

**Regular Meeting #08-43
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
October 14, 2008**

9:45 a.m. Review Session

The Board of Commissioners met at 9:45 a.m. to review legal issues, correspondence, and pending and future action items. Commissioners present included Jon Myers, Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger. Also present were Jason Dolin and Scott Zody.

Mr. Dolin provided an update on his research into the Decorative Arts Center (DACO). Mr. Dolin reported that DACO is a free-standing non-profit organization, but has been unable to find any kind of agreement or lease between DACO and the county for the use of the facility. Mr. Dolin suggested checking with CORSA to see if there could possibly be some insurance coverage for the wall, and strongly recommended the county develop a lease agreement with DACO to clearly define the relationship.

Commissioner Myers suggested that Mr. Dolin, Mr. Zody, and Facilities Manager Joe Spybey meet with Dave Harcum and Julie Parke to discuss the issue and see if DACO has any documentation that could be provided.

Mr. Dolin stated that he had reviewed the revenue history of the bed tax the DACO receives, and it amounts to between \$150,000-160,000 per year. Commissioner Myers asked what the administrative fee consisted of, and Mr. Dolin stated that he believes that pays the Auditor's Office cost for processing. Commissioner Shupe asked if this represented all bed tax collected, or just the DACO share. Mr. Dolin stated that represented the DACO share.

Commissioner Shupe stated that the Board used to receive a copy of the DACO budget every year, but does not recall seeing one for the past few years. Mr. Dolin suggested that if the Board wishes to recoup some of the costs of repairing the wall, they could charge DACO rent. Commissioner Shupe stated that DACO needs to help pay some of the costs of the facility.

Commissioner Myers stated that he thought there was some state grant or capital funding that was involved in the acquisition of the facility, but was not certain of the source or amount.

Mr. Dolin provided an update on the Busey Road alteration project, informing the Board that he and Paul Morehart had met with Violet Township Administrator Bill Yapple to discuss the Engineer's concerns. The problem is that the portions of old Busey Road were not vacated and has led to some confusion relative to the road name and numbers. Violet Township will ask for a viewing and hearing to properly establish the portion of new Busey Road and rename/renumber old Busey Road.

10:00 a.m. Commissioners' Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, October 7, 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, Lynette Leach, Jason Dolin and Scott Zody.

Announcements

There were no announcements.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes for Tuesday, October 7, 2008

On motion of Mike Kiger and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the meeting minutes for Tuesday, October 7, 2008

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

Approval of the purchase of two (2) 2009 Chevy Colorado Pick-up trucks – Engineer

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the purchase of two (2) 2009 Chevy Colorado Pick-up trucks for the County Engineer, see resolution 08-10.14.a

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

Approval of Fairfield County Revolving Loan Fund Review Committee's recommendation for modification of EDA/RLF Plan and the submittal of the EDA/RLF Semi-annual Report

On motion of Mike Kiger and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Fairfield County Revolving Loan Fund Review Committee's recommendation for modification of EDA/RLF Plan and the submittal of the EDA/RLF Semi-Annual Report, see resolution 08-10.14.b

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

Approval of resolution to invalidate a 1971 Commissioner's resolution to vacate portions of certain public roads, to wit: Arter Road, .56 miles, Meister Road, .45 miles, Clearcreek Road, .70 miles, and Wild Cat Ridge Road, .64 miles

On motion of Mike Kiger and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve a resolution to invalidate a 1971 Commissioner's resolution to vacate portions of certain public roads, to wit: Arter Road, .56 miles, Meister Road, .45 miles, Clearcreek Road, .70 miles, and Wild Cat Ridge Road, .64 miles, see resolution 08-10.14.c

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

Approval of amendment to resolution 08-09.16.e, approval of grant agreement, FAA Grant #03-39-004-1708 – FY2008 – Fairfield County Airport

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve an amendment to resolution 08-09.16.e, approval of grant agreement, FAA Grant #03-39-004-1708 – FY2008 – Fairfield County Airport , see resolution 08-10.14.d

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

Approval of Engineering Services for Tussing Road WRF NPDES Permit Compliance Litigation - Utilities

On motion of Mike Kiger and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve Engineering Services for Tussing Road WRF NPDES Permit Compliance Litigation, see resolution 08-10.14.e

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

Approval of Memo Expenditure – Job & Family Services

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve a memo expenditure for Fairfield County Job & Family Services, see resolution 08-10.14.f

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:

- 08-10.14.g Approval of Reduction in Appropriations & Estimated Receipts, Amend the certificate & converting prior year encumbrance – Commissioners – Clean Ohio Agricultural Easement Fund
- 08-10.14.h Approval of Fund to Fund Transfer – from the General Fund to Job & Family Services Special Revenue Funds – Fourth Quarter 2008
- 08-10.14.i Approval of Fund to Fund Transfer – Multi-County Juvenile Detention Center Fund 7564 – Fourth Quarter 2008
- 08-10.14.j Approval of Fund to Fund Transfer – Multi-County Juvenile Detention Center Fund 7711 – Fourth Quarter 2008
- 08-10.14.k Approval of Fund to Fund Transfer – Major Crimes Unit
- 08-10.14.l Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Water Fund 5046 - Utilities
- 08-10.14.m Approval of Account to Account Transfer - Commissioners
- 08-10.14.n Approval of Account to Account Transfer - Engineer
- 08-10.14.o Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Job & Family Services – Public Assistance Fund
- 08-10.14.p Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Job & Family Services – Public Assistance Fund
- 08-10.14.q Approval to Appropriate from Unappropriated – Job & Family Services

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 Commissioners voted to approve the authorization for payment of bills, October 14, 2008, check date October 17, 2008, see resolution 08-10.07.r

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

Review Session

The Board of Commissioners met at 10:25 a.m. to review correspondence, legal issues, and pending and future action items. Commissioners present included Jon Myers, Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger. Also present were Bill Arnett, Jason Dolin and Scott Zody.

The Board directed Mr. Zody to change the time of the next Regular meeting from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. in order for the Board to attend a Historical Parks dedication ceremony at 10:00 a.m.

The Board directed Mr. Zody to consult with Human Resources Director Aunie Cordle and prepare a response to a request from a County Engineer employee relative to establishing a sick leave donation program.

Mr. Arnett provided a briefing on the Joint Economic Development District (JEDD) proposed in the Northwest are of the county. Mr. Arnett stated that Pickerington City Council is planning to meet to discuss the latest proposal on October 21st. Commissioner Shupe asked if this meeting would be only for discussion, and Mr. Arnett stated that as far as he knows, that is the intent. Commissioner Myers asked if Pickerington would likely approve the JEDD, and Mr. Arnett stated that he believes the JEDD will be approved by Pickerington and Canal Winchester, but no Bloom Township or Lancaster.

Mr. Arnett stated the US 33 Development Alliance will meet next Friday to go over the marketing materials, and he had attended a meeting if the Greenfield Township trustees where Eric McCrady of the Engineer's Office discussed the pending traffic study for Election House Road and Business 33. Mr. Arnett stated that the property owners at the intersection are becoming concerned with the lack of progress by the Engineer on this project. Commissioner Shupe asked if there was any discussion about a light at that intersection, and Mr. Arnett stated that a signal is part of the study consideration, but he is concerned about the timing of the study as a culvert replacement project will have Columbus Street closed off soon which may affect the results.

Regarding the old recycling center at Mulberry Street, Mr. Arnett reported that Zebco Industries is putting together a lease to lease back some of the space to the County pending the sale of the building to Zebco. In addition, Zebco has agreed to the higher price in accordance with the most recent appraisal of the property.

The Board discussed a request from the Pickerington Seniors to provide \$10,000 to repair the roof of the Pickerington Senior Center. Commissioner Shupe stated that the current Meals on Wheels/Older Adult Alternatives program should be providing more funding for projects such as this. Commissioner Myers stated that in order to do that, some other senior program would likely need to be reduced. Commissioner Kiger stated that MOW/OAA should have an annual budget, and could plan for expenditures like this. Commissioner Shupe agreed, stating that MOW/OAA needs to do a better job prioritizing expenditures.

Commissioner Myers suggested considering partial funding for the project. Commissioner Kiger expressed concern over where the Board draws the line on projects or budget allocations, especially in light of the current economy.

1:00 p.m. Meeting with Michael Orlando

The Board of Commissioner met at 1:00 p.m. with Job & Family Services Director Michael Orlando for a quarterly update. Commissioners present included Jon Myers, Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger. Also present were Jason Dolin and Scott Zody.

Mr. Orlando provided an overview of recent state budget reductions, noting that on average all funds were reduced approximately 5%, which will also result in lower Federal grant funds, as most of the state funds are used to match Federal dollars.

JFS funds affected include Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Income Maintenance (IM), Child Protective Services (CPS), Adoption Assistance, and Child Support Enforcement (CSEA)

Mr. Orlando stated that the TANF funds are almost depleted, and have been decreasing for several years now. Further loss of those funds will likely force more marginal families into a welfare status and place a burden on CPS with increased referrals.

The IM funding will impact eligibility workers, and will result in some current or future vacant positions being eliminated. Commissioner Kiger asked how many jobs might be abolished, and Mr. Orlando stated that he was not sure, but there is an existing vacancy that should save about \$75,000.

Commissioner Myers asked Mr. Orlando if he still planned on hiring positions to initiate CPS/APS levy activities, and Mr. Orlando stated that he does, but will likely not hire as many as he initially planned. This is the first time the state has cut CPS funding.

In addition, further cuts are expected in January, and CPS is in arrears to IM for nearly \$1 million that it had previously "borrowed".

The cut for CSEA is the second they have had to absorb this year, and they also expect additional cuts in January.

The cuts in the adoption assistance may affect the agency's ability to recruit and retain adoptive parents, particularly for special needs children. Mr. Dolin asked if JFS did any work with the Adoption Training Center at Capital University, and Mr. Orlando stated that they have, and consider the Capital program one of the best in the nation.

Mr. Orlando stated that they have already been informed by the state to plan their 2009 budget based on 90% of the 2008 budget, with additional potential cuts. The County JFS Director's Association is working with the County Commissioner's Association to try to identify some solutions.

Mr. Orlando provided some updates on referrals for the CPS and APS sections, stating that referrals have nearly doubled for his agency since 2003. Commissioner Myers asked what the most common concern or complaint was, and Mr. Orlando stated the CPS calls are primarily for drug use by the parents, and the APS call are primarily self-inflicted abuse or neglect by an elderly person living alone.

Mr. Dolin asked if the increased referrals were due in part to the levy campaign and an increased awareness on the part of the public, and Mr. Orlando stated that is part of the reason, and he believes some of the increased prevention awareness programs being implemented in county schools is also contributing. Several cases of exploitation of young girls by adults have recently come to light through school intervention programs.

Commissioner Kiger asked if many of the referrals from past years are repeat referrals, and Mr. Orlando stated that they do not count re-referrals in Adult Protective Services, but there are some in Child Protective Services where there are documented risks.

Regarding the EDMS data management system, Mr. Orlando informed the Board that due to the recent and potential future state budget cuts, he has put the purchase of the system for Public Assistance on hold. The system is working well for the Child Support Enforcement section, but without a guaranteed means to repay the county, Mr. Orlando does not wish to move forward with a purchase at this time.

Mr. Orlando reported that MRDD and the Clerk of Courts Office are continuing to explore a new northwest office in the Pickerington area. JFS will likely try to place one or two people in the office if it develops, but is holding on any plans for further expansion for now.

Mr. Orlando stated that Aunie Cordle and her staff are in the process of updating their compensation plan, and at this point, it appears that they are in step with every surrounding county with the exception of Pickaway County. Mr. Orlando stated that they would not have many recommended changes, but may need to open up the top end of their plan, as many supervisory positions are currently "red-lined".

The Child Support Enforcement section recently lost their supervising attorney, and since there was no apparent internal candidate among the other attorneys, Mr. Orlando will leave the position vacant for the time being and try to assign each of the four remaining attorneys some of the supervisory duties, and he and Corey Clark will provide overall supervision on a trial basis.

Ursula Laveck, a new employee in the Human Resources section, has taken charge of the re-accreditation process and is working out very well.

Mr. Orlando informed the Board that the Title XX Plan has to be filed this year, and the President of the Board must sign the document by the end of October, so that paperwork will be coming up soon.

Commissioner Myers asked Mr. Orlando if any further discussions had occurred with Lancaster Public Transit, and Mr. Orlando stated that he and Laura Holton had met with Mayor Smith, Mitch Nusser and Rose to discuss their concerns. JFS used to spend nearly \$15,000 per month with LPT, but due to changes in the LPT schedule and better prices and services available through private vendors, JFS has only been spending about \$1,000 per month recently.

Mr. Orlando stated that he told the Mayor that he can only pay for services at the market rate, and if LPT can provide the same or better services at the same prices, he will utilize them. LPT committed to trying to accommodate JFS customer needs, and they will see how that works.

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 1:45 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 OCTOBER 21, 2008 AT 9:00 A.M.