

**Regular Meeting #07-43  
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office  
October 9, 2007**

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

A regular meeting of the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, October 9, beginning at 10:00 a.m., with the following Commissioners present: Mike Kiger, Jon Myers and Judith Shupe. Also present were: Lancaster Mayor David Smith, Terre Vandervoort, Lynette Leach, Aunie Cordle, Randall Ullum, David Landefeld, Frank Anderson and Scott Zody.

**Announcements**

There were no announcements.

**Public Comment**

Mayor Smith stated that he was there to provide input on Ms. Vandervoort's request for additional funding for prosecution of misdemeanor offenses. Commissioner Myers asked Mayor Smith if he was present for a scheduled meeting, or to discuss the issue informally. Mayor Smith stated he was under the impression that the discussion Ms. Vandervoort held with the Commissioners the previous week was to be continued today, due to the absence of Commissioner Kiger due to illness.

**Approval of minutes of Tuesday, October 2, 2007**

On motion of Jon Myers and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the minutes for Tuesday, October 2, 2007.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Judith Shupe and Jon Myers.

Mike Kiger abstained.

**Proclamation of Recognition – David Fey**

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve a proclamation of Recognition for David Fey, Fairfield County Historical Parks Director, on being named Citizen of the Year by the Lancaster Tarhe Lions Club, see resolution 07-10.09.a

Commissioner Myers stated that Mr. Fey does an outstanding job, and Commissioner Shupe stated that Mr. Fey is very worthy of being named Citizen of the Year.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Judith Shupe Jon Myers and Mike Kiger

**Vacation and Re-alignment of Tollgate Road**

On motion of Jon Myers and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve to vacate and re-aligning a portion of Tollgate Road in Violet Township, see resolution 07-10.09.b

Commissioner Shupe stated that this will improve safety and sight distance issues at the Refugee Road intersection and the new school buildings that will be constructed at the intersection.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

**Approval of County Engineer to apply brine on Fairfield County Roads**

On motion of Jon Myers and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve a request from the Fairfield County Engineer to apply brine on County Road 33A, Pickerington Road, and Refugee Road for ice control, see resolution 07-10.09.c

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

**Approval of Change Order – West Rushville Road**

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve a change order for the West Rushville Road Profile Improvement Project, see resolution 07-10.09.d

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

**Approval of a Contract for Engineering Services – Fairfield County Utilities**

On motion of Jon Myers and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve a contract for engineering services for regional drinking water source Protection Plan – Amendment #2, see resolution 07-10.09.e

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

**Approval of a Contract for Services between the Fairfield County Commissioners, Fairfield County Family, Adult, & Children First Council, and the Fairfield County Job & Family Services, and Approval of a contract amendment by & between Fairfield County Job & Family Services and Fairfield Center for Disabilities and Cerebral Palsy, Inc.**

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

07-10.09.f                      Approval of a Contract for Services between the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners, Fairfield County Family, Adult and Children First Council, and the Fairfield County Job & Family Services

07-10.09.g                      Approval of a Contract Amendment by & between Fairfield County Job & Family Services and Fairfield Center for Disabilities and Cerebral Palsy, Inc.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

**Financial Resolutions**

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

07-10.09.h                      Approval of Account to Account Transfer - Fairfield County Commissioners – Fund 7671

07-10.09.i                      Approval of Account to Account Transfer - Fairfield County Engineer – Fund 2024

- 07-10.09.j Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Fairfield County Commissioners/Maintenance – Fund 1001
- 07-10.09.k Approval of Account to Account Transfer - Fairfield County Commissioners – Fund 4663 – Fairfield County Airport
- 07-10.09.l Approval of Advance from the General Fund/FT2005 – Housing Improvement Fund 2660 – Fairfield County Commissioners
- 07-10.09.m Approval of Advance from the General Fund/FT2005 – Housing Improvement Fund 2660 – Fairfield County Commissioners
- 07-10.09.n Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Fairfield County Job & Family Services – Public Assistance Fund
- 07-10.09.o Approval to Appropriate from Unappropriated – Fairfield County Auditor – MUNIS Fund
- 07-10.09.p Approval of Account to Account Transfer - Fairfield County Commissioners – Fund 1001 – Fairfield County 911
- 07-10.09.q Approval of Amendment of Certificate and Account to Account Transfer – VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT grant – Fairfield County Prosecutor – Fund 2686
- 07-10.09.r Approval of Amendment of Certificate and Account to Account Transfer – STATE VICTIMS ASSISTANCE ACT grant – Fairfield County Prosecutor – Fund 2685
- 07-10.09.s Approval of Repayment of Advance – Fairfield County Juvenile Court – Fund 2628
- 07-10.09.t Approval of Account to Account Transfer - Fairfield County Commissioners – Fund 1001
- 07-10.09.u Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Fairfield County Commissioners/Maintenance – Fund 1001

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

**Payment of Bills**

On the motion of Judith Shupe and second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the authorization for payment of bills, October 9, 2007, check date October 12, 2007, see resolution 07-10.09.v

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

**Review Session**

The Board of Commissioners met at 10:15 a.m. to review correspondence, pending items, and future action items. Commissioners present at the review session were Mike Kiger, Jon Myers, and Judith Shupe. Present also were Lancaster Mayor David Smith, Terre Vandervoort, David Landefeld, Aunie Cordle, Ed Laramee, Randall Ullum, Bob Dvoraczky, and Scott Zody.

**Pending Items**

**Lancaster Law Director Contract**

Mayor Smith, Ms Vandervoort, and Mr. Ullum requested the Commissioners agree to the draft contract/agreement that Ms. Vandervoort proposed for misdemeanor prosecution services. Ms Vandervoort provided background information for Commissioner Kiger, who had been absent due to illness from the previous weeks meeting. Ms. Vandervoort reiterated that if the county would be unwilling to provide \$150,000 to cover a “fair and equitable” share, she would bill the villages in the county for services.

Mr. Landefeld stated that the county has an obligation to pay for these services, but also has the flexibility to determine what the appropriate amount is, and the villages are not obligated to pay anything.

Ms. Vandervoort replied that the villages could provide their own prosecution services, but that would not be as efficient as having Lancaster do it for them.

Commissioner Myers asked about Pickerington, and why they make a separate payment to Lancaster. Ms. Vandervoort responded that Pickerington and Reynoldsburg have different arrangements and pay Lancaster for those services. Commissioner Myers asked about the \$29,000 contract line in Ms. Vandervoorts budget. Ms. Vandervoort stated that this reflected 12 hour per week of temporary help to assist with the discovery process, and she also utilizes a temporary attorney to help with the Family Violence Unit.

Commissioner Kiger asked Ms. Vandervoort about the e-mail she had sent regarding the Job & Family Services budget, and the criticism she had for the Commissioners in that message. Ms. Vandervoort replied that she was the Chair of the Child Advocacy Board, and was responding in that capacity. She stated that Fairfield County has one of the lowest per capita funding levels per child for Child Protective Services, and would like to see an advocacy board established to lobby on behalf of children’s needs. Ms. Vandervoort also stated that children are being removed from foster care due to budget cuts.

Commissioner Kiger stated that Ms. Vandervoort’s e-mail advocated more funding for children’s services, and the Commissioners provided several hundred thousand dollars in additional funding support at the recent Budget Retreat, and yet Ms. Vandervoort is asking for additional funding for her own operations. Every request cannot be funded. Ms. Vandervoort replied that her e-mail had been sent prior to the budget retreat and she was not aware that additional funding had been provided. Commissioner Kiger stated that he wanted Ms. Vandervoort to be aware that the Commissioners are trying to address needs. Ms. Vandervoort stated that she did not want to see a return to the situation that caused the Engle “debacle”, which was poor funding and poor training.

Mayor Smith state that he has two main concerns – fairness and that the county appreciate the current financial situation of the city – Lancaster has not recovered as quickly as the county from the recent budget shortfalls. Commissioner Shupe state that she has a concern about the rapid increases in the amount of support that county was being asked to contribute for these services, and appreciated the explanation that has been provided. Commissioner Myers asked if the city would be willing to look at a 5-year agreement for \$150,000 per year. Mayor Smith stated that every year the city budget has been short for these services, so any assistance would be appreciated.

The Commissioners requested Mr. Landefeld to review the contract and if it were in proper form, to report such and the Commissioners would make a final decisions on the matter at that time.

### **Health Insurance Rates**

Ed Laramee, Bob Dvoraczky, and Aunie Cordle briefed the Commissioners on health insurance rates for County employees. Mr. Laramee explained that the Commissioners needed to pass a resolution establishing the rates so the county could move forward in

working with Franklin and Pickaway counties as part of the group program they are in. Mr. Laramée reported that the County has been very fortunate in having excellent claims experience the past two years, to the point that our reserves are healthy and no rate increase will be required this year.

Commissioner Myers asked about any balance that was in the reserves, and Mr. Laramée replied that the balances have been reduced through the rate holidays that were granted this year, and the county currently has no reserve or penalty needs.

Commissioner Myers asked if the resolution freezes rates for 2008, and Mr. Laramée stated that it did. Commissioner Myers asked why the Soil & Water Conservation District employees only paid a 10% rate, and Mr. Laramée explained that previously, SWCD employees were covered 100% for health care, and only in the past few years have they been paying a gradually increasing share of health care insurance coverage.

On the motion of Jon Myers and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the setting of county employee payment rates for health insurance for 2008, see resolution 07-10.09.w

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

### **Executive Session**

On the motion of Jon Myers and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to enter into Executive Session at 10:45 a.m. to discuss personnel matters. Present were Commissioners Kiger, Shupe, and Myers. Also present were Dave Landefeld, Aunie Cordle, 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 the second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to recess Executive Session at 11:00. No action was taken during the session.

Roll call vote on the motion resulted as follows:

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

### **Vacation Hearing, Geneva Alleys**

A hearing relative to the vacation of several alleys in the unincorporated Village of Geneva was called to order by the Board of Commissioners. Present were Commissioners Kiger, Shupe and Myers. Present also were County Engineer Frank Anderson, Jeff Camechis, Bill Arnett, Aunie Cordle, Rushcreek Township Trustee Ed Pool, Thuron Daugherty, and Scott Zody.

Mr. Anderson explained that the Engineer's Office reviewed the petition, and recommended a slight change to reflect the true width one of the alleys, which the Township Trustees affected, and they had no objection to the vacation. Mr. Camechis further explained that the village and alleys had all been platted out of one tract of property in 1824, so all alleys except one that were being vacated could be split equally between adjacent lot owners.

Mr. Pool expressed the Township trustees support for the vacation.

Mr. Daugherty, as one of the petitioners, expressed his support for the vacation.

On the motion of Jon Myers 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: Myers, Shupe and Kiger

### **Review Session cont.**

The Board of Commissioners met at 11:15 a.m. to review correspondence, pending items, and future action items. Commissioners present at the review session were Mike Kiger, Jon Myers, and Judith Shupe. Present also was Scott Zody.

### **Executive Session**

On the motion of Jon Myers and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to enter into Executive Session at 11:20 a.m. to discuss personnel matters. Present were Commissioners Kiger, Shupe, and Myers. Present also was 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 the second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to recess Executive Session at 11:35. No action was taken during the session.

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

### **Review Session cont.**

Fiscal Clerk Staci Knisley brought two add-on resolutions to the attention of the Board of Commissioners. Ms. Knisley explained that the resolutions were for the Major Crimes Unit to purchase two vehicles, and due to State Department of Administrative Services regulation, the resolutions were required to affect the purchase.

On the motion of Jon Myers and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioner voted to approve two resolutions for the Major Crimes Unit to purchase two vehicles, see resolutions 07-10.09.x and 07-10.09.y

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

### **Prosecutor Request**

The Commissioner's directed Scott Zody to draft a letter to David Landefeld outlining the areas of agreement relative to the hiring of Jason Dolin to serve as Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, including work hours, scheduling, funding responsibilities, and evaluation.

### **Mitch Nusser**

Commissioner Kiger informed the Board that he had received a request from Mitch Nusser with the Lancaster Transit Authority for some financial assistance in an effort to extend service to some parts of the county outside of the Lancaster City limits. Mr. Nusser is requesting \$10,000 to help with this effort. Commissioner Myers and Commissioner Shupe expressed interest in the concept, and asked Commissioner Kiger to obtain some additional details from Mr. Nusser. Commissioner Kiger stated he would follow-up with Mr. Nusser.

### **Aq Center Lease**

Mr. Zody reported to the Commissioners that he had had successful conversations with Aaron Stockberger, the County Farm Service Agency Director, relative to renewing the

lease for the Ag Center. The FSA is willing to increase the square footage rental rate for the next five-year period, as the rate has been unchanged for at least the past five years, and if the lease is agreed to and signed by the Board by October 19<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Stockberger can send the documents to Washington for approval and put off a need to construct a new server room for his computer equipment, since the lease would be a renewal and not a “new” lease.

**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 2:00 p.m.

Roll call vote on the motion resulted as follows:

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

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Mike Kiger  
Commissioner

Jon Myers  
Commissioner

Judith Shupe  
Commissioner

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Scott Zody, Clerk/Manager

**THE NEXT REGULAR COMMISSIONERS’ MEETING IS SCHEDULED FRIDAY,  
OCTOBER 19, 2007 AT 10:00 A.M.**