

**Regular Meeting #09-13
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
March 31, 2009**

9:00 a.m. Meeting with OSU Extension

The Board of Commissioners met with staff from the Ohio State University Extension Program for a program update. Commissioners present were Judith Shupe, Jon Myers and Mike Kiger. Also present were Cora French-Robison, Hannah Kohler, Ted Wiseman, Jim Skeeles, Jason Dolin and Scott Zody.

Ms. Robison provided an overview on Family and Consumer Sciences activities, including several classes she has taught on personal finance, family nutrition and the library series. Ms. Robison stated the family nutrition classes have been recognized as the best in the state. Commissioner Myers asked why, Ms. Robison stated that Fairfield County is one of the few counties that has a full-time educator in that field, so they can offer more classes and they work closely with other public agencies such as Job & Family Services and Meals on Wheels to educate low and middle income residents

Ms. Robison stated that they are planning to hold some new classes this year focusing on energy conservation and "green" strategies, and continuing the "New Money, New World" classes for schoolkids. Commissioner Shupe asked how long the classes last, and Ms. Robison stated they consist of 4 days of class work, and a 1-day simulation.

Ms. Robison stated that their cooking classes continue to grow in popularity, especially the hands-on classes where they actually cook meals. Commissioner Shupe asked if the nutrition systems are similar to the Market Day or Schwann's programs, and Ms. Robison stated it is somewhat similar with respect to the Angel Food Program that is operated through Fairfield Christian Church, but people order boxes of food that consist of week's worth of meals. Commissioner Shupe asked if the program was cost-effective, and Ms. Robison stated she believes it is very cost-effective. Commissioner Shupe asked where the food is delivered and picked up, and Ms. Robison explained that the bulk is dropped off in Pickaway County, and the church transports it to Fairfield Christian where the orders are filled and picked up by the citizens.

Commissioner Myers asked what kind of housing foreclosure assistance Extension is providing, and Ms. Robison stated that they are working with Bremen Bank to help people who are in danger of foreclosure to get assistance or financial advice to try to keep them in their homes.

Ms. Robison added that they are involved in a project to rehabilitate some apartment buildings on the East side of Lancaster near Sells Road to improve low and moderate income opportunities.

Mr. Wiseman provided an overview on the statewide Extension Program reorganization, stating that Extension is reorganizing into regional groups based upon the Resource Development and Conservation Districts (RC&D's). Commissioner Shupe stated that she has heard from other counties in the area that they are concerned about the lack of coverage by agents, and Mr. Wiseman stated that the restructuring should help alleviate that concern. Mr. Wiseman explained that while some personnel will be eliminated, the goal is to have as many agents as possible in each region to try to provide the best coverage possible.

Commissioner Myers asked how many lay-offs were expected for Extension, and Mr. Wiseman stated that 22 positions have already been eliminated statewide, and there could be as many as 38 additional positions eliminated depending on how the state budget turns out. With respect to Fairfield County, Mr. Skeeles stated he knows there will be changes, but is not sure if he and Mr. Wiseman will stay in this region or move East, as he shares duties with Hocking County, and Mr. Wiseman is shared with Perry County.

Ms. Kohler added that people who currently have joint assignments will likely be tasked with one duty or the other. Mr. Wiseman stated that local cost share will also increase, with the cost of the 1st county educator going from \$19,000 to \$26,000, the cost of the second educator remaining the same at \$38,000, but the cost of a third will increase dramatically. Commissioner Shupe stated some of the smaller counties may not be able to afford such increases.

Mr. Skeeles provided an update on Agriculture and Natural Resource programs, stating the two major programs he has been working on are the master Gardeners and the Master Naturalist programs.

The Master Gardeners spring program has had an excellent turnout and is working with a citizens group in Lancaster to develop a Community Garden for people to plant food plots. Commissioner Shupe stated the Board appreciates all the volunteer work the Master Gardeners do for the Courthouse grounds, and asked what other projects the gardeners are involved with. Mr. Skeeles stated the gardeners also help out with the Therapy Garden at Fairfield Medical Center, the Lancaster heritage Tour and also help with the Backyard Gardener series.

The Master naturalist Program is unique to the Hocking Hills area, as it takes citizens with an interest in the outdoors and trains them to be volunteer naturalists. The volunteers then spend time in the Historical Parks, Metro parks, and Hocking Hills State Parks assisting the Naturalist staff with tours and programs, and is very successful.

Mr. Skeeles reported that is has also been working with Neil and Betty Shaw on the upcoming Hocking County Ag Day event.

Ms. Kohler provided an update on 4-H activities, stating that they had over 100 participants for the recent 4-H Day. Ms. Kohler continues work on establishing an endowment for Fairfield County 4-H, the purpose of which is to generate sustainable funding for a 4-H educator position. In addition, camp season is getting ready to begin, and they are experiencing growth with clubs around the county – while they had 7 clubs disband, there were 10 new clubs established last year.

The annual 4-H Awards banquet will be held Monday, April 27th, at the Shalom Methodist Church in Carroll.

Commissioner Shupe asked if they had been hearing anything from the public relative to the tearing down of the old grandstand at the Fairgrounds, and Ms. Kohler stated that she has heard from a few older citizens who are not happy the grandstand is being demolished, but understands why the Fair Board is doing it, as the structure has not been used for several years and is in serious danger of collapse.

9:30 Meeting with Mike Miller

The Board of Commissioners met at 9:30 a.m. with Fairfield County Dog Warden Mike Miller to discuss the state of repair of the shelter's incinerator. Commissioners present were Judith Shupe, Jon Myers and Mike Kiger. Also present were Nina Morgan, Jason Dolin and Scott Zody.

Commissioner Shupe stated that the issue of replacing the incinerator through a Solid Waste District recycling grant was discussed last week at the Solid Waste District Board meeting, but it appears that the district plan must be amended before such grants are permissible again, so it is likely going to have to wait until next year. Mr. Miller stated that he thinks they can try to keep the incinerator working and limp along until next year, as right now the number of animals he is keeping is down and adoptions are up.

Commissioner Shupe stated that the plan might not be effective until June of 2010. Commissioner Kiger stated that he intends to contact Paul Martin to discuss landfilling options in the event the incinerator would fail.

Mr. Miller stated that he has some cash carry over funds that he could use to repair the incinerator if necessary, but that would cost approximately \$30,000, and a new incinerator is approximately \$60,000. Commissioner Myers stated he would advise to hold off on the repairs and keep the funding as a contingency in case of emergency.

Commissioner Shupe noted that Ohio EPA has 90 days after May 1, 2010 to review and approve the plan, so it could be mid-summer before a decision is finalized. Ms. Morgan stated they may have a better chance at funding if the incinerator would fail between now and then, and Commissioner Myers stated that if they are successful in amending the plan, it should be a moot point, as it would be an allowable funding option.

Commissioner Shupe asked what the cost of serving the City of Lancaster is, as she would like the city to pay for or contribute their fair share of operating the shelter, and Mr. Miller stated that Ms. Morgan had worked up some figures on that, and would update them and send them to the Board. Mr. Miller stated that Pickerington has reduced their contribution, but he has made up the deficit this year through a private contribution and recently the Village of Millersport donated \$900 to the shelter.

Commissioner Myers asked if the shelter disposes of cats, and Mr. Miller stated they will incinerate them if people request it, but do not advertise that, and do not handle live cats at all.

Mr. Miller stated that Assistant Warden Bobbie Glass will be taking a leave of absence for approximately 6 weeks, and he would like the Board's approval to hire a temporary worker for the summer to assist with tag checks and to fill in for Deputy Glass. The Board approved, but requested Mr. Miller to check on the issue of whether or not the temporary employee needed to be a county employee or work through a contract service, for the purpose of being permitted to drive a county vehicle such as one of the shelter pickup trucks.

Commissioner Myers asked how the employee would be compensated, and Mr. Miller stated that he would likely pay the employee around \$8.00 per hour, and work them approximately 30 hours per week checking tags and picking up strays. Commissioner Shupe asked how long the employee would be on staff, and Mr. Miller stated he would plan to hire someone as soon as possible and work them until October. Commissioner Myers asked if the salary is comparable to a full time position, and Mr. Miller stated that is approximately \$1.00 per hour less than the starting salary of a full time deputy, but his full time office assistant currently is paid less than that.

Commissioner Shupe asked if Pickerington is continuing to pick up dogs and hold them for pick up, and Mr. Miller stated the relationship with Pickerington's police department remains excellent – they have two kennels they use to hold strays until the shelter can arrange for pick up.

10:00 a.m. Commissioners' Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, March 31, 2009 beginning at 10:00 a.m., with the following Commissioners present: Jon Myers, Mike Kiger and Judith Shupe. Also present were Jeff Camechis, Linda Kaufmann, Ritta Setiz, Jason Dolin and Scott Zody.

Announcements

There were no announcements.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Approval of minutes of Tuesday March 24, 2009

On motion of Mike Kiger and second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the minutes for Tuesday, March 24, 2009.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of a Contract between the Fairfield County Commissioners and Dove & Associates for renovations to the Fairfield County Hall of Justice 4th Floor

On motion of Jon Myers and second of Mike Kiger the Board of Commissioners voted to approve a Contract between the Fairfield County Commissioners and Dove & Associates for renovations to the Fairfield County Hall of Justice 4th Floor, see resolution 09-03.31.a

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of Appointment of Dr. Margaret Quamme to the Fairfield County District Library Board

On motion of Mike Kiger and second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Appointment of Dr. Margaret Quamme to the Fairfield County District Library Board, see resolution 09-03.31.b

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of Lifting Weight Restrictions on County and Township Roads – Engineer

On motion of Jon Myers and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Lifting Weight Restrictions on County and Township Roads – Engineer, see resolution 09-03.31.c

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of Request to Encroach on Utility Easement by the Clint Drive Group, Inc.

On the motion of Mike Kiger and second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve a request to encroach on a Utility Easement by the Clint Drive Group, Inc., see resolution 09-03.31.d

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of Notice of Commencement - Commissioners

On motion of Jon Myers and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve a Notice of Commencement for the Commissioners, see resolution 09-03.31.e

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of Revolving Loan Fund Resolutions

On motion of Jon Myers and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve Revolving Loan Fund resolutions as follows:

- 09-03.31.f Approval of Fairfield County Revolving Loan Fund Review Committee's recommendation for funding a proposal for Community Development Block Grant Revolving Loan Fund (CDBG-RLF) financing
- 09-03.31.g Approval of Fairfield County Revolving Loan Fund Review Committee's recommendation for funding a proposal for Economic Development Administration Revolving Loan Fund (CDBG-RLF) financing
- 09-03.31.h Approval of Disbursal of Funds in the Fairfield County Economic Development Administration Revolving Loan Fund program
- 09-03.31.i Approval of Fairfield County Revolving Loan Fund Review Committee's recommendation for funding a proposal for Economic Development Administration Revolving Loan Fund financing
- 09-03.31.j Approval of Disbursal of funds in the Fairfield County Economic Development Administration Revolving Loan Fund program

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of Advances from the General Fund

On the motion of Mike Kiger and second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve to advances from the General Fund as follows:

- 09-03.31.k Approval of Advance from the General Fund to EMA Fund #2092
- 09-03.31.l Approval of Advance from the General Fund to the Housing Improvement Fund – FY2008 #2731 - Commissioners
- 09-03.31.m Approval of Advance from the General Fund to the Housing Improvement Fund – FY2008 #2730 - Commissioners
- 09-03.31.n Approval of Advance from the General Fund to OHTF – FY2008 #2732 - Commissioners

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of Financial Resolutions

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

- 09-03.31.o Approval of Amended Certificate & Appropriate from Unappropriated for Fund #2689 – Adult Community Based Correction
- 09-03.31.p Approval of Amended Certificate & request for Appropriations for Additional Unanticipated Receipts – Family, Adult & Children First Council
- 09-03.31.q Approval of Payment of a Voucher without an appropriate carry-over purchase order – Job & Family Services

09-03.31.r	Approval of Payment of a Voucher without an appropriate carry-over purchase order – Job & Family Services
09-03.31.s	Approval of Fund to Fund Transfer – Insurance
09-03.31.t	Approval of Account to Account Transfer –
09-03.31.u	Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Auditor
09-03.31.v	Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Airport
09-03.31.w	Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Maintenance
09-03.31.x	Approval of Account to Account Transfer – MRDD
09-03.31.y	Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Sheriff
09-03.31.z	Approval to Appropriate from Unappropriated – Engineer
09-03.31.aa	Approval to Appropriate from Unappropriated – Economic Development
09-03.31.bb	Approval to Appropriate from Unappropriated – 5044 Sewer Fund – Utilities
09-03.31.cc	Approval to Appropriate from Unappropriated – Family, Adult & Children First
09-03.31.dd	Approval to Appropriate from Unappropriated – Juvenile Court
09-03.31.ee	Approval to Appropriate from Unappropriated – Auditor

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of Payment of Bills

On motion of Mike Kiger and the second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the authorization for payment of bills March 31, 2009, check date April 3, 2009, see resolution 09-03.31.ff

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Meeting with Michael Orlando

The Board of Commissioner met at 10:30 a.m. with Job & Family Services Director Michael Orlando to discuss budget concerns. Commissioners present were Judith Shupe, Jon Myers and Mike Kiger. Also present were Rich Bowlen, Staci Knisley, Laura Holton, Jason Dolin and Scott Zody.

Mr. Orlando stated that he was present to follow up on his meeting the previous week with the Board to discuss the budget situation of JFS. His purpose today is to make recommendations to the Board for consideration for action in April, as he would like to implement a reorganization of JFS May 1st.

Mr. Orlando added that there is some uncertainty, as the state budget will not be finalized until July 1, and the House Finance Committee is expected to report out their version this coming Friday. While he is hopeful that some of the cuts may be restored, he is confident that significant reductions will be necessary. Commissioner Myers stated that he has been informed that a final House vote may not occur until the end of April.

Mr. Orlando stated he is expecting a total reduction of \$2.4 million from the state, in accordance with what was proposed in Governor Strickland's submission. Four major funding sources would be cut – Income Maintenance (IM) Control (\$670,000), Regular Temporary Aid for Needy Families (TANF) (\$700,000), TANF/Title XX (\$367,000) and TANF- other (\$700,000).

Mr. Orlando stated that the Commissioners have indicated they are unable to fill that funding gap, and as a result, JFS is facing a new paradigm and new direction, and he feels as if the agency is right back where it started 10 years ago when he became Director.

The agency is recommending a plan to absorb the cuts, but has identified several risks to the plan, including a reduced ability to provide timely and quality services and customer expectations, child and elder safety protection, staff retention and morale, continued accreditation, and a reduction or elimination of staff training and development.

Mr. Orlando reviewed the voluntary cost savings activities already initiated by the agency earlier in the year to address Governor Strickland's mid-year budget cuts, and provided the Board with a list of 9 positions that are currently vacant that will be abolished, and a list of 6.5 management positions that were previously abolished or currently vacant that will be abolished.

Mr. Orlando stated his goal is to try to paint the "big picture" of his budget for the Board, but he would like for at least one Board member or someone from the Commissioner's staff to become more familiar with the details of the agency budget.

Mr. Orlando stated that there are several different pots of funding for JFS – Social Services, IM, Child Support Enforcement (CSEA), Workforce Investment Act (WIA), CPS, and IM. Each of these funding sources pay into a Shared Costs fund, which pays for central support services such as human resources, finance, administration, etc.

WIA and CSEA budgets are stable, and CPS will be more stable once the levy funding begins in January, but the other sources need to reduce costs, and so the Shared Cost pool must be reduced.

Shared Costs total \$2.6 million which includes salaries, building rent, utilities, postage, supplies, and computer costs. Currently, the various funds pay as follows into the Shared Cost pool - IM fund - \$1.195 million, Social Services - \$947,000, and CSEA - \$772,000.

Mr. Orlando would propose to reduce the number of shared employees as well as facility costs (i.e., rent). For example, JFS pays \$540,000 in rent, while Licking County JFS only pays \$130,000 for three separate buildings. Ms. Knisley questioned those figures, stating that the 2009 debt service for JFS is closer to \$500,000, not \$540,000. Mr. Orlando stated he is not sure where those costs originated.

Mr. Orlando continued, explaining that the IM cost pool is funded by TANF, Medicaid, Food Stamp, and Federal matching funds. As a result, the number of employees in the section will need to be reduced, the amount of shared costs will need to be reduced, and the amount of contract work will need to be reduced.

Similar circumstances affect the Social Services Pool, which is funded primarily by TANF, and the CPS pool, which is funded through a combination of General Fund, TANF, and Federal match.

Mr. Orlando recommends first that the Board designate one of the members or a staff member in the Commissioner's Office, such as Ms. Knisley or Mr. Zody to attend the monthly JFS budget meetings, which are held every 3rd Monday.

The second recommendation Mr. Orlando presented was to eliminate 43 current positions and abolish 10 vacant positions within JFS. This would include 16 positions within IM, 5 Shared Cost positions, 12 positions within Social services, and 10 positions within CPS. This would reduce the total staff count at JFS to 180, as compared to Licking County's head county of 203.

Commissioner Myers asked if the current employee count is approximately 220, and Mr. Orlando stated that is correct, and there would be a process of eliminating positions and then going through the bumping rights that employees might have. Ms. Holton stated that the bumping process would be very disruptive, and could result in potentially unqualified employees bumping into positions. Mr. Zody asked if JFS would follow the state Department of Administrative Services policies and procedures relative to the lay-offs and bumping, and Mr. Orlando stated they would, and Mr. Zody stated that there is the ability to "means-test" an employee who wishes to bump into a position for which they may not be qualified, and that is something he was involved with while serving at the Department of Natural Resources.

A third recommendation from Mr. Orlando involved reducing direct costs, would reduce or eliminate direct and contract services, including the PRC-Emergency Assistance Program, Work Activity Contracts, Transportation Contracts, the Lifeline Program, Emergency Assistance for Seniors, and Emergency removal of children from care.

Commissioner Kiger asked what is spent on transportation, and Ms. Holton stated that most of the transportation costs are funded by Medicaid and TANF dollars, and all of the TANF funding is slated to be cut. Commissioner Kiger asked how much is spent on transportation, and Ms. Holton stated the Medicaid funding is used primarily to transport customers to doctor appointments and treatment, and the TANF funds were to help people get to work, child visitation and training. Mr. Bowlen added that he sometimes has children in protective custody out of the county that must be brought in for court-ordered visitation, and relies on the TANF dollars to pay for that.

Commissioner Shupe asked if any of the senior's costs would be recouped when the levy funding begins to be generated in January of 2010, and Mr. Orlando stated he hopes the levy funding will alleviate some of those reductions.

Regarding the JFS building, Mr. Orlando stated that he was forced to occupy the building shortly after it was purchased through an agreement overseen by then-Commissioner Lisa Kessler. The agreement assumed that state and federal matching funds would continue to increase and the reimbursement JFS received for rent and maintenance costs would cover the payments, but with the pending state budget reductions, he can no longer afford to occupy the building. Mr. Orlando stated that overall, the building is costing JFS approximately \$708,000 per year. Under the proposed budget with Governor Strickland's cuts, he can only afford \$320,000 in facility costs.

Mr. Orlando recommended two options. First, with the workforce reductions he must implement, JFS could totally vacate the first floor of the building and make that space available for other county agencies to rent, in effect creating a "government services center". That would save JFS approximately \$380,000 in annual rent and costs. The second option would be for JFS to totally vacate the building and move to either the old Value City store on Memorial Drive or the former Big Bear grocery store on East Main.

Mr. Orlando stated that according to his figures, the total General Fund share of JFS costs for FY2009 is \$2,639,704. In order to implement these recommendations, JFS would need \$2,641,606.

Those funds would be utilized as follows:

Foster Care Protective Fund	\$1.8 million
PA Fund Mandated Share	\$379,000

CSEA Federal Match	\$362,000
1.5% Salary Increase	\$100,000

Mr. Orlando stated that he feels compelled to try to reward the employees for their sacrifices and for not getting a pay raise at all in 2009, and felt 1.5% was fair.

Regarding the short term, Mr. Orlando stated that it would be necessary to watch the budget very closely over the next 5 quarters until July 1, 2010. There may be a need to request some "spot" funding to help get through certain quarters, as the unemployment costs of the reorganization are unknown, and what may happen with the next Federal budget due to be implemented in October are unknown.

Commissioner Myers asked how the CPS/APS levy funding fits into this scenario, and Mr. Orlando stated that it is built into the projections, but the wild card that remains is whether or not the state JFS will require Rich to pay back the IM fund the roughly \$1.6 million it owes immediately or over time.

Mr. Orlando stated that he is hopeful that he can reinstate a few positions once the levy funding comes in, including CPS and APS investigators, Eligibility Referral Specialists, support staff, HR and Fraud & Benefit Recovery personnel, but it will depend on the overall budget picture.

Mr. Orlando added that they are doing some creative savings by eliminating 4 full time staff for the Reality House and hope to replace it with a "House Mother" who would spend the nights at the facility, replacing the Visitation Center staff with volunteers, and trying to utilize other volunteers to assist with support staff duties.

Commissioner Myers stated that while he appreciated the big picture overview, he would like to understand the specific needs. Mr. Orlando stated that he needs to develop the budget for 2010 first, and see how the state budget falls out before getting too detailed with these presentations.

Ms. Holton stated that the Commissioners would need to approve the reorganization plan and authorize the lay-offs, as well as terminating certain contracts that are in effect.

Commissioner Myers asked when the debt service payments are due, and Ms. Knisley stated those should be paid by June 1. Commissioner Myers asked if JFS can pay any rent, and Mr. Orlando stated they are working on that now. Commissioner Myers asked if it would be helpful to have some professional staff, such as a CPA, review the situation, and Mr. Orlando stated that the JFS funding mechanisms are so complicated, due to the mix of local, state and federal funds, that it doesn't make sense to most CPA's including the former JFS Finance Director who was a CPA.

Ms. Holton stated that some of JFS funding is dependent upon the random samples that are sent out by the state on the TANF, Medicaid, and all state funding, which there is no sensible pattern to.

Commissioner Kiger stated that back in 2005, Mr. Orlando had proposed moving JFS to the former Big Bear store and at that time was willing to accept responsibility for the debt – what has changed? Mr. Orlando stated that he simply does not have the funding to support something like that anymore.

Commissioner Kiger asked if the rent funding is being cut, and Mr. Orlando stated that it is. Ms. Knisley asked if this is boiling down to a case of having to pick and choose what the agency can do, and Mr. Orlando stated that is exactly what they are attempting to do.

Mr. Orlando stated that the rent reimbursement is not a clear cut issue or line item in the budget, but it is part of the overall funding scheme, and reminded the Board that he is a

reluctant tenant. Commissioner Myers asked what the original purchase price of the building was, and Ms. Knisley stated the county purchased the building for \$6.9 million.

Review Session

The Board of Commissioners met at 11:20 a.m. to review correspondence, pending items, and future action items. Commissioners present at the review session were Judith Shupe, Jon Myers and Mike Kiger. Also present were Jason Dolin and Scott Zody.

Mr. Zody noted that he has provided a copy of the packet of proposed grants from the Meals on Wheels Board for agency assistance, and suggested the Board review and consider discussing at a later date, as there were w few proposals that may be of concern. In addition, the current agreement governing the use of levy funds is included in the packet, and the Board should review that as well in case any changes need to be made prior to approving the MOW 2010 budge proposal.

The Board discussed the proposed contract submitted by Wachtel & McAnally for architect and design services relative to designing a new county public safety facility. Commissioner Shupe expressed concern relative to the cost of the work in relation to the current budget situation with JFS and signs of further weakening in the economy. Mr. Zody stated that if the county has any chance of obtaining federal stimulus or other capital improvement funding available through the state, the Phase I documents must be completed and approved to get the project close to “shovel-ready” status. Commissioner Kiger stated that he will be attending a County Commissioners Association of Ohio (CCAO) Public Safety Committee meeting on Thursday, and hoped to learn of any progress with respect to public safety facility funding availability. The Board agreed to postpone further discussion on the matter until Friday afternoon and directed Mr. Zody to schedule a Review session.

Commissioner Kiger mentioned that he has been approached by representatives of the United Steel Workers for the Board to adopt a “Buy American” resolution relative to any stimulus funding that is received by the county, and would like the Board to consider that request.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board, on the motion of Jon Myers and the second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn at 11:45 p.m.

Roll call vote on the motion resulted as follows:

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

Mike Kiger
Commissioner

Jon D. Myers
Commissioner

Judith K. Shupe
Commissioner

Scott Zody, Clerk/Manager

**THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS' IS SCHEDULED FOR
TUESDAY APRIL 7, 2009 AT 10:00 A.M.**