

**Regular Meeting #08-38  
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office  
September 9, 2008**

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

A regular meeting of the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, September 9, 2008 beginning at 10:00 a.m., with the following Commissioners present: Jon Myers, Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger. Also present were Lynette Leach, Jason Dolin and Scott Zody.

**Announcements**

There were no announcements.

**Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

**Approval of minutes of Tuesday September 2, 2008**

On the motion of Mike Kiger and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the minutes for Tuesday, September 2, 2008

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

**Approval of resolution of support for the renewal of the Clean Ohio Fund Bond Program**

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve a resolution to support the renewal of the Clean Ohio Fund Bond Program, see resolution 08-09.09.a

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

**Approval to rescind Resolution 08-18.19.i, approval of and a signature needed by the Fairfield County Commissioner's President on the 2008 CFLP Solid Waste District Grant Contract amendments to purchase needed equipment for the county recycling drop-off and commercial programs**

On motion of Mike Kiger and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve to rescind Resolution 08-18.19.i, approval of and a signature needed by the Fairfield County Commissioner's President on the 2008 CFLP Solid Waste District Grant Contract amendments to purchase needed equipment for the county recycling drop-off and commercial programs, see resolution 08-09.09.b

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

**Approval of Change Order for the RUS-28, FAI-TR344-2.265 Ireland Road NE over a Tributary of Raccoon Run Bridge Replacement - Engineer**

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve a Change Order for the RUS-28, FAI-TR344-2.265 Ireland Road NE over a Tributary of Raccoon Run Bridge Replacement, see resolution 08-09.09.c

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

**Approval of Contract amendment by & between Fairfield County Job & Family Services and the Office of the Fairfield County Prosecutor**

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve a Contract amendment by & between Fairfield County Job & Family Services and the Office of the Fairfield County Prosecutor, see resolution 08-09.09.d

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

**Approval to rescind resolution 08-08.26.n, Approval of Memo Expenditure – Fairfield County Commissioners – FEMA Grant**

On motion of Mike Kiger and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve to rescind resolution 08-08.26.n, Approval of Memo Expenditure – Fairfield County Commissioners – FEMA Grant, see resolution 08-09.09.e

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

**Approval of Revised Prima Facie speed limit for Milnor Road NW, Violet Township**

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve a revised prima facie speed limit for Milnor Road NW in Violet Township, see resolution 08-09.09.f

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

**Approval of Certification of Metropolitan Housing Authority 2009 Annual Plan with the Fairfield County Community Housing Improvement Strategy (CHIS)**

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve Certification of Metropolitan Housing Authority 2009 Annual Plan with the Fairfield County Community Housing Improvement Strategy (CHIS), see resolution 08-09.09.g

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

**Approval to Ratify previously approved one (1) cash disbursement journal (bill list) – payment of bills – Board of Elections**

On motion of Mike Kiger and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve to ratify previously approved one (1) cash disbursement journal (bill list) – payment of bills – Board of Elections, see resolution 08-09.09.h

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

**Approval of Amended Certificate, conversion of prior year encumbrance to current year appropriation, Fairfield County Commissioners – Fund 2702 – FY2007 CFLP Inst/Drop off grant**

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve an Amended Certificate, conversion of prior year encumbrance to current year appropriation, Fairfield County Commissioners – Fund 2702 – FY2007 CFLP Inst/Drop off grant, see resolution 08-09.09.i

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:

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|------------|--|
| 08-09.09.j | Approval of Payment of a voucher without an appropriate carry-over purchase order – Commissioners          |
| 08-09.09.k | Approval of Account to Account Transfer – FACF Council   |
| 08-09.09.l | Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Data Processing  |
| 08-09.09.m | Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Maintenance  |
| 08-09.09.n | Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Job & Family Services  |
| 08-09.09.o | Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Common Pleas Court   |
| 08-09.09.p | Approval of Account to Account Transfer – FACF Council   |
| 08-09.09.q | Approval to Appropriate from Unappropriated – Commissioners, Fairfield County Agricultural Society Damages |
| 08-09.09.r | 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, September 9, 2008, check date September 12, 2008, see resolution 08-09.09.s

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

## **Review Session**

The Board of Commissioner met at 10:15 a.m. to review correspondence, legal issues, and pending 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 the airport sky-diving issue, stating that the FAA had met with both parties the previous day. Mr. Dolin stated that it would appear that the FAA would prefer the Airport Board work with the skydivers and try to negotiate an agreement .

Commissioner Kiger stated that he had an informational packet from the meetings if any of the Board were interested. Commissioner Myers stated that the Board really doesn't have much of a say in the issue, and Mr. Dolin stated only if the FAA would do something extreme like pull the grant for the Airport.

Commissioner Myers asked if the Airport Board could charge the skydivers rents and/or require insurance coverage, and Mr. Dolin stated that the Board could require both. The FAA did not seem to be very interested in the Board's safety arguments and so it would appear that some sort of arrangement needed to be worked out.

Commissioner Shupe stated that it would appear that the Board may be stuck with the activity. Commissioner Myers stated that it doesn't make sense to have to close the airport from time to time just so skydivers could land.

Commissioner Kiger stated that he had suggested the idea of financial responsibility at the meeting with the FAA, and that the neighbor, Mrs. Wood, had sent a letter of concern to the Board.

### **Investment Advisory Board Meeting**

County Treasurer Jon Slater called to order a meeting of the County Investment Advisory Board. Members present included Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger. Also present were Jon Myers, Jason Dolin, and Scott Zody.

Mr. Slater stated the purpose of the meeting was to provide an update on the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter investments. Mr. Slater provided a Statement of Balance and portfolio update. Interest income was \$1.5 million through the end of June, and as of today the figure was \$2.1 million. Mr. Slater anticipates the year-end numbers will be better than originally projected, but not as good as last year.

Mr. Slater reported the bond market is improving, even the Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac bonds. Mr. Slater stated the bonds are different than the Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac stocks, and are still rated AAA.

Mr. Slater stated that the whole issue could affect some mortgage backed securities, so his office has been focusing on purchasing more local CD's with local banks, and giving up a little on interest earnings in exchange for stability.

On the motion of Mike Kiger and second of Judith Shupe, the Board voted to approve the report.

Roll call vote on the motion resulted as follows:

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

### **Review cont.**

The Board resumed a discussion of legal issues, correspondence, and future and pending actions items.

Commissioner Shupe stated that the allocation that had been provided for the Family, Adult & Children First Council was not intended to be an on-going expense. The Board has agreed to pick that up a few years ago for Job & Family Services when their funding became tight.

Commissioner Kiger suggested raising the issue with Michael Orlando at their meeting later in the morning, and Commissioner Shupe asked if the issue should be an item for discussion at the Budget Retreat. Commissioner Myers stated that no matter what, in order to fund the request the Board would have to cut into the county cash carry-over.

Commissioner Shupe stated that she believes that the issue should be discussed at the budget retreat, but the Board will probably have no choice but to fund the request. Commissioner Kiger suggested the Board inform the FACFC that this will be the last year the Board can afford to fund the request.

Regarding the request from the Bremen Historical Society for \$16,000 to assist with renovations of that building, Commissioner Myers asked if the Society was securing other funds for the project, and Mr. Zody stated the entire project will cost around \$80,000, and the Society was asking for a portion of those costs. Commissioner Kiger asked how much the Society was requesting, and Commissioner Shupe stated that they were requesting \$16,000 to pay for the electrical and HVAC work. Commissioner Myers stated that with the tight budget, he would propose providing \$5,000. Commissioner Kiger stated that he had a concern about setting a precedent of funding projects like this, and Mr. Zody stated that the Board had provided \$5,000 for the AHA! Children's Museum to help with their start-up.

The Board agreed to provide a \$5,000 allocation, and directed Fiscal Clerk Staci Knisley to prepare the necessary resolutions.

Commissioner Shupe asked about the pending Historical Parks funding that Dave Fey is having difficulty with, stating that Mr. Fey is being required to provide proof of long-term funding to complete the application. Mr. Zody stated that Mr. Fey was looking into those requirements. Economic Development Director Bill Arnett joined the meeting, and stated that Mr. Fey was working with Senator Schaffer's Office to try to convince the Art & Cultural Facilities Commission to allow the funds to be released.

Mr. Arnett reported that he had received an updated appraisal of the Mulberry Street property from Dan Singer, and it is much more comprehensive and shows the value of the building to be \$170,000, instead of the initial \$150,000 in a previous appraisal. Mr. Arnett will check with the potential buyers of the property to see if they can increase the purchase price. Mr. Dolin advised it would be best to follow the most recent appraisal.

Commissioner Myers asked if the Board had the ability to blend the appraisals if necessary to negotiate on the price, and Mr. Dolin stated that would be possible, but the county should request payment based on the higher appraisal.

### **11:00 - Meeting with Michael Orlando and David Landefeld**

The Board of Commissioners met with Job & Family Services Director Michael Orlando and Prosecutor David Landefeld to discuss a Childrens Services/Adult Protective Services investigator position. Commissioners present included Jon Myers, Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger. Also present were Rhonda Norris, Mary Winstead, Laura Holton, Lynette Leach, Jason Dolin and Scott Zody.

Mr. Landefeld stated that he had some concerns with his office administering the funds for Mr. Kessler (the investigator) and asked if it would be possible for JFS to handle that. Mr. Orlando stated the reason Mr. Kessler is on the Prosecutor's payroll is that JFS is using state and Federal funds to cover their share of his costs, they must only pay for services rendered.

Ms. Norris asked if that would mean she would have to appropriate funds every time she need to pay for Mr. Kessler's salary and fringes, and Ms. Knisley stated that she should only need to do that once.

Mr. Orlando stated that the position is budgeted for one year, and it may be necessary to lay Mr. Kessler off for a brief period until the levy funding begins to flow in 2010.

Mr. Landefeld stated that JFS also does not have the correct wage structure to place Mr. Kessler on their payroll. The Prosecutor is to receive \$20,000 from the sheriff, and \$7,500 each from Lancaster P.D. and Pickerington P.D. Mr. Landefeld stated that he just wants to find the cleanest and easiest way to do this.

Ms. Norris stated that she has a concern about how the process would work. Mr. Orlando stated that the easiest way would be for the three law enforcement entities to deposit checks with Mr. Landefeld's Office, and Mr. Landefeld stated that he has already received one check, and expects the other 2 very shortly.

Ms. Knisley stated that Ms. Norris could deposit the funds and do a pay-in, but she needs to account for what is needed for Mr. Kessler for the year so there would only be one appropriation. Mr. Orlando stated that JFS could pay the invoices they receive from the Prosecutor as they receive them.

Commissioner Kiger asked if Mr. Kessler will receive health insurance, and who would pay for it. Mr. Orlando stated those costs are built into the position, so no GRF will pay for that, and Mr. Landefeld stated that since Mr. Kessler is a 35-hour per week employee, he is entitled to receive benefits.

Commissioner Shupe asked how many hours Mr. Kessler would work with JFS, and Mr. Orlando stated approximately 1200 hours per year. Commissioner Shupe asked if Mr. Kessler is committed to a certain number of hours per year for the law enforcement agencies, and Mr. Landefeld stated that he is capped and he knows it.

### **11:30 a.m. Meeting with Aundrea Cordle, Dave Miller, Ed Laramée**

The Board of Commissioner met at 11:00 a.m. with Human Resource Director Andrea Cordle, Finance Director Dave Miller, and Deputy Auditor Ed Laramée to discuss county health insurance rates. Commissioners present included Jon Myers, Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger. Also present were Jason Dolin and Scott Zody.

Mr. Miller explained that they had met with Franklin County to discuss changes to the Health Benefits Cooperative for 2009. The actuarial trend for rates is to increase 8.8% across the board, but since Fairfield County had some expensive claims and less than stellar experience in 2008, we should be dropping from a Tier 1 county and our rates will increase an additional 3.5%.

Ms. Cordle explained that the Co-op was originally a 3-tiered system, but will change to a 5-tiered system in 2009 to help alleviate the amount of increases any of the counties involved would have. Fairfield County should have gone from a Tier 1 level to a Tier 3 level based on the past year's claims and experience, but the Co-op rules state that you can only go up or down one Tier per year.

Mr. Laramée stated that it is important to try to keep Fairfield County on the same level as the other counties, especially Franklin County.

Ms. Cordle stated that one area they are focusing on trying to bring down are Emergency Room fees, as United Health Care has not been properly monitoring usage and billing of non-emergency visits. Ms. Cordle's staff will be working to educate employees to utilize primary care physicians and urgent care facilities for non-emergency treatment.

Mr. Laramée stated that part of the problem was two very large claims the county had last year, which were in fact the two largest claims in the entire Co-op.

Commissioner Myers stated that it appears the bottom line is that monthly payments will increase \$94 per individual policy and \$119 per family policy. Mr. Miller stated that is the total increase. The composite increase will amount to just over 12%, but singles will pay more than families because their experience is higher. The monthly increase to each employee will be \$13.72 for singles, and \$16.74 for family.

Commissioner Kiger asked why there are only single and family options, and not a couples option. Mr. Laramée stated that the problem is that would create a third risk pool and the problem with smaller groups is sharing the risk – the smaller the pool, the higher the risk of one big claims really damaging the group.

Commissioner Kiger stated it is not fair to employees with no children or grown children to have to pay more for insurance coverage. Ms. Cordle stated that the Commissioners have the ability to change categories and could establish a couple plan, but it usually costs more to bring on a spouse in those plans.

Commissioner Kiger asked what would be required to analyze that, and Mr. Laramée stated the risk/concern is what would the cost of such a change be for the county and shifting costs away from the employees. Ms. Cordle stated that she could try to see if she could determine how many employees with family coverage would be couples or singles with one child, but it was not sure how difficult that might be.

Mr. Miller stated that when he worked at Deferred Comp, they had a "Single plus one" option for couples and single parents with one child.

Commissioner Shupe stated the bottom line is that insurance costs to the county will be increasing by \$300,000. Commissioner Myers asked if the Board needed to take any official action, and Mr. Miller stated that he would propose rounding the numbers up to simplify payments, but the Board did not have to do that. Mr. Laramée stated that he would prefer not to round up as it may cause problems with compensation and maintaining ratios.

Ms. Cordle stated that she was not certain if the Board adopted the rates by resolution, and Mr. Laramée stated that the Board has to set the rates, and that has to be done by resolution. Mr. Laramée stated that he would prepare a resolution for the Board to approve.

Ms. Cordle stated that the Sheriff and Engineer's employees have limits based upon their collective bargaining contracts.

Commissioner Shupe stated that insurance costs appear to make up 25% of the county budget. Mr. Miller stated that figure includes non-GRF funds as well, and the total GRF cost for health insurance is \$2.9, or closer to 10% of the total General Fund budget.

Ms. Cordle stated that for the last 5 years rates have been flat or reduced, and she and her staff have been trying to educate employees that this was inevitable, and will look to all departments and elected officials to help educate employees.

#### **Review, cont.**

#### **Executive Session**

On the motion of Mike Kiger and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of personnel discussions. Commissioners present included Jon Myers, Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger. Also present were Aundrea Cordle, Jason Dolin, and Scott Zody.

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

On the motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn from Executive Session.

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

#### **Review, cont.**

Ms. Cordle reported that her office has hired Ursula LaVeck as a Public Information specialist to fill a vacant position.

Commissioner Myers stated that the Board needs to come to some conclusions soon relative to the budget, given the new insurance rates and the overages with the Board of Elections and the Sheriff's Office request for \$500,000. Commissioner Kiger stated that there is also the Family, Adult and Children First Council request for \$100,000 in addition to the \$300,000 needed for the insurance, and he would recommend reducing the Sheriff's request in order to fund the other two.

Regarding a letter received from the Lancaster Public Transit System, Commissioner Myers asked how many rides the system provides, and Commissioner Kiger stated that he was not sure, but Mr. Nusser had provided a report that had ride information in it. Commissioner Myers stated that the Board had provided \$10,000 to help the system expand services into the unincorporated areas around Lancaster, but could not see any way the Board could provide additional assistance at this time.

Mr. Zody reported that Chief Deputy Perrigo had contacted him with a suggestion that the Board consider hiring a couple of special duty officers to provide security for the

annual county auction in October. Chief Perrigo attended last year's auction and was concerned with the lack of oversight. The Board directed Mr. Zody to work with Chief Perrigo to look into the possibility.

**Approval to Appropriate from Unappropriated – Commissioners**

On the motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve to appropriate from unappropriated from the General Fund, see resolution 08-09.09.t

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

**Approval of a Board of Commissioners Allocation to the Bremen Historical Society – 2008**

On the motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve an allocation to the Bremen Historical Society, see resolution 08-09.09.u

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

**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 1:35 p.m.

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

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Mike Kiger  
Commissioner

Jon D. Myers  
Commissioner

Judith K. Shupe  
Commissioner

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Scott A. Zody, Clerk/Manager

**THE NEXT COMMISSIONERS' REGULAR MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 16, 2008 AT 10:00 A.M.**