

**Regular Meeting #09-10  
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office  
March 10, 2009**

**9:00 a.m. Viewing – Vacation of Arter Road, Madison Township**

The Board of Commissioner met on site to view the proposed vacation of a portion of Arter Road in Madison Township. Commissioners present were Judith Shupe and Jon Myers. Absent due to illness was Mike Kiger. Also present were County Engineer Frank Anderson, Jeff Camechis, Dave Roebuck, James Yoakum, Robert Craft, Tom Sheley, and Scott Zody.

Mr. Anderson and Mr. Camechis provided an overview of the proposed vacation, stating that this portion of Arter Road had originally been abandoned decades ago, and in the early 1970's the road had been vacated along with portions of 4 other roads, but last year, the Commissioners had to overturn the vacation due to procedural faults.

Mr. Zody noted that to this point, no opposition had been noted to the proposed vacation.

Commissioner Shupe stated that any of those present wishing to testify on the proposed vacation were welcome to attend the hearing this morning at 11:00 on the matter.

**10:00 a.m. Commissioners' Regular Meeting**

A regular meeting of the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, March 10, 2009 beginning at 10:00 a.m., with the following Commissioners present: Jon Myers and Judith Shupe. Absent due to illness was Mike Kiger. Also present were Michael Orlando, Mary Winstead, Rich Bowlen, Laura Holton, Frank Anderson, Jason Dolin and Scott Zody.

**Announcements**

Mr. Zody stated there were two add-on resolutions, both of a fiscal nature.

**Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

**Approval of minutes of Tuesday March 3, 2009**

On motion of Jon Myers and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the minutes for Tuesday, March 3, 2009.

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

**Approval of Proclamation of Recognition – “Blue Shoe Butterfly Days”**

On motion of Jon Myers and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve a Proclamation of Recognition for Blue Shoe Butterfly Days, see resolution 09-03.10.a

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

**Approval of Advertising for the GRE-21, FAI-C54-1.03 City of Lancaster Campground Road over Hocking River Bridge Replacement Project - Engineer**

On motion of Jon Myers and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners

voted to approve advertising for the GRE-21, FAI-C54-1.03 City of Lancaster Campground Road over Hocking River Bridge Replacement Project, see resolution 09-03.10.b

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

**Approval of Declaration of Necessity of Mt. Zwingli Road & Pleasant View Road Ditch Repair & Culvert Replacement Project - Engineer**

On motion of Jon Myers and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve a Declaration of Necessity of Mt. Zwingli Road & Pleasant View Road Ditch Repair & Culvert Replacement Project, see resolution 09-03.10.c

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

**Approval of Petition to Annex 13.935 acres in Rushcreek Township to the Village of Bremen**

On motion of Jon Myers and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve a petition to Annex 13.935 acres in Rushcreek Township to the Village of Bremen, see resolution 09-03.10.d

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

**Approval of leasing parking spaces at 135 W. Chestnut Street, a lease agreement between Fairfield County Visitors & Convention Bureau and the Fairfield County Commissioners**

On motion of Jon Myers and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve of leasing parking spaces at 135 W. Chestnut Street, a lease agreement between Fairfield County Visitors & Convention Bureau and the Fairfield County Commissioners, see resolution 09-03.10.e

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

**Approval of Federal Medicaid and Federal Food Stamp Match Certification – Fairfield County Job & Family Services**

On motion of Jon Myers and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve Federal Medicaid and Federal Food Stamp Match Certification – Fairfield County Job & Family Services, see resolution 09-03.10.f

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

**Approval of Financial Resolutions**

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

- 09-03.10.g                      Approval of Amended Certificate & Xmode – Fairfield County Clerk of Courts
- 09-03.10.h                      Approval of account to account transfer – Fairfield County Clerk of Courts
- 09-03.10.i                      Approval of account to account transfer – Fairfield County Clerk of Courts

- 09-03.10.j Approval of fund to fund transfer – Fairfield County Auditor – Benefits admin fee to the General Fund
- 09-03.10.k Approval of fund to fund transfer – Fairfield County Commissioners – General Fund to the Flexible Spending Account
- 09-03.10.l Approval of account to account transfer – Fairfield County Commissioners
- 09-03.10.m Approval of Appropriate from Unappropriated – Fairfield County Juvenile Court/Drug Court Fund
- 09-03.10.n Approval of account to account transfer – Fairfield County Sheriff
- 09-03.10.o Approval of account to account transfers – Fairfield County Victims Witness
- 09-03.10.p Approval to appropriate from unappropriated – Fairfield County Utilities
- 09-03.10.q Approval to appropriate from unappropriated – Fairfield County Utilities
- 09-03.10.r Approval to appropriate from unappropriated – Fairfield County Utilities
- 09-03.10.s Approval of payment of a voucher without an appropriate carry-over purchase order – Fairfield County ADAMH
- 09-03.10.t Approval of payment of a voucher without an appropriate carry-over purchase order – Fairfield County Coroner
- 09-03.10.u Approval of attached requests for payments of invoices without appropriate carry-over purchase orders – Fairfield County Job & Family Services
- 09-03.10.v Approval of payment of a voucher without an appropriate carry-over purchase order – Fairfield County Board of Mental Retardation & Developmental Disabilities

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

**Approval to ratify previously approved payment of bills – Commissioners**

On motion of Jon Myers and the second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve to ratify previously approved payment of bills for the Commissioners, see resolution 09-03.10.w

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

**Approval of Payment of Bills**

On motion of Jon Myers and the second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the authorization for payment of bills March 10, 2009, check date March 13, 2009, see resolution 09-03.10.x

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

**Approval of authorization for payment of an invoice – check dated March 10, 2009**

On motion of Jon Myers and the second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the authorization for payment of an invoice – check dated March 10, 2009, see resolution 09-03.10.y

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

### **Approval of Advance from Fund 7682 911 Reserve to 7681 Wireless 911**

On motion of Jon Myers and the second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve an advance from Fund 7682 911 Reserve to 7681 Wireless 911, see resolution 09-03.10.z

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

### **Review Session**

The Board of Commissioners met at 10:20 a.m. to review correspondence, pending items, and future action items. Commissioners present at the review session were Judith Shupe and Jon Myers. Absent was Mike Kiger. Also present were Job & Family Services Director Michael Orlando, JFS staff Laura Holton, Rich Bowlen and Mary Winstead, County Engineer Frank Anderson, Jason Dolin and Scott Zody.

Mr. Orlando stated that he was here to brief the Board on the Governor's biennial budget proposal and provide background information for a request to send letters of concern to the Governor and local legislators.

Mr. Orlando stated he is very concerned with the state of the budget over the next two years, particularly the next 18 months. The new funding that will initiate through the Child and Adult protective Services levy will help alleviate some of the state cuts, but not all of them.

Commissioner Myers asked what percentage Mr. Orlando's budget was being cut, and Mr. Orlando stated that it varied according to the program. The Federal "stimulus" bill increased the number of people eligible for services, but did not increase the amount of funding to cover the new participants. In fact, the State is reducing funds to cover both current and new participants.

Mr. Orlando explained the county statewide allocation is being cut by \$31 million, and one particular TANF (Temporary Aid for Needy Families) is being almost entirely eliminated. The Child Welfare funds and Kinship funds are being completely eliminated, and Income Maintenance is being reduced by \$100 million (\$50 million state, plus a loss of another \$50 million in Federal match).

Mr. Orlando summarized the impacts to Fairfield County, stating that the Income Maintenance loss would result in a reduction from \$1.1 million in 2007 to \$767,000 in 2011, plus a loss of Federal matching funds (Federal funds are matched dollar for dollar, or 1-1). TANF funds would be reduced by \$200,000, and the TANF Title XX, which is used by Child and Adult Protective Services, would be reduced by \$323,000 plus Federal match.

The end result is less resources to address growing needs, and some counties are already laying off staff in anticipation of the lost administrative funding. Placement costs, especially for children and teens, are increasing rapidly. FCJFS has \$1.3 million allocated for placement, and anticipates being in a \$500,000 deficit by the end of the year if the current pace persists.

Mr. Bowlen explained that there are 6 children currently in placement that are very high cost due to their severe behavioral problems, such as acting out by sexually assaulting other children or siblings. In addition, in one week in February, there were 4 separate reported attacks on toddlers by parents or custodians that resulted in severe injuries.

Under the Kinship incentives, applications have increased from 2 in 2007 to over 100 in 2008 – of 175 children in CPS custody, 75 are enrolled in Kinship. Monthly placement costs have also increased dramatically – from \$99,000 per month in January of 2008 to \$160,000 per month in January of 2009.

In an effort to try to control these costs somewhat, 23 kids have been removed from protective custody since January, but it is very difficult to make those judgment calls because the situation at home may not have improved to where the agency would like to see it. CPS is also renegotiating fees with 5 placement networks to try to save some funding in the short term.

Commissioner Shupe asked how many children the agency ends up taking into protective custody, and Mr. Bowlen stated not as many, but the ones that are taken into custody are the ones that most need protection. The agency tries to find Kinship placements whenever possible, but some kids just cannot be placed in the program due to their problems. Mr. Orlando added that the 6 kids listed are costing over \$400,000 per year.

Ms. Holton stated that each county is attempting to find different solutions. Her department (Public Assistance) is seeing new customers that have never in their lives been on or sought public assistance, and she has no funding to help them. Mr. Orlando stated that advocacy is need now try to save the safety net for those folks.

Commissioner Myers asked if any of the Federal “stimulus” funding is being used for these efforts, and Mr. Orlando stated that Medicaid and child care eligibility were expanded, but the administrative funding was reduced so there will be a reduced ability to serve them.

Commissioner Myers asked if the administrative conflict with the Ohio Department of Job & Family services had been resolved, and Mr. Orlando stated that lately relationships had improved.

Commissioner Shupe asked about the current salary freeze for JFS employees, and Mr. Orlando stated that the budget is looking worse than initially anticipated and it doesn't appear that there will be any pay increases granted this year, and possibly even next year.

Mr. Dolin stated that he is working on several legal issues for the townships but had no specific reports or concerns to report.

The Board approved a request by Facilities Director Joe Spybey to pay the annual membership dues for the County Facilities Management Association.

The Board directed Mr. Zody to send a letter to the Center for Disabilities and Cerebral Palsy suggesting they apply for a Community Development Block Grant, as the Board is not able to provide them with an allocation request of \$5,000 for the Ramps to Ramps Program.

### **11:00 a.m. Hearing – Arter Road Vacation**

The Board of Commissioners convened a public hearing on the proposed vacation of a portion of Arter Road in Madison Township. Commissioners present were Jon Myers and Judith Shupe. Absent was Mike Kiger. Also present were County Engineer Frank Anderson, Jeff Camechis, Dave Roebuck, Georgia Roebuck, Mary Roebuck, Tom Sheley, Jason Dolin, and Scott Zody.

Mr. Anderson provided an overview of the proposed vacation, and stated that it has been adequately described and his office has no objections to the action.

Dave Roebuck, 4895 Hopewell Church Road, Lancaster, spoke in favor of the proposed vacation as a property owner on Arter Road.

Tom Sheley, 2663 Arter Road, stated that he supports the proposed vacation, and he has owned his property on Arter Road for approximately 9 years.

Georgia Roebuck, 4895 Hopewell Church Road, Lancaster, spoke in favor of the proposed vacation.

Mary Roebuck, 4895 Hopewell Church Road, Lancaster, stated she is Mr. Roebuck's daughter and also supports the proposed vacation.

Commissioner Shupe stated there were two additional landowners present at the viewing held earlier in the morning at the site, and they were also supportive of the vacation.

On the motion of Jon Myers and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to close the hearing on the proposed vacation.

### **1:00 p.m. Meeting with Aundrea Cordle and Joe Spybey**

The Board of Commissioners met at 1:00 p.m. with County Human Resources Director Aundrea Cordle and County Facilities Manager Joe Spybey to discuss safety improvements for county facilities. Commissioners present were Jon Myers and Judith Shupe. Absent was Mike Kiger. Also present were Jay Shepherd, Jason Dolin and Scott Zody.

Ms. Cordle stated that the purpose of the meeting was to identify potential uses for the refund/rebate monies the county has been received from the Bureau of Workers' Compensation for improving claims and safety council work. Over the past couple of years, Jay Shepherd has been focusing on the workers' comp issues and lost time claims have been significantly reduced. Commissioner Myers asked what they can attribute the reduction to, and Mr. Shepherd stated that he has been working with BWC to actively and aggressively manage claims and get injured workers back to work as soon as possible, including providing light duty work for some.

Ms. Cordle stated the next logical step is to improve prevention strategies to keep injuries and claims from happening. The Sheriff's Office, MRDD Board, Engineer, and Job & Family Services have the greatest number of claims.

Commissioner Myers asked exactly how the funds were generated, and Ms. Cordle stated they are a result of premium rebates from BWC that are produced through reduced claims and Safety Council activities. Commissioner Myers asked if any vending machines revenues are included in that, and Mr. Spybey stated those funds are deposited directly in the General Fund, but only amount to approximately \$500 per year. Ms. Cordle added the list of proposed safety improvements come from the safety walk-throughs that the county does with BWC.

Commissioner Shupe asked if the items highlighted in red signify injury problems, and Mr. Shepherd stated they would indicate an injury or an item identified in the walk-through. Commissioner Myers asked what GFI stands for, and Mr. Spybey stated that is for Ground-Fault Interrupter, which is a device used to prevent shock hazards.

Commissioner Shupe asked if the funds were available to initiate some of the safety activities, and Mr. Shepherd stated the funds had been deposited late last year. Ms. Cordle added that the goal is to be able to address safety issues in an on-going basis. Mr. Shepherd stated that training is an important on-going need as well, and much of that can be obtained at no cost through BWC or CORSA.

Commissioner Myers asked if there is a current line item in the budget for safety, and Mr. Shepherd stated there was not as far as he knew. Commissioner Shupe stated that the non-General Fund agencies should take care of their own safety issues, especially those that run their own facilities, such as MRDD and the Department of Health.

Commissioner Shupe stated the Engineer's Office is another agency that should be safety conscious, and Ms. Cordle stated that her office has a very good working relationship with the Engineer, and they are putting effort into their safety programs.

### **2:30 p.m. Telephony Meeting**

The Board of Commissioners met at 2:30 p.m. to discuss Requests for Proposals (RFP) for the county telephony improvement project. Commissioners present were Jon Myers and Judith Shupe. Absent was Mike Kiger. Also present were Randy Carter, Staci Knisley, Fred Goodwin, Doug Ballou, Jason Dolin and Scott Zody.

Mr. Carter provided an overview of the project, stating that the committee had put together and studied the need for changing and updating the system, developed the RFP, met with the responsive vendors, and is now ready to bring a recommendation to the Board.

Mr. Carter stated the biggest problem in the process was that two vendors had proposed utilizing Nortel equipment, and Nortel recently declared bankruptcy and the committee is uncomfortable recommending either of those vendors because of that.

The committee is recommending the county use Cincinnati Bell, which is using Avaya equipment, and has both purchase and lease options for the Board to consider.

Mr. Ballou stated that according to the cash flow analysis he conducted, if the county would purchase the system, the resulting savings would be realized in 42 months. Mr. Dolin asked if there is a warranty on the equipment, and Mr. Ballou stated the standard warranty on the equipment is one year, and maintenance agreements would need to be utilized after that.

Commissioner Myers asked if the warranty costs were comparable among the bidders, and Mr. Ballou stated they were. Mr. Ballou added that there are two phases to the project, and Mr. Carter stated that not all agencies are involved in the project. Ms. Knisley stated the Engineer, Advocacy Center, Department of Health, and MRDD Board are not participating.

Mr. Ballou stated that, past the 42 month breakeven point, the county should save approximately \$185,000 per year. Mr. Dolin asked if the equipment would be obsolete in 10 years, and Mr. Ballou stated that 7 years is standard for the equipment, but he would expect the county to get at least 10 years out of this equipment – the current Centrex phones have been in service for 15 years.

Commissioner Myers asked how long the wiring and infrastructure would last, and Mr. Ballou stated the county should get 40 years out of that equipment.

Commissioner Shupe asked if funding was available to complete the purchase, and Ms. Knisley stated she has budgeted enough funding for the purchase. Commissioner Myers asked what the current monthly phone charges are, and Ms. Knisley stated that is \$26,000. Commissioner Myers asked what the new payment would be under a lease option, and Ms. Knisley stated that would be \$20,000. Mr. Carter added part of the savings would be due to the conversion to T-1 lines instead of individual lines, which cost more to move and replace.

Commissioner Myers asked if AT&T submitted an RFP, and Mr. Carter stated they did, but it was not as cost-effective as Cincinnati Bell's offer. In fact, AT&T was the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest bid received.

Mr. Ballou stated that in years past, the equipment was the biggest expense for a telephony project, and now it is the software.

Commissioner Myers stated that he sees no reason why the county should not move forward with the proposal, given the resultant savings.

Mr. Ballou stated there are still some negotiations to go through, and employees will require training on how to use the new system. Commissioner Myers asked where those funds would come from, and Mr. Carter stated there is funding available.

Commissioner Myers asked if the equipment is high-quality, and Mr. Carter stated the committee traveled to Clermont County to see the system in use, and was impressed.

Ms. Knisley asked if the bid could be awarded, and Mr. Dolin stated there is still some negotiations that need to occur first.

### **Review, cont.**

The Board continued its review session, discussing the results of recent interviews for Request for Qualifications from several architectural firms relative to the proposed Public Safety Facility.

Commissioner Shupe suggested as a next step to ask the 4 potential vendors that were interviewed to provide a specific list of what would be included in the White Paper for marketing and what would be included in the Bureau of Adult Detention (BAD) Phase I submittal. Commissioner Myers asked if it would be better to ask for that information via a phone conversation or submit in writing, and Mr. Dolin stated it would be better to have written verification. That would also assist the Board in making a final decision – i.e., determine which vendor provides the best response to the questions.

Commissioner Shupe stated she would prefer that, so the Board could compare what would be in the documents. Mr. Dolin stated the clarification should apply only to the documents and fees should not be discussed or included in the responses. Fees for service would have to be negotiated after a “lead” candidate is selected.

The Board directed Mr. Zody to draft a letter for their review and approval to send to the 4 potential vendors.

### **Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the Board, on the motion of Jon Myers and the second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn at 3:30 p.m.

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

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Mike Kiger  
Commissioner

Jon D. Myers  
Commissioner

Judith K. Shupe  
Commissioner

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Scott Zody, Clerk/Manager

**THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS' IS SCHEDULED FOR  
TUESDAY MARCH 17, 2009 AT 10:00 A.M.**