

**Regular Meeting #08-22  
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office  
June 3, 2008**

**9:15 Review Session**

The Board of Commissioners met at 9:15 a.m. to review correspondence, legal issues and future and pending action items. Commissioners present included Jon Myers, Judith Shupe, and Mike Kiger. Also present were Dave Landefeld, Joe Spybey, Dave Phalen, Tony Vogel, and Scott Zody.

Sheriff Phalen briefed the Board on some food service options he is exploring for the county correctional facilities. Mr. Phalen stated that his office currently spends about \$17,000 per month, or over \$200,000 per year to provide food service to county inmates in the minimum security and maximum security jails. He has contacted other county Sheriffs and two vendors that supply food service to county jails, and believes that by privatizing the operation, the office could save and redirect approximately \$50,000 per year, or enough to put another deputy on road patrol.

Commissioner Myers asked if this proposal would present any labor issues, and Mr. Phalen stated that the current employees are aware this is under consideration, but any labor issues under a contracted food service system would be handled by the vendor.

Commissioner Shupe asked if the vendor would utilize the current food preparation facilities in the jails, and Mr. Phalen stated they would. Commissioner Myers asked if there were any liability issues, and Mr. Landefeld stated that there were none that he was aware of.

Commissioner Kiger asked how many current employees this would effect, and Mr. Phalen stated that there were 3 full time and 4 part time employees that could be impacted. Mr. Phalen stated that he would anticipate any vendor would offer the employees an opportunity to apply for positions with the company, but they obviously would not be county employees with county benefits.

Commissioner Myers asked if Mr. Phalen had obtained any quotes from any vendors, and Mr. Phalen stated that he had not received anything formal, but the companies he has checked with charge a certain amount per meal, and the more meals "ordered" the lower the per unit cost, but he estimates the savings could be around \$50,000.

Mr. Phalen stated that several counties are pursuing this option, including Richland and Medina, which are similar in size to Fairfield County. Commissioner Myers asked if all the current employees were aware that the Sheriff was considering this, and Mr. Phalen stated he has informed all the employees.

Commissioner Kiger stated that he would like to see some hard facts presented to the Board before deciding if the proposal is feasible, and asked Mr. Phalen to provide as much background material as possible.

Commissioner Shupe asked if the Sheriff had any timeline on this effort, and Mr. Phalen stated that he was in no immediate rush, but he would like to take any savings realized to hire an additional deputy for the 2<sup>nd</sup> shift road patrol.

Commissioner Myer asked how the golf cart patrol in Bremen was working, and Commissioner Kiger noted that he had watched a story on the national news on the golf cart patrol. Mr. Phalen stated the community has received it very well, and he is considering purchasing another cart to use on a rotating basis in other smaller communities and rural subdivisions.

Commissioner Myers asked the Sheriff to continue to keep the Board updated on developments.

Mr. Spybey requested some direction from the Board relative to the car wash property on Lincoln Avenue. Based on the recent appraisal received, Mr. Spybey believes it would be in the county's interests to lease the property to a reputable operator than to sell it. Mr. Spybey has received interest from two operators, both local, who would submit proposals and bids to lease and operate the car wash.

Commissioner Shupe asked if competitive bids would need to be solicited for this, and Mr. Landefeld stated that at the least business plans and a rental payment schedule would need to be submitted and compared to determine the best proposal.

Commissioner Myers asked if a minimum 5-year plan would be appropriate to request, and Mr. Spybey stated that he would like to see a long-term Request for Proposal response submitted. Commissioner Kiger stated that he could not recall if a RFP process was used when the facility was last operated under a lease by a private entity. Mr. Spybey stated that he has a letter from December of 2007 that was sent to several area operators seeking interest and proposals that asked for a business plan with a resume, and 3 years worth of financial information and cash flow projections for the Lincoln Avenue facility. Mr. Spybey estimates the facility could employ 15-18 people when fully operational.

The Board directed Mr. Spybey to proceed with a Request for Proposal process and to have Assistant Prosecutor Jason Dolin review and approve any RFP and documentation.

Utilities Director Tony Vogel provided the Board with an update on the Toll Gate Road/Pickerington Schools issue with respect to Lee Gray's request for relief on a sewer line that will provide service to the new middle and elementary schools.

Mr. Vogel stated that the schools do not want to have to run the line all the way across the property per Utilities policy, and Mr. Vogel has offered to offset the costs to some extent due to the oversizing of the line for future development on adjacent properties. In addition, the Utility Department has already absorbed some costs as part of the design and installation that would normally be passed on to the customer. Mr. Vogel believes he has provided as much relief as he can, and will meet with Mr. Gray again to attempt to finalize the project.

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

A regular meeting of the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, June 3, beginning at 11:00 a.m., with the following Commissioners present: Jon Myers, Judith Shupe and Mike Kiger. Also present were George Hallarn, Mary Beth Lane and Scott Zody.

### **Announcements**

There were no announcements.

### **Public Comment**

George Hallarn asked the Board if they had heard anything back from the Engineer's Office relative to mowing a section of the County airport that runs adjacent to a drainage area that the airport equipment can't reach. The airport had requested the Engineer's assistance, but was denied because it was not part of a county road right-of-way. The airport is now requesting Greenfield Township's assistance. Commissioner Myers asked if the area was adjacent to Route 33, and Mr. Hallarn stated that it is not, but it is county-owned airport property.

Commissioner Shupe asked if there is a special kind of equipment needed to mow the area in question, and Mr. Hallarn stated that a mower on a boom arm is required, and Greenfield Township has one, but they feel the County, specifically the Engineer's

Office, should be able to help with that. Commissioner Kiger stated that there will be an airport authority board meeting next week, and he would raise the issue then.

**Approval of minutes of Tuesday May 27, 2008**

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the minutes for Tuesday May 27, 2008.

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

**Approval of a Contract Between the Fairfield County Commissioners and Geotechnical Consultants, Inc., for soil borings on county-owned property**

On motion of Mike Kiger and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve a contract between the Commissioners and Geotechnical Consultants, Inc., for soil borings on county-owned property see resolution 08-06.03.a

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

**Approval of Returning County road rights-of-way permitting for non-public utilities to the Fairfield County Engineer's Office**

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the returning of county road rights-of-way permitting for non-public utilities to the Fairfield County Engineer's Office, see resolution 08-06.03.b

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

**Approval of a Contract Between the Fairfield County Commissioners and Garland Company for repairs to the Fairfield County Courthouse roof**

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve a contract between the commissioners and Garland Company for repairs to the Fairfield County Courthouse roof, see resolution 08-06.03.c

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

**Approval to bore in a county road right-of-way**

On the motion of Mike Kiger and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve a request to bore in a county road right-of-way, see resolution 08-06.03.d

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

**Approval to refer Delinquent Sewer Rentals – Licking County Water & Wastewater**

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve to refer delinquent sewer rentals to the Fairfield County Auditor on behalf of the Licking County Water & Wastewater, see resolution 08-06.03.e

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

**Approval of a Contract with the Village of Bremen and the Fairfield County Commissioners for police services**

On the motion of Mike Kiger and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve a contract with the Village of Bremen and the Commissioners for police services, see resolution 08-06.03.f

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

**Approval of Request to Purchase a Vehicle – Maintenance**

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve to a request to purchase a vehicle for the Maintenance Department, see resolution 08-06.03.g

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

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

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve to the appointment of Dr. Margaret Quamme to the Fairfield County District Library Board, see resolution 08-06.03.h

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

**Approval to Establish a New Fund – EFSP Phase 26 Grant Fund – Job & Family Services**

On the motion of Mike Kiger and second of Judith Shupe, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve to establish a new fund – EFSP Phase 26 Grant Fund, for Fairfield County Job & Family Services, see resolution 08-06.03.i

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

**Approval to Ratify the approval to appropriate from unappropriated – Commissioners/Economic Development**

On motion of Judith Shupe and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve to Ratify the approval to appropriate from unappropriated – Commissioners/Economic Development, see resolution 08-06.03.j

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

**Approval of Financial Resolutions**

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

- 08-06.03.k                      Approval of Memo Expenditure – Job & Family Service
- 08-06.03.l                      Approval of Memo Expenditure - Airport
- 08-06.03.m                      Approval of Memo Expenditure - Airport

08-06.03.n	Approval of Advance from the General Fund- Fairfield County Family, Adult and Children First Council
08-06.03.o	Approval of Repayment of Advance to the General Fund – County Commissioners
08-06.03.p	Approval of Repayment of Advance to the General Fund – County Commissioners
08-06.03.q	Approval of Account to Account Transfer - Auditor
08-06.03.r	Approval of Account to Account Transfer - Engineer
08-06.03.s	Approval to Appropriate from Unappropriated – Probation services Fund
08-06.03.t	Approval to Appropriate from Unappropriated - Probation Services Fund
08-06.03.u	Approval to Appropriate from Unappropriated – Child Protective Services Fund
08-06.03.v	Approval to Appropriate from Unappropriated – Commissioners/Economic Development
08-06.03.w	Approval to Appropriate from Unappropriated – Commissioners/Utilities – Special Assessment – Stormwater – Robinwood Acres

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, June 3, 2008, check date June 6, 2008, see resolution 08-06.03.x.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

### **Meeting with Randy Carter**

The Board of Commissioners met at 11:30 a.m. with Data Processing Director Randy Carter and Auditor Barbara Curtiss to discuss issues related to county office internet service. Commissioner present included Jon Myers, Judith Shupe, and Mike Kiger. Also present was Scott Zody.

Mr. Carter explained that he is in the process of updating fiber optic lines to the Liberty Center and is interested in extending lines to the Dog Shelter and OU-Lancaster. Connecting the University may lead to no-cost internet for the county, and Mr. Carter believes it is well worth the expense of installing the lines. Ms. Curtiss added that OUL is already part of the Connect Ohio initiative. Mr. Carter estimated that the line installation would cost approximately \$50,000.

Mr. Carter stated that it is important to remember that fiber optic lines can carry broadband internet, and that broadband is not the same as wireless. Ms. Curtiss stated that the Connect Ohio initiative is trying to bring internet access statewide, as the consensus opinion is that easy to access high speed internet is vital for future development opportunities.

Mr. Carter stated that in addition to installing the new lines, he needs to request to increase the service for internet access which will increase his monthly charge from \$450 to around \$800, but the potential is there for free access in the future. Mr. Carter stated that Connect Ohio is interested in using Fairfield County as a Beta site to pilot

projects to increase internet service. The goal is to provide the maximum amount of service using the fewest number of lines and infrastructure.

Commissioner Myers stated that the Connect Ohio folks are coming in to meet with the Board next week, and they are trying to schedule a stakeholder meeting for the county on June 19<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Carter stated that the City of Lancaster may be considering establishing a new utility to provide broadband service to Rock Mill Industrial Park and other areas around the city.

Ms. Curtiss provided the Board with a draft proposal to allow county offices to allow employees to work 4-day, 10 hours per day work schedules. Ms. Curtiss stated that she wanted to put something before the Board to initiate discussions, as she believes the current and potential future gas and energy cost increases will cause fundamental changes in how people do business.

Commissioner Myers asked Mr. Carter for his thoughts, and Mr. Carter stated that the smaller offices like his would not be able to implement such a schedule and maintain their levels of service.

Commissioner Shupe asked if Ms. Curtiss wanted to raise this item for discussion at the upcoming Roundtable Meeting, and Ms. Curtiss stated that would be fine with her.

### **Review, cont.**

The Board reviewed a draft letter to the Ohio State University Extension expressing the Board's concerns relative to converting the County Extension Educator position from fulltime to part time.

The Board directed Mr. Zody to schedule a meeting with County Health Department Director Frank Hirsch and other Health Department representatives to discuss the repayment of a \$70,000 loan that was outstanding.

The Board directed Mr. Zody to prepare the necessary resolutions to appropriate \$50,000 for one-time expenditures for the Prosecutor, Job & Family Services, and Emergency Management as follows: \$12,000 for the Prosecutor to convert a part time victims advocate to a full time position, with the understanding that future expenses would be born through the recently approved levy, \$16,000 to EMA to provide matching funds to assist local governments with the installation of 4 additional emergency warning sirens, and \$22,000 to JFS to hire additional caseworkers later this year to begin implementation of Child Protective Service improvements. Future costs of the positions would be paid for by the levy as well.

The Board reviewed a request from Fairfield Historical Parks to forgive a loan that was provided by the Board in 1996 to purchase a property and make improvements to various parks facilities. The loan has become an issue for Mr. Fey in his annual audits. The Board agreed to forgive the loan and directed Mr. Zody to prepare the necessary resolution to the next Regular Meeting.

### **Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the Board, on the motion of Judith Shupe and the second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn at 12:10 p.m.

Roll call vote on the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Judith Shupe, Mike Kiger 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 TUESDAY  
JUNE 10, 2008 AT 10:00 A.M.**