

**Regular Meeting #08-50
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
November 25, 2008**

9:00 a.m. Viewing – Mt. Zwingli/Pleasant View Rd. Project

The Board of Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. to view a proposed culvert replacement and ditch improvement project on Mt. Zwingli and Pleasant View Roads in Rushcreek Township. Commissioners present included Jon Myers, Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger. Also present were Deputy Engineer Jeff Baird, Bob Sewer (Rushcreek Twp.), Bill Myers (Rushcreek Twp.) and Scott Zody.

Mr. Baird briefly described the need for the project, citing the condition of the culvert and the ditches on either side of the bridge. Mr. Sewer stated that Hide-a-Way Hills would like the project expanded slightly to straighten the ditch/creek that drains into the culvert that is currently causing some erosion problems to their roadway. Mr. Baird stated the project could be expanded, but the Township would need to be responsible for acquiring any additional right-of-way needed.

9:30 – Review Session

The Board of Commissioners met at 9:30 a.m. to review pending legal issues, current and future actions items, and correspondence. Commissioners present included Jon Myers, Judith Shupe, and Mike Kiger. Also present were Jason Dolin and Scott Zody.

Mr. Dolin reported that he has continued to review the documents provided by the Decorative Arts Center relative to the lease agreement and management agreement with the county and state, and the lease clearly does not permit the county to charge rent, and the management agreement clearly makes the county responsible for the maintenance of the property and for paying utility costs. However, Mr. Dolin believes there are a couple of interesting items in the management agreement that the county could explore.

Mr. Dolin stated that the agreement entitles the county to receive admission and exhibit fees generated by DACO, and there is a provision in the agreement relative to the Board's authority to hire and fire the staff of the center.

Commissioner Myers stated that in the past the Board had had an annual meeting with the DACO Board to review financials, but that has not happened in recent years. Commissioner Shupe asked if this would make it possible for the county to recover some of the operational costs it currently incurs, and Mr. Dolin stated that in his opinion, it should. Commissioner Myers asked if the county is considered the manager of the facility, and Mr. Dolin stated that is clearly spelled out in the lease.

Commissioner Kiger stated that the Board should be asking for DACO's finances on an annual basis. Commissioner Myers asked if the Board wants to see the financials, and Commissioner Shupe stated they should at least see what DACO is operating on each year. Commissioner Myers stated that he has some concerns and wondered if this might open the county up to other liabilities.

Commissioner Shupe asked if there was any visitation numbers available for the facility, and Commissioner Myers stated he would be interested in knowing how DACO's visitation compares to the other museums in town. Commissioner Kiger stated that the other facilities utilize a lot of volunteer labor and assistance as well.

10:00 a.m. Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, November 25, 2008 beginning at 10:00 a.m., with the following Commissioners present: Jon Myers, Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger. Also present were Mary jane Gard, Bill Arnett, Jason Dolin and Scott Zody.

Announcements

There were no announcements.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes for Tuesday, November 18, 2008

On motion of Mike Kiger and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the meeting minutes for Tuesday, November 18, 2008

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of Proclamations of Recognition

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

08-11.25.a Approval of a Proclamation of Recognition – Merle Swain

08-11.25.b Approval of a Proclamation of Recognition – John Feyko

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of Fairfield County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Consultant Selection

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Fairfield County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) consultant selection, see resolution 08-11.25.c

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of Intent to Adopt Resolution of Exemption

On the motion of Mike Kiger and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve of Intent to Adopt a Resolution of Exemption, see resolution 08-11.25.d

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of a Contract to provide administrative & other services for the FY2008 Ohio Small Cities CDBG Formula Allocation Program B-F-08-022-1

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve a Contract to provide administrative & other services for the FY2008 Ohio Small Cities CDBG Formula Allocation Program B-F-08-022-1, see resolution 08-11.18.e

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of a Letter of Understanding – services provided by Local Government Services Department of the Auditor of State

On the motion of Mike Kiger and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve a Letter of Understanding for services provided by the Local Government Services Department of the Auditor of State, see resolution 08-11.25.f

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval to Ratify previously approved financial resolutions for Fairfield County Board of Mental Health Retardation and Developmental Disabilities

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to Ratify previously approved financial resolutions for Fairfield County Board of Mental Health Retardation and Developmental Disabilities, see resolution 08-11.25.g

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of acquisition of one (1) Peacekeeper Armored vehicle - Sheriff

On the motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the acquisition of one (1) Peacekeeper Armored vehicle for the Sheriff's Office, see resolution 08-11.25.h

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of transfer of a vehicle to the Fairfield County Emergency management Agency from the Fairfield County Historical Parks Commission

On motion of Mike Kiger and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the transfer of a vehicle to the Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency from the Fairfield County Historical Parks Commission, see resolution 08-11.25.i

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of Fairfield County Revolving Loan Fund resolutions

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

08-11.25.j Approval of a Fairfield County Revolving Loan Fund Review Committee's recommendations for funding a proposal for Economic Development Administration Revolving Loan Fund (EDA-RLF) financing

08-11.25.k Approval of disbursement of funds in the Fairfield County Economic Development Administration Revolving Loan Fund program

Bill Arnett explained the loan is for Fairfield Machine Products in Carroll, and will create six new positions with the company.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of Engineers resolutions

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

08-11.25.l Approval of Declaration of Necessity of Crumley Road HOC-05 Bridge Replacement Project - Engineer

08-11.25.m Approval of Change Order for the 2008 Pavement Marking Project - Engineer

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of Appointments to the Regional Planning Commission

On the motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve appointments to the Regional Planning Commission as follows:

08-11.25.n Approval of Appointment of Mary Adcock to the Fairfield County Regional Planning Commission

08-11.25.o Approval of Appointment of James Herd to the Fairfield County Regional Planning Commission

08-11.25.p Approval of Appointment of Ira Weiss to the Fairfield County Regional Planning Commission

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of Community Action CHIP resolutions

On motion of Mike Kiger and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve resolutions for the Fairfield County Community Action CHIP Program as follows:

08-11.25.q Approval of environmental review and certificate of determination for activities that are categorically excluded for the Fairfield County Community Housing Improvement Program funded by the Ohio Department of Development Office of Housing and Community Partnerships through grant B-C-08-022-2

08-11.25.r Approval of environmental review and certificate of determination for activities that are categorically excluded and not subject to 24 CFR 58.5 for the Fairfield County Community Housing Improvement Program funded by the Ohio Department of Development Office of Housing and Community Partnerships through grant B-C-08-022-1

08-11.25.s Approval of renewal of the Fairfield County Coordination Agreement with the Ohio Historic Preservation Office in reference to the Community Housing Improvement Program (CHIP)

08-11.25.t Approval of Authorization to adopt the FY2008 Community Housing Improvement Program (CHIP) Policy & Procedures Manual to the Ohio Department of Development, Office of Housing and Community Partnerships for the Program Year 2008

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of resolutions to Establish New Funds

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

08-11.25.u Approval to establish a New Fund for Basic Life Insurance

08-11.25.v Approval of establishing a New Fund for Supplemental Insurance

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of Financial Resolutions

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

- 08-11.25.w Approval of repayment of Advance of Funds – Workforce Development WIA Fund – Job & Family Services
- 08-11.25.x Approval of Reduction in Appropriations and Estimated Receipts - MRDD
- 08-11.25.y Approval of Amended Certificate – Update Receipts – Appropriate from Unappropriated for Fund 2423 – Reese/Peters Hotel/Motel Tax
- 08-11.25.z Approval of Amended Certificate – Update Receipts – Appropriate from Unappropriated for Fund 7016 – County Lodging Tax
- 08-11.25.aa Approval of Amended Certificate – Update Receipts – Appropriate from Unappropriated for Fund 2066 – Flex Spending Fund
- 08-11.25.bb Approval of Amended Certificate & request for Appropriations for additional unanticipated receipts of Memo Expenditure – Engineer
- 08-11.25.cc Approval of Amended Certificate and Account to Account Transfer – FairCATS
- 08-11.25.dd Approval of Account to Account Transfer – General
- 08-11.25.ee Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Probation Services Fund
- 08-11.25.ff Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Common Pleas Special Projects Fund
- 08-11.25.gg Approval of Account to Account Transfer – General Fund, Common Pleas Court
- 08-11.25.hh Approval of Account to Account Transfer – General Fund, Common Pleas Court
- 08-11.25.ii Approval of Account to Account Transfer – MRDD
- 08-11.25.jj Approval of Account to Account Transfer – MRDD
- 08-11.25.kk Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Job & Family Services
- 08-11.25.ll Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Maintenance
- 08-11.25.mm Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Maintenance
- 08-11.25.nn Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Utilities
- 08-11.25.oo Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Board of Elections
- 08-11.25.pp Approval of Account to Account Transfer –ADAMH
- 08-11.25.qq Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Domestic Relations Court
- 08-11.25.rr Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Sheriff
- 08-11.25.ss Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Personal Property
- 08-11.25.tt Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Job & Family Services
- 08-11.25.uu Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Fairfield County Airport

08-11.25.vv Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Insurance
08-11.25.ww Approval to Appropriate from Unappropriated – Engineer
08-11.25.xx Approval to Appropriate from Unappropriated – ADAMH

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

Payment of Bills

On the motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioner voted to approve the authorization for payment of bills, November 25, 2008, check date November 26, 2008, see resolution 08-11.25.yy and 08-11.25.zz

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

Review, cont.

Tony Vogel, and Holly Mattei presented a proposal to the Board of Commissioners to establish a Stormwater Utility in Violet Township to replace the multitude of Drainage Maintenance District that has been established over the past several years in rural subdivisions. Mr. Vogel explained there is a lot of research work that needs to be conducted, and the Utility Department would like to contract with the Regional Planning Commission to do that work and pay them out of the Drainage Maintenance funds – the research is estimated to cost approximately \$10,000.

Commissioner Myers asked how many parcels this would involve, and Ms. Mattei stated there are approximately 2800 parcels that would be affected. Commissioner Shupe asked if there would be any issue with the funding that was collected through the Drainage Maintenance process, and Mr. Vogel stated that the Auditor's Office has an issue with any over collection, believing those funds must be refunded to the current parcel owner, but the bulk of the funds could be transferred to the Stormwater Utility. Ms. Mattei added that is why it is critical to understand what parcels are current and which ones may have overpaid.

Commissioner Myers expressed a concern relative to parcels that have sold or changed ownership and the refund might not necessarily be going to the person who originally paid it. Commissioner Shupe asked if it is permissible to take the \$10,000 from the Drainage Maintenance Funds to cover the research expense, and Mr. Vogel stated that he believes the law allows for that, and asked Mr. Dolin to confirm. Commissioner Myers asked if Utilities could pay for the research, and Mr. Vogel stated that he could, but he did not feel it was fair to have his customers pay for that cost.

Commissioner Myers stated that Mr. Dolin could research the legal issues and respond, and Mr. Vogel stated that if the answer came back in the affirmative, then he would ask for the release of funds from the Drainage Maintenance account.

Commissioner Myers asked if other counties are using this approach, and Mr. Vogel stated he was not sure, but believed there were one or two out there. Ms. Mattei stated that she believes there are a few in the Northeast part of Ohio that are.

Mr. Arnett provided the Board with an update on the Mulberry Street building, stating that the paperwork is finally ready and the sale could close the week of December 8th, and would include a leaseback provision for some of the building for county storage. Commissioner Myers asked what the cost of the lease would be, and Mr. Arnett stated it would cost \$6400 per year.

Mr. Arnett stated he would try to have the necessary resolutions ready for the December 11th meeting, and schedule the closing for December 12th.

Staci Knisley provided the Board with an update on some changes to the MUNIS system. Ms. Knisley stated that MUNIS has added new folders for the county annual financial statement and it is forcing department and agency fiscal officers to key in bills twice. It has become a very time-consuming process, and Theresa is struggling to keep up with the airport bills. Ms. Knisley has a mandatory training next week with the Auditor's Office relative to this new process, and hopes to learn more or find a workaround that will not require double entry work.

Commissioner Shupe stated that the MUNIS system is not saving the time or money it was supposed to save. Ms. Knisley stated that supposedly this is due to the CAFIR and is supposed to make things easier for the auditor, but it's not making things easier for everyone else. Commissioner Myers stated that the Board needs to meet with Barb Curtiss to discuss.

Ms. Knisley also provided an update on the phone system contract, stating that they have discovered that Doug Ballou, the consultant, has been working under an expired contract for almost 4 months, and they will have about \$30-40,000 worth of bills to pay by the end of the year, but Mr. Ballou has gone above and beyond what his original contract called for, and believes the funds would be well-spent.

The Board discussed the issue of health insurance coverage for the Board of Elections. Commissioner Shupe stated that there is the potential for litigation over the issue. Commissioner Myers asked if the issue was worth pursuing, and Commissioner Kiger stated that this is in conflict with current county policy and the offering of free insurance to the part-time Board members should be discontinued.

Commissioner Myers stated if the Board would sue the Commissioners, the county would be required to pay their legal fees. Commissioner Shupe asked if the Commissioners could require the members to take their retirement insurance, since all of the current members are retired, and Mr. Dolin stated that would not be possible. Commissioner Kiger stated that when he became a Commissioner, the Police & Fire Fund required him to take the county's insurance. The larger issue is whether or not the clear violation of county policy regarding insurance for part-time employees should continue.

Commissioner Myers asked what the Board prefers, and Commissioner Kiger stated the county save at least \$50,000 per year by discontinuing the free insurance, and all of the current Board of Elections members have access to their retirement insurance through PERS or the military. Commissioner Myers suggested Mr. Dolin seek input from Prosecutor Landefeld on the issue before the Board makes a final decision.

11:00 a.m. Hearing – Mt. Zwingli/Pleasant View Road Project

The Board of Commissioners convened a hearing on the Mt. Zwingli/Pleasant View Road Project at 11:00 a.m. Commissioners present included Jon Myers, Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger. Also present were Deputy Engineer Jeff Baird, Jason Dolin and Scott Zody.

Mr. Baird provided an overview on the project, stating that the culvert was in a state of severe deterioration and the Engineer plans to replace it in 2009 as a force account project with the township.

Commissioner Myers asked if any interested parties were present at the viewing, and Mr. Baird stated that no one showed up, not had he received any concerns or comments relative to the project.

Commissioner Kiger asked if there would be any impact to school bus routing, and Mr. Baird stated that it depends on the timing of the project – the culvert replacement would take approximately 3 weeks, and one lane of traffic could be maintained during the ditching work. Commissioner Shupe asked if the township had all of their issues addressed at the viewing, and Mr. Baird stated that the issues had been resolved.

Commissioner Myers asked about the timing of the project, and Mr. Baird stated his intent was to complete the project in 2009.

On the motion of Mike Kiger and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to close the hearing.

Roll call vote on the motion resulted as follows:

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

1:30 Meeting with Dave Scheffler

The Board of Commissioners met at 1:30 p.m. with Dave Scheffler of the Fairfield County Airport Authority. Commissioners present were Jon Myers, Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger. Also present were Jason Dolin and Scott Zody.

Mr. Dolin stated that he had asked for the meeting to clear up any outstanding issues with respect to the State Infrastructure Bank loan to the airport. Mr. Dolin stated that he has successfully negotiated a deal with the Attorney General's office so that the Board of Commissioner's would not be required to encumber any funds until the first payment of the loan is due and then only one year's worth of payments vs. the entire outstanding principal amount.

Commissioner Myers asked when the payments would begin, and Mr. Dolin stated 31 months after the loan is approved, and Mr. Scheffler stated the payment would be made from hangar rental revenue. Commissioner Myers asked if enough hangars were being rented to ensure sufficient cash flow, and Mr. Scheffler stated that he has a few vacancies, but there is sufficient rental income to cover the payments according to the 5 and 10 year plans the airport has submitted.

Mr. Dolin stated that Mr. Scheffler is reviewing the loan documents and will conduct a title search on the Frear property and schedule a closing date, hopefully before the end of the year. Mr. Scheffler stated he has reviewed most of the documents, and has found some unnecessary language relative to construction that could be stricken, but not much else.

Commissioner Myers asked how long the repayment period is on the loan, and Mr. Scheffler stated it is 10 years.

Regarding the skydiving issue, Mr. Scheffler stated that they now have a signed agreement with Mr. Chapman and the landing zone will be on the South side of the airport property. A fence will need to be moved to accommodate this activity, but the FAA has agreed to pay for the relocation.

Mr. Scheffler stated that a farmer who is currently mowing part of the airport property for hay is interested in farming part of the Frear property as well. The Board advised Mr. Scheffler to have the farmer contact Mr. Zody.

Mr. Scheffler stated that Greg Heaton attended a recent meeting where Director Beasley from ODOT stated that Ohio is in line to receive \$1.2 billion per year over the next two years in Federal stimulus funding if President-elect Obama's plans are approved, and the funding is supposed to include \$5 million for airports.

2:00 p.m. Meeting with Mayor Smith

The Board of Commissioners met with Lancaster Mayor Dave Smith to discuss concerns relative to the Lancaster Public Transit System. Commissioners present were Jon Myers, Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger. Also present was Safety Service Director Mike Courtney, Job & Family Services Director Michael Orlando, Laura Holton, Jason Dolin, and Scott Zody.

Mayor Smith stated that he wanted to follow up with the Board from the last meeting they had to discuss LPT, as the system is on a very narrow operating window, and will likely cease operations at the end of March if nothing changes.

Mayor Smith explained that LPT receives funding from various sources, including state and Federal funds, and last year's small expansion outside of the city brought in many new riders. If additional contract services, such as those offered by JFS, could be added, or the system could be expanded to be countywide, LPT could continue to operate.

Mayor Smith stated that ODOT has provided clarification relative to the number of riders and how LPT must charge them. ODOT agreed to add some flexibility into the contract which has been included in the latest RFP that LPT has out to JFS. The changes will allow LPT more latitude to offer increased levels of service and should help increase ridership with JFS clients.

Commissioner Myers asked if JFS is the make or break issue with LPT, and Mayor Smith stated that if that is the only option, yes, but if the county would provide \$150,000 to pay for ½ the cost of expanding countywide, the Mayor has Baltimore, Pickerington, Amanda and Violet Township standing by willing to pay the other ½.

Mr. Orlando stated that from his standpoint, it would need to be a combination of both, as JFS does not have the funding to provide \$150,000 worth of ridership. Mr. Orlando stated they could help generate some increased ridership, but not all.

Ms. Holton stated that JFS transport is for Medicaid eligible patients only, both for riders and services, and JFS must consider geographic areas, availability of service and cost when considering who to contract with to provide rides. LPT has a very high cost - \$13.50 per loaded mile as opposed to \$2.25 per loaded mile for private transport.

Mayor Smith stated that is in part due to the ODOT regulations that set up rural transit systems at a structural disadvantage to private carriers. Commissioner Myers asked if anyone could utilize LPT for service, and Ms. Holton stated that for JFS clients, they must be Medicaid eligible – her staff fields approximately 100 calls per day for gas vouchers and rides. Commissioner Myers asked how many of the 100 calls are for rides vs gas vouchers, and Ms. Holton stated that they push the gas vouchers first, as they are easier to administer, and they issue approximately \$3500/month in those. Commissioner Myers asked how the voucher program works, and Ms. Holton stated that a person can receive a \$10 voucher, no more than 8 times per month, they must use a station that participates in the program, and bring in a doctor's note verifying the medical visit.

Commissioner Shupe asked who would be served by expanding the program countywide, and Ms. Holton stated a large number of the clients would likely include those trying to find transportation to and from work.

Commissioner Shupe asked what specific areas would be served, and Mayor Smith stated that Amanda, Baltimore, Pickerington and Violet Township would be served for all riders, and he hopes that the entire county could be served for JFS/Medicaid riders.

Commissioner Shupe asked how much is contributed by the city each year, and Mayor Smith stated the city provides \$73,000, but had spent about \$200,000 in 2006 for equipment needs.

Commissioner Myers asked how much revenue is generated each year, and Mayor Smith stated the annual budget for LPT is about \$1 million, so the city receives about a 9-1 return on its investment. Mayor Smith cautioned that if LPT were to cease operations, it would be very costly to restart, with the need to purchase equipment.

Mr. Orlando stated that in October, JFS invoiced approximately \$3,000 to LPT, and believes his agency would need to invoice approximately \$12,000 per month in order to

make the system viable. He would like to increase utilization, but he also must be cost-effective.

Commissioner Myers asked if the RFP process was a sealed bid process, and Mayor stated that it is, and Commissioner Myers asked if LPT could submit lower bids, and Mayor Smith stated that is one of the ODOT-mandated structural deficiencies of the system – LPT must bid on an allocated cost basis.

Commissioner Kiger asked how close JFS can get to meeting the LPT needs, and Mr. Orlando stated that is hard to determine. Ms. Holton stated that JFS has been trying to diversify the number of vendors it utilizes in order to obtain better bids, and needs vendors that can travel outside the county and allow at least a 10-minute waiting period for pick ups.

Mayor Smith asked if the county has a back up plan to help supplement JFS, and Commissioner Shupe asked who would be served and would the prices be the same, and Mayor Smith stated the prices would be the same, and the city would fund 1/3 of the cost and the county would fund 2/3 of the cost. Any resident could ride without restrictions.

Mr. Orlando asked if the \$150,000 was a combined amount needed or separate from the JFS issue. Mayor Smith stated that between \$120-150,000 is needed to implement a county wide system and COTA has pick-up points in Pickerington for riders needing to go into Franklin County.

Commissioner Kiger stated that the Board had approved a resolution designating LPT as the lead agency for a county system and he thought there was a \$50,000 grant that went with that, and Ms. Holton stated that she believed the grant was for \$15,000 and only for LPT to develop a plan. Mr. Orlando stated that he thought the funds could only be used for the plan as well.

Commissioner Shupe asked why some in the public are trying to blame the Commissioner's for the LPT situation, and Mr. Orlando stated that there had been a recent article in the newspaper on this issue that cast attention towards the county as being the party that determines if LPT lives or dies.

Mr. Courtney stated that he would like to clarify that the LPT cost is per loaded trip, not per loaded mile as Ms. Holton had indicated. Commissioner Kiger stated that casts a different light on the number, because that would make any trip over 6 miles more cost-effective to use LPT. Mayor Smith added that JFS is only for Medicaid and TANF clients, and at one time, LPT was the only vendor available and did not watch the regulations as closely as they should have – under today's rules, they could not serve 100% of the JFS customers.

Commissioner Shupe asked if there were enough customer to justify a county wide system, and Mayor Smith stated the study conducted by LPT indicated there are enough, and provides estimates.

Commissioner Myers asked how many vehicles LPT currently has, and Mayor Smith stated there are 8. Commissioner Myers asked if JFS could utilize the system, and Mr. Orlando stated that in most of the county yes, but not all.

Commissioner Myers asked if the trips run in set patterns or on a call-by-call basis, and Mayor Smith stated they are on a call-by-call basis, but appointments can also be made. Mr. Zody asked what happens when or if one of the local partners drops out of paying, and Mayor Smith stated that he would advocate approaching a county wide system on a trial basis to see how it works to avoid that situation.

Commissioner Shupe stated the problem is the county does not have an extra \$150,000 to put towards the project. Ms. Holton asked if the city could still contract with JFS, and Mayor Smith stated it could, provided the future viability of the system looks good.

Commissioner Myers asked what JFS was spending per month on LPT, and Ms. Holton stated \$3,000 – they spend about \$30,000 per month total on transportation.

Commissioner Kiger asked if weekend or evening hours had been expanded, and Ms. Holton stated they had, and that has helped. Mr. Courtney stated that as far as he knows, all service-related concerns for JFS have been addressed.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board, on the motion of Mike Kiger and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn at 3:00 p.m.

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

Mike Kiger
Commissioner

Jon D. Myers
Commissioner

Judith K. Shupe
Commissioner

Scott A. Zody, Clerk/Manager

THE NEXT COMMISSIONERS' REGULAR MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY DECEMBER 2, 2008 AT 10:00 A.M.