – Project Income
10-12.09.qq	Approval to appropriate from unappropriated – Engineer SA Ditch Maintenance
10-12.09.rr	Approval to appropriate from unappropriated – Major Crimes Unit – Project Income #7594
10-12.09.ss	Approval to appropriate from unappropriated – Sheriff’s Office
10-12.09.tt	Approval to appropriate from unappropriated – Engineer – Motor Vehicle Fund
10-12.09.uu	Approval to appropriate from unappropriated – #5085 Sewer Deposit Trust
10-12.09.vv	Approval of payment of the Carroll Sanitary Sewer Improvement Bond Anticipation Note out of the normal budgetary process – Utilities

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jon Myers, Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger

Approval of authorization for payment of bills, December 9, 2010 - check date December 10, 2010

On the motion of Judith Shupe and second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the authorization for payment of bills December 9, 2010, check date December 10, 2010, see resolution 10-12.09.ww

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Judith Shupe, Jon Myers and Mike Kiger

Review continued @ 10:15 a.m.

The Board of Commissioners met to finish review. Commissioners present were Judith Shupe, Jon Myers and Mike Kiger. Also present were Carl Burnett, Jon Slater, Brian Kuhn, Staci Knisley, David Miller, Aundrea Cordle and Scott Zody.

Mr. Slater stated he had a compensatory (comp) time issue to discuss with the Board. The Data Processing staff had accumulated several hours of comp time during the course of the new telephone system installation and implementation, and was now at the point of needing to pay out that time or have most of the staff take leave for most of the remainder of the year, as the comp time must be used or cashed within 180 days of being earned. Since Mr. Slater did not want to have that many of the staff out for that many days, he wanted to have the Commissioners appropriate approximately \$4,000 to cover the costs of paying out the remaining time.

Mr. Slater stated they were under the belief initially that there had been some funds appropriated under the telephone budget to cover these costs, but there were none. Ms. Knisley stated she could vouch for all the hours the staff put in, and she had advised the Data Processing staff to look into this option.

Commissioner Myers asked if there were funds available elsewhere for this purpose, and Ms. Knisley stated not in the Data Processing budget – Mr. Carter procures IT equipment and materials for the county and also provides services to them, and that is the bulk of his budget. Mr. Slater stated the copier toner alone costs nearly \$40,000 per year.

Commissioner Shupe asked what the cost of the payout would be, and Mr. Slater stated the \$4,000 figure is a maximum amount. Commissioner Myers stated it seems to be a reasonable and needed request.

Approval to Appropriate from Unappropriated – General Fund

On the motion of Jon Myers and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve to appropriate from unappropriated – General Fund, see resolution 10-12.09.xx

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jon Myers, Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger

The Board discussed a proposed declaration of an obstruction request from the County Engineer relative to some decorative boulders they would like to see removed. Commissioner Kiger stated he would like to know how long the rocks have been in place, and Commissioner Shupe suggested scheduling a meeting with Frank Anderson to discuss.

The Board reviewed a draft resolution to grant personal leave days for county employees under the Commissioners supervision for 2011 in lieu of a pay increase. Commissioner Kiger asked if this was only for 2011, and Ms. Cordle explained that the days would only be granted for calendar year 2011, and employees would have to use them or lose them. In addition, any employee who has not completed their probationary period would not be eligible for the days.

Commissioner Shupe asked how many days would be appropriate, and Commissioner Myers stated he would be comfortable with 3 days. Commissioner Kiger agreed, and asked Mr. Zody to prepare the resolution for adoption for the following week's Regular Meeting.

The Board discussed a complain letter received relative to an employee at the Fairfield County Humane Society. Commissioner Shupe stated the Humane Society is a private, non-profit organization and the Commissioners have no jurisdiction over it. Commissioner Kiger stated he is familiar with the employee in question, and has always found him to be dedicated and compassionate towards the animals in the shelter.

The Board reviewed a bill received from the law firm of Downes, Fishel, Hass and Kim relative to a State Personnel Board of Review appeal filed by a former employee of the Clerk of Courts Office.

Mr. Zody explained that this is separate from the Elections Commission case that the Board had recently raised concerns about, but the question in his mind is who should pay the bill? Ms. Cordle stated she would believe that the Clerk of Courts would be responsible, but suggested having Mr. Dolin check into it.

The Board discussed a list of projects submitted by Facilities Manager Tony Vogel, including a request to take two housekeepers who have been working through a temporary staffing agency and make them full time county employees. Ms. Knisley stated she had run some numbers for Mr. Vogel on that, and the result should be cost-neutral. Commissioner Kiger asked why they would approve if it would not save the county money, and Mr. Zody stated the employees in question have been on temporary status for several years, and Ms. Knisley stated they are both good workers and they do not wish to lose them to another employer. Commissioner Kiger stated he would like to have Mr. Vogel in to discuss the list.

Commissioner Myers noted that he has a concern relative to the request to help pay the majority of the costs for a new incinerator at the Dog Shelter, and suggested the Dog Warden raise fees to cover those costs.

Commissioner Shupe provided the Board with an update on several issues that were raised at this week's Winter Conference of the County Commissioners Association of Ohio (CCAO).

Commissioner Shupe stated the big concern is that the state is going to push back non-violent felons to the counties to serve their jail sentences or be responsible for their probation. In addition, CCAO continues to lobby for increased reimbursement for indigent defense and is concerned with a proposal for a statewide probation program.

Facilities Manager Tony Vogel joined the meeting in progress, and Commissioner Myers asked Mr. Vogel about his request for funding for new telephones for the County Health Department. Mr. Vogel stated the current system is old and costs too much, and he was suggesting providing the Health Department with the same new phones the county recently purchased. That would save money on their monthly bills, which will now be paid for by the Commissioners, and the phones could be moved with the employees if they relocate.

Commissioner Shupe noted CCAO is also pushing for public notice reforms, which may not please the newspapers, since the current system is very costly and CCAO wants to

move towards internet notices or other tools. In addition, shared services or regionalization are also being pushed.

For personnel, some changes are being considered relative to furloughs and re-assigning or reducing positions to allow counties more flexibility such as reducing hours or reducing wages. Commissioner Shupe stated there is also a lot of discussion relative to regionalizing services, such as Job & Family Services agencies and making County Coroners more regional and reducing the number of Coroners.

Commissioner Shupe stated the CCAO expects the Local Government Fund to experience a 15-25% reduction, possibly more once the casino funding starts flowing in. Mr. Slater noted there is also a lot of discussion relative to the Homestead Exemption and Tangible Personal Property Tax reimbursements, and he stated the statewide Homestead rollback is \$1 billion, and what is being proposed is not to eliminate the rollback, but to eliminate the local reimbursement, which would cost the County, townships, school districts and villages. The County alone would experience a \$200,000 reduction in funds.

Commissioner Shupe stated the next state budget will need to address those issues and there is great concern that the state will simply eliminate the Local Government Fund and replace it with casino revenues. Regardless, major cuts are expected at every level – Lorain County reduced it's road patrol deputies from 6 per shift to 2 per shift.

Commissioner Myers noted that he had recently spoken to the new Speaker of the House and Senate President and they both intend to be aggressive in making cuts, but the pressure from the public and lobbyists will be tremendous.

11:00 a.m. Meeting with Jeanette Addington

The Board of Commissioners met with financial consultant Jeanette Addington to finalize discussion for the county 2011 budget. Commissioners present were Judith Shupe, Jon Myers and Mike Kiger. Also present were Aundrea Cordle, Brian Kuhn, Carl Burnett, David Miller, Staci Knisley, Jon Slater, and Scott Zody.

Ms. Addington stated that she and Ms. Knisley have been comparing numbers and she estimates the year end cash balance for 2010 will be around \$8.632 million. Currently, the total budget requests for 2011 are \$34.4 million. Ms. Addington has run some numbers to determine the effect of approving such a budget on future cash carry over balances. As part of her calculation, she has estimated reductions to the Local Government Fund dollars after 2011 and believes that will eventually be zeroed out. With those assumptions, she estimates the year end cash balance for 2015 to be reduced to \$5.6 million, assuming the 0.25% sales tax increase would be extended.

Commissioner Myers asked if those future projections allowed for pay increases to county employees, and Ms. Addington stated they do not, and noted if the economy starts to improve, those numbers could improve.

Commissioner Shupe noted that Fairfield County is in better shape than most other counties, especially by having a healthy cash carry over. Ms. Addington asked the Board if they wanted her to leave in the assumption that the sales tax increase would become permanent, and Commissioner Kiger stated that is an issue the Board would need to address next year. Commissioner Shupe stated the Board would need to address it at some time, but not necessarily next year. Commissioner Myers stated the carry over balance looks OK, but Mr. Zody noted it is less than 20%, and Ms. Addington has always advocated a 25% level.

Commissioner Kiger asked if the cash carryover is projected to increase by the end of 2011, and Ms. Addington stated she believes it will, but cautioned she is also estimating the cash carry over will decrease in each of the next three years, mainly due to the

assumption of reductions to the Local Government Fund. Mr. Zody noted that there is also the possibility of the Homestead rollback reimbursement being eliminated, which would mean the loss of an additional \$200,000. Commissioner Shupe stated the state may fix that.

Ms. Addington stated she needed guidance from the Commissioners on what to do, stating she is not comfortable with approving a budget spending level of \$34.5 million – that is \$1 million more than what she recommends.

Commissioner Kiger asked if Ms. Addington would be more comfortable with a spending level of \$34 million, and Ms. Addington stated that as long as the revenue projections hold up, she could live with that. Commissioner Myers asked Ms. Addington how the Lancaster City Schools budget looks, and she stated the school district will need to cut approximately \$2 million.

Ms. Knisley reminded the Board that they needed to settle the Prosecutor's budget. Commissioner Shupe noted the Prosecutor provided hefty raises to a couple of his employees and he needs to manage within his budget. Ms. Knisley stated she believes the prosecutor would be OK if his appropriations are held at the budget parameters. Mr. Slater asked if the Prosecutor restructured the duties of the employees who were provided raises, and Mr. Zody stated Roy Hart's duties were split between Jim Edwards and Jason Dolin.

Ms. Addington asked if the Prosecutor could mandate his budget, and Commissioner Shupe stated he could, but he would need to have the judges sign off on it, and doubts he would do that in this climate.

Ms. Knisley asked the Board what they wanted her to do, and Commissioner Myers stated she should keep the Prosecutor at parameters.

Commissioner Myers asked Ms. Knisley what the balance in the Clerk of Courts' Title Fund was, and Ms. Knisley stated it was about \$900,000 last year, but is down to about \$600,000 this year. Commissioner Kiger stated if the balance is healthy, would it be possible to transfer some of that to the General Fund, but stated he believes the Board should reduce appropriations to no more than \$34 million for 2011. Commissioner Shupe stated she thinks they are OK at \$34.4 million.

Commissioner Kiger stated the Board pays Ms. Addington to advise them and she is uncomfortable with \$34.4 million. Commissioner Shupe stated there are so many unknowns and she is not comfortable making cuts right now.

Commissioner Kiger suggested that the Board should send out a letter with the budget informing the agencies that mid-year budget cuts are a real possibility depending upon the outcome of the state budget.

Ms. Addington asked about the OSU Extension and if the Board wanted to reduce that allocation, and Commissioner Shupe stated she did not think it would need to cut – they have an employee retiring and that should save them some funding.

Commissioner Kiger stated he is not comfortable with a \$34.4 million budget. Commissioner Shupe stated they could send the letter with the budget and see what happens. Mr. Slater stated he believes the budget will need to be looked at again sometime during the course of the year.

Commissioner Kiger asked Commissioner Shupe if she was OK with making mid-year cuts if they are needed, and Commissioner Shupe stated if the Board needs to.

Ms. Addington cautioned that the longer the Board waits, the bigger the cuts may need to be. Commissioner Myers stated the Board will need to address the sales tax as well,

and Mr. Zody stated that with the condition of the state budget, he would advocate taking action sooner rather than later.

Commissioner Myers stated it is unclear what would happen with the economy, not just in Ohio but nationally and worldwide. Mr. Zody noted there is also the possibility of the state not having a budget on July 1st.

Ms. Knisley asked if she should assume a budget of \$34.4 million, and Commissioner Myers stated yes, and a letter should be sent with it.

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 11:45 a.m.

Roll call vote on the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Judith Shupe, Jon Myers 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 TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2010 AT 10:00 A.M.