

Regular Meeting #1 - 2024
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
January 9, 2024

Review Meeting

The Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Hearing Room located at 210 E. Main St., Lancaster, OH. Commissioner Levacy called the meeting to order, and the following Commissioners were present: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy. County employees present: County Administrator Aundrea Cordle; Deputy County Administrator Jeff Porter; Clerk Rochelle Menningen; Communications & Information Coordinator Bennett Niceswanger; Auditor, Dr. Carri Brown; Clerk of Courts, Branden Meyer; Engineer Jeremiah Up; Recorder Lisa McKenzie; Treasurer Jim Bahnsen; Chief Civil Prosecutor, Amy Brown-Thompson; Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Austin Lines; Budget Director, Bart Hampson; JFS Director, Corey Clark; IT Director, Dan Neeley; Facilities and EMA Director, Jon Kochis; Economic and Workforce Development Director, Rick Szabrak; Utilities Director, Tony Vogel; JFS Finance Director, Josh Crawford; JFS Deputy Director, Heather O'Keefe; FCFC Manager, Tiffany Wilson; Economic Development Coordinator, Anthony Iachini; Interim RPC Director, Holly Mattei; DD Superintendent, Dr. David Uhl; Magistrate, Josh Horacek; and Deputy Gary Hemmel. Also present: Francis Martin, Sherry Pymer, Jeff Williamsen, Clarence Price, Jo Price, Scott Baker, Karl Elder, Ryan Young, Lonnie Kosch, and Melissa Conner.

Virtual attendees: Beth Cotrell, Lisa Thomas, Steven Darnell, Michael Kaper, Jessica Murphy, Tony Vogel, Britney Lee, Shelby Hunt, Ashley Arter, Sara Madenwald, Greg Forquer, BGM, Deb, Stacy Hicks, Shannon Carter, Guest, Abby King, Brian Wolfe, Tiffany Daniels, Josh Horacek, and Andrea Spires.

Welcome

Commissioner Levacy opened the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance.

Joshua Grossman, Dinsmore & Shohl LLP, Land Use Restriction Agreements (LURA)

Mr. Grossman spoke about bonds from 2006 Land Use Restriction Agreements and stated that the end of the bank holding period has expired and Collins Road Properties LLC, is using financing through Fannie Mae, who has asked for an update in language from the original agreement.

Commissioner Davis asked for clarification on the owner of the LURA properties.

Mr. Szabrak stated that Collins Road Properties LLC is the Moore family.

Public Comments

Richland Twp Trustee, Scott Baker of Thurston, thanked Commissioner Fix for attending meeting the Richland Township meeting regarding a Land Use Plan. Mr. Baker also presented a resolution from the Richland Township Trustees which is available in the meeting minutes.

Jeff Williamson of Baltimore spoke about resolutions submitted by Walnut and Liberty Townships and stated that he would like the Commissioners to pass a resolution prohibiting solar farms in Fairfield County. He also stated that Commissioner Fix accepted an invitation to visit his property and that individuals are often uncomfortable addressing people in public forums.

Sherry Pymer of Walnut Township stated her opposition to solar energy and urged the Commissioners to pass a resolution prohibiting solar energy farms in Fairfield County. She also spoke about a Supreme Court Case involving Birch Solar.

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Legal Update

There was no legal update.

County Administrator Cordle thanked Ms. Brown-Thompson for her assistance at the January 8, 2024, Lancaster Zoning Board of Appeals meeting.

Hearing for Violet Township New Community Authority

The hearing for the Violet Township New Community Authority opened at 9:15 a.m.

Mr. Szabrak spoke about the New Community Authority and added that it relates to a subdivision in Violet Township. He added that Violet Township will supply the Commissioners with three recommendations to appoint to the seven-person board of the new community district and that the district would establish that infrastructure improvement costs would be paid by those using the improvements.

Commissioner Levacy asked if there was anyone in attendance to speak either for or against the formation of the proposed new community district.

Commissioner Fix stated this is one of the tools that can be used to leverage development coming to the county and that it is designed to protect the existing taxpayers. He thanked everyone for their work on the new district.

With no further discussion, the hearing closed at 9:18 a.m.

County Administration Update

- *The County Administration Update was provided by County Administrator, Aundrea Cordle, unless otherwise noted.*

Week in Review

January 8th Reorganization Meeting

The Annual Reorganizational Meeting of the Board took place yesterday. Please note that Commissioner Levacy is the President for any documents that would be recognizing the Commission President.

2024 Budget Adjustment Request from Domestic Relations Court

I received a request from the Court Administrator of Domestic Relations Court requesting a budget adjustment for 2024.

Seeking a Developmental Disabilities Board Member

Dr. Uhl stated the board is seeking a parent or guardian of someone that is under age 18.

Highlights of Resolutions

Administrative Approvals

The review packet contains a list of administrative approvals.

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Resolution Review

There are 43 resolutions on the agenda for the voting meeting.

Resolutions of note:

- A resolution authorizing the amendments to five existing Land Use Restriction Agreements from 2006.
- A resolution adding the meeting locations for the Commissioners' evening meetings in April, August, and November.
- A resolution approving the establishment of the Violet Township New Community Authority.
- The ORC 325.20 requires that the Board of Commissioners grant permission for elected officials and their staff to travel and attend conventions and meetings, therefore we have five such resolutions from the Auditor, the Clerk of Courts, the Engineer, the Recorder, and the Treasurer.
- A resolution to approve the 2024 Fairfield County Emergency Operations Plan and the signing of the Promulgation Statement.
- A resolution for the Engineer's Office to approve the Annual County Highway Mileage Certification for 2023. The recorded figure of 361.123 miles of road has been verified by ODOT.
Jeremiah said this is a yearly process.
- A resolution to contract with Veregy for building automation and HVAC control.

Mr. Kochis stated that the Veregy contract is a five year contract.

- A resolution to enter a contract with LFCAA for Recycling and Education Program Services for 2024.

Calendar Review/Invitations Received

- *A review of the calendar and invitations received was provided by the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners, Rochelle Menningen.*
 - Walnut Township Floodplain Meeting, January 9, 2024, 1:00 p.m., Commissioners' Hearing Room, 210 E. Main St., Lancaster
 - CCAO Taxation and Finance Committee Meeting, January 11, 2024, 9:00 a.m., Virtual
 - Ribbon Cutting – FAIRHOPE Hospice 40th Anniversary, January 11, 2024, 4:00 p.m., FAIRHOPE Hospice & Palliative Care, 282 Sells Rd., Lancaster
 - Pickerington Chamber of Commerce Quarterly Membership Luncheon, January 18, 2024, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., StoryPoint Senior Living, 611 Windmill Dr., Pickerington
 - Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Andrew Carter, January 21, 2024, 2:00 p.m., Alley Park Lodge, 2805 Old Logan Rd., Lancaster
 - 2024 Homeless Point in Time Count, January 24, 2024, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Maple Street United Methodist Church, 438 E. Wheeling St., Lancaster

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- Meals on Wheels Annual Dinner & Volunteer Recognition Banquet, January 25, 2024, 4:30 p.m., Meals on Wheels Dining Room, 1515 Cedar Hill Rd., Lancaster
- United Way Polar Plunge, January 28, 2024, 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Buckeye Lake Winery, 13750 Rosewood Road NE, Thornville
- Lancaster State of the City Address, February 15, 2024, 8:00 a.m., Crossroads Event Center, 2095 W. Fair Ave., Lancaster
- Fairfield County Safety Fair, March 5, 2024, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Fairfield County Workforce Center, 4465 Coonpath Rd., Carroll
- Fairfield County Board of Developmental Disabilities' Celebration of Possibilities, March 20, 2024, Wigwam Event Center, 10190 Blacklick-Eastern Rd. NW, Pickerington
- Lancaster City 2024 State of the Schools, 11:30, March 27, 2024, Lancaster City Schools, Stanberry Career Center, 345 E. Mulberry St., Lancaster
- Lancaster Fairfield Chamber Awards and Annual Trade Show, May 9, 2024, Fisher Catholic High School, 1803 Granville Pk. Lancaster
- Save the Date, Workforce Center Graduation, May 17, 2024, Fairfield County Workforce Center, 4465 Coonpath Rd. NW, Carroll
- Save the Date, Career Signing Day, June 6, 2024, Fairfield County Workforce Center, 4465 Coonpath Rd. NW, Carroll

Correspondence

- *A review of correspondence received was provided by Ms. Menningen.*
 - House Bill 187 Memo, Dr. Carri Brown, County Auditor, December 14, 2023, Subjects: HB 187 Update; Internal Control Focus on Grants and Special Funding Sources; and Lot Splits Process- New Technology Coming Soon
 - "Wins of the Week!", Provided by Dr. Carri Brown, December 15, 2023
 - "Wins of the Week", Provided by Dr. Carri Brown, December 22, 2023
 - "Wins of the Week", Provided by Dr. Carri Brown, December 28, 2023
 - "Wins of the Week", Provided by Dr. Carri Brown, January 4, 2024
 - Memo from Dr. Carri Brown, December 21, 2023, Subjects: New Workgroup for Enterprise Assessment Taxation; Thanks to IT for Collaboration with SharePoint Pilot; Conveyance Fact Sheet; Vacation Conversion Policy; and the Basil Western Project
 - Memo from Dr. Carri Brown, December 28, 2023, Subjects: General Fund Revenues; Payroll Processes in 2024; and Various Deadlines at the End of the Year
 - Memo from Dr. Carri Brown, January 4, 2024, Subjects: County Auditor Retreat & Strategic Plan Update
 - Thank You Note from Dr. Carri Brown for Use of the Liberty Center for the Auditor's Annual Strategic Planning Retreat
 - Fairfield County Health Department Bulletin, December 14, 2023, 'Tis the Season to Dive Sober: Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over"
 - Lancaster Eagle Gazette, Jeff Barron, December 15, 2023, "County Wants to Buy Colonnade Medical Building on Sheridan Drive in Lancaster"

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- The Ohio Court of Appeals Fifth District, December 14, 2023, Letter and Report Regarding Compensation Paid Court Appointees
- Liberty Township Comprehensive Land Use Plan, December 18, 2023
- Certificate of Result of Election, November 7, 2023, General Election, Meals on Wheels Older Adult Alternatives of Fairfield County
- Certificate of Result of Election, November 7, 2023, General Election, Fairfield County Library District
- Judge Entry Appointing an Administrative Judge for the General Division of the Fairfield County Court of Common Pleas
- Judge Entry Appointing a Presiding Judge for the Fairfield County Court of Common Pleas
- Lancaster Eagle Gazette, Jeff Barron, December 27, 2023, "All Fairfield County Elected Officials Will Run Unopposed in the March Primary Election"
- City of Lancaster Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting Notice, BZA Case No. 691, Special Exception and Area Variance for the Property Located at 1663 E. Main St. Lancaster
- 2024 Homeless Point in Time Count Donation Collection, January 1-19, 2024, United Way 115 S. Broad St., Lancaster
- Fairfield County Sheriff, Alex Lape, 2023 Furtherance of Justice Report through November 2023
- Fairfield County Prosecuting Attorney, R. Kyle Witt, January 2, 2024, Furtherance of Justice Fund Report Dated January 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023
- Letter from the Fairfield County Engineer, January 2, 2024, Re: Training Technicians for Ohio's Future Infrastructure Program
- Ohio Division of Liquor Control, Liquor Permit, Permit No. 6531107, Type: New, Olde Marcy Carryout & Pizza LLC, 1004 Winchester Southern Rd, Canal Winchester
- Fairfield County Heritage Association Membership Renewal Letter
- Letter from the Coalition of Concerned Voters of Ohio, December 29, 2023, Subject: Security Flaws in Dominion ImageCastX (ICX) and D-Suite Voting Machines Used in Fairfield County May Require the Machines to be Decertified
- Expedited Type II Annexation, Petition Filed January 4, 2024, 45.1 +/- Acres from Pleasant Township to the City of Lancaster
- Fairfield County E-News Updates, December 15, 2023
- Fairfield County Board of Developmental Disabilities Imagine Newsletter, December 2023
- Auditor's Ledger: News from the County Auditor's Office, December 2023
- Fairfield Soil and Water Conservation District Fairfield Features, December 2023, Volume 25, issue 3
- Environmental Stewardships Committee Winter Newsletter, December 22, 2023
- A Letter from a Resident Regarding Industrial Solar Energy
- "Fairfield County Commissioners to Stress Transportation, Housing and Workforce in 2024" Jeff Barron, Lancaster Eagle Gazette, January 7, 2024

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Old Business

Commissioners Fix spoke about visiting every township and village in the county to help them with tools to prepare for the future. He added that the initial feedback was not great but has been very positive over the last month. He further added that the next step is to get together and finalize the edits and recommunicate the information. He stated that the townships and villages can adopt their own land use plans.

Commissioner Levacy spoke about a State Workforce Board meeting and about the changes in the Commissioners' Hearing Room. He thanked the facilities team for their work on the project.

New Business

Engineer Upp stated everything on track and that his road crews are prepared to make the roads safe during the winter weather.

Treasurer Bahnsen stated that the tax bills are at the printer and will be mailed next week.

Dr. Brown stated that the Zane Trail map was the 2023 map of the year and added that Nick Dilley was responsible for the creation of that map. She added that the January map reflects the location of the little libraries and blessing boxes in the county. Dr. Brown also stated that her office has the municipal tax withholdings in place, has updated their Strategic Plan, and that their annual retreat was held on January 4th.

Josh Horachek stated his office is content with the fees outlined in the letter received from the Fifth District Ohio Court of Appeals.

Holly Mattei stated that RPC has been making CDBG preparations

Commissioner Fix stated he was happy to see Melissa Hover in the meeting.

Regular (Voting) Meeting

The Commissioners met for their Regular Meeting immediately following the Review Meeting in the Commissioners' Hearing Room located at 210 E. Main St., Lancaster, OH. Commissioner Davis called the meeting to order, and the following Commissioners were present: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy. County employees present: County Administrator Aundrea Cordle; Deputy County Administrator Jeff Porter; Clerk Rochelle Menningen; Communications & Information Coordinator Bennett Niceswanger; Auditor, Dr. Carri Brown; Clerk of Courts, Branden Meyer; Engineer Jeremiah Up; Recorder Lisa McKenzie; Treasurer Jim Bahnsen; Chief Civil Prosecutor, Amy Brown-Thompson; Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Austin Lines; Budget Director, Bart Hampson; JFS Director, Corey Clark; IT Director, Dan Neeley; Facilities and EMA Director, Jon Kochis; Economic and Workforce Development Director, Rick Szabrak; Utilities Director, Tony Vogel; JFS Finance Director, Josh Crawford; JFS Deputy Director, Heather O'Keefe; FCFC Manager, Tiffany Wilson; Economic Development Coordinator, Anthony Iachini; Interim RPC Director, Holly Mattei; DD Superintendent, Dr. David Uhl; Magistrate, Josh Horacek; and Deputy Gary Hemmel. Also present: Francis Martin, Sherry Pymmer, Jeff Williamsen, Clarence Price, Jo Price, Scott Baker, Karl Elder, Ryan Young, Lonnie Kosch, and Melissa Conner.

Virtual attendees: Beth Cotrell, Lisa Thomas, Steven Darnell, Michael Kaper, Jessica Murphy, Tony Vogel, Britney Lee, Shelby Hunt, Ashley Arter, Sara Madenwald, Greg Forquer, BGM, Deb, Stacy Hicks, Shannon Carter, Guest, Abby King, Brian Wolfe, Tiffany Daniels, Josh Horacek, and Andrea Spires.

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Pledge of Allegiance

The Commissioners asked everyone to rise as able and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements

Ms. Menningen announced that Fairfield County Offices would be closed January 15, 2024, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Approval of Minutes for December 12, 2023

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Minutes for the Tuesday, December 12, 2024, meeting.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

Approval of Reorganization Meeting Minutes for January 8, 2024

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Reorganization Minutes for the Monday, January 8, 2024, meeting.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

Approval of Resolutions from the Board of Commissioners

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from the Board of Commissioners:

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| 2024-01.09.a | A resolution authorizing the amendments to five existing 2006 land use restriction agreements, and matters related thereto. |
| 2024-01.09.b | A resolution amending resolution 2023-11.07.a, which established the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners' 2024 Review Session and Regular Meeting Dates, and Special Meeting Dates, and the times and locations for those meeting dates. |
| 2024-01.09.c | A resolution to approve to reduce appropriations for the CDBG Critical Infrastructure Grant FY2022, Fund# 2788, Sub fund# 8317. |
| 2024-01.09.d | A resolution authorizing fund to fund transfers for intergovernmental agencies for 2024 Allocations. |
| 2024-01.09.e | A resolution authorizing 2024 Allocations for Fairfield Area Humane Society, Lancaster Public Transit, & Fairfield County Municipal Court. |
| 2024-01.09.f | A resolution authorizing fund to fund transfers for Fairfield County Job and Family Services (JFS), 1st Quarter 2024 Allocation. |
| 2024-01.09.g | A resolution authorizing fund to fund transfer from the General Fund # 1001 to Fund# 4832 LGIF debt – Fairfield County Commissioners |

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- 2024-01.09.h A resolution authorizing a fund to fund transfer to the Fairfield County Family Adult Children First Council for Multi-Youth Committee, 1st payment for the 2024 Allocation
- 2024-01.09.i A resolution to approve a memo expense for interest allocation reimbursements for Fairfield Department of Health, Fairfield County Parks, & Fairfield County Port Authority – Fund #7012, #7321, #7308, & #7865.
- 2024-01.09.j A resolution authorizing fund to fund transfers for intergovernmental agencies for the 1st half 2024 Allocations.
- 2024-01.09.k A resolution to approve the establishment of the Violet Township New Community Authority under Ohio Revised Code 349.03 and 349.04.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

Approval of a Resolution from the Fairfield County Auditor - Finance

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from the Fairfield County Auditor - Finance:

- 2024-01.09.l A resolution granting the Fairfield County Auditor, Dr. Carri Brown, and Auditor's staff permission to travel and attend during 2024.

Auditor Brown stated this is a codified requirement. It also allows employees to attend training.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

Approval of a Resolution from the Fairfield County Clerk of Courts – Legal Division

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from the Fairfield County Clerk of Courts – Legal Division:

- 2024-01.09.m A resolution granting the Fairfield County Clerk of Courts, Branden C. Meyer, and Clerk of Courts' staff permission to travel and attend during 2024.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

Approval of a Resolution from the Fairfield County Court of Common Pleas

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from the Fairfield County Court of Common Pleas:

- 2024-01.09.n A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure object category Fairfield County Common Pleas FY21 TCAP Grant 2852

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

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Approval of a Resolution from the Fairfield County Dog Shelter

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from the Fairfield County Dog Shelter:

2024-01.09.o A Resolution Approving an Account-to-Account Transfer into a Major Expenditure Object Category – Fund 2002.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

Approval of Resolutions from the Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from the Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency:

2024-01.09.p A resolution to approve the 2024 Fairfield County Emergency Operations Plan and signing of the Promulgation Statement.

2024-01.09.q A resolution authorizing the approval of final repayment of an advance to the General Fund from EMA 2890 Hazardous Materials Emergency Grant Fund.

2024-01.09.r A resolution to request for appropriations for receipts and cash advance for EMA Public Utilities Commission of Ohio Grant Fund 2898

2024-01.09.s A resolution to request for appropriations for receipts for EMA Central Ohio Trauma System Grant Award Fund 2090 and advance (8221)

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

Approval of Resolutions from the Fairfield County Engineer

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from the Fairfield County Engineer:

2024-01.09.t A resolution granting Jeremiah Upp, County Engineer, and staff permission to attend.

2024-01.09.u A resolution to approve the Annual County Highway System Mileage Certification for 2023.

2024-01.09.v A resolution to approve a Change Order for the WAL-31, FAI-CR11-3.211 Canal Road Bridge Replacement Project.

2024-01.09.w A resolution to authorize the use of a Force Account by the Fairfield County Engineer

2024-01.09.x A resolution of increase appropriations, appropriate from unappropriated, account to account and fund to fund transfer for CLE-12 Bridge Replacement Project

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| 2024-01.09.y | A resolution of increase appropriations, appropriate from unappropriated, account to account and fund to fund transfer for WAL-31 Bridge Replacement Project |
| 2024-01.09.z | A resolution to request for appropriations for additional unanticipated receipts of memo receipts and memo expenses for fund 3434 GRE-13 Bridge Replacement Project |

Commissioner Fix asked if the county’s road mileage changed in 2023.

Engineer Upp stated that the certified mileage fluctuates slightly each year but only changes significantly if the county adds new sections of road.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

Approval of Resolutions from Fairfield County Facilities

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from Fairfield County Facilities:

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| 2024-01.09.aa | A resolution to sign a Contract with Veregy, and the Fairfield County Commissioners for building automation and HVAC control |
| 2024-01.09.bb | A Resolution Authorizing the Approval for Amendment No. 3 to a Contract between VPL Architects, Inc., and the Fairfield County Commissioners |

Commissioner Fix thanked Director Kochis for his work on the county buildings.

Administrator Cordle stated the second resolution extends the contract for the renovations for the BMV at the Fairfield Center.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

Approval of Resolutions from Fairfield County Job and Family Services

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from Fairfield County Job and Family Services:

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| 2024-01.09.cc | A resolution to approve a memo receipt and expenditure for Fairfield County Job & Family Services, Fund 2072 reimbursing Fund 2018 |
| 2024-01.09.dd | A resolution to approve a memo receipt and expenditure for Fairfield County Job & Family Services, Fund 2015 reimbursing Fund 2018 |
| 2024-01.09.ee | A resolution to approve an E-payment services application between Point and Pay, LLC and Fairfield County Job and Family Services. |

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

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Approval of Resolutions from the Fairfield County Juvenile & Probate Court

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from the Fairfield County Juvenile & Probate Court:

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| 2024-01.09.ff | A resolution authorizing the approval of a contract by and between Fairfield County Probate Court and the Fairfield County Board of Developmental Disabilities (DD Board) (Probate Court) |
| 2024-01.09.gg | A resolution authorizing the approval of a service contract by Fairfield County Juvenile Court and The Village Network. |
| 2024-01.09.hh | A Resolution Authorizing the Reduction in Major Expenditure Object Category Appropriations for Fund # 2481, Juvenile Recovery Fund |
| 2024-01.09.ii | A Resolution Authorizing the Reduction in Major Expenditure Object Category Appropriations for Fund # 2641, Title IV-E Fund |
| 2024-01.09.jj | A Resolution to Appropriate from Unappropriated in a Major Expenditure Object Category for Juvenile Court; #2408 Drug Court Program Sub Fund #8209 |

Administrator Cordle stated the first resolution relates to the partnership between DD and the Guardianship Board.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

Approval of a Resolution from the Lancaster Fairfield Community Action Agency

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from the Lancaster Fairfield Community Action Agency:

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| 2024-01.09.kk | A resolution to enter a contract between Fairfield County and the Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action Agency for Recycling and Education Services for 2024. |
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Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

Approval of a Resolution from the Fairfield County Prosecutor

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from the Fairfield County Prosecutor:

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| 2024-01.09.ll | A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure object category Commissioner Allocation for FOJ - Prosecutor Allowance 21105000 590100 |
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Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

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Approval of a Resolution from the Fairfield County Recorder

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from the Fairfield County Recorder:

2024-01.09.mm A resolution granting the Fairfield County Recorder, Lisa McKenzie, and the Recorder's staff, permission to travel and attend during 2024.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

Approval of a Resolution from the Fairfield County Regional Planning Commission

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from the Fairfield County Regional Planning Commission:

2024-01.09.nn A resolution to approve a development agreement for the Stone Hill Estates subdivision.

Ms. Mattei stated the legal name of the development has been changed and the resolution reflects that change.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

Approval of a Resolution from the Fairfield County Sheriff

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from the Fairfield County Sheriff:

2024-01.09.oo A Resolution for approval of an Agreement between Carbyne and the Fairfield County Sheriff's Office

Administrator Cordle stated this is for the new 911 system.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

Approval of a Resolution from the Fairfield County Treasurer

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from the Fairfield County Treasurer:

2024-01.09.pp A resolution granting the Fairfield County Treasurer, James Bahnsen, and Treasurer's staff permission to travel and attend during 2024.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

Approval of the Payment of Bills

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution for the Payment of Bills:

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2024-01.09.qq A resolution authorizing the approval of payment of invoices for departments that need the Board of Commissioners' approval.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

Commissioner Fix reiterated that he is excited to serve as Commissioner for another year and to serve alongside Commissioners Davis and Levacy.

Executive Session

Commissioner Levacy stated the Commission will go to Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

On the motion of Steve Davis and the second of Jeff Fix, the Board of Commissioners voted to move to Executive Session to discuss personnel matters at 9:54 a.m. Commissioner Davis stated he would like to have the County Administrator, Deputy County Administrator, Commissioners' Clerks, outside legal counsel, a representative from the Prosecutor's Office, and representatives from the Sheriff's Office in attendance with the Board of Commissioners.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Steve Davis, Jeff Fix, and Dave Levacy

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to move out of Executive Session at 10:34 a.m.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

Adjournment

With no further business, On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn at 10:35 a.m.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Dave Levacy, and Steve Davis

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 16, 2024, in the Commissioners' Hearing Room located at 210 E. Main St., Lancaster, OH.



AGENDA

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioners:
Steven A. Davis
Jeffrey M. Fix
David L. Levacy

County Administrator
Aundrea N. Cordle

Deputy County Administrator
Jeffrey D. Porter

Clerk
Rochelle Menningen

Tuesday, January 9, 2024
9:00 a.m.

1. Review

Purpose of Review Meeting: *To prepare for formal actions of county business, such as Commission resolutions, and to provide a time for county leadership to connect about matters of county business.*

2. Welcome

3. Hearing for Violet Township New Community Authority, 9:15 a.m.

4. Public Comments

Purpose of Public Comments: *This is a time for voters and taxpayers (members of the public) to provide comments. There is a time limit of 3 minutes. While this is a time for comments to be provided, it is not a time for questions and answers. The Commission has a full agenda of county business.*

5. Legal Update

6. County Administration Update

- a. Week in Review
- b. Highlights of Resolutions
- c. Budget Review
- d. Recognitions/Thank-Yous
- e. Calendar Review/ Invitations Received
 - i. Walnut Township Floodplain Meeting, January 9, 2024, 1:00 p.m., Commissioners' Hearing Room, 210 E. Main St., Lancaster
 - ii. CCAO Taxation and Finance Committee Meeting, January 11, 2024, 9:00 a.m., Virtual
 - iii. Ribbon Cutting – FAIRHOPE Hospice 40th Anniversary, January 11, 2024, 4:00 p.m., FAIRHOPE Hospice & Palliative Care, 282 Sells Rd., Lancaster
 - iv. Pickerington Chamber of Commerce Quarterly Membership Luncheon, January 18, 2024, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., StoryPoint Senior Living, 611 Windmill Dr., Pickerington
 - v. Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Andrew Carter, January 21, 2024, 2:00 p.m., Alley Park Lodge, 2805 Old Logan Rd., Lancaster
 - vi. 2024 Homeless Point in Time Count, January 24, 2024, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Maple Street United Methodist Church, 438 E. Wheeling St., Lancaster
 - vii. Meals on Wheels Annual Dinner & Volunteer Recognition Banquet, January 25, 2024, 4:30 p.m., Meals on Wheels Dining Room, 1515 Cedar Hill Rd., Lancaster

SERVE • CONNECT • PROTECT



AGENDA

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioners:
Steven A. Davis
Jeffrey M. Fix
David L. Levacy

County Administrator
Aundrea N. Cordle

Deputy County Administrator
Jeffrey D. Porter

Clerk
Rochelle Menningen

- viii. United Way Polar Plunge, January 28, 2024, 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.,
Buckeye Lake Winery, 13750 Rosewood Road NE, Thornville
 - ix. Lancaster State of the City Address, February 15, 2024,
8:00 a.m., Crossroads Event Center, 2095 W. Fair Ave., Lancaster
 - x. Fairfield County Safety Fair, March 5, 2024, 11:30 a.m.-
1:00 p.m., Fairfield County Workforce Center, 4465 Coonpath Rd.,
Carroll
 - xi. Fairfield County Board of Developmental Disabilities'
Celebration of Possibilities, March 20, 2024, Wigwam Event Center,
10190 Blacklick-Eastern Rd. NW, Pickerington
 - xii. Lancaster City 2024 State of the Schools, 11:30, March 27, 2024, Lancaster City
Schools, Stanberry Career Center, 345 E. Mulberry St., Lancaster
 - xiii. Lancaster Fairfield Chamber Awards and Annual Trade Show, May 9, 2024,
Fisher Catholic High School, 1803 Granville Pk. Lancaster
 - xiv. Save the Date, Workforce Center Graduation, May 17, 2024, Fairfield County
Workforce Center, 4465 Coonpath Rd. NW, Carroll
 - xv. Save the Date, Career Signing Day, June 6, 2024, Fairfield County Workforce
Center, 4465 Coonpath Rd. NW, Carroll
- f. Correspondence
- i. House Bill 187 Memo, Dr. Carri Brown, County Auditor, December 14, 2023,
Subjects: HB 187 Update; Internal Control Focus on Grants and Special Funding
Sources; and Lot Splits Process- New Technology Coming Soon
 - ii. "Wins of the Week!", Provided by Dr. Carri Brown, December 15, 2023
 - iii. "Wins of the Week", Provided by Dr. Carri Brown, December 22, 2023
 - iv. "Wins of the Week", Provided by Dr. Carri Brown, December 28, 2023
 - v. "Wins of the Week", Provided by Dr. Carri Brown, January 4, 2024
 - vi. Memo from Dr. Carri Brown, December 21, 2023, Subjects: New Workgroup for
Enterprise Assessment Taxation; Thanks to IT for Collaboration with SharePoint
Pilot; Conveyance Fact Sheet; Vacation Conversion Policy; and the Basil Western
Project
 - vii. Memo from Dr. Carri Brown, December 28, 2023, Subjects: General Fund
Revenues; Payroll Processes in 2024; and Various Deadlines at the End of the Year
 - viii. Memo from Dr. Carri Brown, January 4, 2024, Subjects: County Auditor Retreat
& Strategic Plan Update
 - ix. Thank You Note from Dr. Carri Brown for Use of the Liberty Center for the
Auditor's Annual Strategic Planning Retreat
 - x. Fairfield County Health Department Bulletin, December 14, 2023, 'Tis the
Season to Dive Sober: Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over"
 - xi. Lancaster Eagle Gazette, Jeff Barron, December 15, 2023, "County Wants to Buy
Colonnade Medical Building on Sheridan Drive in Lancaster"

SERVE • CONNECT • PROTECT



AGENDA

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Steven A. Davis
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Clerk
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- xii. The Ohio Court of Appeals Fifth District, December 14, 2023, Letter and Report Regarding Compensation Paid Court Appointees
- xiii. Liberty Township Comprehensive Land Use Plan, December 18, 2023
- xiv. Certificate of Result of Election, November 7, 2023, General Election, Meals on Wheels Older Adult Alternatives of Fairfield County
- xv. Certificate of Result of Election, November 7, 2023, General Election, Fairfield County Library District
- xvi. Judge Entry Appointing an Administrative Judge for the General Division of the Fairfield County Court of Common Pleas
- xvii. Judge Entry Appointing a Presiding Judge for the Fairfield County Court of Common Pleas
- xviii. *Lancaster Eagle Gazette*, Jeff Barron, December 27, 2023, “All Fairfield County Elected Officials Will Run Unopposed in the March Primary Election”
- xix. City of Lancaster Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting Notice, BZA Case No. 691, Special Exception and Area Variance for the Property Located at 1663 E. Main St. Lancaster
- xx. 2024 Homeless Point in Time Count Donation Collection, January 1-19, 2024, United Way 115 S. Broad St., Lancaster
- xxi. Fairfield County Sheriff, Alex Lape, 2023 Furtherance of Justice Report through November 2023
- xxii. Fairfield County Prosecuting Attorney, R. Kyle Witt, January 2, 2024, Furtherance of Justice Fund Report Dated January 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023
- xxiii. Letter from the Fairfield County Engineer, January 2, 2024, Re: Training Technicians for Ohio’s Future Infrastructure Program
- xxiv. Ohio Division of Liquor Control, Liquor Permit, Permit No. 6531107, Type: New, Olde Marcy Carryout & Pizza LLC, 1004 Winchester Southern Rd, Canal Winchester
- xxv. Fairfield County Heritage Association Membership Renewal Letter
- xxvi. Letter from the Coalition of Concerned Voters of Ohio, December 29, 2023, Subject: Security Flaws in Dominion ImageCastX (ICX) and D-Suite Voting Machines Used in Fairfield County May Require the Machines to be Decertified
- xxvii. Expedited Type II Annexation, Petition Filed January 4, 2024, 45.1 +/- Acres from Pleasant Township to the City of Lancaster
- xxviii. *Fairfield County E-News Updates*, December 15, 2023
- xxix. *Fairfield County Board of Developmental Disabilities Imagine* Newsletter, December 2023
- xxx. *Auditor’s Ledger: News from the County Auditor’s Office*, December 2023

SERVE • CONNECT • PROTECT



A G E N D A

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioners:

Steven A. Davis

Jeffrey M. Fix

David L. Levacy

County Administrator

Aundrea N. Cordle

Deputy County Administrator

Jeffrey D. Porter

Clerk

Rochelle Menningen

xxxi. *Fairfield Soil and Water Conservation District Fairfield Features*, December 2023, Volume 25, issue 3

xxxii. *Environmental Stewardships Committee Winter Newsletter*, December 22, 2023

xxxiii. A Letter from a Resident Regarding Industrial Solar Energy

xxxiv. “Fairfield County Commissioners to Stress Transportation, Housing and Workforce in 2024” Jeff Barron, *Lancaster Eagle Gazette*, January 7, 2024

7. Old Business

8. New Business

9. Regular (Voting) Meeting

10. Executive Session to Discuss Personnel Related Matters, 10:00 a.m.

11. Adjourn

S E R V E • C O N N E C T • P R O T E C T

Quarters 2,3, & 4, 2021 & Quarter 1,2,3 & 4 2022 & Quarter 1,2,3,4 2023 – American Rescue Plan Fiscal Recovery Funds, as of 12.31.2023.

From the \$30,606,902.00 received as the first and second tranche of fiscal recovery funds.

\$28,356,790.34 has been appropriated, \$17,556,088.06 expended, \$5,994,617.81 encumbered or obligated.

12Project/Category		As of 12/31/23 Appropriations	As of 12/31/23 Expenditure	As of 12/31/23 Obligation
Public Health				
R15a	Public Health, PPE	199.90	199.90	0.00
R16a	Public Health, Medical Expenses	206,838.33	206,838.33	0.00
R16b	Public Health, COVID Medial Costs County Benefits Program	399,949.66	399,949.66	0.00
R17a	Public Health, Vaccination Clinic and Related Expenses	66,362.57	66,362.57	0.00
R17b	Public Health, Capital Investments and Public Facilities of the County	3,491,063.36	3,367,110.19	123,442.07
R17c	Public Health, Capital Investment for Air Quality Improvements	56,674.00	56,674.00	0.00
R17d	Public Health, Capital Investment for Health Equipment, Mobile Morgue	49,498.87	49,498.87	0.00
R17e	Public Health, Capital Investment for Sheriff Cruiser to Respond to Increased Violence	60,565.00	54,250.98	0.00
R18a	Professional Communications on Behalf of the Board of Health	34,577.94	34,577.94	0.00
R18b	Public Health, Creation of a Community Health Assessment (CHA)	48,943.10	48,943.10	0.00
R19a	Public Safety Payroll Support	1,627,059.43	1,356,265.04	0.00
R19b	Public Health Payroll Support	185,406.39	185,406.39	0.00
R19c	Other Public Sector Payroll Support	304,000.44	203,838.00	0.00
R110a	Mental and Behavioral Health	0.00	0.00	0.00
Subtotal Public Health		6,531,139.00	6,029,914.97	123,442.07
Negative Economic Impacts				
R210a	Emergency Assistance for Non- Profit Organizations, a Subgrant to the City of Lancaster	0.00	0.00	0.00
R210b	Emergency Assistance for Non- Profits, Subgrant The Lighthouse	120,000.00	120,000.00	0.00
R210c	Salvation Army	500,000.00	500,000.00	0.00
R210d	Habitat for Humanity	610,000.00	610,000.00	0.00

Quarters 2,3, & 4, 2021 & Quarter 1,2,3 & 4 2022 & Quarter 1,2,3,4 2023 – American Rescue Plan Fiscal Recovery Funds, as of 12.31.2023.

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Project/Category		As of 12/31/23 Appropriations	As of 12/31/23 Expenditure	As of 12/31/23 Obligation
R210e	ADAMH/LSS Housing Projects	3,000,000.00	0.00	3,000,000.00
R211a	Subgrant for Tourism, Support for the Fairfield County Fair	499,996.00	499,996.00	0.00
R211b	Aid to Tourism, Travel, Hospitality	18,278.01	18,278.01	0.00
R29a	Emergency Assistance Business Planning	146,829.87	146,829.87	0.00
R213a	Support for Agriculture and the Growing Community	35,000.00	35,000.00	0.00
R213b	Technical Assistance for Townships & Others	400,000.00	224,354.84	25,000.00
R213c	Contracts for Services to Support Residents Suffering Effects of the Pandemic	76,540.00	71,240.00	0.00
Subtotal Negative Economic Impacts		5,406,643.88	2,225,698.72	3,025,000.00
R310a	Housing Support, Affordable Housing Strategic Plan	39,554.00	39,554.00	0.00
Subtotal Services Disproportionately Impacted Communities		39,554.00	39,554.00	0.00
Premium Pay				
R41a	Premium Pay, Premium Pay for Emergency Management Agency Workers	27,907.72	27,907.72	0.00
Subtotal Premium Pay		27,907.72	27,907.72	0.00
Infrastructure				
R52a	Clean Water: Centralized Collection and Conveyance, Airport	598,480.00	212,448.54	325,962.00
R52b	Clean Water: Centralized Collection and Conveyance, Walnut Creek Sewer District	750,000.00	0.00	750,000.00
R56a	Clean Water, Stormwater	539,895.00	539,895.00	0.00
R511a	Drinking Water: Transmission/Distribution, Grant Hampton	894,729.11	800,318.61	0.00

Quarters 2,3, & 4, 2021 & Quarter 1,2,3 & 4 2022 & Quarter 1,2,3,4 2023 – American Rescue Plan Fiscal Recovery Funds, as of 12.31.2023.

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Project/Category		As of 12/31/23 Appropriations	As of 12/31/23 Expenditure	As of 12/31/23 Obligation
R511b	Drinking Water: Transmission/Distribution, Airport	102,000.00	61,855.00	38,950.00
R511c	Drinking Water: Transmission/Distribution, Greenfield	1,900,000.00	0.00	0.00
R511d	Drinking Water: Transmission/Distribution, Baltimore	613,000.00	0.00	613,000.00
R511e	Drinking Water: Transmission/Distribution, Pleasantville	834,000.00	0.00	659,000.00
R516a	Broadband, "Last Mile" Projects	500,000.00	0.00	0.00
Subtotal Infrastructure		6,732,104.11	1,614,517.15	2,386,912.00
Revenue Loss				
R61a	SaaS and Technological Equipment	370,646.50	230,825.32	139,821.18
R61b	Recorder Document Scanning	337,984.72	337,984.72	0.00
R61c	Clerk of Courts Case Management	375,000.00	310,402.68	64,597.32
R61d	MARCS Tower Project	520,000.00	481,278.50	38,721.50
R61e	Dispatch Consoles	543,820.85	543,820.85	0.00
R61f	Fairfield Center Purchase	2,708,752.85	2,708,752.85	0.00
R61g	Fairfield Center Renovation	3,475,585.89	2,230,905.39	147,312.46
R61h	Community School Attendance Program	501,137.00	159,417.06	5,430.29
R61i	Workforce Center Expansion	0.00	0.00	0.00
R61j	Smart Growth	200,000.00	175,556.31	24,443.69
R61k	United Way and Dolly Parton's Imagination Library	25,000.00	25,000.00	0.00

Quarters 2,3, & 4, 2021 & Quarter 1,2,3 & 4 2022 & Quarter 1,2,3,4 2023 – American Rescue Plan Fiscal Recovery Funds, as of 12.31.2023.

From the \$30,606,902.00 received as the first and second tranche of fiscal recovery funds. \$28,356,790.34 has been appropriated, \$17,556,088.06 expended, \$5,994,617.81 encumbered or obligated.

Project/Category		As of 12/31/23 Appropriations	As of 12/31/23 Expenditure	As of 12/31/23 Obligation
R61l	Auditor Historical Records Scanning	0.00	0.00	0.00
R61m	Engineer's Radios	80,000.00	80,000.00	0.00
R61n	Auditor Printers	5,000.00	4,357.66	0.00
R61o	Auditor Copiers	12,000.00	0.00	11,983.30
R61p	Bremen ADA Ramps	26,954.00	0.00	26,954.00
R517a	Beavers Field Utilities	25,144.00	20,896.18	0.00
Revenue Loss		9,207,025.81	7,309,197.52	459,263.74
Administration				
R71a	Administrative Expenses	412,415.82	309,297.98	0.00
Subtotal Administration		412,415.82	309,297.98	0.00
Grand Total		\$28,356,790.34	\$17,556,088.06	\$5,994,617.81

ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY ITEMS
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE
DECEMBER 11, 2023 TO January 07, 2024

Fairfield County Commissioners

- AA.12.12-2023.a An Administrative Approval for the payment(s) of the United Health Care (UHC) invoice for the Fairfield County Self-Funded Health Benefits Program – Fairfield County Board of Commissioners [Commissioners]
- AA.12.13-2023.a An Administrative Approval for the payment of invoices for departments that need Board of Commissioners' approval and have bills presented that are not more than \$75,000 per invoice. [Commissioners]
- AA.12.14-2023.b An Administrative Approval for the payment of invoices for departments that need Board of Commissioners' approval and have bills presented that are not more than \$75,000 per invoice. [Commissioners]
- AA.12.18-2023.d An Administrative Approval to approve the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Ohio Airport Improvement Grant Program Matching Grant application. [Commissioners]
- AA.01.03-2024.a An Administrative Approval for the payment of invoices for departments that need Board of Commissioners' approval and have bills presented that are not more than \$75,000 per invoice [Commissioners]

Fairfield County Coroner

- AA.12.29-2023.a An Administrative Approval regarding a contract for Investigator Services between Fairfield County and Paul Burleigh. [Coroner]
- AA.12.29-2023.b An Administrative Approval regarding a contract for Investigator Services between Fairfield County and John R. Charles. [Coroner]
- AA.01.06-2024.c An Administrative Approval regarding a contract for Investigator Services between Fairfield County and Frederick Frank. [Coroner]

Fairfield County Economic & Workforce Development

- AA.12.18-2023.e An Administrative Approval to approve a Workforce Training Grant for Site Services Group, LLC. [Economic & Workforce Development]

Fairfield County Facilities

- AA.12.18-2023.a An Administrative Approval for an Agreement on the Replacement of the Courthouse Roof with Roof Connect. [Facilities]
- AA.01.06-2024.a An Administrative Approval for Preventative Maintenance Agreement with Columbus Building Services [Facilities]
- AA.01.06-2024.g An Administrative Approval for an Agreement on the Replacement of HVAC Units at the Workforce Center with Ameresco [Facilities]

Fairfield County Family and Children First Council

- AA.12.18-2023.b Administrative Approval authorizing a Contract for Professional Services between National Youth Advocate Program Inc. (NYAP) and Family and Children First Council for Outpatient Counseling Services [Family and Children First Council]
- AA.12.22-2023.a Administrator Approval authoring the FFY24 Safe Communities Contract for Services between the Fairfield County Health Department and the Family and Children First Council. [Family and Children First Council]
- AA.01.06-2024.d Approval of a Subrecipient Commitment Form between the Fairfield County Family and Children First Council and the Research Institute at Nationwide Children's Hospital for Triple P Online Coaching for January to June 2024 [Family and Children First Council]
- Fairfield County Human Resources
- AA.12.14-2023.a An administrative approval to approve a probationary removal for Fairfield County. [Fairfield County Human Resources]
- AA.12.18-2023.c A resolution authorizing the approval of an agreement with CuraLinc Healthcare [Fairfield County Human Resources]
- AA.01.06-2024.b An administrative approval of an agreement with Fairfield Healthcare Professionals, Inc. an affiliate of Fairfield Medical Center to operate the Fairfield County Health Benefit Plan Wellness Clinic for plan participants. [Fairfield County Human Resources]
- Fairfield County Job and Family Services
- AA.12.26-2023.a An Administrative Approval for a memorandum of understanding between Lancaster City Schools, Bloom-Carroll Local, Pickerington Local, Liberty Union-Thurston Local, Amanda Clearcreek Local, Fairfield Union Local, Walnut Township Local, and Berne Union Local and Fairfield County Job & Family Services, Child Protective Services division. [JFS]
- Fairfield County Treasurer
- AA.01.06-2024.f An administrative authority to approve an agreement for services by and between the Fairfield County Treasurer, the Board of Fairfield County Commissioners, and the Fairfield County Land Reutilization Corporation in 2024, as per the attached Agreement for Services. [Treasurer]
- Fairfield County Utilities Department
- AA.01.06-2024.e An administrative approval of a bank transfer for the County Utilities Department December 2023 [Utilities]

Ribbon Cutting - FAIRHOPE Hospice 40th Anniversary

Ribbon Cutting - FAIRHOPE Hospice 40t...

Set a Reminder

FAIRHOPE Hospice & Palliative Care is celebrating 40 years of serving Lancaster and the surrounding area!

Join us for a special ribbon cutting ceremony on Thursday, Jan. 11 at 4 p.m., located at 282 Sells Road in Lancaster for this milestone achievement.

Date and Time

Thursday Jan 11, 2024
4:00 PM - 4:30 PM EST

Thursday, Jan. 11
4 p.m.

Location

FAIRHOPE Hospice & Palliative Care
282 Sells Road, Lancaster

Join us on January 11th at 10:00am at our Quarter-Meeting Luncheon hosted by [Mayor Joint Senior Living](#) in Warrington. This is a great opportunity to connect with other business owners and forge connections in a vibrant atmosphere.

Our speaker, [Fairfield Moderator Marri Brown](#), will present critical creative thinking. Old World perspective with New World Ideas. Great innovator. Creative critical thinking. D creative thinking. Learn how you can analyze and come from a perspective with the right combination of the creative method. So, hear a short update from the Warrington Economic Director Dale Gudden.

Don't forget to [register here](#) so we know how to plan.

Be sure to [check out the flyer](#) showing a half-hour Meeting. When you line up to be together a part of a half-hour, we're able to leverage one amazing opportunity for everyone. Be sure to take advantage.

Looking forward to seeing you at our luncheon.

Best regards,

Jim Barlag

CEO & President

Warrington Area Chamber of Commerce

SAVE THE DATE & SPREAD THE WORD

2024 HOMELESS POINT IN TIME COUNT



**Stop in for a free
meal and donated items while
supplies last!**

**All rides to Maple Street Church on
Lancaster Public Transit are free
on January 24th!**

January 24th 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Maple Street United Methodist Church

438 E. Wheeling Street, Lancaster

You are cordially invited to attend:

**Meals on Wheels
Annual Dinner &
Volunteer Recognition
Banquet**

Thursday, January 25th, 2024

4:30 p.m.

Meals on Wheels Dining Room

Please R.S.V.P. to Sharon Powell by calling
740-681-5050. Business casual dress.

Enter through main entrance on west side of
building.

43130-387999

COLUMBUS OH 430

5 JAN 2024 PM 2 L

1515 Cedar Hill Rd.

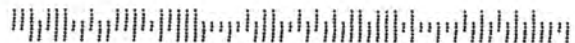
Lancaster, Ohio 43130



Fairfield County Commissioners

210 E Main St #310

Lancaster, Ohio 43130





An Invitation for You!

The Friends of Fairfield DD invite you to save the date for our 14th Annual Celebration of Possibilities.

The event will be held **Wednesday, March 20, 2024** at the Wigwam Event Center in Pickerington. The night will honor members of our community who work to further the mission of Fairfield DD.

We expect this to be a jam-packed event and wanted to get the word out early so you can be sure to clear your calendar. Tickets will go on sale **January 3, 2024**.

To learn more, become a sponsor or purchase tickets, just click below! We hope to see you there!

[LEARN MORE](#)



The Mission of Fairfield DD:

To bring about a vibrant community where people lead lives of greater independence and make meaningful contributions.

About the Celebration

The Friends of Fairfield DD host the Celebration of Possibilities each year to raise awareness, foster partnerships, and increase collaboration within our community. We hope you will join us on March 20th for a great evening.

To: Fairfield County Commissioners & Staff
From: Dr. Carri Brown, County Auditor
Date: December 14, 2023
Subjects: HB 187 Update; Internal Control Focus on Grants and Special Funding Sources; and Lot Splits Process – New Technology Coming Soon

HB 187 Update

The State House of Representatives did not vote on HB 187, which is now focused on improvements to the Homestead Program. We will keep everyone posted on how things proceed in 2024.

Internal Control Focus on Grants and Special Funding Sources

Are you accepting a new grant? If so, make sure you have an assigned grant administrator who will ensure grant terms and conditions are met for the grantee. All grants have terms and conditions, and federal grants have special reporting requirements. Involving the County Auditor as soon as possible for technical assistance in creating a new fund is a good idea. **The fund or accounting structure should be in place at the same time (or very soon thereafter) as accepting the grant.** Similarly, if there are new funding sources of any kind, the accounting structure should be set up as soon as possible. The County Auditor will provide technical assistance and respectfully requests to be contacted in advance of the need for an expenditure, a receipt, or a budget.

Lot Splits Process – New Technology Coming Soon

With multiple partners, we are working on a process using new technology to move documents from department to department for the lot splits process. Stay tuned for more information about this effort. **The County Resolution Management System is a model for the process, and we are working with MAPSYS to develop this tool.**

Weekly Wins 12 15 2023

Thanks to everyone in the County Auditor's Office for the extreme flexibility they have shown as we gear up for *year end for essential financial reporting, accounts payable, payroll, settlement, and real estate assessment activities*.

We are happy to finally have the *Weights and Measures vehicle* in route to us!

Thanks to Bev Hoskinson for working with IT and the County Engineer and all of the staff in order to arrange for disaster recovery testing in 2023.

REA is in the process of *interviewing for the map room technician* position vacated by the promotion of Randy Carter. There is some encouragement in the process! Stay tuned for more details.

The position description for the *Financial Reporting Specialist* was adjusted to properly reflect the organizational needs and the reality of the evolving position. All other position descriptions have been reviewed, as well. The posting occurred for the Financial Reported Specialist, and we wish Christina Wetzel all the best in her new position with Tyler Technologies.

During the Commissioners' meeting this week, the Commissioners acknowledged the profession of real estate appraisers, and there is a terrific picture with several members of the County Auditor's staff accepting the proclamation. We have shared that proclamation and our thanks with members of the private and public sectors. Rachel Elsea is also going to share the encouragement on social media. We have already received thanks and positive remarks about the outreach.

This week, Carri had an opportunity to read to children at *the Fairfield County District Library and to participate in the Wheel of Fortune game with Juvenile Court*. These two experiences were just fabulous ways to celebrate the holidays and the wonderful community resources we have for *youth in Fairfield County*.

Thanks to all of the County Auditor's Office for contributing to Meals on Wheels, the Charity Newsies, and JFS Protective Services for the holidays. Thanks to Bev Hoskinson for delivering the JFS related gifts this week.

We have added some strategic activities for *increasing access, belonging, and community* for certain populations, such as those with autism or dementia. In 2024, we will have tool kits to support us in these *customer service efforts*.

Thanks to Amanda Rollins for communicating well with *multiple entities* and for making some corrections with politeness and finesse.

This week, we made some progress on the effort to use technology to improve the efficiency of the lot split process. We also were able to confirm that REA funds can be used for the technology. Even if the project take a while to implement, the early discussions have been very good to examine the existing process.

Thanks to Nick in GIS for helping *Walnut Township with a grant application* and for answering a question that came to Finance about the school district for a *new apartment complex*. Thanks to Bev for clarifying information to the resident. The speed in which these questions were resolved was *impressive*.

This week, we also thanked *Mayor Scheffler and Paul Martin* for their service, as each are gearing up for retirement. Mayor Scheffler is going to continue to participate in *Destination Downtown Lancaster* as a board member.

Also, this week, Rachel Elsea worked with United Way to send out communication about United Way's tax preparation services. *Homestead program participants qualify for free income tax preparation services* with the United Way.

The win of the week goes to Nick Dilley for his exceptionally fast and very helpful update to the REA website to improve its search capabilities.

As of December 14, Joanna Vanderbilt and Michele Poston had processed 3351 dog licenses for the 2024 season resulting in \$82,490 of revenue. That was just for the first part of December – what a collaborative, team effort! Thanks to Christina Wetzel for continuing to work hard during this transition period.

The Finance Team has successfully processed the final accounts payable batches for 2023 and are projecting the rolling of the budget for Friday the 15th. They have collectively shown a great deal of flexibility and have put in extra hours in order to do this. *They have done a fantastic job keeping up with the workload.*

For example, did you know that A/P processed 37,413 invoices for 2023? That is an amazing workload!

Bravo to the whole Finance team – Lori, Meagen and Christina as well as Jen and Michelle, for accommodating the Health Department in opening up the budget, linking accounts, and being flexible to meet deadlines.

Thanks to the Payroll team for making sure things are ready to go for the 2024 withholdings of municipal income tax withholdings as required for the teleworking arrangements that are approved throughout the county.

Also, it is good to mention the wonderful collaboration with the Finance and Appraisal team: Bravos go out to Josh Harper and his team – Crystal, Makayla & Noel. They have assisted with Homestead deactivation & special assessments. *We discovered a way to upload multiple special assessment projects at once. (This is a huge timesaver). It will also allow us to have the most current information available to our stakeholders throughout the year. Way to go! Thanks to Angel Horn for her steadfast leadership in this area.*

It's been an exciting and extremely productive week!

And as we near Christmas, congratulations to Jessica Ferguson – her son is playing the Mayor of Whoville in the play held at the Masonic Temple this weekend. 😊

Wins of the Week – 12.22.2023

Thanks for the extra efforts as we continue to work on the details of year-end. Both Finance and Real Estate Assessment have significant tasks to accomplish as the year ends, and we are appreciative of the teamwork and collaboration.

The week began with a great deal of excitement about the potential of a Sharepoint application for external uses, such as with township and municipality officers and the Budget Commission. Using this tool could save a significant number of hours for the Settlements and Administration Analyst and other team members. Thanks to Alexander and the IT team members who worked with Amanda Rollins and Bev Hoskinson to create this pilot, which we hope can be helpful to others, too.

Work is underway to support departments with new grant funds.

CAAO has reported how happy they are with the Fairfield County team in the preparation of the Leadership Conference which will be held at the WigWam on February 7. Carri has also begun to meet with leaders of Ohio University to help with the women's leadership conference and to conduct a seminar (potentially two seminars based on the interest from last year) about grants management. Last year, there were more than 100 in attendance with the grants seminar, and this year, there are already requests for two seminars instead of one.

Bruce Simons with Juvenile Court has retired, and we were happy to share our congratulations and best wishes with him. We thank him for his more than three decades of service and hope that he enjoys his well-deserved retirement.

This week, we reached out to several Tax Incentive Review Councils to obtain documentation. This outreach helps keep future meetings efficient.

A workgroup meeting for OGRIP was held this week. You will recall that OGRIP stands for the Ohio Geographically Referenced Information Program. *It is the GIS coordinating body for state and local government.* The Department of Administrative Services, Office of Information Technology, houses the OGRIP Office. OGRIP forms workgroups made up of volunteers who share a common interest in the development of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and use of geographic information within Ohio. These volunteers include representatives of several state agencies, local and regional governments (such as County Auditors), universities, private organizations, and other subject matter experts.

Great job to Finance (A/P) for the successful (and speedy) roll to 2024. This is helpful to all departments.

Thanks to Angel Horn and Amanda Rollins, along with Josh Harper and Noel Soddors, for the work on the tax abstract.

Thanks to Payroll for preparing everyone for the 2024 *municipal income tax deduction process. This is a major accomplishment. Several counties are struggling with implementing the required deductions.*

From REA: Thanks to:

- Makala Finley and Noel Soddors for their assistance on Homestead research based upon death records and conveyances.
- Robin Balthaser for her continued patience and persistence in reviewing mobile home installations and relocations.
- Lori Kidder and Julie White for their expertise in providing a system for record corrections within conveyance in an efficient manner. And additional thanks to Julie White for her excellent research of an issue with a land contract.
- **Thanks to Noel Soddors for initiating a collaborative group with the Auditor and Treasurer to learn more about the taxation modules. *This is terrific for increased organizational knowledge for enterprise assessment and taxation.***

We will welcome Clayton Finley to the position of Map Room Technician effective January 8.

Many of you may remember Clayton for his work as an independent contractor during the triennial update in 2022. We are eager to welcome Clayton for his years of experience in other counties. He is also dedicated to continuing education in the field. He has strong customer service skills and an exceptional work ethic. Clayton will report to Nick Dilley, GIS/Mapping Manager, and is eager to make a difference here in Fairfield County. Initially, Clayton will begin training on the review of legal descriptions.

Several departments had Christmas celebrations this week, and the holiday spirit is so positive and encouraging!

We are thankful for the half-day holiday on Friday that allows for safe travels and preparations for the Christmas holiday.

Merry Christmas to all!

Wins of the Week! December 28, 2023

Thanks to the Finance and REA team for their collaboration in making sure the tax abstract was fully filed with the state of Ohio. We have received rates certified by the state and will be making the January 8 deadline for the process to produce tax bills for the County Treasurer to send.

Thanks to Payroll and Finance for their tremendous work in finalizing year-end processes.

Thanks to Patrick Brighton and Carter Corcoran for continuing to work together to prepare Weights and Measures reports, testing, and surveys.

Great job to the team for sending GEMS to one another for the coverage provided during the holidays! Thanks to those who have covered essential services. More than 670 GEMS were sent in 2023 in the Auditor's Office as of December 28, 2023. Thanks for taking the time to recognize the good work of your team members.

Thanks to Stacy Knight for the Map of the Month for January. The map shows the locations of little libraries and blessing boxes. Thanks to the coordinated efforts of many to produce helpful items for those in need.

This week, we have prepared presentations for DD, the Pickerington Chamber, and CAAO. Several employees completed continuing professional education during the week, too.

The initial agendas and notice procedures were reviewed for the Budget Commission and the Board of Revision. The process for the Budget Commission will include the required agenda item and notice for the review of the alternate formula for the distribution of local government funds.

And we have all things ready for the January 4th retreat! The County Auditor's strategic plan was updated for the new work groups and technology projects. There is a focus on organizational health, which includes the concepts of supervisory support, clear direction, coordination and new ideas, accountability, and culture.

General fund revenues came in strong in 2023, and that is something that is positive for overall county operations. As of December 28, 2023, \$66.5 M was received for the general fund, representing 104% of the current estimated revenues.

Here's to a successful and productive year of service in 2024!

Wins of the Week – January 4, 2024

We celebrate the freshness of a new year! No matter how hard or complex the past has been, you can always begin again. The new year gives us encouragement for new ways of thinking and new mindsets.

The strategic plan through 2026 has been updated, and we will continue to make updates regularly.

Thanks to all team members for their enthusiasm and professionalism at the third annual retreat held on January 4 at Liberty Center. Thank you for the extra efforts from our culture champions.

It is good to know that the REA appraisal project is right on track. The updated imagery is available now, and there are testing activities underway.

We have reviewed plans for new funds, accounting procedures, payroll quality control, connections with REA and Finance, and weights and measures communications.

This week, we also conducted a review of CAAO training we are leading in February and OU leadership training we are also conducting throughout the year. At DD, Carri presented training about organizational health with some takeaways about effective conduct of meetings.

Continuing professional education plans were formalized for the year.

REA and Finance continue to work on year-end deadlines with great accuracy and speed. We are impressed with the new physical set-up for Finance. It has been helpful with cross training efforts.

Thanks to Bev Hoskinson, Angel Horn, and Amanda Rollins for really digging into amended certificate processes and settlement functions to continuously improve this area. Thanks for the collaboration from the REA staff in these efforts. Thanks to Josh Harper and Noel Soddors for their efforts to support Settlements and for running reports in the evening. This was important to do in the evening so no stakeholder was impacted. And thanks to the Treasurer's Office for their encouragement in examining multiple processes for fine-tuning.

We received the first thank you note of the year. It was from the Heritage District thanking the GIS team for the new mapping process that allows for them to reach out to new residents of the District in a timely manner.

Congratulations to Nick Dilley for the map of the year for 2023 – the Zane's Trail map!

To: Fairfield County Commissioners & Staff
From: Dr. Carri Brown, County Auditor
Date: December 21, 2023
Subjects: New Workgroup for Enterprise Assessment and Taxation; Thanks to IT for Collaboration with a Sharepoint Pilot; Conveyance Fact Sheet; Vacation Conversion Policy; and the Basil Western Project

New Workgroup for Enterprise Assessment and Taxation

Real Estate Assessment is leading a new workgroup to share organizational knowledge regarding the computerized system for enterprise assessment and taxation. Thanks to Noel Soddors for his leadership and thanks to the County Treasurer's team for joining the work group.

Thanks to IT for Collaboration with a Sharepoint Pilot

We are encouraged with a Sharepoint application for external uses, such as with township and municipality officers and the Budget Commission. Using this tool could save a significant number of hours for the Settlements and Administration Analyst and other team members.

Thanks to Alexander and the IT team members who worked with Amanda Rollins and Bev Hoskinson to create this pilot, which we hope can be helpful to other departments, too.

Conveyance Fact Sheet

A fact sheet about conveyance procedures is found at this link:

<https://www.co.fairfield.oh.us/auditor/pdf/Conveyance-Factsheet.pdf>

This fact sheet has been helpful to answer questions that have been posed by the public recently. Also, there are no programs available to waive conveyance fees (classified as a tax). That, too, has been a question posed recently by non-profit organizations.

Vacation Conversion Policy (FYI)

The current county vacation conversion policy is that on the first pay date in November of each year, employees not in a probationary status may elect to be paid, at the regular straight-time hourly rate in effect on the first pay date in November of the current calendar year, up to one year's accrual of vacation leave at the employee's current rate, on a one-for-one basis. If there was a policy change and/or an appointing authority were to approve vacation conversion at another time of the year, from a Payroll perspective only, conversion could be processed at a different time -or- at multiple times throughout the year.

The Basil Western Project

Work is underway to support departments with the Basil Western Project. The first two questions to answer involve establishing the sources and uses for the county "629 grant project" and verifying the intergovernmental agreement amendment for the sources and uses of the first phase of the overall project.

To: Fairfield County Commissioners & Staff
From: Dr. Carri Brown, County Auditor
Date: December 28, 2023
Subjects: General Fund Revenues; Payroll Processes in 2024; and Various Deadlines at the End of the Year

General Fund Revenues

As of December 28, 2023, general fund revenues for 2023 were \$66.5 million, or 104% of the estimated \$63.7 million. Major categories of revenues came in as discussed and expected. Interim increases to the original estimates were made for property taxes & homestead/rollback revenues, sales taxes, investment earnings, and casino revenue. Significant reductions to estimates were made for public defender reimbursements and rents. The process resulted in actual receipts quite close to the formal estimate, as compared to history. Additional adjustments could have been made to increase the charges for rent, as more information was known, but that was unnecessary as the targeted percentage overall was monitored and on track for the fund.

Sales taxes, property taxes, homestead and rollback revenues, conveyance fees, investment earnings, casino revenues, local government funds and public defender reimbursements comprise 92% of the total general fund revenues. **The five categories of sales tax, real property taxes, investment earnings, conveyance fees, and casino revenues are the most significant, comprising 85% of total receipts.** The chart below provides a summary (with slight differences due to rounding).

Category	Original Estimate	Current Estimate	Actual as of 12.28.2023	% of total general fund, actual	Actual as a percent of current estimate
<i>Sales Taxes</i>	25,118,286	29,400,000	29,779,731	44.78%	101.29%
<i>Real Property Taxes</i>	11,841,106	13,464,106	13,466,719	20.25%	100.02%
<i>Investment Earnings</i>	3,000,000	6,100,000	6,665,382	10.02%	109.27%
<i>Conveyance Fees (Taxes)</i>	4,154,218	4,097,218	4,349,830	6.54%	106.17%
<i>Casino Revenues</i>	1,750,000	2,000,000	2,336,870	3.51%	116.84%
Local Government Shared Revenues	1,500,065	1,500,065	1,743,724	2.62%	116.24%
Homestead/Rollback	1,422,695	1,621,483	1,645,510	2.47%	101.48%
Public Defender Reimbursements	1,600,000	1,200,000	1,242,690	1.87%	103.56%
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>50,386,370</i>	<i>59,382,872</i>	<i>61,230,455</i>	<i>92.06%</i>	<i>103.11%</i>
Other Charges for Services, Rents, & Reimbursements	6,245,687	4,366,089	5,278,901	7.94%	120.91%
<i>Total</i>	<i>56,632,057</i>	<i>63,748,961</i>	<i>66,509,356</i>	<i>100.00%</i>	<i>104.33%</i>

To: Fairfield County Commissioners & Staff
From: Dr. Carri Brown, County Auditor
Date: December 28, 2023
Subjects: General Fund Revenues; Payroll Processes in 2024; and Various Deadlines at the End of the Year

Payroll Processes in 2024

As previously noted, we are required to withhold municipal income tax withholdings based on the physical location of work. In a post pandemic era, where there are multiple schedules that include teleworking or work-at-home situations, even for a portion of the time, this requirement resulted in adjustments to payroll procedures.

The Payroll team has worked very hard to make the process as efficient and effective as possible. Some counties (and state agencies) are struggling with this effort. We have shared our process with other users of the Tyler Technologies system.

Our 2024 payroll procedures will include the required municipal income tax withholdings. For Fairfield County, it is helpful that there are defined schedules for most departments who have approved teleworking.

Drop-in TEAMS meetings have been scheduled in case there are any remaining questions about this process.

Various Deadlines at the End of the Year

- The Budget for 2024 was loaded into the Enterprise Resource Planning system in December 2023. Year-end reporting for Finance and Payroll is underway.
- The First Half Tax Year 2023 Calculation and the Tax Duplicate for the Treasurer will be provided following the certification of rates by the state. The deadline for the process is January 8 in order to produce timely tax bills for the first half of 2024. Those tax payments are due to the Treasurer by February 15.
- December 31 is the deadline for Homestead applications (current and late applications).
- December 31 is also the deadline for the renewal of junk yard licenses.

To: Fairfield County Commissioners & Staff
From: Dr. Carri Brown, County Auditor
Date: January 4, 2024
Subjects: County Auditor Retreat & Strategic Plan Update

The third annual County Auditor Retreat was held on January 4, 2024. During the retreat, all staff followed up on assignments about our mission, core values, and code of conduct. We discussed leadership principles and the concepts relating to organizational health. Organizational health is more than culture or employee engagement. It is a measure of an organization's ability to align around a common vision, execute against that vision effectively, and renew itself through innovation and creative thinking. We assessed aspects of organizational health and reviewed our Year in Review Fact Sheet and celebrated team goals that have been accomplished.

We met with Dr. Boch to conduct mindfulness and wellness exercises, setting the stage for discussion about our culture of care and respect. The October 9, 2023, issue of County News published by NACO was used for inspiration in this discussion.

A list of training options was presented. Throughout the year, all employees are offered training as part of supervisory support. Together, we conducted Ethics training with the Ohio Ethics Commission. Ethics is a broad topic, which we recognized, and Ethics law in Ohio centers on contracting. We all viewed the online video about unlawful harassment that is posted on the county website. At the retreat, we reviewed an additional video about respect in the workplace, and we reviewed workplace scenarios, the policy manual language, and CORSA training. This video was one that people enjoyed a lot for its lens of respect:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=muoM-Fst2fA>

We discussed the Wins of the Week activities, which was suggested at last year's retreat, and we decided to continue that activity, as it was encouraging to staff. We also discussed the benefits of the traveling trophy for recognition.

We decided to maintain standing agenda items about policy, ethics, fraud, and other open items to keep lines of communication open. One on one communication with the County Auditor will begin in January again.

Deliverables of the Retreat were:

- Mission Clarity
- Affirmation of Values
- Organizational Learning
- Reference Materials
- Teambuilding
- Mindfulness skills
- Review of Leadership Principles
- Increased Understanding about Ethics and Unlawful Harassment

The County Auditor's Strategic plan through 2026 was updated and is found here:

<https://www.co.fairfield.oh.us/auditor/Strategic-Plan.html>

January 4, 2024

Commissioners:

Thank you for the use
of Liberty Center for our
annual strategic planning
retreat. Here's to a strong
start for 2024.

JLH

Jan Dickinson

Kindest Regards:

Jan

Bev

Stacy

Carter

Corcoran

Coughlin

Dun

Ellis

Farmer

Gibson

Hart

Rachel

Smith

Stacy

Thompson

Wright

Young

Zimmerman

Carri Brown

Michelle

Meagan

Patricia

Wichellton

Wichellton

Wichellton

Wichellton

and

Heidi

Hamilton

Low

St.

Thompson

Wichellton

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Fairfield County Health Department

'Tis the Season to Drive Sober: *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over*

Fairfield County, OH — It's hard to have a happy holiday when you're arrested for drunk driving. See the Season of Error and Right by following the law and refusing to drink and drive. During this busy winter holiday season, the Fairfield County Department of Transportation, Ohio State Highway Patrol, and the Ohio Department of Transportation, the Fairfield County Health Department, and State and Local Law Enforcement agencies are urging drivers to think twice before drinking and driving and to refuse for this life-saving message: *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over*. Drivers will see officers across the State working on a statewide high-visibility enforcement campaign to spread the message about the danger of drunk driving from December 1, 2023, through January 1, 2024.

Over 1,000 fatalities in motor vehicle traffic crashes in 2022 involved alcohol-impaired drivers. This represented over 1,000 fatalities in the United States for the year and a significant increase from 2021. Tragically, December can be a dangerous time for people on the road. According to NHTSA, in December alone, 1,000 people died in alcohol-impaired driving crashes.

Drunk driving is not a safe behavior, said Joe Papp, Fairfield County Health Commissioner. It is essential to plan a sober ride home before you ever leave for the party. There are too many resources to get you home safely. There are no excuses for drunk driving, he said. There are plenty of options to help you avoid driving get home safely, such as designating a sober driver or calling a taxi or ride share.

Remember a few dollars spent on a ride is a lot cheaper than a DUI, which can cost up to \$10,000. Nothing else to consider. Don't ever be too proud or embarrassed to ask for a ride. Asking a sober driver to help you get home safely keeps you and others safe. What's more embarrassing than drunken driving for a sober ride home? Spending the night in jail. Having your car impounded. Costing your job or your credit. Learn to Take Your Drive.

No one should be drinking and driving, and no one is immune to the effects of drunk driving. You find yourself drunk and stranded with your vehicle, give your seat to a sober driver who can safely drive you home. Remind your friend to never get in the vehicle with a drunk driver. You have a friend who is about to drive drunk, take away their keys and help them get home safely. Don't worry about offending someone. The more you later, the more you have a plan before you head out for the evening. You wait until after you've been drinking to figure out how to get to one safe to the next, you will read the too late to make the right choice.

For more information about the *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over* enforcement period, visit www.ohio.gov/ridingsober



The Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over campaign, which runs December 1st through January 1st, aims to educate people about the dangers and consequences of driving drunk.

The Fairfield County Office of Community Traffic Safety Program is a data-driven initiative to save lives and reduce injuries through collaboration among state, county, and local partners.

[Fairfield County Health Department](#)
Bobbie Beving, Public Information Officer, 513.333.3333
10000 Sheridan Drive, Suite 100, Lancaster, OH 43004



The Fairfield County Health Department serves more than 150,000 residents with a commitment to helping you stay healthy by preventing disease, protecting the environment, and promoting healthy lifestyles.

LOCAL

County wants to buy Colonnade medical building on Sheridan Drive in Lancaster



Jeff Barron

Lancaster Eagle-Gazette

December 15, 2023

LANCASTER – The Fairfield County commissioners this week agreed to buy the Colonnade Medical Office Building at 1550 Sheridan Drive if the state helps with the purchase price.

The asking price is \$3.6 million, but the county wants the state to pay at least \$600,000. The deadline for applying for state funds is in April.

County commissioner Steve Davis said the county is asking for state help to help better the county's return on investment.



Davis said Dr. Troy Edwards and his wife, Greer, own the building. He said he was not sure if others have an ownership stake in it or not. He said the sellers know the sale won't go through without substantial state financial assistance.

The building houses the county health department and other non-county entities. The county pays \$149,000 in rent and taxes annually.

Davis said it makes sense for the county to buy the building instead of paying rent for the health department. He said the county has been trying for almost a decade to cut down on rent payments to about 20 entities and organizations in the county.

"We've done a tremendous amount of analysis and determined that over the longer horizon the voters and taxpayers are much better served if we cut that liability off and try to prepare for a more fiscally responsible future where we're not just paying and paying and paying and paying and paying with never and end in sight to that expense stream," Davis said.

He also said it's possible some of the non-county entities would have to move if the county does buy the building. Davis said the county will be reserved in its comments about specific uses of the building for that reason.

"We don't really need to get everybody all nervous or anxious about our operational plan for something that is very contingent," he said. "So, I don't want to get a lot of departments or entities up in arms and worried about their operational facility unnecessarily."

There is a \$100,000 escrow pot put aside for the current owners should any current tenants leave due to the potential sale to help offset any losses.

Davis also said the building will need some renovation work if the sale goes through. He said the cost of that depends on what the county decides to use the building for.

jbarron@gannett.com

740-681-4340

Twitter: @JeffDBarron

The Ohio Court of Appeals Fifth District

JUDGES

W. SCOTT GWIN
WILLIAM B. HOFFMAN
JOHN W. WISE
PATRICIA A. DELANEY
CRAIG R. BALDWIN
ANDREW J. KING



SUITE 320
110 CENTRAL PLAZA, SOUTH
CANTON, OHIO 44702-1411
(330) 451-7765
(330) 451-7249 Fax
(800) 369-4528 Toll Free
(800) 750-0750 TTY/TDD
THROUGH THE OHIO RELAY SERVICE

Web Site Address
www.Fifthdist.org

December 14, 2023

Steve Davis
Fairfield County Commissioner, President
210 East Main Street, Room 301
Lancaster, Ohio 43130

Dear Mr. Davis:

The Ohio Rules of Superintendence govern the operations of Ohio courts. Superintendence Rule 8(C) requires this Court to conduct a periodic review of "the compensation paid court appointees to determine the compensation's adequacy and effect upon the availability of court appointments" and to provide a report of the Court's review to all funding authorities of the Court.

The Judges of the Ohio Fifth District Court of Appeals have reviewed the compensation paid to appointed appellate counsel throughout the District and examined the current compensation's adequacy and effect upon the availability of court appointments. This letter presents the Court's observations and conclusions.

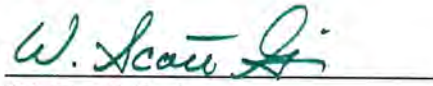
The Ohio Public Defender's maximum hourly rate for reimbursement is \$75 per hour. The Ohio Public Defender also sets a fee cap for each type of representation.

Upon review, the Court finds that most counties within the District have raised their hourly rate to the maximum reimbursable rate, with the rates ranging from \$60 per hour to \$75 per hour. Likewise, some counties have raised their fee caps to those set by the Ohio Public Defender while some have not. A complete list of hourly rates and fee caps is attached. The concern is that lower hourly rates and lower fee caps will have a negative effect upon counsel's availability for appointments. Some counties have expressed a concern that there are few attorneys willing to accept appointments as appellate counsel. Since this Court's Local Rules require requests for appointment of counsel be made in the trial court first, we encourage you to explore this issue with the trial courts in your respective county.

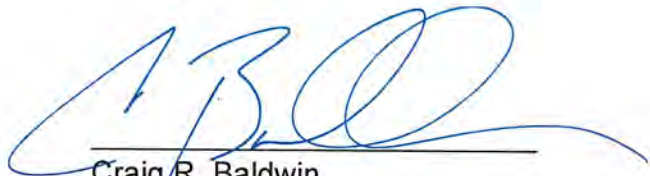
Finally, we stress that this report is not and should not be construed as a directive by this Court to implement any specific changes to your current fee resolutions. Not only do we lack the authority to issue such a directive, we recognize that you have many other factors to consider. This letter is merely presented in fulfillment of our Sup.R. 8(C) duties.

We hope that you find this report helpful. If our Court can be of any additional assistance or if you have any questions regarding these matters, please feel free to contact us for further discussion on these matters.

Best Regards,



W. Scott Gwin
Presiding Judge



Craig R. Baldwin
Administrative Judge




William B. Hoffman, Judge



John W. Wise, Judge



Patricia A. Delaney, Judge



Andrew J. King, Judge

Attachment

Sup.R. 8(C): Compensation review and report

At least once every five years, each court or division of a court shall review the compensation paid court appointees to determine the compensation's adequacy and effect upon the availability of court appointments. The court or division shall provide the report to all funding authorities of the court or division.

STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES FOR APPOINTED COUNSEL REIMBURSEMENT

SECTION II: STATE MAXIMUM FEE SCHEDULE FOR APPOINTED COUNSEL REIMBURSEMENT

A. General provisions

The Ohio Public Defender State Maximum Fee Schedule for Appointed Counsel Reimbursement contains the hourly rates and maximum amounts the OPD will reimburse counties for representation of indigent persons in criminal cases.

B. Appellate level proceedings

1. Reimbursement for representation in appellate level proceedings not involving a death sentence shall be made based on the maximum rate of \$75.00 per hour for both in-court and out-of-court services.
2. Reimbursement for representation in appellate level proceedings involving a death sentence will be made based on the maximum rate of \$125.00 per hour for both in-court and out-of-court services.
3. The prescribed maximum fees permitted in appellate level proceedings are:

County	Hourly Rate
Ashland	\$75 In and Out of Court
Coshocton	\$75 In and Out of Court
Delaware	\$75 In and Out of Court
Fairfield	\$65 In and Out of Court
Guernsey	\$75 In and Out of Court
Holmes	\$75 In and Out of Court
Knox	\$65 In Court and \$50 for Habeas Corpus and Post Conviction Hearings; Otherwise, \$75 In and Out of Court
Licking	\$65 In Court and \$55 Out of Court
Morgan	\$75 In and Out of Court
Morrow	\$60 In Court and \$50 Out of Court
Muskingum	\$60 In Court and \$50 Out of Court
Perry	\$75 In and Out of Court
Richland	\$70 In and Out of Court
Stark	\$75 In and Out of Court
Tuscarawas	\$75 In and Out of Court

OPD Maximum Fees	
Death Sentence: As set by Capital Fee Council - see R.C. 120.33(D) (no fee maximum)	
\$8,000.00 Cumulative Minimum Sentence exceeds 25 years	
\$5,000.00 Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial	
\$3,500.00 Felony (degree 3) Trial	
\$2,500.00 Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial	
\$2,000.00 Misdemeanor Trial	
\$1,500.00 Felony Plea	
\$1,000.00 Misdemeanor Plea	
\$3,500.00 ADN Permanent Custody	
\$3,500.00 Probate	
\$1,000.00 Unruly	
\$1,000.00 Other	
\$3,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial	
\$2,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degree 3) Trial	
\$1,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial	
\$1,500.00 OSC Jurisdiction Memorandum	

Fairfield County Maximum Fees 2022 Resolution	
\$937.50	(Post-Conviction Petition) Misdemeanors 60(B)
\$5,000	Aggravated Murder with Sentence other than Death
\$1,250	Felony in the Fifth Degree
\$1,250	Felony in the First Degree
\$1,250	Felony in the Fourth Degree
\$1,250	Felony in the Second Degree
\$1,250	Felony in the Third Degree
\$1,250	Habeas Corpus with Evidentiary Hearing
\$625	Habeas Corpus without Evidentiary Hearing
\$937.50	Misdemeanor in the First Degree
\$937.50	Misdemeanor in the Fourth Degree
\$937.50	Misdemeanor in the Second Degree
\$937.50	Misdemeanor in the Third Degree
\$1,875	Murder
\$1,250	Post-Conviction Proceeding with Evidentiary Hearing
\$625	Post-Conviction Proceeding without Evidentiary Hear

OPD Maximum Fees
Death Sentence: As set by Capital Fee Council - see R.C. 120.33(D) (no fee maximum)
\$8,000.00 Cumulative Minimum Sentence exceeds 25 years
\$5,000.00 Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial
\$3,500.00 Felony (degree 3) Trial
\$2,500.00 Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial
\$2,000.00 Misdemeanor Trial
\$1,500.00 Felony Plea
\$1,000.00 Misdemeanor Plea
\$3,500.00 ADN Permanent Custody
\$3,500.00 Probate
\$1,000.00 Unruly
\$1,000.00 Other
\$3,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial
\$2,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degree 3) Trial
\$1,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial
\$1,500.00 OSC Jurisdiction Memorandum

	Ashland County Maximum Fees 2022 Resolution
\$5,000	Aggravated Murder with Sentence other than Death
\$1,000	All Juvenile Offenses or Proceedings
\$1,000	All Other Offenses or Proceedings
\$1,500	Felony in the Fifth Degree
\$1,500	Felony in the First Degree
\$1,500	Felony in the Fourth Degree
\$1,500	Felony in the Second Degree
\$1,500	Felony in the Third Degree
\$1,500	Habeas Corpus with Evidentiary Hearing
\$750	Habeas Corpus without Evidentiary Hearing
\$3,000	Major Drug Offender
\$1,000	Misdemeanor in the First Degree
\$1,000	Misdemeanor in the Fourth Degree
\$1,000	Misdemeanor in the Second Degree
\$1,000	Misdemeanor in the Third Degree
\$3,000	Murder with Life Sentence
\$1,500	Post-Conviction Proceeding with Evidentiary Hearing
\$750	Post-Conviction Proceeding without Evidentiary Hearing
\$3,000	Repeat Violent Offender
\$1,500	Senate Bill 2 and House Bill 1 Appeals
\$3,000	Sexually Violent Predator

OPD Maximum Fees
Death Sentence: As set by Capital Fee Council - see R.C. 120.33(D) (no fee maximum)
\$8,000.00 Cumulative Minimum Sentence exceeds 25 years
\$5,000.00 Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial
\$3,500.00 Felony (degree 3) Trial
\$2,500.00 Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial
\$2,000.00 Misdemeanor Trial
\$1,500.00 Felony Plea
\$1,000.00 Misdemeanor Plea
\$3,500.00 ADN Permanent Custody
\$3,500.00 Probate
\$1,000.00 Unruly
\$1,000.00 Other
\$3,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial
\$2,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degree 3) Trial
\$1,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial
\$1,500.00 OSC Jurisdiction Memorandum

	Coshocton County Maximum Fees 2022 Resolution
\$1,000	All Other Offenses and Proceedings
\$1,750	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Fourth Degree
\$1,750	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Fifth Degree
\$4,000	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the First Degree
\$4,000	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Second Degree
\$2,500	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Third Degree
\$1,500	(Post-Conviction Petition) Misdemeanors 60(B)
\$3,500	Abuse, Dependency, Neglect and Permanent Custody
\$2,500	All Juvenile Offenses or Proceedings
\$8,000	Cumulative Minimum Sentence exceeds 25 years
\$2,500	Felony in the Fifth Degree (Trial)
\$5,000	Felony in the First Degree (Trial)
\$2,500	Felony in the Fourth Degree (Trial)
\$5,000	Felony in the Second Degree (Trial)
\$3,500	Felony in the Third Degree (Trial)
\$1,500	Felony Pleas
\$2,000	Misdemeanor (Trial)
\$1,000	Misdemeanor Pleas
\$1,000	Murnahan Felony in the Fifth Degree (Trial)
\$3,000	Murnahan Felony in the First Degree (Trial)
\$1,000	Murnahan Felony in the Fourth Degree (Trial)
\$3,000	Murnahan Felony in the Second Degree (Trial)
\$2,000	Murnahan Felony in the Third Degree (Trial)
\$1,500	Ohio Supreme Court Jurisdiction
\$1,500	State Habeas Corpus
\$1,000	Unruly

OPD Maximum Fees
Death Sentence: As set by Capital Fee Council - see R.C. 120.33(D) (no fee maximum)
\$8,000.00 Cumulative Minimum Sentence exceeds 25 years
\$5,000.00 Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial
\$3,500.00 Felony (degree 3) Trial
\$2,500.00 Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial
\$2,000.00 Misdemeanor Trial
\$1,500.00 Felony Plea
\$1,000.00 Misdemeanor Plea
\$3,500.00 ADN Permanent Custody
\$3,500.00 Probate
\$1,000.00 Unruly
\$1,000.00 Other
\$3,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial
\$2,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degree 3) Trial
\$1,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial
\$1,500.00 OSC Jurisdiction Memorandum

	Delaware County Maximum Fees 2022 Resolution
\$1,000	All Other Offenses and Proceedings
\$1,750	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Fourth Degree
\$1,750	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Fifth Degree
\$4,000	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the First Degree
\$4,000	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Second Degree
\$2,500	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Third Degree
\$1,500	(Post-Conviction Petition) Misdemeanors 60(B)
\$3,500	Abuse, Dependency, Neglect and Permanent Custody
\$2,500	All Juvenile Offenses or Proceedings
\$8,000	Cumulative Minimum Sentence exceeds 25 years
\$2,500	Felony in the Fifth Degree (Trial)
\$5,000	Felony in the First Degree (Trial)
\$2,500	Felony in the Fourth Degree (Trial)
\$5,000	Felony in the Second Degree (Trial)
\$3,500	Felony in the Third Degree (Trial)
\$1,500	Felony Pleas
\$2,000	Misdemeanor (Trial)
\$1,000	Misdemeanor Pleas
\$1,000	Murnahan Felony in the Fifth Degree (Trial)
\$3,000	Murnahan Felony in the First Degree (Trial)
\$1,000	Murnahan Felony in the Fourth Degree (Trial)
\$3,000	Murnahan Felony in the Second Degree (Trial)
\$2,000	Murnahan Felony in the Third Degree (Trial)
\$1,500	Ohio Supreme Court Jurisdiction
\$1,500	State Habeas Corpus
\$1,000	Unruly

OPD Maximum Fees
Death Sentence: As set by Capital Fee Council - see R.C. 120.33(D) (no fee maximum)
\$8,000.00 Cumulative Minimum Sentence exceeds 25 years
\$5,000.00 Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial
\$3,500.00 Felony (degree 3) Trial
\$2,500.00 Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial
\$2,000.00 Misdemeanor Trial
\$1,500.00 Felony Plea
\$1,000.00 Misdemeanor Plea
\$3,500.00 ADN Permanent Custody
\$3,500.00 Probate
\$1,000.00 Unruly
\$1,000.00 Other
\$3,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial
\$2,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degree 3) Trial
\$1,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial
\$1,500.00 OSC Jurisdiction Memorandum

	Guernsey County Maximum Fees 2022 Resolution
\$1,000	All Other Offenses and Proceedings
\$1,750	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Fourth Degree
\$1,750	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Fifth Degree
\$4,000	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the First Degree
\$4,000	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Second Degree
\$2,500	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Third Degree
\$1,500	(Post-Conviction Petition) Misdemeanors 60(B)
\$3,500	Abuse, Dependency, Neglect and Permanent Custody
\$2,500	All Juvenile Offenses or Proceedings
\$8,000	Cumulative Minimum Sentence exceeds 25 years
\$2,500	Felony in the Fifth Degree (Trial)
\$5,000	Felony in the First Degree (Trial)
\$2,500	Felony in the Fourth Degree (Trial)
\$5,000	Felony in the Second Degree (Trial)
\$3,500	Felony in the Third Degree (Trial)
\$1,500	Felony Pleas
\$2,000	Misdemeanor (Trial)
\$1,000	Misdemeanor Pleas
\$1,000	Murnahan Felony in the Fifth Degree (Trial)
\$3,000	Murnahan Felony in the First Degree (Trial)
\$1,000	Murnahan Felony in the Fourth Degree (Trial)
\$3,000	Murnahan Felony in the Second Degree (Trial)
\$2,000	Murnahan Felony in the Third Degree (Trial)
\$1,500	Ohio Supreme Court Jurisdiction
\$3,500	Parental Termination
\$1,500	State Habeas Corpus
\$1,000	Unruly

OPD Maximum Fees
Death Sentence: As set by Capital Fee Council - see R.C. 120.33(D) (no fee maximum)
\$8,000.00 Cumulative Minimum Sentence exceeds 25 years
\$5,000.00 Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial
\$3,500.00 Felony (degree 3) Trial
\$2,500.00 Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial
\$2,000.00 Misdemeanor Trial
\$1,500.00 Felony Plea
\$1,000.00 Misdemeanor Plea
\$3,500.00 ADN Permanent Custody
\$3,500.00 Probate
\$1,000.00 Unruly
\$1,000.00 Other
\$3,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial
\$2,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degree 3) Trial
\$1,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial
\$1,500.00 OSC Jurisdiction Memorandum

	Holmes County Maximum Fees 2022 Resolution
\$1,000	All Other Offenses and Proceedings
\$1,750	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Fourth Degree
\$1,750	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Fifth Degree
\$4,000	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the First Degree
\$4,000	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Second Degree
\$2,500	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Third Degree
\$1,500	(Post-Conviction Petition) Misdemeanors 60(B)
\$3,500	Abuse, Dependency, Neglect and Permanent Custody
\$2,500	All Juvenile Offenses or Proceedings
\$8,000	Cumulative Minimum Sentence exceeds 25 years
\$2,500	Felony in the Fifth Degree (Trial)
\$5,000	Felony in the First Degree (Trial)
\$2,500	Felony in the Fourth Degree (Trial)
\$5,000	Felony in the Second Degree (Trial)
\$3,500	Felony in the Third Degree (Trial)
\$1,500	Felony Pleas
\$2,000	Misdemeanor (Trial)
\$1,000	Misdemeanor Pleas
\$1,000	Murnahan Felony in the Fifth Degree (Trial)
\$3,000	Murnahan Felony in the First Degree (Trial)
\$1,000	Murnahan Felony in the Fourth Degree (Trial)
\$3,000	Murnahan Felony in the Second Degree (Trial)
\$2,000	Murnahan Felony in the Third Degree (Trial)
\$1,500	Ohio Supreme Court Jurisdiction
\$1,500	State Habeas Corpus
\$1,000	Unruly

OPD Maximum Fees	
Death Sentence: As set by Capital Fee Council - see R.C. 120.33(D) (no fee maximum)	
\$8,000.00 Cumulative Minimum Sentence exceeds 25 years	
\$5,000.00 Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial	
\$3,500.00 Felony (degree 3) Trial	
\$2,500.00 Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial	
\$2,000.00 Misdemeanor Trial	
\$1,500.00 Felony Plea	
\$1,000.00 Misdemeanor Plea	
\$3,500.00 ADN Permanent Custody	
\$3,500.00 Probate	
\$1,000.00 Unruly	
\$1,000.00 Other	
\$3,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial	
\$2,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degree 3) Trial	
\$1,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial	
\$1,500.00 OSC Jurisdiction Memorandum	

Knox County Maximum Fees 2022 Resolution	
\$5,000	Aggravated Murder with Sentence other than Death
\$1,000	All Juvenile Offenses or Proceedings
\$1,000	All Other Offenses or Proceedings
\$1,500	Felony in the Fifth Degree
\$1,500	Felony in the First Degree
\$1,500	Felony in the Fourth Degree
\$1,500	Felony in the Second Degree
\$1,500	Felony in the Third Degree
\$1,500	Habeas Corpus with Evidentiary Hearing
\$750	Habeas Corpus without Evidentiary Hearing
\$3,000	Major Drug Offender
\$1,000	Misdemeanor in the First Degree
\$1,000	Misdemeanor in the Fourth Degree
\$1,000	Misdemeanor in the Second Degree
\$1,000	Misdemeanor in the Third Degree
\$3,000	Murder with Life Sentence
\$1,500	Post-Conviction Proceeding with Evidentiary Hearing
\$750	Post-Conviction Proceeding without Evidentiary Hearing
\$3,000	Repeat Violent Offender
\$1,500	Senate Bill 2 and House Bill 1 Appeals
\$3,000	Sexually Violent Predator

OPD Maximum Fees
Death Sentence: As set by Capital Fee Council - see R.C. 120.33(D) (no fee maximum)
\$8,000.00 Cumulative Minimum Sentence exceeds 25 years
\$5,000.00 Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial
\$3,500.00 Felony (degree 3) Trial
\$2,500.00 Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial
\$2,000.00 Misdemeanor Trial
\$1,500.00 Felony Plea
\$1,000.00 Misdemeanor Plea
\$3,500.00 ADN Permanent Custody
\$3,500.00 Probate
\$1,000.00 Unruly
\$1,000.00 Other
\$3,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial
\$2,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degree 3) Trial
\$1,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial
\$1,500.00 OSC Jurisdiction Memorandum

	Licking County Maximum Fees 2022 Resolution
\$5,000	Aggravated Murder with Sentence other than Death
\$1,000	All Juvenile Offenses or Proceedings
\$1,000	All Other Offenses or Proceedings
\$1,500	Felony in the Fifth Degree
\$1,500	Felony in the First Degree
\$1,500	Felony in the Fourth Degree
\$1,500	Felony in the Second Degree
\$1,500	Felony in the Third Degree
\$1,500	Habeas Corpus with Evidentiary Hearing
\$750	Habeas Corpus without Evidentiary Hearing
\$3,000	Major Drug Offender
\$1,000	Misdemeanor in the First Degree
\$1,000	Misdemeanor in the Fourth Degree
\$1,000	Misdemeanor in the Second Degree
\$1,000	Misdemeanor in the Third Degree
\$3,000	Murder with Life Sentence
\$1,500	Post-Conviction Proceeding with Evidentiary Hearing
\$750	Post-Conviction Proceeding without Evidentiary Hearing
\$3,000	Repeat Violent Offender
\$1,500	Senate Bill 2 and House Bill 1 Appeals
\$3,000	Sexually Violent Predator

OPD Maximum Fees
Death Sentence: As set by Capital Fee Council - see R.C. 120.33(D) (no fee maximum)
\$8,000.00 Cumulative Minimum Sentence exceeds 25 years
\$5,000.00 Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial
\$3,500.00 Felony (degree 3) Trial
\$2,500.00 Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial
\$2,000.00 Misdemeanor Trial
\$1,500.00 Felony Plea
\$1,000.00 Misdemeanor Plea
\$3,500.00 ADN Permanent Custody
\$3,500.00 Probate
\$1,000.00 Unruly
\$1,000.00 Other
\$3,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial
\$2,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degree 3) Trial
\$1,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial
\$1,500.00 OSC Jurisdiction Memorandum

	Morgan County Maximum Fees 2022 Resolution
\$1,000	All Other Offenses and Proceedings
\$1,750	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Fourth Degree
\$1,750	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Fifth Degree
\$4,000	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the First Degree
\$4,000	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Second Degree
\$2,500	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Third Degree
\$1,500	(Post-Conviction Petition) Misdemeanors 60(B)
\$3,500	Abuse, Dependency, Neglect and Permanent Custody
\$2,500	All Juvenile Offenses or Proceedings
\$8,000	Cumulative Minimum Sentence exceeds 25 years
\$2,500	Felony in the Fifth Degree (Trial)
\$5,000	Felony in the First Degree (Trial)
\$2,500	Felony in the Fourth Degree (Trial)
\$5,000	Felony in the Second Degree (Trial)
\$3,500	Felony in the Third Degree (Trial)
\$1,500	Felony Pleas
\$2,000	Misdemeanor (Trial)
\$1,000	Misdemeanor Pleas
\$1,000	Murnahan Felony in the Fifth Degree (Trial)
\$3,000	Murnahan Felony in the First Degree (Trial)
\$1,000	Murnahan Felony in the Fourth Degree (Trial)
\$3,000	Murnahan Felony in the Second Degree (Trial)
\$2,000	Murnahan Felony in the Third Degree (Trial)
\$1,500	Ohio Supreme Court Jurisdiction
\$1,500	State Habeas Corpus
\$1,000	Unruly

OPD Maximum Fees
Death Sentence: As set by Capital Fee Council - see R.C. 120.33(D) (no fee maximum)
\$8,000.00 Cumulative Minimum Sentence exceeds 25 years
\$5,000.00 Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial
\$3,500.00 Felony (degree 3) Trial
\$2,500.00 Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial
\$2,000.00 Misdemeanor Trial
\$1,500.00 Felony Plea
\$1,000.00 Misdemeanor Plea
\$3,500.00 ADN Permanent Custody
\$3,500.00 Probate
\$1,000.00 Unruly
\$1,000.00 Other
\$3,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial
\$2,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degree 3) Trial
\$1,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial
\$1,500.00 OSC Jurisdiction Memorandum

	Morrow County Maximum Fees 2022 Resolution
\$5,000	Aggravated Murder with Sentence other than Death
\$1,000	All Other Juvenile Offenses or Proceedings
\$1,000	All Other Offenses or Proceedings
\$1,500	Felony in the Fifth Degree
\$1,500	Felony in the First Degree
\$1,500	Felony in the Fourth Degree
\$1,500	Felony in the Second Degree
\$1,500	Felony in the Third Degree
\$1,500	Habeas Corpus with Evidentiary Hearing
\$750	Habeas Corpus without Evidentiary Hearing
\$3,000	Major Drug Offender
\$1,000	Misdemeanor in the First Degree
\$1,000	Misdemeanor in the Fourth Degree
\$1,000	Misdemeanor in the Second Degree
\$1,000	Misdemeanor in the Third Degree
\$3,000	Murder with Life Sentence
\$1,500	Post-Conviction Proceeding with Evidentiary Hearing
\$750	Post-Conviction Proceeding without Evidentiary Hearing
\$3,000	Repeat Violent Offender
\$1,500	Senate Bill 2 and House Bill 1 Appeals
\$3,000	Sexually Violent Predator

OPD Maximum Fees
Death Sentence: As set by Capital Fee Council - see R.C. 120.33(D) (no fee maximum)
\$8,000.00 Cumulative Minimum Sentence exceeds 25 years
\$5,000.00 Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial
\$3,500.00 Felony (degree 3) Trial
\$2,500.00 Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial
\$2,000.00 Misdemeanor Trial
\$1,500.00 Felony Plea
\$1,000.00 Misdemeanor Plea
\$3,500.00 ADN Permanent Custody
\$3,500.00 Probate
\$1,000.00 Unruly
\$1,000.00 Other
\$3,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial
\$2,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degree 3) Trial
\$1,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial
\$1,500.00 OSC Jurisdiction Memorandum

	Muskingum County Maximum Fees 2022 Resolution
\$1,000	All Other Offenses and Proceedings
\$1,750	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Fourth Degree
\$1,750	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Fifth Degree
\$4,000	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the First Degree
\$4,000	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Second Degree
\$2,500	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Third Degree
\$1,500	(Post-Conviction Petition) Misdemeanors 60(B)
\$3,500	Abuse, Dependency, Neglect and Permanent Custody
\$2,500	All Juvenile Offenses or Proceedings
\$8,000	Cumulative Minimum Sentence exceeds 25 years
\$2,500	Felony in the Fifth Degree (Trial)
\$5,000	Felony in the First Degree (Trial)
\$2,500	Felony in the Fourth Degree (Trial)
\$5,000	Felony in the Second Degree (Trial)
\$3,500	Felony in the Third Degree (Trial)
\$1,500	Felony Pleas
\$2,000	Misdemeanor (Trial)
\$1,000	Misdemeanor Pleas
\$1,000	Murnahan Felony in the Fifth Degree (Trial)
\$3,000	Murnahan Felony in the First Degree (Trial)
\$1,000	Murnahan Felony in the Fourth Degree (Trial)
\$3,000	Murnahan Felony in the Second Degree (Trial)
\$2,000	Murnahan Felony in the Third Degree (Trial)
\$1,500	Ohio Supreme Court Jurisdiction
\$1,500	State Habeas Corpus
\$1,000	Unruly

OPD Maximum Fees
Death Sentence: As set by Capital Fee Council - see R.C. 120.33(D) (no fee maximum)
\$8,000.00 Cumulative Minimum Sentence exceeds 25 years
\$5,000.00 Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial
\$3,500.00 Felony (degree 3) Trial
\$2,500.00 Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial
\$2,000.00 Misdemeanor Trial
\$1,500.00 Felony Plea
\$1,000.00 Misdemeanor Plea
\$3,500.00 ADN Permanent Custody
\$3,500.00 Probate
\$1,000.00 Unruly
\$1,000.00 Other
\$3,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial
\$2,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degree 3) Trial
\$1,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial
\$1,500.00 OSC Jurisdiction Memorandum

	Perry County Maximum Fees 2022 Resolution
\$1,000	All Other Offenses and Proceedings
\$1,750	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Fourth Degree
\$1,750	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Fifth Degree
\$4,000	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the First Degree
\$4,000	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Second Degree
\$2,500	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Third Degree
\$1,500	(Post-Conviction Petition) Misdemeanors 60(B)
\$3,500	Abuse, Dependency, Neglect and Permanent Custody
\$2,500	All Juvenile Offenses or Proceedings
\$8,000	Cumulative Minimum Sentence exceeds 25 years
\$2,500	Felony in the Fifth Degree (Trial)
\$5,000	Felony in the First Degree (Trial)
\$2,500	Felony in the Fourth Degree (Trial)
\$5,000	Felony in the Second Degree (Trial)
\$3,500	Felony in the Third Degree (Trial)
\$1,500	Felony Pleas
\$2,000	Misdemeanor (Trial)
\$1,000	Misdemeanor Pleas
\$1,000	Murnahan Felony in the Fifth Degree (Trial)
\$3,000	Murnahan Felony in the First Degree (Trial)
\$1,000	Murnahan Felony in the Fourth Degree (Trial)
\$3,000	Murnahan Felony in the Second Degree (Trial)
\$2,000	Murnahan Felony in the Third Degree (Trial)
\$1,500	Ohio Supreme Court Jurisdiction
\$1,500	State Habeas Corpus
\$1,000	Unruly

OPD Maximum Fees	
Death Sentence: As set by Capital Fee Council - see R.C. 120.33(D) (no fee maximum)	
\$8,000.00 Cumulative Minimum Sentence exceeds 25 years	
\$5,000.00 Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial	
\$3,500.00 Felony (degree 3) Trial	
\$2,500.00 Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial	
\$2,000.00 Misdemeanor Trial	
\$1,500.00 Felony Plea	
\$1,000.00 Misdemeanor Plea	
\$3,500.00 ADN Permanent Custody	
\$3,500.00 Probate	
\$1,000.00 Unruly	
\$1,000.00 Other	
\$3,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial	
\$2,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degree 3) Trial	
\$1,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial	
\$1,500.00 OSC Jurisdiction Memorandum	

Richland County Maximum Fees 2022 Resolution	
\$5,000	Aggravated Murder with Sentence other than Death
\$1,000	All Other Offenses or Proceedings
\$1,500	All Other Offenses or Proceedings not classified elsewhere
\$3,000	Any Other Crime with Life Sentence
\$1,500	Extradition and Probation Revocation
\$1,500	Felony in the Fifth Degree
\$1,500	Felony in the First Degree
\$1,500	Felony in the Fourth Degree
\$1,500	Felony in the Second Degree
\$1,500	Felony in the Third Degree
\$1,500	Habeas Corpus with Evidentiary Hearing
\$750	Habeas Corpus without Evidentiary Hearing
\$1,000	Misdemeanor in the First Degree
\$1,000	Misdemeanor in the Fourth Degree
\$1,000	Misdemeanor in the Second Degree
\$1,000	Misdemeanor in the Third Degree
\$3,000	Murder with Life Sentence
\$1,500	Post-Conviction Proceeding with Evidentiary Hearing
\$750	Post-Conviction Proceeding without Evidentiary Hearing

OPD Maximum Fees
Death Sentence: As set by Capital Fee Council - see R.C. 120.33(D) (no fee maximum)
\$8,000.00 Cumulative Minimum Sentence exceeds 25 years
\$5,000.00 Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial
\$3,500.00 Felony (degree 3) Trial
\$2,500.00 Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial
\$2,000.00 Misdemeanor Trial
\$1,500.00 Felony Plea
\$1,000.00 Misdemeanor Plea
\$3,500.00 ADN Permanent Custody
\$3,500.00 Probate
\$1,000.00 Unruly
\$1,000.00 Other
\$3,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial
\$2,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degree 3) Trial
\$1,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial
\$1,500.00 OSC Jurisdiction Memorandum

	Stark County Maximum Fees 2022 Resolution
\$1,000	All Other Offenses and Proceedings
\$3,500	Abuse, Dependency, Neglect and Permanent Custody
\$8,000	Cumulative Minimum Sentence exceeds 25 years
\$2,500	Felony in the Fifth Degree (Trial)
\$5,000	Felony in the First Degree (Trial)
\$2,500	Felony in the Fourth Degree (Trial)
\$5,000	Felony in the Second Degree (Trial)
\$3,500	Felony in the Third Degree (Trial)
\$1,500	Felony Pleas
\$2,000	Misdemeanor (Trial)
\$1,000	Misdemeanor Pleas
\$1,000	Murnahan Felony in the Fifth Degree (Trial)
\$3,000	Murnahan Felony in the First Degree (Trial)
\$1,000	Murnahan Felony in the Fourth Degree (Trial)
\$3,000	Murnahan Felony in the Second Degree (Trial)
\$2,000	Murnahan Felony in the Third Degree (Trial)
\$1,500	Ohio Supreme Court Jurisdiction
\$3,500	Probate
\$1,000	Unruly

OPD Maximum Fees
Death Sentence: As set by Capital Fee Council - see R.C. 120.33(D) (no fee maximum)
\$8,000.00 Cumulative Minimum Sentence exceeds 25 years
\$5,000.00 Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial
\$3,500.00 Felony (degree 3) Trial
\$2,500.00 Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial
\$2,000.00 Misdemeanor Trial
\$1,500.00 Felony Plea
\$1,000.00 Misdemeanor Plea
\$3,500.00 ADN Permanent Custody
\$3,500.00 Probate
\$1,000.00 Unruly
\$1,000.00 Other
\$3,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 1-2) Trial
\$2,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degree 3) Trial
\$1,000.00 26(B) Murnahan Felony (degrees 4-5) Trial
\$1,500.00 OSC Jurisdiction Memorandum

	Tuscarawas County Maximum Fees 2022 Resolution
\$1,000	All Other Offenses and Proceedings
\$1,750	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Fourth Degree
\$1,750	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Fifth Degree
\$4,000	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the First Degree
\$4,000	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Second Degree
\$2,500	(Post-Conviction Petition) Felony in the Third Degree
\$1,500	(Post-Conviction Petition) Misdemeanors 60(B)
\$3,500	Abuse, Dependency, Neglect and Permanent Custody
\$2,500	All Juvenile Offenses or Proceedings
\$8,000	Cumulative Minimum Sentence exceeds 25 years
\$2,500	Felony in the Fifth Degree (Trial)
\$5,000	Felony in the First Degree (Trial)
\$2,500	Felony in the Fourth Degree (Trial)
\$5,000	Felony in the Second Degree (Trial)
\$3,500	Felony in the Third Degree (Trial)
\$1,500	Felony Pleas
\$2,000	Misdemeanor (Trial)
\$1,000	Misdemeanor Pleas
\$1,000	Murnahan Felony in the Fifth Degree (Trial)
\$3,000	Murnahan Felony in the First Degree (Trial)
\$1,000	Murnahan Felony in the Fourth Degree (Trial)
\$3,000	Murnahan Felony in the Second Degree (Trial)
\$2,000	Murnahan Felony in the Third Degree (Trial)
\$1,500	Ohio Supreme Court Jurisdiction
\$1,500	State Habeas Corpus
\$1,000	Unruly

2023 LIBERTY TOWNSHIP, FAIRFIELD COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

12/18/2023

“This is a pivotal point. Decisions regarding growth and development must strike the appropriate balance among a healthy economy, providing homes for current and future generations, and protecting the County’s agricultural roots and natural landscape.” – (WORKING DRAFT 8/23 FAIRFIELD COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SECTION 1.1)

The 2023 Liberty Township, Fairfield County Comprehensive Land Use Plan is a comprehensive land use plan that has been developed to guide future growth in this 32,192 acre township over the short term as well as long term.

This document, together with the 2023 Township Zoning Map, attached as **Exhibit “A”**, is necessary due to increased development pressure from the greater Columbus, Ohio metropolitan area to the west of the township and in particular, from the north by the recent and anticipated further development in the area by IT/Tech related industry, including but not limited to Facebook, Amazon, Microsoft, Google and Intel, which will continue to significantly impact Liberty Township, as the middle northern most Fairfield County township. This document is also necessary to clearly state and preserve the Township’s specific goals and plans as they relate to the current Fairfield County Comprehensive Plan, which at this time is in proposed/working draft form.

Liberty Township, as well as much of northern Fairfield County, has seen substantial change over the past decade due to the general unabated outward expansion of the greater Columbus, Ohio metropolitan area. Growth of Pickerington to the west, Buckeye Lake to the east and the I-70 corridor affecting Fairfield County to the immediate north are also factors influencing the planning of Liberty Township’s future growth. Through this document, Township leaders hope to mitigate the effects of future development on the township while maintaining the rural and agricultural nature that community residents want to protect. At times, the future vision for a community contrasts with an individual property owner’s view of the best use of their land. The Zoning Department and Board of Trustees that are responsible for creating this document are aware of these issues and have worked very hard to strike a well conceived balance between the two.

Public sentiment has played a large role in the development of this document. Residents of Liberty Township offered their thoughts and opinions concerning future development at two public meeting on February 27, 2023 at the VFW Hall and on September 13, 2023, at Liberty Union-Thurston High School, both hosted by the Board of Trustees. The information gathered through this process served as the primary guide for decisions made during this planning effort.

Within the body of this document, goals and strategies to achieve them have been developed. The information in this document will provide direction for township officials to follow to achieve those goals. Additionally, a future land use plan has been developed that describes how the township could possibly grow over the next 20 years. This plan will help the township trustees and other community members make important development and zoning decisions for years to come.

The plan has been organized into the following sections:

INTRODUCTION and OVERVIEW

COMMUNITY CHARACTER

History

Community Services

Transportation/Roadways

Law Enforcement/Fire

Parks and Recreation

Waste Disposal

Cemeteries

Other Services

Township Government

Revenue

Home Rule

Facilities

Functions, equipment, and employees

Zoning

Schools

PLAN CHAPTER

INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW OF STUDY AREA

Not only will this plan supply decision makers with information, it could possibly also provide an overall view of the township in twenty years. The comprehensive plan could be used as a guide when deciding on future development within Liberty Township.

Provided in this document are facts, figures, maps, goals and objectives that the township trustees, zoning inspector, zoning commission, zoning appeals board, developers, and citizens could use in evaluating decisions that will impact the township today, tomorrow and into the future. The Ohio Revised Code, Section 519.02, empowers the township board of trustees to establish zoning regulations in the interest of public health and safety, in accordance with a comprehensive plan. This document will serve as the basis and rationale for future zoning decisions that are made in this community.

A major objective of this plan is to provide a policy guide and statement of goals for the future development of Liberty Township. This plan provides a development blueprint, not only for community officials, but also for developers and businesses interested in locating in the community.

This plan is designed with the unincorporated Liberty Township in mind. The Village of Baltimore lies almost entirely within the township but are separate entities with their own governing structure.

The boundaries of the planning area are more or less Licking County to the north, the Village of Baltimore municipal boundary and Walnut Township to the east, Greenfield and Pleasant Townships to the south and Violet Township to the west.

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP: A BRIEF HISTORY

Liberty Township was named after the philosophical concept of liberty by the first settlers who were from Switzerland. They had emigrated from a land where their “liberties” were restricted and they had a desire to perpetuate the change of their new found freedom in America.

Liberty Township was first established in 1805. Prior to 1805, it had been a part of Greenfield Township. It was by proclamation of the Northwest Territories Governor Aurthur St. Clair, that Fairfield County was established on December 9, 1800, at which time, the county contained nearly all of present day Fairfield, Licking and Knox Counties and portions of present day Perry, Hocking and Pickaway Counties.

For the majority of its existence, Liberty Township has existed as an agricultural community. In 1822-1823 the surveying for the Ohio Canal was taking place. Along that survey line small villages were being laid out. In 1824 in Liberty Township on the south side of the proposed canal a “town” named New Market was born. On the north side was Rome in 1825. These two villages united and became Baltimore. March of 1825 the village of Basil was formed. Later, Baltimore combined with Basil to become what we know today as the Village of Baltimore.

In the last half of the twentieth century, the township began transitioning into a rural bedroom community with a strong agricultural presence. The township is at a point in history where strong agricultural, residential and business contingents all exist in the township and the goal is

to balance them to form a self-sustaining viable community that we all can be proud to call home.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

TOWNSHIP ROADS

Care and maintenance of the township road system is the largest function of townships today. The Township maintains 55.5 miles of roadway. The maintenance of these roads and road right-of-ways includes paving, repairs, snow/ice removal, ditching, and mowing per requirements of the Ohio Department of Transportation and the Ohio Revised Code. Section 6 and 30R are designated MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems) which require specific OEPA protocols on stormwater. This is a population driven designation, and the County and Township should be aware these permit requirements will likely be applied to larger areas if population increases.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

A board of township trustees has the authority to employ local law enforcement officers and set up a law enforcement district. They are required to apprehend law-breakers in the township and county and they also execute warrants, writs and other legal processes throughout the county.

The Village of Baltimore has its own independent police department.

Liberty Township currently uses the Fairfield County Sheriff's Department for law enforcement.

FIRE PROTECTION AND EMS

Ohio law permits townships to provide fire protection directly or by contract with townships, municipalities and other jurisdictions in order to protect lives and property efficiently. Liberty Township works jointly with Fairfield County to operate the Basil Joint Fire District for fire protection and EMS services.

PARKS AND RECREATION

A board of township trustees may purchase, appropriate, construct, enlarge, improve, repair or equip township parks.

The board may buy suitable land and material, accept a gift, use township funds or levy a tax. If an additional tax is required, it must be submitted to the voters for approval. A township park district may also be established, although the district must be approved by electors of the township, and when established, is run by an appointed board of park commissioners. A park district is a separate political subdivision with taxing authority. Liberty Township currently does not operate any parks. The Fairfield County Park District currently operates 2 parks within the Township, being Smeck Park and Wagner Preserve.

ZONING

Zoning is the regulation of the use of land and buildings that permit a community to control the development of its territory. It provides for orderly growth by protecting homes and property from harmful use on neighboring properties.

Any zoning restriction must have a reasonable relationship to public health, safety, comfort, convenience, prosperity or general welfare. Ohio law provides for the submission of a zoning plan to the electors of a township and also provides for the administration, enforcement and amendment of the zoning plan if it is adopted. Liberty Township has used zoning authority since 1960 when zoning was approved by township voters.

WASTE DISPOSAL

Due to the tremendous increase in population, government units in general, across Ohio face a waste disposal problem. Townships are authorized to provide waste disposal services to residents. It may collect and dispose of garbage or it may contract with other political subdivisions for such services. Liberty Township does not contract currently with any waste disposal service provider and residents contract for such services independently.

CEMETERIES

Townships in Ohio manage more than 1,800 cemeteries. Voters must approve the purchase or appropriation of land for a cemetery, but once it is established, the township trustees have the authority and obligation to sell plots, set up service fees, maintain the cemetery and provide for expansion. Liberty Township currently maintains 10 of 33 cemeteries located within the Township.

OTHER TOWNSHIP FUNCTIONS

Liberty Township trustees also have responsibility for ditches, roadway drains and other surface water and the control of weeds and brush. Trustees also have authority to erect monuments to commemorate those who died in the service of their country. The Board of Township Trustees may provide artificial lighting when it is determined that public safety requires such lighting. The township may install its own lighting system or contract with an electric company. Currently, the Township does not provide any lighting services. The Township has responsibility for the supervised control of noxious weeds within the township pursuant to Ohio Revised Code sections 5579.04, 5579.08, 4959.11, 971.33-971.35, and 731.51-731.53.

TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENT

TOWNSHIP REVENUE

Townships receive revenue from local property taxes (although raises in property tax must be approved by voters) and from the gasoline and motor vehicle license taxes, as well as local government money from the state.

OHIO HOME RULE

Townships possess only those powers expressly delegated to them by statute, or those which are reasonably implied from those delegated, which include the powers previously mentioned. In general, townships do not possess broad police powers or the ability to provide for public health. An exception to this general rule is found in Chapter 504 of the Ohio Revised Code, which permits townships with at least 5,000 residents in the unincorporated area to adopt a limited home rule government. If adopted, limited home rule townships may exercise “all powers of local self government,” subject to certain exceptions. Such authority is limited to the unincorporated areas of the township and resolutions of the township may only be enforced by civil fines up to \$1,000. The Township currently does not have limited home rule.

TOWNSHIP FACILITIES

The Liberty Township Hall, located at 2095 Reynoldsburg-Baltimore Rd., is an approximately 2,400 sq. ft. building. The Township also owns a maintenance building at 2060 Reynoldsburg-Baltimore Rd., which is an approximately 3,456 sq. ft. building. These two properties total roughly 9.5 acres.

TOWNSHIP FUNCTIONS, EQUIPMENT, AND EMPLOYEES

The Liberty Township Road Department has three full-time employees.

Responsibilities include paving, berming, and ditching the township roads; mowing township right-of-way and grounds; snow/ice removal; removal of debris (trees, dead animals, etc.) from roads; and other physical labor needed by the township.

The Liberty Township Zoning Department has one part time zoning inspector, whose responsibilities include inspections and enforcement of the zoning resolution and staff reports to the BZA, Zoning Commission, and Township Trustees regarding land-use planning and zoning.

JOINT FUNCTIONS:

Fire protection for the Township is supplied by the Basil Joint Fire District, in cooperation with Fairfield County.

Law enforcement is supplied by the Fairfield County Sheriff's Department.

TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE APPOINTED COMMITTEES AND THEIR FUNCTION(S)

Boards Comprised of Township Appointees Only:

ZONING COMMISSION: Pursuant to ORC 519.04, Duties of the Zoning Commission The Commission's duties include:

1. Initiate proposed amendments of the zoning resolution.

2. Review all proposed amendments to this resolution and make recommendations to the board of township trustees.
3. Review all planned unit developments and planned rural business community service districts and make recommendations to the board of township trustees as provided in this resolution.
4. Review all proposed changes to the official zoning map and make recommendations to the board of township trustees as specified in Article 6.
5. Review all proposed changes to the Comprehensive Land Use Plan and Future Land Use Map and make recommendations to the board of township trustees.
6. Serve as an architectural review commission to enforce compliance with any zoning standards adopted and pertaining to landscaping or architectural elements as delegated by the board of trustees per O.R.C.

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

In exercising its duties, the board may, as long as such action is in conformity with the terms of the zoning resolution, reverse or affirm, wholly or partly, or modify the order, requirement, decision, or determination appealed from and make such order, requirement, decision, or determination as ought to be made, and to that end shall have the powers of the zoning inspector from whom the appeal is taken. A quorum of the board and the concurring vote of a majority of the board in attendance shall be necessary to reverse any order, requirement, decision, or determination of the zoning inspector, or to decide in favor of the applicant on any matter upon which it is required to pass under this resolution or to effect any variation in the application of this resolution.

For the purpose of this resolution, that board has the following specific responsibilities:

1. To hear and decide appeals where it is alleged there is an error in any order, requirement, decision, interpretation, or determination made by the zoning inspector.
2. To authorize such variances from the terms of this resolution as will not be contrary to the public interest, and enforcement of the zoning resolution will result in practical difficulties and so that the spirit (intent) of the zoning resolution shall be observed and substantial justice done.
3. To grant conditional use permits as specified in the official schedule of district regulations and under the conditions specified in Article XI as well as additional safeguards specified by Board of Zoning Appeals in order to uphold the intent of the zoning resolution.

District Advisory Council (DAC): The township trustees appoint one member to this board, which oversees the legislative functions involving water and sewer facilities in the Fairfield County Water & Sewer District.

Basil Joint Fire District Board: The township trustees appoint one trustee to sit on the fire board, which has legislative authority of the joint fire district. The Basil Joint Fire District is comprised of

several government entities. Each entity appoints an elected public official to sit on the fire board, so that each entity is represented in the management of the fire district.

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Policy and Commission Committees: The trustees appoint one person to serve as the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) representative on these committees. MORPC includes 44 local governments that represent over 1.6 million citizens in the Central Ohio region. MORPC works for the overall improvement of the region, discussing regional issues and developing collaborative partnerships to address them. MORPC also serves as the federally-designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Franklin, Delaware, and parts of Fairfield and Licking Counties. In this role, MORPC develops regional plans and policies to enhance mobility, reduce congestion, and meet air quality standards.

SCHOOL SYSTEMS

Within Liberty Township there are the following school districts that serve the students of this community: Bloom Carroll Local, Liberty Union, Pickerington Local, Southwest Licking Local and Walnut Township Local.

Additionally, the Eastland Vocational and Fairfield Career Center School offers area students the opportunity to gain career-specific training as an alternative to traditional high school education. School district boundaries do not change with annexation of land, those boundaries stay fixed.

POPULATION AND HOUSING

In 2020, the population of Liberty Township was 8,214. As the number of residents and businesses increase in the adjacent communities, the amount of traffic in and around Liberty Township will increase.

The township has seen a steady increase in the number of zoning permits issued over the past decade and expects the numbers to continue to increase.

Another statistic to review when examining the makeup of a community is the age distribution of its inhabitants. This can give an idea of the services and facilities that may be needed, especially for the young and old populations. Children will need schools, and the elderly may need more care and access to health facilities. The median age in Liberty Township is 38.4 years old, which roughly mirrors Fairfield County as a whole. Roughly 22% of the Township population are School-age children. It is difficult to tell whether this group will stay in the community or leave to live somewhere else. It should be assumed that some will leave to go to college or find jobs elsewhere. It is important that the community remains attractive to the next generation so people will want to stay or move into Liberty Township.

EDUCATION AND INCOME

According to the 2020 Census, Liberty Township has 29.4% of residents having attained a bachelor's degree or higher. Median household income for the Township was \$83,333.00 in 2020. In general, these levels are comparable with the state of Ohio as a whole.

TRAVEL TIME TO WORK

A large percentage of Township residents commute outside of the Township for employment based on community input. In many cases, they have specifically relocated to Liberty Township to allow them to live in a rural/agricultural setting, escaping the cramped and confining nature of urban or traditional

suburban living and the travel time required to employment outside of the Township and even the County is acceptable and in fact preferred. These residents rely on the Township to provide reliable traffic routes to allow them to make their necessary work commutes. They also are relying on the Township to maintain the bucolic nature of their domiciles, for which they are willing to commute to.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Township Flood Hazard Areas

A floodplain is any land area susceptible to inundation by floodwaters from any source. Floodplains are measured in terms of the amount of storm water it takes to cover them. Storm events are measured in years such as five-year, 10-year, 20-year, 50-year, 100-year, and 500-year. The standard measurement is the 100-year storm and floodplain. A 100-year floodplain is the land area having a one percent annual chance of flooding in any given year as determined by FEMA FIS studies.

The 100-year floodplain is somewhat of a misnomer however, because an area could have a 100-year flood two years in a row—unlikely, but possible.

The floodplain map, attached hereto as **Exhibit “B”**, shows the floodplains of Liberty Township as determined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on their Flood Insurance RateMap (FIRM). Lending institutions use FIRM maps to determine the need of flood insurance for structures. Because floodplains were carved by streams and rivers, and are prone to flooding, they are an important planning consideration. Any development within floodplains can effect the direction, flow, and level of the watercourse during periods of high water or flooding. In other words, if fill material is placed or a house is constructed in a floodplain, it will alter the boundaries of the floodplain downstream. This is because structures or fill take up valuable space that would otherwise act as a natural retaining area for floodwaters to spread into and slow. Enough fill or development could change the probability of flooding downstream from one in 100 each year, to one in 75 or less. Development and careless filling of floodplains have increased flooding in this nation, as seen in many parts of the country, including the Great Mississippi Flood of 1993. Not only does development in the floodplain increase dangers downstream, developments in the floodplain are at higher risk of damage due to flooding. This damage includes fill material and debris from destroyed structures upstream colliding with structures in the flood plain downstream. Many bridges are washed out in floods because house and construction debris clog their free-flow area, compromising their structural integrity. Because of the potential for public and private damage, loss of life, and insurance rate decisions all are affected by materials and structures in floodplains. Ohio Counties have tightened regulations for floodplains in the last couple of decades. Permits must be obtained from the Fairfield County Planning Commission before any development, including filling and excavating, can take place in known 100-year floodplains.

Protecting floodplains from development offers several benefits in addition to reducing the risk of loss of property and life. Floodplains are natural floodwater storage areas. They reduce the impact of any given storm, slowing the water so it does not become a flash flood. Floodplains are prime areas where groundwater is replenished. Thus the type of land use activity that occurs in these areas must not pollute the surface water, as it will serve as a source of aquifer replenishment.

Further protection of the floodplains through township zoning will help protect unsuspecting residents from personal danger and loss of property. One way to help is using floodplain areas as open space.

Passive recreation areas are also well suited for these areas, since no structures or filling is needed for these activities. In recent years there are numerous areas in which a floodplain has been used for open space, such as recreational fields. When flooding occurs, there is little property damage, since there are no habitable structures on the property.

Many soil properties, such as depth to the seasonal high water table, slope permeability, and depth to bedrock, can limit urban development. Wet basements, malfunctioning onsite sewage disposal systems, erosion on construction sites, and flooding are problems if soil features are ignored. Within the township, special attention should be paid to shallow excavations, construction of dwellings and commercial buildings, local roads and streets, and lawn and landscaping. These items benefit by identifying the soil type in the initial planning stages. When researching the type of soil found within a site, the National Resource Conservation Service and the Fairfield County Soil and Water Conservation District are valuable resources in determining soil type.

Careful attention should be given to Township areas where the soil may be less suitable for development and where agriculture is the higher and better use. Building on these soils can lead to problems, such as building collapse and ground water contamination. During construction, proper grading must be done to allow water flow in the proper direction, as well as to ensure the building is not on soil that is high in plasticity or with a high organic content.

Liberty Township has productive farmland that has not been developed. Preserving this is a primary Township goal. While many factors determine agricultural productivity, soil make-up plays a key role in this equation. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) considers certain soils to be productive farmland soils, based on their crop yield potential with regard to minimal input of energy and economic resources. Further, soils which are considered to be productive farmland soils must be best suited to produce food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops. The USDA as well as the Fairfield Soil and Water Conservation District (see their Memorandum dated August 10, 2023) has identified these soils because the supply of farmland in general is limited (see the Fairfield Soil and Water Conservation District's letter/Memorandum dated August 10, 2023). As of the Fall of 2023, Liberty Township has 133 farms enrolled in the Agricultural District with a total of 26,146.19805 acres enrolled in County C.A.U.V.

Land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops is also available for these uses in the Township. It has the soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply needed to produce economically sustained high yields of crops when treated and managed according to acceptable farming methods, including water management.

In general, productive Township farmlands have an adequate and dependable water supply from rain or irrigation, a favorable temperature and growing season, acceptable acidity or alkalinity, acceptable salt and sodium content, and few or no rocks. They are permeable to water and air. Productive farmlands are not excessively erodible or saturated with water for long periods of time, and they either do not flood frequently or are protected from flooding. Township residents have voiced their desire to continue an agricultural way of life in this community. Looking at the Township Zoning Map may help local leaders determine proper land use patterns and allowed development density in different parts of the community.

TOWNSHIP WETLANDS

Wetlands are important resources for several reasons. First, many unique plants and animals make their homes in these areas. Second, wetlands supply valuable groundwater recharge by acting as filters for surface runoff percolating back into the aquifers below. Third, wetlands are an important resource because they serve to join surface and groundwater sources, which can improve stream flow during drought periods. Fourth, during rainy periods, wetlands can absorb excess water, and then discharge it slowly back into the surrounding land, averting potential flood damage. Finally, wetlands are a valuable natural resource.

Although large-scale benefits of functions can be valued, determining the value of individual wetlands is difficult because they differ widely and do not all perform the same functions or perform functions equally well. Decision-makers must understand that impacts on wetland functions can eliminate or diminish the value of wetlands.

According to the federal Clean Water Act, anyone who wants to discharge dredged or fill material into the waters of the U.S., regardless of whether on private or public property, must obtain a Section 404 permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and a Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) from the State of Ohio.

The 401 Water Quality Certification and Isolated Wetland Permit reviewers evaluate applications for projects that would physically affect waters of the state, including streams, lakes and wetlands. Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344) requires authorization from the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Corps of Engineers, for the discharge of dredged or fill material into any waters of the United States, including wetlands. Discharges of fill material generally include, without limitation: placement of fill that is necessary for the construction of any structure, or impoundment requiring rock, sand, dirt, or other material for its construction; site-development fills for recreational, industrial, commercial, residential, and other uses; causeways or road fills; dams and dikes; artificial islands; property protection or reclamation devices such as riprap, groins, seawalls, breakwaters, and revetments; beach nourishment; levees; fill for intake and outfall pipes and underwater utility lines; fill associated with the creation of ponds; and any other work involving the discharge of fill or dredged material. A Corps permit is required whether the work is permanent or temporary. Examples of temporary discharges include dewatering of dredged material prior to final disposal, and temporary fills for access roadways, cofferdams, storage and work areas.

TOWNSHIP CREEKS AND STREAMS

Riparian corridors are very important to the diversity of an ecosystem. They serve as a way for nature to filter harmful chemicals and sediment, provide important habitat and take up important nutrients that refresh the ground water supply. Several streams exist in Liberty Township. During development review, the township and the Fairfield County Regional Planning Commission should work together to save these riparian corridors. Later in the plan, ideas are presented on ways to protect these delicate areas.

Poplar Creek flows to the south starting at the northern township border in the western side of the Township.

Walnut Creek flows from east to west in the southern portion of the Township and Pawpaw Creek flows from north to south in the eastern part of the Township. These and the various other intermittent

creeks of the Township are shown on **Exhibit “B”**. The Northeast portion of the Township drains into the sensitive Buckeye Lake basin.

WATER QUALITY, AND WATERSHEDS

Typical higher density housing developments employ a retention or detention pond to act as a storm-water management structure. MS permit overlap/OEPA requirement for water quality.

Watersheds are characterized by the location of the pour-point, or mouth, of the main flow of water to which all other points of flow join and eventually drain from the watershed. Some of the rainfall in the area of a watershed will flow on top of the ground or find its way via underground water paths to the stream in the watershed. Some of the water will evaporate, be used by people or plants, or be held in the soil or underground.

Watersheds are dynamic places, becoming alternately wet and dry due to high water and low rainfall conditions, with many differences in quality and flow, depending on the season, the year, and even with what happens during a single storm. This is best illustrated by examining the components of the hydrologic cycle.

In a watershed, activities on the land interact with the natural hydrologic cycle. Important nutrients and chemicals are circulated throughout the watershed's system and supply a basic nutritional source for aquatic (fish, aquatic insects, etc.) and terrestrial (birds, small mammals, etc.) species.

People also use these environments to grow food. Where and how these human activities occur have major effects on the movement of water, water quality, and the quality of the natural habitat that remains. Ideally, we want watersheds that continue to function as healthy ecosystems and serve as productive systems for people.

Public officials, land use planners, builders and developers need to consider these factors in relation to the region in which they are building communities and the land use occurring within that region, for what happens there affects what occurs at the local level. In other words, groundwater resources do not stop at the political entity's border; they have their own distinct region known as a watershed, for which they serve and are affected by. Therefore, it is important for officials, land use planners, builders and developers in these regions to work together to ensure water resources and the quality of those resources is available and healthy for all.

Two major factors contributing to groundwater quality and availability are density and land use. Zoning densities that allow too many new homes in an aquifer recharge area can lead to contamination of groundwater from septic systems. When areas of widespread impervious cover (such as big box retail and large warehousing or facilities, with their extensive rooftops and parking areas) are sited atop groundwater recharge areas, aquifers fail to replenish at their normal rate, resulting in depleted groundwater supplies. These are harmful effects that poorly managed development can have on the quality, quantity, and availability of our water resources.

In addition to density, a community needs to consider the types of land uses that are occurring in areas susceptible to ground water pollution, limited recharge, and low yield. Areas of low yield should have lower density development when served by on-site water and wastewater systems, because the ground

water resources are not sufficient to meet the demand. Additionally, these areas are not going to be suitable for business or manufacturing processes, which require large quantities of water.

Areas susceptible to ground water pollution should consider not allowing such uses as manufacturing of hazardous substances and materials, on-site storage of hazardous substances and materials, junk yards, petroleum product manufacturing, vehicle maintenance shops, or fueling stations, laundries and dry cleaners, electronic and other equipment manufacturing, metal plating industry and other uses involving high toxicity risks including prior drained hydric soils.

DRINKING WATER PROTECTION

The Township residents rely on private water wells primarily and therefore has a high susceptibility to contamination of aquifers. The water resources are important to a comprehensive planning effort to ensure they are not compromised by future development. The Township strives to protect the residents drinking water sources. One goal of this plan is to limit the future expansion of uses that could cause harm to this valuable resource.

Liberty Township may consider implementing a Wellfield Protection Zoning District. This district should be implemented as an overlay district, which replicates the Ohio EPA's mapped five-year Protection Zone for the District's water wells.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Members of the township through Township Trustee meetings and general canvassing by the Board have allowed the community to voice their thoughts and opinions regarding the future development of the Township.

The data received from these public meetings, helped to shape the land-use recommendations of this plan. The Zoning Commission and Board of Trustees relied heavily on this input to make decisions regarding the future development of our community.

Listed in the following Plan Chapter are some of the most notable aspects that were drawn as a result of the community responses.

PLAN CHAPTER

The plan chapter represents a culmination of the work that has been done during the planning process. The information in this section of the plan will be used as a guide to bring the vision and goals of this community into reality. The plan chapter will help guide the future development of various types of land uses as well as the infrastructure and facilities needed to support all facets of the township.

Included here are maps that indicate places in the township that are considered most suitable for different land uses. Along with those maps are descriptions of those uses and the elements that should be incorporated in their makeup. Also included in this section are "concepts" that can be used to stimulate ideas for future projects.

The recommendations in this chapter are based on community survey results, as well as citizen input from public meetings held over the course of this project. This chapter should serve as the basis for zoning decisions in the future. It should not, however, hinder the zoning commission, board of zoning appeals or the township trustees from making decisions that will benefit the future success of the

township. It should be used to guard against unguided or ill-conceived development that would have a negative affect on Liberty Township, while providing concrete solutions to work toward the greater good of this community.

VISION STATEMENT

Liberty Township, like many other unincorporated areas, has long enjoyed a proud rural history. The rural makeup of this community serves as the fundamental basis for the strong desire within the Township to maintain as much of that history as possible. With the passage of time, urban areas extend their reach into the untouched areas of our landscape. If this development continues, unrestrained by the Township itself, the rural nature of Liberty Township will fade. This plan seeks to properly plan for future growth to make sure that doesn't happen. The residents of Liberty Township treasure its rural heritage and seek to maintain it far into the future. For new residents, the rural nature of the community has repeatedly been voiced as a main reason for their relocation to Liberty Township.

To fulfill the promise of a continued rural lifestyle in Liberty Township, steps must be taken to ensure that goal is realized. A balance of different land uses will be critical to the future health and well being of this community. By diversifying the makeup of land use in the community, Liberty Township will be able to adequately provide needed services to its residents without overburdening the township budget. The township should strive to be self-sufficient and encourage the development of services to meet the needs of its residents. Most importantly, these steps will help to build upon the strong rural foundation already existing within this community.

LAND USE

BALANCE OF LAND USES

An important consideration when developing the future land use map is the cost that each type of land use incurs in terms of community services. It is important for a community to balance the types of land uses that it has in its jurisdiction. Thought should be given to the costs versus revenues for each type of land use. The American Farmland Trust has participated in Cost of Community Services studies in at least 151 communities since 1980. Liberty Township has participated in these studies. Over the course of these studies, findings suggest that residential development does not generate as much revenue as it costs a community for services, while industrial/commercial uses and working and open lands have generated fiscal surpluses. The Farmland Trust contends that communities pay a high price for unplanned growth, and scattered development frequently causes traffic congestion, air and water pollution, loss of open space and increased demand for costly public services. For this reason, it is important to understand the relationships between residential and commercial growth, agricultural land use, conservation lands and the communities' bottom line. The planning committee recognizes this fact and has attempted to balance the types of land uses found on the future land use map for the Township.

Township officials should review this document with potential developers, and work with them to create projects that meet the vision and intent set forth in these pages. However, this document should not prohibit the zoning commission, board of zoning appeals and the township trustees from being flexible and creative when working with those who want to locate businesses and homes in the community. It is important that future development compliments existing infrastructure and community facilities. Any

development that happens in Liberty Township should benefit both the community and the property owner, with minimal financial and physical consequences to the Township and its residents.

There will be occasions where deviating from the future land use map will be appropriate and in the best interest of this community. When and if officials choose to deviate from this plan, sound reasoning must be employed. It should be shown that school systems have enough capacity, and that adequate infrastructure, such as roads and water and sewer services, would support further development. It should also be shown that the proposed development will not negatively impact the rural character of the community. Finally, it should be shown that the proposed development will not unduly impact surrounding residents and property owners who have made investments based on the current zoning district designation.

FOCUS AREAS

To best understand the land use recommendations of this plan, the township has been divided into three sections. Each of these areas has its own unique qualities, meaning the future vision for each of them will differ from the others. The following narrative further describes each section and how it should develop in the future.

WEST CORRIDOR SECTION

The Western Corridor, spanning Liberty Township from north to south, is a defining area for this community. Therefore, careful thought and well-conceived strategies have been employed by the Liberty Township Trustees in creating a plan for this part of the township. The planning committee recognizes the importance of this corridor and has developed a future land use map and land use narrative with the whole community in mind.

As with any other rural community on the fringe of sprawling development, Liberty Township is faced with challenges. Typical concerns, such as increased traffic, annexation, unattractive future development and loss of rural environment are a part of the land use conversation in this community. The Liberty Township Planning Committee has acknowledged these issues and has made decisions that it feels will protect the Township from unfettered and unguided development.

NORTH CORRIDOR SECTION

The North Corridor Section is the northern most portion of the Township, with impact from I-70 . Two areas of this section are the predominant areas of the Township, conducive to commercial use. The area shown on the future land use map is located in the areas of SR 310 and the SR 204 and SR 158 and Blacklick Rd., NW area.

Future industrial development in the township should primarily be considered in the areas designated in this section as zoned for industrial and manufacturing growth. Also in this section are a few areas where local level commercial businesses should locate. Future additions of local commercial use areas should be contained to those areas. Too much retail development could over saturate the township with that type of development, which typically does not contribute much in the way of tax dollars.

Because of the existing roadways in this area it may be better able to absorb the added traffic that this type of development would generate. Additionally, the land identified as suitable for commercial and higher density development is located along the Northeast and Northwest sections of the Township. The

remainder of the North Corridor Section should be reserved for single family residences and agricultural production.

BALTIMORE

The Township will continue to work with the independent Village of Baltimore, looking to maximize sound development of both the Village and the remainder of the Township.

REMAINDER OF UNINCORPORATED TOWNSHIP SECTION

The land in the remainder of unincorporated Liberty Township is primarily agricultural in nature. Current use is primarily agricultural, with a few areas zoned Rural Residential. These uses are in line with current zoning in the area. Members of this community have consistently noted their desire to maintain a rural environment in the township. This land has been in agricultural production for many years and should so continue far into the future. This would be a prime area to utilize farmland preservation programs such as the Agricultural Easement Purchase Program, offered by the Ohio Department of Agriculture, or a Transfer of Development Rights program.

Subdivisions that maximize open space, use little infrastructure and contribute to the rural feel of the township should be encouraged in this area and that do not overburden the school systems may be considered in this area.

LAND USE DESCRIPTIONS

See the Liberty Township Zoning Resolution of Fairfield County for complete descriptions of the following zoning classifications:

RURAL RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT and AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT

PLANNED RESIDENTIAL CONSERVATION OVERLAY DISTRICT

PLANNED RURAL BUSINESS & COMMUNITY SERVICE DISTRICT

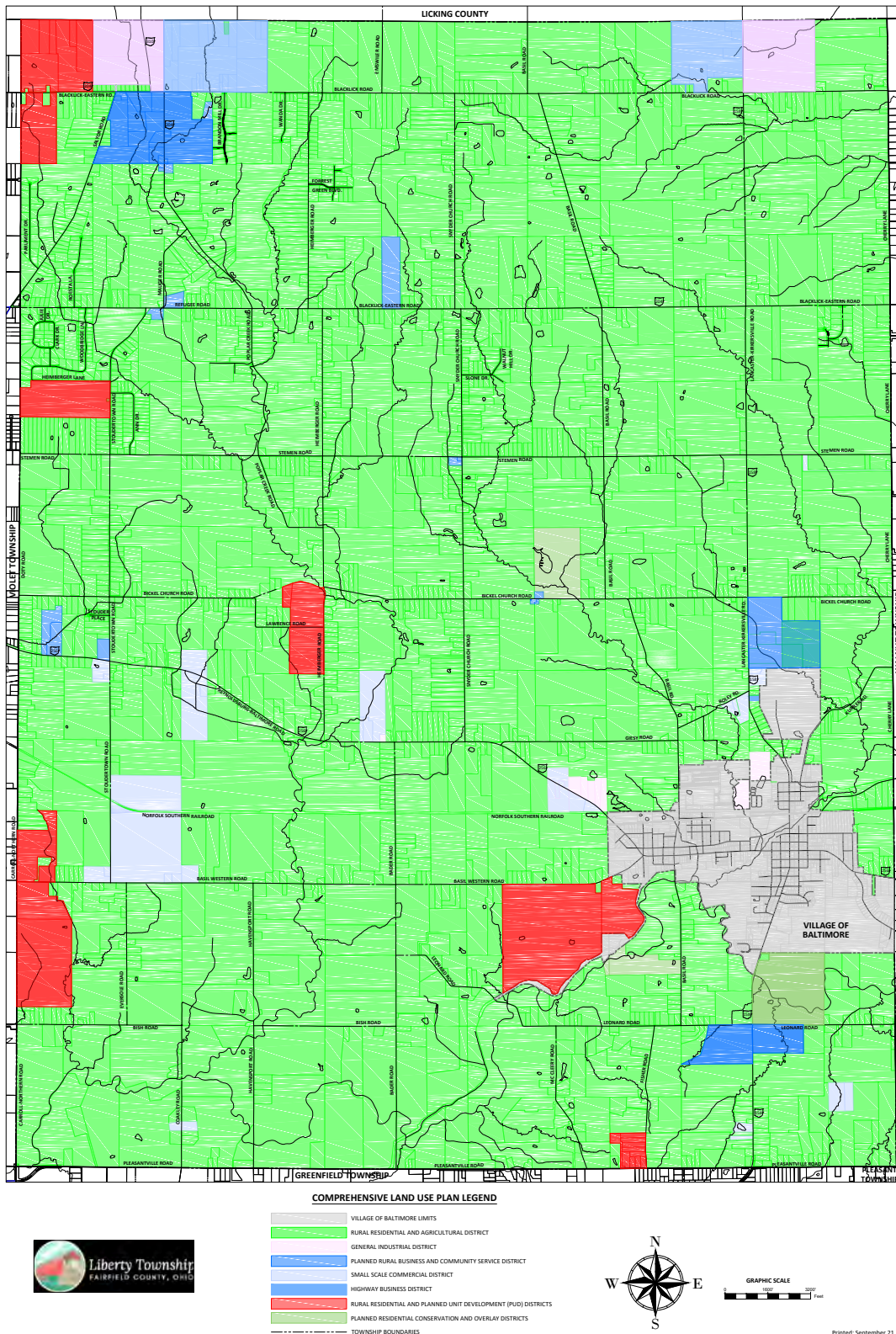
SMALL SCALE COMMERCIAL DISTRICT

HIGHWAY BUSINESS COMMERCIAL DISTRICT

GENERAL INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT

FLOOD PLAIN OVERLAY

2023 LIBERTY TOWNSHIP, FAIRFIELD COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN



**Certificate of Result of Election
On Tax Levy in Excess of the Ten Mill Limitation**

R.C. 3501.11, 3505.33, 5705.19 – 5705.25

The State of Ohio, Fairfield, ss.

To: **Ohio Secretary of State
Ohio Department of Taxation, Tax Equalization Division
Fairfield Auditor
Fairfield County Commission**

We, the undersigned, Fairfield Board of Elections, do hereby certify that the **General Election** held in **Fairfield County** on the **7th day of November, 2023** on the question of levying a tax, in excess of the ten mill limitation, for the benefit of the subdivision for the purpose of:

supporting services for older adult residents (aged 60 and older) provided by or through Meals on Wheels Older Adult Alternatives of Fairfield County, including but not limited to: home delivered meals, congregate site meals and activities, nutrition education, nutrition counseling, caregiver relief and support services, minor home repair and chores assistance, transportation and other aging services

Tax Being:

A replacement of a tax for the benefit of Fairfield County for the purpose of supporting services for older adult residents (aged 60 and older) provided by or through Meals on Wheels Older Adult Alternatives of Fairfield County, including but not limited to: home delivered meals, congregate site meals and activities, nutrition education, nutrition counseling, caregiver relief and support services, minor home repair and chores assistance, transportation and other aging services that the county auditor estimates will collect \$4,640,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 0.8 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$28.00 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025.

Resulted as follows:

Total number of votes cast:	(54,510)
For the tax levy:	(37,020)
Against the tax levy:	(17,490)

As the same appears by the abstract of votes duly certified and signed by us and deposited in our office.

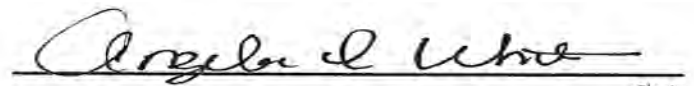

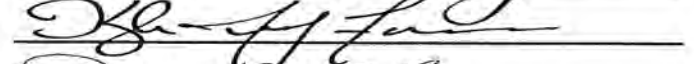

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto subscribed our names officially at
Fairfield, Ohio, this 16th day of November, 2023.

Attest:



Fairfield, Ohio.

Director


Chair



Board of Elections

Certificate of Result of Election
On Tax Levy in Excess of the Ten Mill Limitation
R.C. 3501.11, 3505.33, 5705.19 – 5705.25

The State of Ohio, Fairfield, ss.

To: **Ohio Secretary of State**
Ohio Department of Taxation, Tax Equalization Division
Fairfield Auditor
Fairfield County Commission

We, the undersigned, Fairfield Board of Elections, do hereby certify that the **General Election** held in the **Fairfield County Library District** on the **7th day of November, 2023** on the question of levying a tax, in excess of the ten mill limitation, for the benefit of the subdivision for the purpose of:

CURRENT EXPENSES

Tax Being:

A replacement of a tax for the benefit of Fairfield County District Library for the purpose of current expenses that the county auditor estimates will collect \$1,875,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 0.5 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$17.50 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for 10 years, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025.

Resulted as follows:

Total number of votes cast:	(34,248)
For the tax levy:	(17,922)
Against the tax levy:	(16,326)

As the same appears by the abstract of votes duly certified and signed by us and deposited in our office.

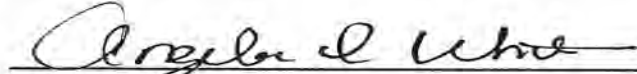

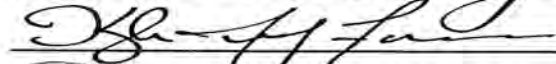

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto subscribed our names officially at
Fairfield, Ohio, this 16th day of November, 2023.

Attest:



Director

Fairfield, Ohio.





Board of Elections

Chair

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
FAIRFIELD COUNTY, OHIO

FILED

2023 DEC 27 AM 9:10

BRANDEN C. MEYER
CLERK OF COURTS
FAIRFIELD CO. OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE ELECTION
OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE FOR
THE GENERAL DIVISION OF THE
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COURT OF
COMMON PLEAS

JOURNAL ENTRY

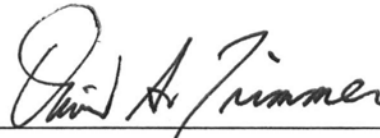
This matter comes before the Court pursuant to Rule of Superintendence 4(A) of the Supreme Court of Ohio Rules of Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio.

Upon agreement of both judges of the General Division of the Fairfield County Court of Common Pleas, Judge Richard E. Berens is unanimously elected as the Administrative Judge of the General Division of the Fairfield County Court of Common Pleas for calendar year 2024.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



JUDGE RICHARD E. BERENS



JUDGE DAVID A. TRIMMER

Copies to:

THE SUPREME COURT OF OHIO, C/O BRIAN C. FARRINGTON
JUDGE LAURA B. SMITH, FAIRFIELD COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, DOMESTIC RELATIONS
DIVISION
JUDGE TERRE L. VANDERVOORT, FAIRFIELD COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, JUVENILE/PROBATE
DIVISION
JUDGE JAMES A. FIELDS, FAIRFIELD COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT
JUDGE RANDALL T. ULLOM, FAIRFIELD COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT
BRANDEN MEYER, FAIRFIELD COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS
R. KYLE WITT, FAIRFIELD COUNTY PROSECUTOR
AUNDREA CORDLE, FAIRFIELD COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
FAIRFIELD COUNTY, OHIO

FILED

2023 DEC 27 AM 9:10

BRANDEN C. MEYER
CLERK OF COURTS
FAIRFIELD CO. OHIO

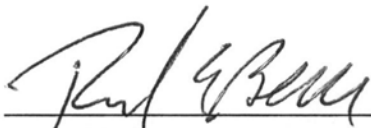
IN THE MATTER OF THE ELECTION
OF A PRESIDING JUDGE FOR THE
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COURT OF
COMMON PLEAS

JOURNAL ENTRY

This matter comes before the Court pursuant to Rule of Superintendence 3(A)(2) of the Supreme Court of Ohio Rules of Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio.

Upon agreement of all of the judges of the Fairfield County Court of Common Pleas, Judge David A. Trimmer is unanimously elected as the Presiding Judge of the Fairfield County Court of Common Pleas for calendar year 2024.

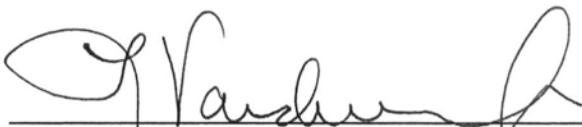
IT IS SO ORDERED.



JUDGE RICHARD E. BERENS
GENERAL DIVISION



JUDGE LAURA B. SMITH
DOMESTIC RELATIONS DIVISION



JUDGE TERRE L. VANDERVOORT
JUVENILE/PROBATE DIVISION



JUDGE DAVID A. TRIMMER
GENERAL DIVISION

Copies to:

THE SUPREME COURT OF OHIO, C/O BRIAN C. FARRINGTON
JUDGE JAMES A. FIELDS, FAIRFIELD COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT
JUDGE RANDALL T. ULLOM, FAIRFIELD COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT
BRANDEN MEYER, FAIRFIELD COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS
R. KYLE WITT, FAIRFIELD COUNTY PROSECUTOR
AUNDREA CORDLE, FAIRFIELD COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

All Fairfield County elected officials will run unopposed in the March primary election



Jeff Barron

Lancaster Eagle-Gazette

December 27, 2024

LANCASTER – Barring defeat from a write-in candidate, Fairfield County commissioners Steve Davis and Dave Levacy will be re-elected to their seats in November's general election. That's because no one filed to challenge them in the March 19 primary election. Thursday was the filing deadline.

Davis and Levacy are not running against each other. They are in two separate races.

All other county elected officials are also running unopposed in the primary. They are coroner Leroy Brian Varney, engineer Jeremiah Upp, prosecutor R Kyle Witt, recorder Lisa McKenzie, sheriff Alex Lape, treasurer James Bahnsen, clerk of courts Branden Meyer, common pleas general division judge Richard Berens and common pleas domestic division judge Laura Smith.



Voters will also choose an Ohio House 73rd District Representative. Republicans Mike Tussey, Austin Beigel and incumbent Jeff LaRe are on the ballot. Jevin Williams is also on the ballot for the Democratic primary for that seat.

Republican Kevin Miller is running unopposed for the Ohio House 69th District Representative seat.

Stark County Republicans Jeff Furr and Athleta Carver are running in the Fifth District Court of Appeals. Part of that court's district is Fairfield County.

There are also five issues on the ballot:

- A 2.6 mills continuing additional fire department tax levy in Walnut Township.
- A zoning referendum in Carroll.
- A 4.5 mills continuing additional tax levy for the Basil Joint Fire District in Baltimore and Liberty Township.
- A five-year .5 mills replacement levy for bridges and roads in Clearcreek Township.
- A 3.6 mills levy continuing additional fire department levy in Violet Township.

The ballot also has four local options regarding alcohol sales:

- Zane Trace Station at 4985 Cincinnati-Zanesville Road, Lancaster, for Sunday beer sales off premise.
- Sheets 813 at 8265 Diley Rd, Pickerington for Sunday sales off premise.
- Marathon convenience store at 3011 Market St, Rushville, for beer, wine and mixed beverages sales on premise.
- VFW 1380 Chief Tarhe at 1131 Sugar Grove Rd, Lancaster, for Sunday sales on premise.

The voter registration deadline for the primary is Feb. 20 and the elections board must certify the primary ballot by Jan. 2.

The Fairfield County Board of Elections is looking for poll workers of both parties to work the primary election. The board is located at 951 Liberty Drive at the Liberty Center. It can be reached by phone by calling 740-652-7000.

jbarron@gannett.com

740-681-4340

Twitter: @JeffDBarron



**CITY OF LANCASTER
BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS
121 E. Chestnut St., Suite 102
Lancaster, Ohio 43130
(740) 687-6649**

BZA Case No. 690

Mr. Jeff Harper of 2961 Old Millersport Road, has applied for a special exception for Fairfield Christian Church, located at 1965 North Columbus Street, for the parcels 0532804000 and 0532147110. The property is zoned R-MD – Residential Medium Density. Mr. Harper wishes to obtain a special exception for an athletic field. Lancaster Planning & Zoning Code Chapter 1125.02 requires a special exception for any school uses in R-MD districts.

BZA Case No. 691

Robert Chordar, of T.C. Architects, Akron, Ohio, has applied for a special exception and area variance for the property located at 1663 E. Main St., also known as parcel number 0534005700. The property is zoned CG: Commercial General. The Fairfield County ADAMH Board wishes to establish an Emergency and Protective Services Shelter at this location a rooming house for the homeless at this location. Planning & Zoning Code Section 1125.03 Use Tables require a special exception be granted for this use. Code Section 1143.11 Parking Table 3 requires 27 parking. An area variance will be required for the reduced number of parking spaces provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Vail

Zoning Administrator



**CITY OF LANCASTER
BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS
121 E. Chestnut St., Suite 102
Lancaster, Ohio 43130
(740) 687-6649**

LEGAL AD

Notice is hereby given that on **January 8, 2024, at 2:00 PM**, in the 1897 Room on the second floor of City Hall, 104 East Main St., the City of Lancaster Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on the following request(s):

BZA Case No. 687

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church has applied for Use & Area Variances for a Freestanding Pylon Sign at 760 East Wheeling Street also known as parcel number 0535818000. The property is zoned RT – Residential Transitional. The applicant wishes to replace an existing illegal non-conforming freestanding sign with a new freestanding sign in the same location. The proposed pylon sign would be mounted on existing poles and include a 13.75 square foot single face illuminated cabinet as well as an 11.80 square foot tri color LED display. Planning & Zoning Code Section 1145.10 PYLON SIGNS does not permit pylon signs within the RT district.

BZA Case No. 688

Ms. Darnell Patrick of 7115 Waterloo Eastern Court, Canal Winchester, Ohio has applied for an area variance for a side yard setback from a property line on the property located at 322 Chestnut Street, also known as parcel 0535074200. The property is zoned RT – Residential Transitional. Ms. Patrick wishes to build a 14'x20' accessory structure on her lot. Lancaster Planning & Zoning Code Section 1129.05 requires that accessory structures in RT districts have a minimum side setback of five (5) feet.

BZA Case No. 689

Christopher and Lauren Williams of 1681 Bellmeadow Dr., Apt. 103, have applied for an Area Variance for their property at 1651 Baltimore Road NW also known as parcel number 0532012700. The property is zoned R-MD – Residential Medium Density. The applicants are building a new home on the vacant property and wish to install a gravel driveway. Planning & Zoning Code Section 1143.06 (h) requires all parking areas in all Districts to be paved with asphalt material, cement, cobblestone, or brick pavers.

2024 Point In Time Count Donation Collection

It's Time To Share Kindness With Others

We Are Collecting The Following Items:

- Hats, Gloves, Scarves
- Hygiene items
- Small First Aid Kits
- Hand/Feet Warmers
- Flashlights
- Back packs
- Cleaning Wipes
- Socks
- Protein Bars
- Trash Bags
- Elastic Hair Ties
- Mylar Blankets
- Refillable Water Bottle
- Small notebooks

Items Will Be Collected

January
1st-19th

Drop Off Location:

United Way
115 S. Broad Street
Lancaster, Ohio

**ALL ITEMS COLLECTED WILL BE
DISTRIBUTED TO THE HOMELESS IN
OUR COMMUNITY!**

TO: Fairfield County Commissioners

DATE: December 29, 2023

FROM: Sheriff Alex Lape

RE: 2023 F.O.J. Annual Report

CC: Auditor Carri Brown, Chief Deputies Scott Ervin and Jared Collins

The 2023 F.O.J. Annual Report for the Fairfield County Sheriff's Office is attached to this memo. Inclusive in this annual report are a summary recap sheet, detail of all checks issued, and copies of all bank statements and monthly reconciliations through November 2023. As soon as December's bank statement is received and reconciled, a copy will be forwarded to you.

Please do not hesitate to call me or Elisa Dowdy with any questions you may have.

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Lape", is written over a horizontal line.

Sheriff Alex Lape

**FURTHERANCE OF JUSTICE RECAP SHEET
FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 1, 2023 TO DECEMBER 31, 2023**

2023 Annual Allocation Amount	\$ 48,943.00
Adjustments to account	\$ -
Total Adjusted Available Monies for 2023	\$ 48,943.00
Total 2023 Expenditures	\$ 38,283.78
Calculated Balance of account @ 12-31-23	\$ 10,659.22
Pay-In to Fairfield County Treasurer	\$ 10,659.22
Ending Balance after Pay-in	\$ -



R. KYLE WITT
FAIRFIELD COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

COPY

January 2, 2024

Carri L. Brown
Fairfield County Auditor
108 North High Street
Lancaster, Ohio 43130

Re: **Furtherance of Justice Fund Report**
dated January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023

Dear Auditor Brown:

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 325.12, enclosed please find an original and one copy of my final Furtherance of Justice Fund Report. Please return a file-stamped copy of the Report to this office for our records.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

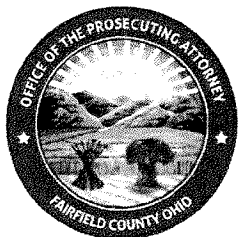
Sincerely,

R. Kyle Witt
Fairfield County Prosecuting Attorney

Enclosures

cc: Board of County Commissioners

COPY



R. KYLE WITT
FAIRFIELD COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

2023 FURTHERANCE OF JUSTICE FUND

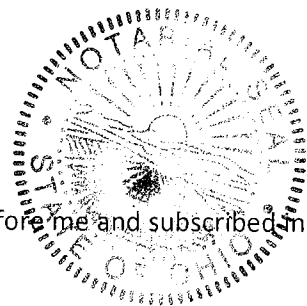
- STATEMENT FOR 1/1/2023 TO 12/31/2023 -

State of Ohio
County of Fairfield, ss:

The undersigned, R. Kyle Witt, Prosecuting Attorney of Fairfield County, Ohio, hereby certifies that the following is an accounting of the deposits and expenses of the Furtherance of Justice Fund pursuant to Section 325.12 of the Ohio Revised Code from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023.

1/1/2023	Opening balance	\$ 16.72
1/19/2023	Deposit of FOJ Allowance - Fairfield County Auditor	\$ 75,372.00
10/17/2023	Deposit from Ohio Attorney General CAP Funds, reimbursement for Expert Witness fees paid in State of Ohio vs. Reed, Case No. 21CR556	\$ 2,100.00
Monthly	Interest earned from 12/01/2022 to 11/30/2023	\$ 255.30
		\$ 77,744.02
2023 Expenditures (See Exhibit A Check Registry and Exhibit B Bank Statements attached)		\$ 61,552.79
		\$ 16,191.23

As of 12/31/2023 there is a balance of \$16,191.23 remaining in the Fairfield County Prosecutor's Office Further of Justice Fund which shall be returned to the Treasurer of Fairfield County, Ohio.




R. Kyle Witt
Fairfield County Prosecuting Attorney

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 2 day of January, 2024.

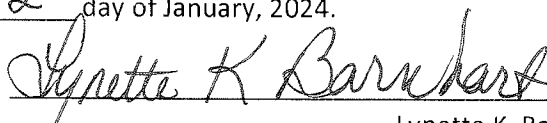

Lynette K. Barnhart
Notary Public - State of Ohio
My commission expires: 06/13/2024

Exhibit A - Quicken Report
Exhibit B - Fairfield National Bank monthly bank statements



Fairfield County Engineer

3026 W. Fair Ave.
Lancaster, OH 43130
Main: (740) 652-2300
Fax: (740) 687-7055

January 2, 2024

Fairfield County Commissioner David Levacy
210 East Main Street, Room 301
Lancaster, OH 43130

RE: Training Technicians for Ohio's Future Infrastructure Program

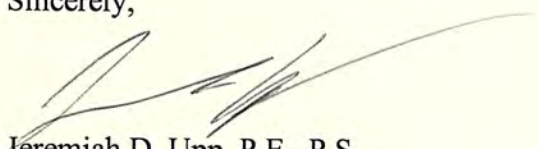
Dear Dave:

Dr. Sargand of Ohio University would like to meet with those of us that have key roles in the planning of the Training Technicians for Ohio's Future Infrastructure Program. A meeting will be held on January 26, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. at the Ohio University Lancaster Campus to discuss this program. If at all possible, we would greatly appreciate your attendance.

As you know, the Fairfield County Workforce Center will have a major role in this training program. This program also represents a significant expansion in the role of research and education at the Ohio University Lancaster campus. Ohio University has made a significant investment in identifying space to be used for the laboratory equipment needed for this training. A preliminary proposal has also been written to obtain funding from the Ohio Legislature to assist with this program.

We look forward to meeting with you on January 26th to discuss the planning and execution of the Training Technicians for Ohio's Future Infrastructure Program.

Sincerely,



Jeremiah D. Upp, P.E., P.S.
Fairfield County Engineer

Jeremiah D. Upp, P.E., P.S., County Engineer

NOTICE TO LEGISLATIVE
AUTHORITY

OHIO DIVISION OF LIQUOR CONTROL
6606 TUSSING ROAD, P.O. BOX 4005
REYNOLDSBURG, OHIO 43068-9005
(614)844-2360 FAX(614)644-3166

TO

6531107		NEW		OLDE MARCY CARRYOUT & PIZZA LLC 1004 WINCHESTER SOUTHERN RD BLOOM TWP CANAL WINCHESTER OH 43110
PERMIT NUMBER		TYPE		
ISSUE DATE				
12 14 2023				
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PERMIT CLASSES				
23	912	B	E01726	
TAX DISTRICT		RECEIPT NO.		

FROM 12/29/2023

PERMIT NUMBER		TYPE	
ISSUE DATE			
FILING DATE			
PERMIT CLASSES			
TAX DISTRICT		RECEIPT NO.	

MAILED 12/29/2023

RESPONSES MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN. 12/29/2023

IMPORTANT NOTICE

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM TO THE DIVISION OF LIQUOR CONTROL
WHETHER OR NOT THERE IS A REQUEST FOR A HEARING.

REFER TO THIS NUMBER IN ALL INQUIRIES B NEW 6531107

(TRANSACTION & NUMBER)

(MUST MARK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING)

WE REQUEST A HEARING ON THE ADVISABILITY OF ISSUING THE PERMIT AND REQUEST THAT
THE HEARING BE HELD ☐ IN OUR COUNTY SEAT. ☐ IN COLUMBUS.

WE DO NOT REQUEST A HEARING. ☒

DID YOU MARK A BOX? IF NOT, THIS WILL BE CONSIDERED A LATE RESPONSE.

PLEASE SIGN BELOW AND MARK THE APPROPRIATE BOX INDICATING YOUR TITLE:

(Signature)

(Title) ☒ Clerk of County Commissioner

(Date)

☐ Clerk of City Council

☐ Township Fiscal Officer

CLERK OF FAIRFIELD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
210 E MAIN ST #301
LANCASTER OH 43130

105 East Wheeling Street
Lancaster, OH 43130



740-654-9923
www.fairfieldheritage.org

Dear Friends of History,

It is time again to renew your Fairfield County Heritage Association Membership! How far the Association has come since the seven founding members established this organization over 60 years ago! Along with their foresight and the generosity of our volunteers and donors, the Heritage Association has continued to grow! By renewing your membership, you continue your support of the Fairfield County Heritage Association, and you receive benefits offered to all members.

As a member, you receive free admission to tour the beautifully restored 1832 Georgian Museum and 1811 Sherman House Museum, anytime you come to visit during regular tour hours. Both Museums are owned and operated by the Heritage Association. The Heritage Association is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization. All money received from memberships goes towards the maintenance and upkeep of both museums.

Members also receive a 10% discount on most items in the gift shops and volunteers at the museums receive a 20% discount on most items. In addition, members receive a subscription to The Heritage Quarterly. The Quarterly publication features local history research and all of the Heritage Association's activities each quarter.

Members also receive first opportunity to purchase tickets to Association events. Some of these events include popular walking tours around the Historic Downtown and Square 13. New in 2023 is the updated, self-guided Square 13 walking tour highlighting the historic buildings on and around Square 13 in downtown Lancaster that has a companion audio on the Visit Fairfield County phone App. This year's events include the Forest Rose Cemetery Walk and the Tea held for the Lancaster Festival and Christmas at the Georgian Museum.

As a member, you also have an opportunity to serve as a docent or receptionist at either Museum or as a volunteer at any event or activity. We invite you to get involved as a volunteer during the Tour of Homes held in May, or join us for training in March as we prepare for the open season at the museums. We at the Fairfield County Heritage Association look forward to your continued support as we grow in 2024.

With gratitude,

Membership Committee

December 29, 2023

To: Fairfield County Board of Elections (BOE): Brett Riffle (Director); Jane Hanley (Deputy Director); Angela D. White (Board Chair); Michael Oatney (Board Member); Kyle Joseph Farmer (Board Member); Paul R. Johnson (Board Member).

**CC: The Honorable Tim Schaffer (Senator, District 20); The Honorable Jeff LaRe (Representative, District 73); Fairfield County Commissioners: Steve Davis; David Levacy; Jeff Fix
The Honorable Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose.**

From: Coalition of Concerned Voters of Ohio

Subject: Security flaws in Dominion ImageCast X (ICX) and D-Suite voting Machines used in Fairfield County may require the machines to be decertified.

Dear Board of Elections Directors and Board Members,

We are a coalition of voters in Ohio who are not affiliated with any political party, and like you, share the goal of ensuring that our election system in Ohio is secure, accurate, and can be trusted.

Over the past two and a half years, the Dominion ICX and D-Suite voting machines have been the subject of controversy and investigation with two independent teams of cybersecurity experts performing forensic examinations on Dominion machines in Georgia and Colorado. A Dominion ICX machine was examined in Fulton County Georgia and a D-Suite Election Management Server (EMS) machine was examined in Mesa County Colorado. The Georgia report is known as the Halderman Report and the Colorado report is divided into three volumes: Mesa County Colorado Reports 1, 2, and 3. Since these reports are lengthy, we have summarized their findings and provided links to the entire reports in the Appendix to this letter *"Summary of Dominion D-Suite Election Management System (EMS) and ImageCast X Voting System Security Flaws."*

Based on these extensive examinations, the voting machines were found to be unsafe for use in any election and, according to the well-credentialed experts who performed the forensic examination of the machines, should not have been

certified in the first place. The Halderman report prompted CISA, the agency within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) responsible for protecting our nation's election infrastructure, the issue a security advisory (ICSA-22-154-01) in June 2022 warning Board of Elections (BOE) of the security flaws. Additionally, the judge that presided over the lawsuit that produced the Halderman report felt that the merits of the case warranted it to go to trial beginning in January 2024.

It is sobering to note that both machines had been certified by a federally accredited Voting System Test Laboratory (VSTL) which means they met the specifications of a 2005 Voluntary Voting System Guideline (VVSG), developed primarily by the voting machine vendors themselves. Apparently, the Georgia and Colorado machines were not examined and tested very well for security flaws and that, which is beyond the scope of this letter, raises questions about the certification process itself.

The Halderman Report revealed numerous security flaws that could be easily exploited by a malicious actor. For example, a QR barcode is printed on each ballot adjacent to the text that shows the voter's selections. The voter's selections are encoded into the QR code so that the machine can then read them, but the voter cannot. Halderman demonstrated how easy the QR code could be manipulated, therefore changing the vote. Since the voter cannot verify that the QR code accurately reflects the vote cast, this seems to be in violation of Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Chapter 3506.01 "Voting and tabulation equipment definitions," section (H) which states: *"After the physical paper printout is produced, but before the voter's ballot is recorded, the voter shall have an opportunity to accept or reject the contents of the printout as matching the voter's ballot choices."* It also appears to be a violation of the Help America Voting Act (HAVA) that requires voting machines to allow voters to verify ballots before they are cast.

The Mesa County reports show that critical files had been deleted and unauthorized software had been installed in the EMS causing a backdoor which allowed votes to be significantly altered.

These reports conclude that the machines are vulnerable to manipulation during an election and therefore raise the question that they may also be vulnerable to manipulation in support of an audit. Ohio performs post-election audits which presumably gives a reasonable degree of confidence that the vote is accurate, and all twelve counties that use the Dominion machines employ a percentage-based audit whereby 5% of all ballots cast are audited. However, in an article *"How Ohio*

elections can SELECT rather than ELECT and escape post-election audit detection,” one analyst presents a scenario whereby votes may be manipulated and not detected in the percentage-based audits. (See Reference 1 in the Summary Attachment).

Our concern is that the Dominion machines that are currently in use in Adams County and eleven other counties in Ohio, may also have similar security flaws that would render them unsafe for use in elections and may require them to be decertified. If so, we need to know what steps have been taken to mitigate or correct them. This is a serious matter, and the vendor (Dominion) cannot be relied upon to self-police themselves and point to a software patch as a fix. Since the VSTLs failed to catch these security flaws during certification, they cannot be relied upon either. Although the Ohio Bureau of Voting Machine Examiners (BVME) is responsible for examining and approving voting equipment for use in Ohio elections, they don't have the technical expertise either to adequately review the reports and perform the necessary cybersecurity forensic examinations of the Dominion voting machines in Ohio to determine their viability.

It is recommended that the Ohio Secretary of State appoint an independent team of cyber experts review the Halderman and Mesa County reports in their entirety and be given access to the machines for examination to determine if security flaws exist. To protect any vendor proprietary information from being released, a non-disclosure agreement between the vendor and cyber team can be signed. Potential cyber expertise that the Secretary could enlist might include academia (Ohio colleges / universities with graduate computer science & engineering programs) or the Ohio Cyber Reserve (OhCR) under the Command of the Adjutant General. Under their election security support mission, the OhCR is authorized to assist local government entities (such as BOEs) at no cost with an independent team of cyber experts that can evaluate system security vulnerabilities and provide recommendations.

In closing, we request the following be provided to the undersigned by January 30, 2024:

1. Confirm that Fairfield County BOE has requested the Ohio Secretary of State to provide an independent team of cyber experts to review the Halderman and Mesa County Colorado reports and to examine the ICX and EMS machines in Fairfield County to determine their viability to be used in elections. If your decision is not to pursue this course of action, then provide

your preferred alternate approach for ensuring that the machines are safe to be used in elections.

2. Describe the measures that Ohio BVME has taken to identify and disable any wireless modems embedded in the Dominion voting machines such as those reported in the Mesa County # 3 Report.
3. Dominion claims that a new software patch (Democracy Suite 5.17) has been released to address many of the security flaws. Confirm whether the new software has been installed and identify the specific security flaws in both the ICX and EMS machines that were addressed.
4. Does the EMS server contain unauthorized software (MS SQL Server Management Studio 17) as identified in the Mesa County Colorado #2 report?
5. According to the CISA advisory, the ImageCast X provides the configuration option to produce ballots that do not print barcodes (QR codes) for tabulation. Can you verify that this option applies to the Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT)? If so, how would that affect the audit?

Respectfully submitted,

Coalition of Concerned Voters of Ohio
PO Box 99, Dublin OH 43017
Email: CCVO@protonmail.com

Attachment:

Summary of Dominion D-Suite Election Management System (EMS) and Imagecast X (ICX) Voting System Security Flaws (Halderman and Mesa County Colorado Reports

Summary of Dominion D-Suite Election Management System (EMS) and Imagecast X (ICX) Voting System Security Flaws (Halderman and Mesa County Colorado Reports)

Overview

The security and trustworthiness of our voting machines and our voting system at large is paramount to keeping and maintaining our democracy. Unfortunately, the atmosphere surrounding elections has become so politicized over the past few years that it has stifled honest and open discussion when it comes to concerns about the integrity of our voting machines.

As you are aware, concerns over electronic voting machines are not new and span over twenty years. After Kerry's loss to Bush in 2004, Hillary Clinton's loss to Trump in 2016, and more recently with Trump's loss to Biden in 2020, the integrity of electronic voting machines has been called into question and valid questions have been raised. Specifically, in the aftermath of the 2004 and 2016 presidential elections, multiple investigations and Congressional hearings were held and expert witnesses under oath concluded that electronic voting machines can be easily hacked and programmed to alter elections.

In 2018, county election boards across Ohio went through the process of choosing new vendors to replace outdated voting machines. At the time, some counties were using Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) touchscreen machines without paper ballots that recorded voter's selections in the internal memory of the voting machine. After numerous cyber experts warned that the DRE machines were vulnerable to manipulation, many counties decided to switch to paper ballots that could be optically scanned. It is our understanding that twelve counties in Ohio including Adams, Butler, Fairfield, Greene, Hancock, Harden, Madison, Perry, Richland, Scioto, Stark and Wood, chose the Dominion ICX and D-Suite EMS Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) system with a voter verified paper audit trail.

The Halderman Report

Link to Report: The redacted version of the "*Security Analysis of Georgia's ImageCast X Ballot Marking Devices*" aka The Halderman Report, can be accessed at <https://storage.courtlistener.com/recap/gov.uscourts.gand.240678/gov.uscourts.gand.240678.1681.0.pdf>

Background

The forensic examination of the Dominion machines in Georgia had its origins in a lawsuit (Curing v. Raffensperger) filed in 2017 by voters in Georgia who suspected that their aging ES&S Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) voting machines purchased in 2005 were not trustworthy and needed to be replaced. The ES&S machines did not have a paper ballot and stored votes cast in its internal memory. The Secretary of State opted to replace the ES&S machines with the Dominion ImageCast X Ballot Marking Device system, which is also a DRE voting machine, but prints out a ballot with the voter's selection in text and a QR barcode that encodes the vote so that it can be read by an optical scanner. However, after experiencing issues with the Dominion machines in the 2018 midterm election, the original plaintiffs continued with their lawsuit stating that the Dominion machines could not be trusted. In September 2020, the plaintiff's hired a renowned cybersecurity expert to perform a six-week forensic examination on one of the machines and they discovered vulnerabilities in nearly every part of the system that is exposed to potential attackers.

Initially, the Halderman report was sealed by court order for two years over concerns that revelations of the security flaws could be capitalized on by malicious actors. A redacted version was eventually released to the public in June 2023. **Given the gravity of the situation, the Judge that presided over the original lawsuit released an opinion on 10 November 2023 that the case needed to go to trial to determine whether Georgia's statewide electronic voting system, as currently designed and implemented, suffers from major cybersecurity deficiencies that would allow votes to not be counted accurately. The trial is scheduled to begin in January 2024.**

Halderman Report Findings

The Halderman report findings were significant enough to prompt CISA, the agency under the Department of Homeland Security responsible for protecting our election infrastructure, to release a security advisory (ICSA-22-154-01) in June 2022 warning BOEs about the ICX machine security flaws and that the security risks should be mitigated as soon as possible. However, unlike the Halderman Report, CISA's advisory contained few details about the

problems identified, therefore downplaying the scope and depth of the findings in the actual report.

Although CISA's security advisory contained the caveat "*While these vulnerabilities present risks that should be promptly mitigated, CISA has no evidence that these vulnerabilities have been exploited in any election.*," it could also be said that CISA has no evidence that the vulnerabilities have not been exploited. Case in point, CISA's highly classified network was hacked in 2020 by a cyberattack known as SolarWinds (see Reference 2 in the Summary Attachment). As bad as it was for the agency charged with protecting our nation's election system to be hacked, what made it worse was that it went undetected for a year and CISA still does not know the extent of the data that was compromised. If CISA was unaware of its own network being hacked, it doesn't instill confidence when they say they have no evidence that the Dominion machines have been hacked. It is entirely possible that the machines have been and continue to be exploited without being detected.

The Halderman Report's major finding was that the QR codes printed on the BMD ballots and DRE paper audit trail can be altered without the voter's knowledge through a simple hack of the ICX machine itself, or more likely from an arbitrary-code-execution vulnerability that can be exploited to spread malware from the county's central election management system (EMS) to every BMD / DRE in the jurisdiction. This makes it possible to attack the ICX BMDs / DREs at scale, over a wide area, without needing physical access to any of them.

It is important to note that the Georgia ICX BMD machines are identical to the ICX Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) machines used in Ohio with the exception that the BMD prints voter selections onto a ballot whereas the DRE machines print voter selections onto a voter-verified paper audit trail (VVPAT) tape that is enclosed in the machine. In both cases, voter selections are converted into a QR code that is printed on the ballot / VVPAT tape that is then read by the machine to tally the votes. The problem is that the voter has no way of verifying that the QR code has accurately captured the vote since they can't read it. This flaw was first identified by a Democrat-led Congressional Task Force on Election Security in 2018 (See Reference 3 below):

*“Some DRE machines have a VVPAT that allows voters the opportunity to review a printout of their selections before casting a ballot. However, the VVPAT system has two flaws. First, voters are unlikely to actually review the paper record to make sure it is accurate. Second, votes are still recorded on the internal memory of the machine. **That means a hacker could infect the machine in a way where the paper printout reflects the voter’s actual preference, but the machine’s internal memory records a different vote.** In other words, the printout does not necessarily verify whether the machine is tabulating correctly. Moreover, in the process of implementing risk-limiting audits, Colorado has found that VVPAT systems create significant logistical hurdles and are much harder to audit than paper ballots. As a result, several experts we spoke to believe that the VVPAT machines should be phased out as well.”*

Following the release of the Halderman Report, Dominion produced a new software version, Democracy Suite 5.17, that purportedly addresses several of the vulnerabilities described in the report. The patched software entered federal certification testing in October 2022 and was certified by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission in March 2023. Halderman was not given access to the updated software (nor to his knowledge neither has CISA been given access) so he cannot verify whether the changes are effective. It has been reported that the Ohio BVME has informed at least one of the twelve affected Ohio County BOEs (Butler) of Dominion’s software patch to correct the security flaws. However, according to a recent CNN news article (see Reference 6 below), Georgia election officials say that upgrading the ICX machines would be such a massive undertaking that they have decided to wait until after the 2024 election to do so. The bottom line is that the version 5.17 software patch appears to be a large update and may not address all the CISA advisory security flaws. In addition, it is not clear whether it addresses the EMS security flaws discovered in the Mesa County reports.

The MITRE Report

As a rebuttal to the Halderman Report, Dominion hired The Mitre Corporation to do an “Independent Technical Review” of the Georgia ICX machines. The report concluded that Halderman’s attacks were “operationally infeasible” due to the physical controls in place in the state and the low likelihood of flipping enough votes to make an impact.

Access to the report can be found at this link:
<https://sos.ga.gov/sites/default/files/2023-06/MITRE%20Report.pdf>.

Based on the findings of the Mitre Report, Georgia's Secretary of State Raffensperger defended the Dominion ICX machines in a letter (see Reference 4 below) to the Georgia state General Assembly in June 2023. The following is an excerpt of his remarks:

"The Halderman report was the result of a computer scientist having complete access to the Dominion equipment and software for three months in a laboratory environment. It identified risks that are theoretical and imaginary. We have to run elections in the real-world, not just create conspiracies or hypothetical possibilities. Our security measures are real and mitigate all of them."

The day the Halderman Report was released to the public, Halderman challenged the findings of the Mitre Report in a news article published in June 2023 (see Reference 5 below) by stating:

"In March 2022, Dominion hired MITRE to respond to my Report. Unlike me and my assistant, Dominion did not give MITRE access to the voting equipment or software, so they couldn't perform any actual security tests. Instead, MITRE assessed the attacks described in our report without essential access to the source information.... MITRE's analysis, which is unsigned, applies faulty reasoning to assert that exploiting the vulnerabilities is 'operationally infeasible.' This contradicts CISA's determination that "these vulnerabilities present risks that should be mitigated as soon as possible."

MITRE's analysis isn't simply wrong—it is dangerous, since it will surely lead states like Georgia to postpone installing Dominion's software updates and implementing other important mitigations. Considering the overwhelming evidence of physical security lapses in Georgia and other states, MITRE should retract the report, which fails to account for the real-world conditions under which election equipment is stored and operated. More than 25 leading experts in cybersecurity and election security have sent a letter to MITRE CEO Jason Providakes urging him to retract MITRE's dangerously mistaken report."

The Mesa County Colorado Reports

Background

The Mesa County Colorado reports were initiated by the Mesa County Colorado Clerk / Recorder Tina Peters who turned whistleblower after discovering that her Secretary of State wanted to do a major update to the voting machines after the 2020 election without first making backups. She was concerned that if she allowed updates to be made without a backup, she would be in violation of federal law that mandates the preservation of election data. She then made backups prior to and after the 2020 general election and the following 2021 primary election and hired an expert cybersecurity team to preserve data and determine if there were any changes made because of the updates. The examination occurred over a six-month period from September 2021 to March 2022 at the Mesa County Colorado BOE and resulted in the release of three reports.

When CISA issued their security advisory in response to the Halderman Report, they provided a caveat that “no evidence has been brought forth to show that the ICX system vulnerabilities have altered any elections.” However, the advisory did not address the Election Management System (EMS) server. The Mesa County Colorado Reports looked at the EMS server in Mesa County and provided convincing evidence that the Dominion EMS server they examined altered the outcomes of the 2020 and 2021 elections in Mesa County Colorado. To date, CISA has not acknowledged the findings of the Mesa County Reports and the findings of the Mesa Reports were disputed by the Mesa County District Attorney (DA), who launched a criminal investigation after the reports were published. Although the DA concluded that the problems identified in the Mesa Reports were attributed to human error, the authors of the Mesa reports countered by noting that the DA did not use an independent cybersecurity expert to review their findings and could not name a single conclusion in the report that was false, much less provide any evidence that a conclusion was false.

Findings

The findings of the Mesa County Reports are even more incriminating than those of the Halderman Report and provide alarming and conclusive evidence

that the Mesa County Dominion D-Suite EMS server contained unauthorized software and was purposely programmed to manipulate votes.

Mesa County Report # 1 Findings

Title: Forensic Examination and Analysis Report (69 pages)

Issued: September 15, 2021; Author: Doug Gould

Link to report: <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/620c3af99f21b965e2cbef44/t/622638ae2bbc6b1e5e988cf3/1646672059000/Mesa-EMS-Server-Image-Forensic-Report-No-1-09-15-21.pdf>

"Analysis of the Mesa County EMS server identified that extensive deletion of both election data and election-related data, comprising election records which must and should have been preserved under Federal and Colorado law, has occurred either because of or coincident with the vendor's and CO Secretary of State's modification of the system from version 5.11 to 5.13. This deleted data is critical to any effort to reconstruct events taking place on the voting systems, and to determine of unauthorized access or operation of the voting system took place."

Mesa County Report # 2 Findings

Title: Forensic Examination and Analysis Report (136 pages)

Issued: February 28, 2022; Author: Doug Gould

Link to report: <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/620c3af99f21b965e2cbef44/t/62268289a0e00c56951c5044/1646690974087/mesa-county-forensic-report-no.-2+compressed+1.1.pdf>

- *"Based on testing, the Election Management System (EMS) server is not secure and violates security standards required by state and federal law and protections have not been implemented in accordance with the requirements of the Federal Election Commission's 2002 Voting System Standards (VSS). Those Standards constitute a mandatory minimum requirement for a voting system to be certified and used under Colorado law. **Given the fundamental flaws in the security design and configuration of this system, there is no conceivable interpretation under which this voting system could be considered secure.** The fact that it was tested and certified for use vitiates claims of competency and trustworthiness of the entire regime of testing and certification being used, of truthfulness of testing and certification statements, of competency of the Colorado Secretary of State's office,*

and of the validity of any election results obtained from the voting system as used in any jurisdiction."

- *"Uncertified software (MS SQL Server Management Studio 17) was installed that violates and renders illegal the certification of the election system to be used in an election. As configured, it creates a 'back door' that allows the bypassing of Dominion Voting System's software and enables any data in the vote data base to be changed. In other words, votes can be flipped and by changing only two values in the database, tens of thousands of votes can be flipped."*
- *"Mandatory audit trails (logs) had been deleted making it extraordinarily difficult (and maybe impossible) to forensically determine whether any external connection allowing unauthorized access to the voting system, wireless or wired, occurred before, during or after the elections."*
- *"The Mesa County EMS server used through May 2021 was assembled in Mexico, and its motherboard was manufactured in China. It is well understood that foreign manufacture or assembly exposes the components to the risk of compromise through the installation of foreign-controlled access devices during manufacture in the reported supply-chain attack."*

Mesa County Report # 3 Findings

Title: Election Database and Data Process Analysis (68 pages)

Issued: March 10, 2022; Authors: Jeffrey O'Donnell & Walter C.

Daugherty. Link to report: <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/620c3af99f21b965e2cbef44/t/6239f21179bda53621a515e2/1647964693221/mesa-forensic-report-3-signed+%281%29.pdf>

This report documents the findings of an examination of tabulated vote databases based on forensic analysis of the drive image of Mesa County, Colorado's Dominion Voting Systems (DVS) Election Management System (EMS) server. This analysis was performed using the forensic image of the EMS server, which was backed up before Colorado Secretary of State and DVS overwrote the hard drive with D-Suite version 5.13.

- *“There were unauthorized creations of new tabulation and adjudication databases on the election management server during the November 2020 General Election and 2021 Municipal Election along with selective copying of batch and ballot records from the original databases to the new ones. **This manipulation places all initial ballots counted into a state where they cannot be validated, therefore the system cannot be considered reliable to be used in any election.**”*
- *“The ballot record manipulation described above would not be identifiable to an election official using the voting systems, nor to an observer or judge overseeing the election conduct, much less to citizens with no access to the voting systems; without both cyber and database management system expertise, and unfettered access to database records and computer log files (many of which were destroyed by the actions of the Secretary of State) from the EMS server, the manipulation would be undetectable.”*
- *“Multiple wireless access devices are known to be embedded in the Dominion Voting System (DVS) hardware (36 were found to exist in DVS-D suite components as documented by Dell and the equipment inventory list). The forensic team used a wireless modem to emulate those found in the machines and given the insecure configuration of the server, they were able to edit and change vote totals using a standard I Phone!”*

Mesa County Colorado District Attorney (DA) Challenge to Mesa County Report # 3

In May 2022, soon after the Mesa # 3 report was released, The Mesa County DA's office launched a criminal investigation into the serious allegations raised in the Mesa # 3 report. The DA's conclusion (see Reference 7 below) was that the key issue raised by the Mesa #3 report (i.e. the creation of an unauthorized database) was caused by human error, and not by malicious software in the Dominion voting machine. This investigation was closed with no finding of probable cause that a crime was committed by any person.

Mesa Report # 3 Author's Rebuttal to the Mesa DA Criminal Investigation

The cybersecurity experts who authored the Mesa # 3 report released an official response in May 2022 (see Reference 8 below) to the conclusions

reached by the Mesa County DA's investigation. The following are excerpts from their response:

- *"The DA Report did not name a single conclusion in the report that was false, much less provide ANY evidence that a conclusion was false. In the third Mesa Forensic Report, the authors list three possible causes of the anomalies and give their expert opinions that on-site human action was the least likely based on interviews with those involved. The DA claims to have proven that it was on-site human action which caused the anomalies without ever looking the databases involved or engaging an independent expert to do so, given that the investigators have no database expertise."*
- *"The DA's office discussed a possible method by which the new database could have been created, should a clerk perform a highly unusual procedure which is extremely dangerous when done in the middle of tabulating an election. The video presented as "evidence" shows absolutely no definitive screen detail to support the DA's claims that this "nuclear option" was ever performed. In addition, the EMS logs, which show in great detail the operations performed by both the clerks and the normal automated processes within the Dominion software application, show no corresponding commands being initiated. This fact alone is evidence that the unauthorized operations were triggered by code running within the EMS server but outside of normal procedure. "*
- *"Additionally, did the DA's office or any of their technical experts access the publicly available forensic image of the Mesa County server taken before representatives of the Colorado Secretary of State and Dominion Voting Systems erased all files on that server? If not, how can the DA plausibly investigate the findings and conclusions of Report #3, which were completely derived from that forensic image?"*
- *"In summary, the DA's report is lacking any evidence to refute any of the findings or conclusions of Report #3, and we find that the DA's report is completely lacking any evidence or technical rigor of a serious, unbiased investigation."*

References:

1. ***How Ohio elections can SELECT rather than ELECT and escape post-election audit detection.***
Link: <https://www.ohio4truth.com/post/how-ohio-elections-can-change-from-elected-to-selected-and-escape-post-election-audit-detection>
2. **April 16, 2021, NPR article: "A 'Worst Nightmare' Cyberattack: The Untold Story of The SolarWinds Hack".** Link: <https://www.npr.org/2021/04/16/985439655/a-worst-nightmare-cyberattack-the-untold-story-of-the-solarwinds-hack>
3. **2018 Congressional Task Force on Election Security (p.24 under "Findings)."**
https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&ved=2ahUKEwjI7v6G2aiDAxUZg4kEHazmCmlQFnoECA8QAAQ&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hsdl.org%2F%2Fview%3Fdocid%3D808309&usg=AOvVaw3AQ_bCtOx9I9NoDy6xLSXEQ&opi=89978449
4. **June 20, 2023, Letter from Georgia Secretary of State to GA General Assembly:" Setting the Election Security Record Straight"** Link: <https://sos.ga.gov/news/setting-election-security-record-straight>
5. **June 14, 2023 article published on Freedom-to-Tinker.com website "Security Analysis of the Dominion ImageCast X" by J. Alex Halderman** Link: <https://freedom-to-tinker.com/2023/06/14/security-analysis-of-the-dominion-imagecast-x/>
6. **June 14, 2023, CNN News article "Georgia won't update vulnerable Dominion software until after 2024 election."** Link: (<https://www.cnn.com/2023/06/14/politics/dominion-voting-georgia-vulnerabilities-2024/index.html>)
7. **May 19, 2022, letter "Conclusion of investigation of Report 3 re: Elections." from Daniel P. Rubenstein, District Attorney to Mesa County Commissioners and Grand Junction City Council.** Link: <https://wp-cpr.s3.amazonaws.com/uploads/2022/05/Summary-of-findings-and-conclusions-of-Report-3.pdf>
8. **Official Response to Mesa DA Investigation. Fact checks of Rubenstein's Investigative Report by Randy Corporon, Attorney for Tina Peters.** Link: <https://tinapeters.us/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/OFFICIAL-STATEMENT-5-20.pd>



County Spotlight

THE IMPORTANCE OF PLANNING FOR GROWTH

Hear from Commissioner Jeff Fix and Violet Township Trustee Lori Sanders as they discuss the importance of growth in relation to the Land Use Plan. Click the link below to watch the full video!



BILL MCNEER - 25 YEARS OF SERVICE

We are celebrating Bill McNeer for 25 years of service on the Airport Authority Board! The Airport Authority Board's mission is to be a safe and business-friendly airport in order to promote economic growth and increased aviation job opportunities in the area. Bill's term with the board will end on December 31 and he will not be seeking reappointment. Thank you for 25 years of commitment to the airport, Bill!



2024 GENERAL FUND BUDGET

The Board of Fairfield County Commissioners recently approved the county expenditure budget for 2024. The 2024 general fund budget, which covers expenditures for daily operations of county services, was approved at \$62.94 million. This is an approximate 8% decrease from the current budget, which included several one-time capital projects, such as the Workforce Center and other capital improvements. Read the full press release on our website [here](#).

WELCOME MAYOR MCDANIEL

Mayor Scheffler will be retiring as mayor of Lancaster at the end of his term, and Don McDaniel will be welcomed as the new mayor. Don is the former city police chief and current city at-large council member. He graduated from Lancaster High School in 1980 and served in the United States Marine Corps for four years. After the Marine Corps, Don spent thirty years with the Lancaster Police Department, retiring as Chief of Police in 2017. We look forward to welcoming Don as mayor and seeing the positive contributions he makes in our community.



The Board of Commissioners recently presented a proclamation to recognize the retirement of Mayor Scheffler and Paul Martin, Service Safety Director, from the City of Lancaster. We are thankful for their service to our community and the citizens of Lancaster and wish them continued success and fortune as they enter their well-deserved retirement.



Community Corner

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

There are so many wonderful volunteer opportunities in Fairfield County! Here are some ways that you can give your time this season:

- Provide a meal for the 24 residents at [Lutheran Social Services](#).
- Volunteer on the Fairfield County active build site for [Habitat for Humanity](#).
- Become a Big with [Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Southeastern Ohio](#).
- Assist the elderly in our community with [Meals on Wheels of Fairfield County](#)
- Donate items to [The Lighthouse](#).
- Volunteer with [United Way of Fairfield County](#).

These are only a few ways that you can volunteer and donate this holiday season. If there is an organization you're passionate about, we encourage you to reach out directly to see how you can help.

UNITED WAY POLAR PLUNGE

United Way of Fairfield County is hosting their 10th annual Polar Plunge at Buckeye Lake from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on January 28! Check out this photo from the Fairfield County Sheriff's Office from last year's plunge. If you're looking to dive into the thrill, [register today](#).



PRESIDENT OF FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL

We were proud to recognize Carrie Woody on December 5 for her service as President of the Family and Children First Council Executive Committee! We look forward to welcoming Jeannette Curtis, Director of Fairfield County 211, as the incoming President of Family and Children First Council.



ON WITH AUNIE: ANNA TOBIN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MEALS ON WHEELS

Have you watched *On with Aunie*? *On with Aunie* is our newest video series, where County Administrator Aundrea (Aunie) Cordle interviews community members. Join us for episode 5 as we dive into the heart of the holiday season with Anna Tobin, Executive Director of Meals on Wheels of Fairfield County, Inc.! Discover the vital services Meals on Wheels provides for

seniors during this season and learn how we can all make a difference together. If you are interested in learning more about Meals on Wheels, visit their website [here](#).



Fairfield Forward

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

We want to take a moment to thank our community for their feedback thus far on the comprehensive plan. The County team has spent the last two months meeting with the villages and townships individually. This has allowed us to garner feedback directly from those impacted, and address any concerns proactively. We recently met with Bloom Township and have enjoyed meeting with villages and townships. You can view the full comprehensive plan [here](#).



CCAO WINTER CONFERENCE: FAIRFIELD COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSIT

During their winter conference, the County Commissioners Association of Ohio (CCAO) highlighted "Innovative County Programs". In addition to a presentation by Hamilton County Commissioner Alicia Reece, Fairfield County Commissioner Steve Davis was asked to present on the future of public transit in Fairfield County. Public transit is a lifeline for millions of Americans, connecting them to people, places, and possibilities. Fairfield County is working with the City of Lancaster to expand public transit for the citizens of Fairfield County. The City of Lancaster has agreed in principle to transfer governance of the public transit system to Fairfield County.



ENGINEER AND COMMISSIONERS MEETING

The Fairfield County Engineer and commissioners held viewings and hearings for eight areas around the county. They sought feedback from the community regarding improvements that could be made to roads/culverts/multi-use paths. The engineer's office will compile the feedback and see what is deemed necessary for improvement.

UNITED WAY OF FAIRFIELD COUNTY - DOLLY'S IMAGINATION LIBRARY

United Way of Fairfield County does so much for our community - but one of the programs that they are passionate about is their collaboration with Dolly's Imagination Library. The commissioners recently granted federal funds toward Dolly's Imagination Library to support early childhood literacy. The funds will allow the program to reach more children in Fairfield County. You can visit the [United Way of Fairfield County website](#) or watch the video below to learn more today.



ROAD CLOSURES AND UPCOMING PROJECTS

Stay up-to-date on the latest road closures and upcoming projects on the Engineer's page using the link below.

[Engineer Page](#)

WORKFORCE STUDY

Read the Area 20 Strategic Workforce Analysis and Economy Recovery Plan below.

[Workforce Analysis](#)

Important Dates & Events

Mark your calendars for these important dates in the county!

Commissioner Meeting - The first meeting of 2024 will be held at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, January 9.

Office Closures

December 22 - County Offices Close at Noon

December 25 - County Offices Closed for Christmas

January 1 - County Offices Closed for New Year

Your County Commissioners



[Steve Davis](#)

[David L. Levacy](#)

[Jeff Fix](#)

SERVE. CONNECT. PROTECT.



Fairfield County Commissioners | 210 E. Main Street, Lancaster, OH 43130

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Welcome to the December 2023 Imagine Newsletter



Imagine

To bring about a vibrant community where people lead lives of greater independence and make meaningful contributions.

The holiday season is a magical time of year for all of us. But let's be honest, it can also be a bit stressful. It's important to take time to slow down and remember who we're celebrating and then share the love with loved ones. Count our blessings, sing our favorite songs, and enjoy time with others. Make our season be full of light and laughter for you and our families.



David Uhl,
Superintendent

For all of you here at Fairfield DD, [Happy Holidays](#)! Make the coming year be filled with great opportunities and success.

David

Vibrant Community Connection

Using Technology for Independence

Teresa Hancock art and painting. In her workshop, her paintings hang on the wall. A few years ago, when Teresa learned she was losing sight in her right eye, she was determined to do what she could to maintain her home and her independence. She is meeting this goal with the help of technology.

[Read how Teresa is using technology to maintain her independence](#)



Meaningful Contributions

Chairman's report was presented at the Ohio Association of Boards of Directors during their annual Banquet during their annual Convention into Monday received the Director's Award for Professionalism the year through his exceptional service, grace, and passion, the person he worked with was able to receive a title in his position and take part in opportunities for growth over the past two years



Community Partnership Corner

First Responder Crisis Intervention Training

Past month, Fairfax DD partnered with the ODJFS Board and Fairfax Medical Center to provide training for first responders on the difference between a mental health crisis, a medical emergency, and a criminal situation.



For the first time, Fairfax DD, a coordinator, provided a free of charge and high tech workshop to a community center. Dean Rapp, Behavior Support Coordinator, discussed strategies that can be used by first responders to help the individual interact with those who do not use verbal words to communicate. This training is important for first responders to be able to better recognize and understand mental health issues, which is a different role than their own. It better equips them to provide the needed support when they are on the scene.

The Gift of Time

Fairfield DD participated in the annual Gift of Time event sponsored by the Fairfield County Childhood Coalition. This event invited families to spend time together during the holiday season and was hosted at Canaater High School. Families who were referred to the event had holiday activities and crafts to enjoy.



Fairfield DD Feature Department

Early Intervention also known as early start for infants and toddlers, birth to age 3, with a developmental delay or disability. Fairfield DD staff, led by Jenna Trager, work with families to determine their routine and priorities. From there, the provider coaching suggestions to add into their normal day to foster the child's growth and development. Our staff work with families and children in a familiar place, with tools the family already has, and with people the child spends time with. These services are provided at home or out in the community based on the child and family's needs.



In addition to individual services, the staff hold several family support units throughout the year. These are designed to foster growth and learning, through playing with other children. It also serves as a safe space and a regular place to connect with other families and children benefit from early intervention. Working on developmental goals that empower the family and child at an early age. This is a great benefit as the child starts school and throughout their life.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, December 19, 2023 6:00pm - 7:40pm

Winter Bird Feeding. Join us for feeding our fine feathered friends at the month grow order with Ohio State University Extension at the Fairfield County District Office.

[Click here to register](#)

Wednesday, December 20, 2023 4:00pm - 6:00pm

Join us for holiday ornament painting and picture with the Grinch sign up and take an selfie between 4pm and 6pm at 10000 Union in Middletown

[Click here to register](#)

Sunday, December 31, 2023 10:00pm - 1:00am

Ring in 2024 with the annual Grafton Town Countdown in the heart of downtown Grafton. Spend time celebrating throughout downtown, then join us at 10000 to take a tree art in one square

[Click here for more information](#)

Friday, January 19, 2024 4:00pm - 5:50pm

The Middletown Public Library is excited to announce that we have been selected to receive a National Endowment for the Arts Big Read grant. Join us at 10000 for the book to film free movie of our title selected for the program. Meet the author, attend a presentation on Dream on Horizons to learn about their equine therapy program, and at 10000 meet their miniature therapy horse.

[Click here for more information](#)



**TO LEARN MORE OR REGISTER FOR EVENTS
VISIT OUR WEBSITE**

www.fairfieldddd.com



Fairfield County Board of Developmental Disabilities | 795 College Ave, Lancaster, OH 43130

[Unsubscribe rochelle.menningen@fairfieldcountyohio.gov](mailto:unsubscribe.rochelle.menningen@fairfieldcountyohio.gov)

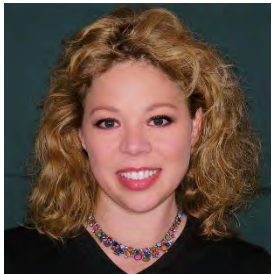
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AUDITOR'S LEDGER:

News from the County Auditor's Office



From the Desk of County Auditor Carri Brown

The holiday season and the end of another year is upon us. We are incredibly grateful to have served the Fairfield County community throughout the year, and look forward to many great things in 2024.

We have been enjoying some holiday cheer at the Auditor's Office, which you will read more about below. In this edition of *Auditor's Ledger*, we share a reminder about dog tag licensing and our virtual dog show. We also wish Randy Carter farewell as he joins a new role in Fairfield County. And, we celebrate Carter Corcoran for his recent certification. We also share information about the effect of development on assessed valuation, which we hope you find helpful. Additionally, please be sure to take the opportunity to vote on your favorite map from this year! You can read more in the article below.

If you missed a previous issue of our newsletter, you will find all of them posted online. We encourage you to visit our websites for ongoing updates and important information:

- [General County Auditor Information](#)
- [Real Estate Assessment Information](#)

On behalf of our team at the Auditor's Office, we wish each of you a joyful holiday season and the best of new beginnings for the year ahead. Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carri L. Brown".

Carri Brown, PhD, MBA, CGFM
County Auditor

News From the Auditor's Office

Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year!
From Auditor Cassi Brown & Team

The Effect of Development on Assessed Valuation

What is the effect of development on assessed valuation? To answer that question, one needs to first consider how valuation is based on the *market*. Another consideration is if the question is posed regarding the effect on an individual property or the effect on the overall aggregate assessed valuation.

Looking at an individual property, if development is a variable that would increase the marketability of a property, it is possible, especially over time, that the valuation would increase. There would be neighboring or comparable sales that would support the increase as a part of the codified triennial and sexennial updates. However, development could make a property less marketable. There would be data to support the case, as well.



Also, in a market where demand for properties exceeds supply, the fair market value of properties tend to increase. When supply exceeds demand, the opposite tends to occur. In this regard, development has an impact. An increase in the supply of housing, for example, could result in smaller increases in market values, even while demand continues to exceed supply.

Changes of valuation are driven by the market. Data about the market reveal the price at which a property would change hands between a willing buyer and a willing seller, neither being under any compulsion to buy or to sell and both having reasonable knowledge of relevant facts.

From an aggregate perspective, development in any year is termed “new construction.” New construction adds to the overall valuation. It typically exceeds any reductions of properties in the Central Ohio area. In Fairfield County, new construction was assessed at over \$100 million in 2023, for the tax year of 2024. The assessed valuation overall increased about the same amount.

Keep in mind that property taxes are *ad valorem* or based on value. Increases in valuation do not result in one-for-one increases in taxes, as there are other factors to consider, such as reduction factors that are calculated by the state and what has been approved by voters. The majority of property taxes are the result of voted levies.

Dog Tag Season Reminder

The Fairfield County Auditor's Office is accepting dog tag licensing applications and renewals now through January 31, 2024. The office will be hosting a virtual dog show on its website during this time. The Ohio Revised Code requires all dogs over the age of three months to have a dog tag. Dog tags also serve an important role in helping return lost dogs to their homes and rightful owners.

Tags can be purchased for one year, three years, or the lifetime of the dog by visiting the Auditor's Office or online through our [website](#). There are also several satellite locations, listed on the website, that sell one-year licenses.



Map of the Year - Don't Forget to Vote!

We've had a great response to our Map of the Month program, and we want to know which map is your favorite! Vote for your favorite map of 2023 [here](#) and check the January 2024 newsletter to find out who won.



Ugly Sweaters from our Staff!

Merry Christmas from our ugly Christmas sweater clan! Our staff's sweaters really speak to their interests and/or personalities. We love to have some holiday fun together!



Carter's Certification

Congratulations to Carter, one of our Weights & Measures Inspectors, on successfully completing the Weights & Measures Inspector Personnel Ohio Training Program. Carter was presented with his certificate at this year's Weights and Measures Conference at the Ohio Department of Agriculture.



Virtual Dog Show

December and January are dog license season, which means our virtual dog show is back! Send us a photo of your fur baby (or angel fur baby) and we'll add them to the show.

Send submissions to rachel.elsea@fairfieldcountyohio.gov. View all the entries [here](#).



Advent Window Walk

Don't miss the 2023 Advent Window Walk. [Click here](#) for an interactive map and list of homes participating. Auditor Brown's home is featured on the 8th night, with the Christmas carol theme "Ding! Dong! Merrily on High"



Farewell, Randy!

We're saying farewell and best wishes to Randy Carter, who is joining the Engineer as IT Administrator. Congratulations on your new role, Randy!

Read the full press release [here](#).



Follow Your Auditor's Office On
Social Media!

Did you know we have over 3,000 followers across our four social media platforms? If you're not one of those 3,000, you should join and follow!

- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [YouTube](#)

Resources



Public Records Requests

The mode, median, and average response time for public records requests to the County Auditor's Office is within one day. If you have a request, please contact Rachel Elsea at rachel.elsea@fairfieldcountyohio.gov.

Frequently Used Forms

Most of the County Auditor forms can be found on our website. Special thanks go out to Angel Horn, Deputy Auditor, for updating our vendor forms.

[Search Forms](#)

December Dates of Interest

- 1 – Dog Tag Registration Begins
- 22 – Christmas Eve: Offices Close at Noon
- 25 – Christmas Day: Offices Closed

SAVE THE DATE

January 7 - Appraisers Appreciation Day

January 8 - Board of Revision
Reorganization Meeting

- 31 – Homestead Deadline
(current year & late
application)

January Dates of Interest

- 1 – New Years Day:
Offices Closed
- 16 – Martin Luther King,
Jr. Day: Offices Closed

Fairfield County Auditor's Office | [Website](#)



Fairfield County Auditor's Office | 108 North High Street, Lancaster, OH 43130

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Fairfield Features



December 2023
Volume 25 Issue 3

The Fairfield Features is published quarterly by the Fairfield Soil & Water Conservation District
831 College Avenue, Suite B, Lancaster, Ohio 43130 (740) 653-8154

80TH ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

This year marked the 80th anniversary of the Fairfield Soil and Water Conservation District. The annual meeting was held on September 7, 2023, at the Fairfield County Ag Center. The evening started off with a Board of Supervisors election. Gregg Pontius was re-elected and Cheyenne Erb was elected to serve three-year terms beginning January 1, 2024. Dr. Aaron Wilson, Ag Weather and Climate Field Specialist with OSU Extension, gave a presentation on the effects of climate change on Ohio weather.



John & Katrina Hutton
(Hutton Farms)



Lee Kohler
(Marodore Farm)

The 2022 Cooperator of the Year Awards were presented to Lee Kohler (Marodore Farm) and John Hutton (Hutton Farms). Cathy Jerbic was chosen to receive the 2022 Conservation Partner of the Year Award. The 2022 Conservation Educator of the Year Award was given to Adam Philpott & Adam Salbert (not in attendance) with Pickerington High School.

Congratulations to all of our award winners!



Cathy Jerbic



Adam Philpott

Happy Holidays!

THINGS TO CONSIDER BEFORE SELLING TIMBER WORKSHOP

DATE: Wednesday, February 7, 2024
Back up: Wednesday, February 28, 2024
TIME: 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Fairfield County Ag Center
831 College Avenue, Lancaster OH
COST: FREE

RSVP TODAY!
740-653-8154

PRESENTERS:

Bob Mulligan, Forest Hydrology Mgr.
• Timber marketing
• Planning logging jobs
• Using master loggers
• New BMPs for Erosion Control booklet
Stephanie Downs, Cooperative Forest Mgmt. Admin.
• Role of ODNR Service Foresters
Jonathan Ferbrache, FSWCD Sr. Resource Specialist
• Timber harvest plan process

Displays with:

William Ray - Master Logger Program Mgr.
Carrie Brown - OSU Extension Educator, Ag & Natural Resources



**DIVISION OF
FORESTRY**
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY



**OHIO
FORESTRY
ASSOCIATION**



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT FORESTRY AND LOGGING?

Check out our friends at the Ohio Forestry Association at ohioforest.org. If you are considering a timber harvest and you are looking for a Master Logger that understands erosion and sediment control, they maintain a list you can review.

The Ohio Forestry Association, Inc. (OFA) maintains a safety training and voluntary certification program for logging contractors and their employees known as the Ohio Voluntary Master Logging Company Program. The program involves training loggers in chainsaw safety, Best Management Practices (BMP) for soil and water protection, and first aid and CPR.

Through the certification program each logger must complete periodic recertification keeping the logger up to date on new innovations, techniques, industry issues, etc. The logger is also required to be a member of a local loggers' chapter. The chapters are regionally organized groups of loggers and representatives associated with logging practices in Ohio. Their joint mission is to develop programs and projects to promote the specific and general welfare of loggers through information, education and legislative action.

Also, as a requirement of the program, each company must undergo BMP monitoring inspections. The inspection team is comprised of an ODNR Division of Forestry representative and a loggers' chapter representative. The inspection is done on an active site and a closed site with the intention of making sure the logger is following the Best Management Practices guidelines and to provide feedback to the OFA and Logging Standards Council (LSC) regarding the effectiveness of training as measured by implementation in the field.

The OFA maintains company records and administers the program while the LSC develops rules and enforces the procedures for the program. The LSC alone is responsible for decertification by a majority vote only. The LSC can revoke status for non-compliance with established standards or failure to complete recertification training or documentation within three months of expiration date. If a company is decertified it must retake all the initial training specified under certification requirements.

WINTER BIRD FEEDING

By: Lauren Vires, Wildlife & Education Specialist

The winter season brings with it many challenges for our local bird populations: cold temperatures, decreased food availability, and finding appropriate shelter from the elements. While many species fly south for the winter because of these challenges, there are many other species that tough it out right here in Ohio. For these overwintering species, we can play a part in their survival by providing a bird feeder. Bird feeders not only act as a reliable food source, but they can also be a lot of fun to watch!

One thing you'll notice while birdwatching is that some birds prefer one kind of feeder style or food type over another. This can be due to adaptations such as the shape of their beak or feet, their natural diet, or their behavior. Here are a few options you can choose from when making your bird feeder selection.

Tube feeders, just as it sounds, have a refillable tube that is made for holding seed. Along the tube are multiple access points with a little perch for the bird to comfortably sit on. Seed options to consider are black oil sunflower seeds, cracked corn, millet, milo, or a mixed bag with a little bit of everything. These seeds are a favorite meal of many different bird species such as the northern cardinal, black-capped chickadee, tufted titmouse, finches, sparrows, grosbeaks and many more! Many of these birds, like the northern cardinal, have cone shaped beaks perfectly built for cracking open those seeds.

Suet feeders are small wire cages that hold a suet cake. Suet cakes are made up of animal fat mixed with numerous combinations of nuts, seeds, grains and sometimes fruit. These are favorites of our woodpeckers like the hairy, downy, red-bellied, red-headed, and pileated woodpeckers. These birds have zygodactyl feet, meaning they have two toes in the front and two in the back, that allow for easy grip on the sides of trees and suet feeders.

Platform feeders provide a flat elevated surface that's conducive to spreading out seed, peanuts (unsalted), mealworms and more. The open concept of this feeder allows all birds big and small to come to the table. Blue jays and crows in particular love to snatch up the shelled peanuts and will aggressively prevent other birds from stealing their meal. Dried mealworms are a favorite of eastern bluebirds as they forage for insects throughout the summer.

Some birds even prefer to simply forage on the ground, picking up leftovers from the feeder above: Mourning doves, American robins, black-capped chickadees, tufted titmice, and others. If you are lucky enough, you might even spot the dark-eyed junco, a bird who migrates down to Ohio from Canada for the winter.

For a more comprehensive list of feeder food options and the species that enjoy each variety, check out the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's Project Feederwatch Common Feeder Birds bird list at feederwatch.org/learn/common-feeder-birds.

If you enjoy monitoring your bird feeders all winter long, consider becoming a citizen scientist and participating in Project Feederwatch through the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Participants' recorded data will contribute to conservation of these bird species. For more information, check out their homepage at feederwatch.org.

LOCAL AGRICULTURAL EASEMENT PURCHASE PROGRAM APPLICATIONS

If you are interested in applying for the Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program for 2024, sponsored locally by the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners, we

ask that you declare your interest by completing a simple form available in our office no later than **Friday, January 19, 2024**. We may not know the results of the applications for six months.

The biggest decision you need to make prior to application is how much money you require to have an agricultural easement purchased on your property.

To avoid any conflict, you must tell us in writing the lowest price per acre you are willing to accept to have the easement placed on the property. The program will never pay more than \$2,000 an acre per applicant farm and maximums based on funding distribution capacity in Fairfield County, which is unknown at this time. All applicant properties will be reviewed by the County Engineer for adequate road right-of-way and adjacent intersection alignment.

We encourage you to make a business decision as to the lowest price you can accept. Please contact Jonathan Ferbrache at (740) 415-3925 if you have interest in applying or questions about the program.



On Thursday, September 7th, the Lancaster-Fairfield County Chamber of Commerce joined the Fairfield SWCD in celebrating their 80th anniversary with a ribbon cutting prior to the SWCD Annual Meeting.

AVAILABLE NRCS PROGRAMS

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP): a voluntary conservation program that helps agricultural producers protect the environment while promoting agricultural production. Through EQIP, NRCS experts provide both technical and financial assistance to implement environmentally beneficial conservation practices on working agricultural land. A producer is reimbursed after a conservation best management practice (bmp) is implemented. This is a competitive process; all applications in Fairfield County are ranked and highest scores receive funding until dollars are used. A number of best management practices are more favorable than one to achieve better scores.

- Common bmps: livestock watering and animal waste facilities, heavy use pads, fencing, invasive species control, pollinator seedings, cover crops.

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/eqip-environmental-quality-incentives>

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP): a land conservation program administered by Farm Service Agency (FSA). In exchange for a yearly rental payment, farmers enrolled in the program agree to remove environmentally sensitive land from agricultural production and plant species that will improve environmental health and quality. Farmers receive an annual rental payment for the term of the multi-year contract, usually 10 years. Cost sharing is provided to construct or plant vegetative cover. FSA handles contracting and payments, NRCS writes the conservation plan, and Fairfield Soil and Water Conservation District provides technical assistance/engineering design if needed.

- Common bmps: grassed waterways, filter/buffer strips, whole field, wetlands/pollinator

<https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/conservation-programs/conservation-reserve-program/index>

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP): helps farmers build on existing conservation efforts while strengthening operations to improve grazing conditions, increase crop resiliency, or develop wildlife habitat. NRCS employees can customize a plan to help eligible landowners meet those goals either through additional conservation activities or by improving, maintaining, and managing existing conservation activities. Farmers receive an annual payment to maintain existing conservation systems or practices on the lands while also providing funding for at least one additional resource concern. Eligible land: crop, pasture, woodland

- Common bmps: cover crops, conservation crop rotation, no-till, wildlife plantings, timber stand improvement

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/csp-conservation-stewardship-program>



Through one-on-one, personalized advice, NRCS can work with you to find solutions for your conservation goals and farm needs. Contact Dave Libben, NRCS District Conservationist at 740-415-3921 to discuss these programs.

SPOTTED LANTERNFLY: IF YOU DETECT IT, COLLECT IT!

By: Carrie Brown, Agriculture & Natural Resources Educator, OSU Extension, Fairfield County

Chances are you have heard of our newest invasive pest, Spotted Lanternfly (SLF). With confirmed infestations in 11 counties throughout the state, including Franklin and Muskingum counties, SLF is getting closer. The good news is that SLF is not an outright plant-killer and can be managed when detected early.

SLF is a sap-sucking planthopper. Though it poses no risk to humans, it damages plants by using piercing mouth parts to feed on the sap of woody plant tissue including stems, branches, and trunks. Though SLF will feed on many types of plants, its favorite host is also an invasive species and a common weed tree called *Ailanthus altissima*, AKA tree of heaven. In fact, *Ailanthus* can be useful in monitoring for this pest, and its removal can be handy in helping to reduce the food source for SLF in infested areas. Unfortunately, SLF will also feed on a handful of our agricultural specialty crops and have shown a strong preference for grapevines. As such, vineyard owners (and winery go-ers!) should especially be on the look-out for this pest.



SLF looks quite different at various stages of its one-year life cycle, so what to look out for is dependent on the time of year. In November, adult SLFs are focused on reproduction. Females will lay their eggmasses on virtually any surface (trees, vinyl siding, railroad cars...your minivan) before dying. SLF overwinters as eggs until hatching in April-May. The nymphs that emerge are small, black, and spotted and slightly resemble ticks. They develop red patches as they grow before emerging in their familiar adult form in late summer.

More times than not, it is the public that finds this pest first, so WE NEED YOUR HELP! If you think you've spotted this pest, take a photo or collect a sample and report it immediately. You can call ODA's Spotted Lanternfly hotline at 614-728-6400, or call/visit the Fairfield Co. OSU Extension Office at 740-653-5419.



AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT

Landowners can enroll in an agricultural district with their county auditor. The land must be at least 10 acres, or if less than 10 acres, have an average gross income of at least \$2,500 from agricultural production. While the requirements are the same as for the Current Agricultural Use Value program, a landowner must enroll in each program separately. Agricultural districts must be renewed every 5 years.

Agricultural district registration affords important benefits to landowners, including an affirmative defense in certain nuisance suits that might be filed against landowners for their agricultural activities. Other benefits concern assessments for water, sewer and electric and eminent domain review.

If land is in a municipality, the agricultural district enrollment must be approved by the city's legislative body and the benefits of the agricultural district program can be modified. Contact Greg Forquer at the Fairfield County Auditor's Office at (740) 652-7036 for more information.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs and marital or familial status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs). Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the USDA TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint, write the Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington D.C. 20250 or call 1-800-245-6340 (voice) or (202) 720-1127 (TDD). USDA is an equal employment opportunity employer.

DISTRICT SUPERVISORS

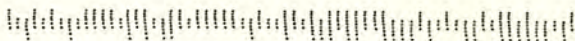
Linda Claypool
Amber Hoisington
David Ochs
Gregg Pontius
Doug Tenney

DISTRICT PERSONNEL

Nikki Drake
Jonathan Ferbrache
Molly Gilleland
Christina Holt
Chad Lucht
Josh Troyer
Lauren Vires

NRCS PERSONNEL

Jacob Eldridge
Dave Libben



9313083979 0008

FAIRFIELD CO. COMMISSIONERS
4095
210 E MAIN STREET #301
LANCASTER OH 43130

Please Don't Trash Me — Pass Me!
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FAIRFIELD SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
133

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01/06/2024

WINTER NEWSLETTER



LEAVE THE LEAVES

Let fallen leaves stay on your property this fall and winter. Yep- that's right! Many animals and insects, like bumblebees, rely on leaf litter to provide essential shelter during the cold months. Leaf litter also doubles as a natural fertilizer for your lawn and garden as it breaks down, and reduces the need to purchase fertilizer in the spring.

ENERGY SAVING TIPS

Cut back on your electricity bill this winter with some of these tips:

- leave blinds open during the day to let the sun naturally warm your home
- weather-strip doors and windows
- turn holiday lights off during the day with an automatic timer
- program your thermostat to heat only when people are in the home



HOLIDAY RECYCLING

Before you head to the dumpster to throw away your strands of holiday lights and the rolls upon rolls of wrapping paper, please instead consider recycling them. Believe it or not, those long strands of holiday lights can be recycled! The Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action Agency has a holiday light recycling bin in front of the Recycling Building located at 1761 E. Main St. in Lancaster. The holiday bin is available until February 1st. However, residents can recycle holiday lights year round by going through the Recycling Drive Thru.

Additionally, most wrapping papers are recyclable. Just be sure it is a paper product and not a foil or glittery paper. Also remove any bows, ribbons, or sticky tape before disposal.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action Agency will be hosting a Tire Collection event March 23rd. Funding for the event is provided by the Ohio EPA.

Interested in joining the Environmental Stewardship Committee? Send an email to either jon.kochis@fairfieldcountyohio.gov or bennett.niceswanger@fairfieldcountyohio.gov

Commissioner Steve Davis

January 3, 2024

210 East Main Street

Suite 301

Lancaster, Ohio 43130

Commissioner Davis:

I received a letter a short time ago asking me if I would be interested in leasing my 125-acre farm in Fairfield County- Richland Twp. to create a solar farm. My answer was, yes. This offer was from Sol Systems Company. They are a highly respected company. One of the main reasons I was listening carefully to the offer is because I worked in the engineering department of the largest electric co-op in Ohio for over 25 years and I am very aware of how close the demand and the supply for electric is in Ohio. In addition, the offer was very lucrative. Even if the offer was interesting, the first priority I have is to make sure my farmland would someday go back to productive crop farmland. I know how the electric distribution and transmission system is constructed. While working at the electric co-op I drew the construction manuals for all overhead and underground units. I drew grounding grids in substations, wiring diagram for substations, security system, designs for meter circuitry breads. I was the primary person working to convert a paper mapping system to a computer mapping system and install that computer map system in all the company vehicles. I have visited the Cardinals Power Plant twice where the electric power is created for most of southern Ohio. Therefore, I gained a significant amount of knowledge about the construction of electric distribution, substation, and transmission systems in Ohio. I understand what is involved in the construction of distribution power line and the tight regulation to fabricate powerline. I am writing you because of an association that I feel is infringing on my right to decide the uses of my farmland.

I was interested in this solar farm offer for three reasons. First, I thought it was an opportunity to continue learning and add to my knowledge about how another segment of the electric system grid functions. Secondly, I felt it was a chance to practice a principle of good farmland stewardship by letting the cropland rest for a prolong time. More about this later in my letter. Third, I have a historic farmhouse on the property that was built around 1815. The house was recently vandalized. The inside was badly damaged and I wanted to return the house to its original 1800 form. I need the kind of money I could get from a solar farm lease to complete this restoration of the home.

After receiving the offer, I began an email conversation with their land service. Thereafter, I obtained Sol System's thirty-nine page lease option contract. My attorney and I have reviewed and marked up this lease option contract, I have read the contract repeatedly, Therefore, I am aware what says! Subsequently I made contact with a person employed by Sol System that works as a utility solar scale developer by the name of Mr. Josh Kline. After questioning him about the lease, He said the contract is negotiable. I inquire with Mr. Kline about how interested Sol System really was in leasing for the construction a solar farm on my property. He replied with the following comment:

"We did do further analysis here and found that your area/county is largely opposed to solar projects. This would make it extremely difficult to obtain the necessary permits to build a project in your area. You site otherwise did look like a strong candidate for solar. Unfortunately, your county's opposition to solar

made it not favorable to do a project here. In the future if things change political and publicly, we'd be happy to revisit."

There seem to be a group in Fairfield County that calling themselves "Citizen for fair fields" (Cff). The major political and public policies are being fueled by this group. As you may know, Cff has plastered the sides of the roads in the county with signs that say "No solar panels on prime farm land". This organization has on their internet site a statement of what they refer to as "Our Mission". Where these individuals may mean well, I think many of the points listed in their mission are offensive and in some cases entirely untrue. For this group to have an opinion is one thing, but when their opinion start interfering with my rights to make decision as a landowner about the future use of my farm that is something that starts to boarder line on being illegal, in my view. Let me say, I'm infuriated that Cff want to dictate how I am using my farmland and how I oversee good administrator practices of my land. I'm writing to ask if you can help to produce a climate were political and public policies are fair to land owners. Feel free to share this letter at the Ohio Power sighting board or other meetings to ease the political and public policies. In addition, where fairness and truth rules. I want to make decisions about the use of my farmland. There are many rules and regulations already in place to make the construction of a solar farm safe for the public and the environment.

"Citizen for fair fields" Mission Issue 1: Promote preservation and stewardship of farmland.

One of the mission statements of Cff is "To promote preservation and stewardship of farmland". By this statement the Cff seems to think a solar farm will cause land to be permanently removed from farmland crop production. Not true. If I thought my farmland would be permanently removed from farmland crop production, I would not want to have a solar farm on the land. In fact, there is nothing permanent when it come the overhead distribution and transmission lines that any electric company has in the field. In Fact, All power line has to be replaced periodically to maintain service at the end of its life span.

As far as their stewardship concerns, the way that present-day farmers manage their farmland is incomplete and harmful in my view. For farmers to force the land to produce a crop year after year by penetrating and infiltrate the soil with synthetic chemicals like insecticides, herbicides and artificial fertilizers is a practice that is not whole-heartedly good stewardship. What, I think, is missing from modern day farming practices is letting the land rest for a period. This rest routine is sometimes called "fallow the land". (See Source 1) This resting can be transpire by permitting a solar farm to inhabit the land for a period and then removing the solar farm at the end of its life span.

To continue my point about fallow the land, a fallow the land system supports biodiversity, replenishing soil health, improving soil's moisture holding capacity, and increasing nutrient and microorganism levels and helps control soil insects above and underground insect problems. I wanted a groundcover on the land of grass, clover, and alfalfa for added improvement to the soil where the land had solar panel on the property. Alfalfa has deep root to stop erosion and will add nutrients (nitrogen) to the soil. I think to permit and incorporate solar panels on my farmland for an extended period (more than five years) will result in my farmland being some of the richest soil and most productive farmland in the entire state at the end of the solar farm lease. In addition, the "Citizen for a fair field" seems to think that solar panels on farmland in Fairfield County well completely contaminate and destroy the

environment. Essentially, some Agriculture can continue while the solar panel is in the field through Agrivoltaics that will improve the soil. Cff claim the lease will causes massive soil erosion, and believe that before the solar panel are installed Sol Systems (solar installers) will remove and sold all the top soil for a profit, none of that is true. Solar farm developers do not remove top soils. In my email discussions with Mr. Kline of Sol Systems I ask if the lease way negotiable. He said yes. Thereafter, I told him I want to add some items to the lease before and if I were to sign it. My additions to the lease are as follows.

My Proposed Approved Edit Items to the Lease Option

1. Tenant (Sol Systems) agrees to maintain a ground cover on the property of grass, clover, and alfalfa mixture of the three for the complete duration of the lease agreement to stop soil erosion.
2. At the end of the lease during Decommissioning Period when the solar equipment is being completely remove. The Landlord agrees that the exterior fence on the lot lines can remain in place. This refers to fence that was installed by the tenant during the installation period of the solar farm. The lot line fence does not need to be remover, however, any other interior fences that may have been installed during the installation period of the solar farm will be remover by and at the tenant's expense and at the end of the lease.
3. The tenant (Sol Systems) shall not strip off and or remove top soil from the Landlord's property at any time for duration of the solar option or lease agreement. The tenant cannot regrade the contour of the land (topography) of the property without the approval of the Landlord. If tenant wants to change contour of the land of the property, then this will be done on a case-by-case basis with the landlord having the finely say.
4. The driveway that directly serves the existing home and an area around exiting home on the Property is not accessible nor is it involved in this lease, (off limits to Tenant) The double gated farm gate can be used for entrance if tenant want to use that location as an entry to the property. The tenant is free to a new egress location point if so desired. An area around exiting home on the property is totally excluded from the lease option contract and not apart. The size of this area around exiting home is to be no less the than 5 acres. The area around exiting home on the property to be documented with a drawing in the final lease contract.

Mr. Kline of Sol Systems has no problem with any of my change to the lease. Solar farm developers are not in the business of stripping off and or remove top soil. Josh tells me there is no profit in it. For the developer the cost to remove top soil and then selling it results in a circumstance where the price the developers would receive is the same as the cost to remove it. There's no profit in doing it!

"Citizen for fair fields" Mission Issue 2: Supply and demand for Electric

I saw on the Cff web site that some members think there is an endless supply of electric. As far as the views of some Cff's members there is no supply and demand problems with electric, that allegation is only misinformation. I disagree; there is a supply and demand problem looming. At certain times of the year, the demand does reach and come close the supply. While working at the co-op I know many of the things consumers think about electric are very wrong and sometimes even fatal. If Cff's ideas were true then electric companies would have no need for the water heater programs. Electric companies around Ohio are mentoring the supply continually. The water heater program turns off the electric to consumer's water heater remotely when the demand is high and getting close to the supply. This is done to avoid long-term wide spread outage blackouts. The demand gets high in the summer when everyone is running their air conditions and in a cold wintertime when every consumer electric furnaces is running at an intense pace. The electric company that I worked for participated in a water heater program for the entire time of my employment with them.

"Citizen for fair fields" Mission Issue 3: Impact and implication of utility-scale solar panels

Another mission statement of the s of Cff is "To consider the impact and implication of utility-scale solar array on longstanding and productive agricultural". Cff apparently has a fear that when numerous solar farms are built in the county it will leads to wide spread starvation in the U.S.. The "Citizen for fair fields" group also has an anxiety that solar farms will cause contaminate to the environment. I disagree on both counts. My opinion is, As America converts from fossil fuel cars to electric vehicles, there will be a vast number of vehicles charging station built in every state. This change will cause a large increase in the demand for electric. Therefore, some solar farms will be needed to provide clean energy and to avoid long lasting wide spread outages. Not only will the need for electric surge but, I feel in turn, the production process of turning farm grain into ethanol biofuel will severely be curtailed, if not terminated completely. If this should materialize, it will free hundreds of millions of bushels of grain. When the need for ethanol biofuels diminishes to supplement fossil fuels for vehicles it will free grain. Farm grain will go back to feeding livestock and food for human concussion, which was the original use for grain. Consequently, I don't think anyone is going to face starvation.

Furthermore, all distribution and transmission line, both overhead and underground are regulated and built accord to the National Electrical Code (NEC) electric codebook (See Source #2 below) to advance public safety and protect the environment. There is no reason to believe solar farms will not be built in accordance with the National Electrical Code for public safety and to safeguard against any contaminate to the environment. The nation's electric grid already uses chemicals safely. Some of the fuse and transformer devices on existing distribution and transmission line contain sulfur hexafluoride (SF6) (See Source #3, #4 & #5 below) that could affect the environment. Maybe the Cff group would like to stop using electric altogether! Nevertheless, because electric companies do an excellent job of inspecting and maintaining the lines and equipment no harm is done to the environment. I'm sure this trend will continue on solar farms. In my opinion, because solar farms will have to be built to all the National Electrical Code requirements and federal permits solar farms will present no harm to the environment. This hold subject of the caring for the environment going back to confirms what Mr. Kline said earlier in his email to me, "This would make it extremely difficult to obtain the necessary permits to build a project in your area." Mr. Kline knows, as I do, there is a long list of permits and regulations and safety rules that are already in place to protect the environment. Therefore, the complaints by Cff are unnecessary--Kline is saying the Cff groups are just troublesome people with bogus philosophies.

During my many years of employment at the electric company, I listened to people with little knowledge about electric coming in the office and asking the most nonsensical questions and or request. The public does not understanding about how many numerous existing regulatory agencies (NEC,NECS, & IEEE) there are already in place to protect the environment from contaminate, damage, and ensure public safety. If the community is worried about the preservation and stewardship of farmland, Then Cff should be concern about all the housing subdivisions and warehouses that are permanently removing farmland from production not temporary solar farms. To make technical strides forward -knowledge must increase – you have to build an example and work with it to learn and improve the technical. Cff is standing in the way of progress ! As a passed employee of the electric company, I know there are two or more types of solar panels and the right style should be used for the job. The two most common types of solar panels are crystalline-silicon and thin film solar panels.

Charles R. Gilmore
6635 Indian Run Road
Pleasantville, Ohio 43148



Josh Kline Email address: josh.kline@solsystems.com
Sol Systems Utility Scale Solar Development

Sources Information:

What is Fallow ground:

“Put simply, a fallow year refers to leaving a field unseeded during a growing season, a year, or up to five years. Leaving the land without sowing for one, or several, vegetative cycles is done with one big goal in mind: to replenish nutrients. As it’s not being actively “worked,” the thought is that leaving arable land to just do its own thing will allow it to recover, store more organic matter, retain moisture, and disrupt pathogenic lifecycles by removing their hosts (plants and seeds). Just like humans need time to rest and recharge, fallowing is done for many of the same reasons. In addition to supporting biodiversity, replenishing soil health, reducing input costs for the farmer, improving soil’s moisture holding capacity, and increasing nutrient and microorganism levels.”

Source 1: <https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/garden-how-to/soil-fertilizers/what-is-fallowground.htm>

The **National Electrical Code (NEC)**, or **NFPA 70**, is a regionally adoptable standard for the safe installation of electrical wiring and equipment in the United States. It is part of the National Fire Code series published by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), a private trade association.[1] Despite the use of the term "national", it is not a Federal law. It is typically adopted by states and municipalities in an effort to standardize their enforcement of safe electrical practices.

In some cases, the NEC is amended, altered and may even be rejected in lieu of regional regulations as voted on by local governing bodies. The "authority having jurisdiction" inspects for compliance with these standards. The NEC should not be confused with the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) published by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). The NESC is used for electric power and communication utility systems including overhead lines, underground lines and power substations. The NEC is developed by NFPA's Committee on the National Electrical Code, which consists of twenty code-making panels and a technical correlating committee. Work on the NEC is sponsored by the National Fire Protection Association. The NEC is approved as an American national standard by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). It is formally identified as ANSI/NFPA 70.

Source #2 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Electrical_Code

Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF6) Basics:

Sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆) is a synthetic fluorinated compound with an extremely stable molecular structure. Because of its unique dielectric properties, electric utilities rely heavily on SF in electric power systems for voltage electrical insulation, current interruption, and arc quenching in the transmission and distribution of electricity. Yet, it is also the most potent greenhouse gas known to-date. Over a 100-year period, SF is 23,500 times more effective at trapping infrared radiation than an equivalent amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂). SF is also a very stable chemical, with an atmospheric lifetime of 3,200 years. As the gas is emitted, it accumulates in the atmosphere in an essentially un-degraded state for many centuries. Thus, a relatively small amount of SF can have a significant impact on global climate change. More information on long-lived fluorinated greenhouse gases, their emissions, emission sources, and trends is available on EPA's overview of greenhouse gases page.

Sources #3 & Source #4: Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF₆) Basics | US EPA <https://www.epa.gov/eps-partnership/sulfur-hexafluoride-sf6-basics>

Use in Electric Power Systems

Since the 1950's, the U.S. electric power industry has used SF in circuit breakers, gas-insulated substations and other switchgear used in the transmission system to manage the high voltages carried between generating stations and customer load centers. Disconnectors and ground switches use SF primarily for insulation, and individually, they contain only slightly less SF than a circuit breaker. These devices are used to isolate portions of the transmission system where current flow has been interrupted (using a circuit breaker). Gas-insulated substations also use a significant amount of SF, and GIS installations house SF - insulated circuit breakers, busbars and monitoring equipment. The largest use of SF occurs in high-voltage circuit breakers, where, in addition to providing insulation, SF is used to quench the arc formed when an energized circuit breaker is opened.

Several factors affect SF emissions from electric power systems, such as the type and age of the SF containing equipment (e.g., old circuit breakers can contain up to 2,000 pounds of SF, while modern breakers usually contain less than 100 pounds) and the handling and maintenance procedures practiced by electric utilities. Because of its long-life span and high global warming potential (GWP), even a relatively small amount of SF can impact the climate. The electric power industry can reduce the nation's SF emissions through cost-effective operational improvements and equipment upgrades. Through improvements in the leak rate of new equipment, refurbishing older equipment, and the use of

more efficient operation and maintenance techniques, utilities often find economical solutions to reduce SF emissions.

Under the partnership, EPA shares information on best management practices and technical issues to help reduce emissions. Some cost-effective options to reduce SF emissions are:

- Leak Detection and Repair
- Use of Recycling Equipment
- Employee Education/Training

Reducing SF emissions helps electric power systems:

- Save Money - Purchasing SF can be expensive, so reducing emissions can save money.
- Increase Grid Reliability - Use of improved SF equipment and management practices helps protect system reliability and efficiency.
- Protect the Environment - SF is the most potent greenhouse gas known. It is 23,500 times more effective at trapping infrared radiation than an equivalent amount of CO and stays in the atmosphere for 3,200 years.

Source 5: <https://epa.gov/ghgemissions/overview-greenhouse-gases#fgases>
& US EPA <https://www.epa.gov/hw/end-life-solar-panels-regulations-and-management>

Date: 10/10/2023 [09:06:22 AM EDT]
From: Josh Kline <josh.kline@solsystems.com>
To: rcharlie897@localnet.com
Cc: Lucie Semone <lucie.semone@solsystems.com>, Charlie Falter <charlie.falter@solsystems.com>
Subject: RE: Sol Systems Follow Up

Hi Charles,

We did do further analysis here and found that your area/county is largely opposed to solar projects. This would make it extremely difficult to obtain the necessary permits to build a project in your area. You site otherwise did look like a strong candidate for solar. Unfortunately your county's opposition to solar made it not favorable to do a project here. In the future if things change political and publicly, we'd be happy to revisit.

Sincerely,
Josh

-----Original Message-----

From: rcharlie897@localnet.com <rcharlie897@localnet.com>
Sent: Monday, October 9, 2023 9:06 AM
To: Josh Kline <josh.kline@solsystems.com>
Cc: Lucie Semone <lucie.semone@solsystems.com>; Charlie Falter <charlie.falter@solsystems.com>
Subject: Re: Sol Systems Follow Up

Hi Josh,

I want to check with you to see how you are coming along with the analysis of my farmland at 6635 Indian Run Road. Do you have any information you can pass along?

Thanks Charles Gilmore

P.S. You may have gotten an email from Andrew Wecker. He is someone that is helping me understand land analysis. Feel free to call him at 740-990-0750 and talk with him about the land analysis of my farm.

Hi Charles,

I hope you had a good Labor Day as well. Thank you for sending over your land information. We were able to use that information to identify your land. However, we are still running our analysis on your land. It might take another week or two. Sorry for the delay here, we have had a few people out of the office on vacations which has delayed this process. Does that time frame still work for you?

Cheers,
Josh

-----Original Message-----

From: rcharlie897@localnet.com <rcharlie897@localnet.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 12:49 PM
To: Josh Kline <josh.kline@solsystems.com>
Cc: Lucie Semone <lucie.semone@solsystems.com>; Charlie Falter <charlie.falter@solsystems.com>
Subject: Re: Sol Systems Follow Up

Hi Josh

Hope you had a good Labor Day. I want to check with you, I sent my address, parcel ID, or latitude and longitude to you a while back. Did you get it and was it what you need to evaluate my farmland? Also wanted to know how long the evaluate will take?

Thanks Charles Gilmore

Quoting Josh Kline <josh.kline@solsystems.com>:

Hi Charles,

I'm sorry to hear about your difficulties working with Priority Land

Date: 09/05/2023 [12:52:49 PM EDT]
From: Josh Kline <josh.kline@solsystems.com>
To: rcharlie897@localnet.com
Cc: Lucie Semone <lucie.semone@solsystems.com>, Charlie Falter <charlie.falter@solsystems.com>
Subject: RE: Sol Systems Follow Up

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Cheers,
Josh

-----Original Message-----

From: rcharlie897@localnet.com <rcharlie897@localnet.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 12:49 PM
To: Josh Kline <josh.kline@solsystems.com>
Cc: Lucie Semone <lucie.semone@solsystems.com>; Charlie Falter <charlie.falter@solsystems.com>
Subject: Re: Sol Systems Follow Up

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Thanks Charles Gilmore

Quoting Josh Kline <josh.kline@solsystems.com>:

Hi Charles,

I'm sorry to hear about your difficulties working with Priority Land Services.

We would be interested looking further into your farm. As next steps, if you could send the address, parcel ID, or latitude and longitude, then we could evaluate the land and set up a call with you to discuss our analysis of your land with you. We would be open in discussing contract edits and could have that discussion on the follow up call if that works for you. Let me know if that process works for you.

Cheers,
Josh

-----Original Message-----

From: rcharlie897@localnet.com <rcharlie897@localnet.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 1:14 PM
To: Josh Kline <josh.kline@solsystems.com>
Cc: Lucie Semone <lucie.semone@solsystems.com>; Charlie Falter <charlie.falter@solsystems.com>
Subject: Re: Sol Systems Follow Up

Hi Josh Kline

Thanks for answering my email, Yes, I am considering and am interested in leasing my farm as a place for a solar farm. I have a 125-acre farm in Fairfield County Ohio. Is that something you would be interested in as a place to build a solar farm?

FYI:

I received a letter from Priority Land Services in early 2022 from a Mr. Jerry Williams. He gave me a copy of a lease option contract and Mr. Nathan Anderson's name. However, I have found it impossible to work with Mr. Anderson. I have tried to ask a few questions about the lease contract, and he always says I'll get you an answer the first of

next week or as soon as possible and it takes him two to five months to get back, if at all. If my farm size is of some interest to you could you answer a few questions I have with about the leasing process. The talks with Mr. Anderson are not going anywhere fast. I wanted to ask if you are open to editing the contract slightly, nothing that would interfere with the ability to construct or operate a solar farm at all. One of the things I wanted would be a saving to you. From what little I can get from Mr. Anderson you are open to all of my contract edits.

Thanks Charles Gilmore
Look forward to your return email.

Quoting Josh Kline <josh.kline@solsystems.com>

Hi Charles,

My name is Josh Kline and I work for Sol Systems doing utility scale solar development. I am replying in regard to your intake request you sent over on Friday. To answer your questions, we do work with Priority Land Services, LLC. Nathan Anderson is not an attorney, he is one of our land agents who helps us find land for solar development. If solar development interests you, we would be happy to set up a time to talk with you further. On this email I included two other members of my team as well. Hope to talk with you soon.

Best Regards,

Josh Kline

Senior Analyst - Utility Scale Development [Sol Systems, LLC]<<https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2F>

<https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.solsystems.com%2F%252F%26data%3D05%257C01%257Cjosh.kline%2540solsystems.com%257Ca84&data=05%7C01%7Cjosh.kline%40solsystems.com%7C9545795906b64426229708dbae2ffbe9%7Cb3b086f61f644f92ac7b2b1fb34a9812%7C0%7C638295293880706129%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6IklhYWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C2000%7C%7C&sdata=njQwCUwYHUT3Simow1dSWoGPV9EZCpVWk5P6IicrnFs%3D&reserved=0>

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Sol Systems, LLC

1101 Connecticut Avenue NW | Second Floor | Washington, DC 20036 D

(202) 448-7658 | M (484) 535-1298

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7 01/09/2024

Fairfield County commissioners to stress transportation, housing and workforce in 2024

Solar fields may also become an issue this year for Fairfield County commissioners



Jeff Barron

Lancaster Eagle-Gazette

January 7, 2024

LANCASTER – Look for the Fairfield County Board of Commission to focus on housing, workforce training and transportation this year. Commissioners Dave Levacy, Steve Davis and Jeff Fix said all three are related to helping more people find jobs.

Levacy and Davis are running unopposed for re-election in the March primary and November general election, barring write-in candidates. They are in two separate elections and are not running against each other.

Fix is not up for re-election until 2026.

Here is a look at what the three commissioners see for 2024:

DAVE LEVACY

Levacy said the beginning of a new year is not a time for the commissioners to change course on issues like housing, transportation and job creation.

He said the land use plan the county is working on is part of that strategy.



The county wants to update its 2018 comprehensive development plan, which is where the current plan came from. The county is working with a company called Planning NEXT on the new plan. Fix previously said trying to figure out where to place housing, industry, retail and more is the purpose of the plan. He said local villages and townships can use the plan however they see fit and that nothing is forced on them.

Levacy said finding affordable housing can be a barrier to those seeking employment because of housing costs. He said the land use plan addresses that issue in a meaningful way, but that township trustees make the final decisions on land use.

The possibility of companies developing solar fields has been a topic of discussion at the weekly commission meetings. Members of the public have mostly been opposed to them. Levacy said Eastern Cottontails plan for a solar field in Walnut Township is the most advanced. But no company has applied to the Ohio Power Siting Board to build one yet.

"There's two parts to that story," Levacy said. "You don't want to lose the farmland. The other aspect is 'I don't want to look at it. I don't want to see it. I don't want to look out my door and look at it.' Now I can understand that.

"But the third thing is property rights. How do you deal with that and tell somebody they can't do with their property the way they wish? That doesn't mean I'm on one side or the other of that issue. You just have to consider all of these things."

STEVE DAVIS

Davis said the commission's most important job is acting as the funding authority for all county operations.

"What we should focus on in 2024 is our fiscal situation, which is very positive right now," he said. "We're in good shape for as far as we can reasonably forecast. But when you look beyond that five-year period where we forecast, I think there's trouble out there in the trajectories of revenue and expense in maybe that seventh or eighth year."



Therefore, Davis said the commissioners should start preparing for that now to alleviate any financial trouble then if expenses exceed revenue.

"We can make small moves now that will have a compounding effect over the next six or seven years," he said. "And if we're smart right now we can avoid that trouble that I think is looming out there in the years beyond our ability to accurately forecast."

Davis said the county should expend some of its cash now to reduce future costs. That includes buying properties it's now renting, like the commissioners want to do with the Colonnade medical building on Sheridan Drive.

Davis said the county should also examine its "heavy, heavy reliance on electricity." He said the county may spend around \$3 million on electricity this year. Therefore, Davis said the county may need to get better heating and cooling systems for its buildings or better insulate them.

Regarding energy, Davis said if a solar company were to be approved later this year, there could be some activity as early as 2025. But he said he's not pre-ordaining the approval process.

"I'm still wanting more evidence on both sides," Davis said. "That's what I think the power siting process should be about is gathering that evidence so that we can make a good decision for Fairfield County."

JEFF FIX

Fix said the county is in as good a financial situation as it's ever been. He said that allows the commissioners to pursue the housing and development projects they want, along with workforce development and transportation issues.

"It's all tied to trying to provide opportunities for people who live in our county and businesses that want to be here," Fix said. "If we can have those good skilled-trade jobs created here and train people to fill those jobs and find them a reasonable place to live and way to get to work and back, then I feel like we're making a pretty significant impact on the county."



On the transportation front, the county will take over the Lancaster-Fairfield Public Transit System from the city in July.

Fix is also instrumental in the county developing the land use plan. There were some public meetings on the plan last year, and Fix said there will be more this year.

Fix said the land use plan is a way to help combat poverty in the county, which is a priority he's talked about for a couple years or so now.

"It's about figuring out how to build more homes that are reasonable in cost," he said. "How to locate businesses in places that make the most sense. How to protect the farmland and how to make sure that the taxpayers aren't footing the bill for all this. That's all the land use plan."

jbarron@gannett.com

740-681-4340

Twitter: @JeffDBarron

REGULAR MEETING #1 - 2024
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE
JANUARY 09, 2024

AGENDA FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 09, 2024

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 9:00 AM | Review |
| 9:15 AM | Hearing for Violet Township New Community Authority |
| | Regular Meeting |
| | Pledge of Allegiance |
| | Announcements |
| | Approval of Minutes for December 12, 2023 |
| | Approval of Minutes for January 8, 2024, Reorganization Meeting |
| | Commissioners |
| 2024-01.09.a | A resolution authorizing the amendments to five existing 2006 land use restriction agreements, and matters related thereto. [Commissioners] |
| 2024-01.09.b | A resolution amending resolution 2023-11.07.a, which established the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners' 2024 Review Session and Regular Meeting Dates, and Special Meeting Dates, and the times and locations for those meeting dates. [Commissioners] |
| 2024-01.09.c | A resolution to approve to reduce appropriations for the CDBG Critical Infrastructure Grant FY2022, Fund# 2788, Subfund# 8317. [Commissioners] |
| 2024-01.09.d | A resolution authorizing fund to fund transfers for intergovernmental agencies for 2024 Allocations. [Commissioners] |
| 2024-01.09.e | A resolution authorizing 2024 Allocations for Fairfield Area Humane Society, Lancaster Public Transit, & Fairfield County Municipal Court. [Commissioners] |
| 2024-01.09.f | A resolution authorizing fund to fund transfers for Fairfield County Job and Family Services (JFS), 1st Quarter 2024 Allocation. [Commissioners] |
| 2024-01.09.g | A resolution authorizing fund to fund transfer from the General Fund # 1001 to Fund# 4832 LGIF debt – Fairfield County Commissioners [Commissioners] |
| 2024-01.09.h | A resolution authorizing a fund to fund transfer to the Fairfield County Family Adult Children First Council for Multi-Youth Committee, 1st payment for the 2024 Allocation [Commissioners] |

2024-01.09.i	A resolution to approve a memo expense for interest allocation reimbursements for Fairfield Department of Health, Fairfield County Parks, & Fairfield County Port Authority – Fund #7012, #7321, #7308, & #7865. [Commissioners]
2024-01.09.j	A resolution authorizing fund to fund transfers for intergovernmental agencies for the 1st half 2024 Allocations. [Commissioners]
2024-01.09.k	A resolution to approve the establishment of the Violet Township New Community Authority under Ohio Revised Code 349.03 and 349.04. [Commissioners] Fairfield County Auditor- Finance
2024-01.09.l	A resolution granting the Fairfield County Auditor, Dr. Carri Brown, and Auditor's staff, permission to travel and attend during 2024. [Auditor- Finance] Fairfield County Clerk of Courts- Legal Division
2024-01.09.m	A resolution granting the Fairfield County Clerk of Courts, Branden C. Meyer, and Clerk of Courts' staff, permission to travel and attend during 2024. [Clerk of Courts- Legal] Fairfield County Court of Common Pleas
2024-01.09.n	A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure object category Fairfield County Common Pleas FY21 TCAP Grant 2852 [Common Pleas Court] Fairfield County Dog Shelter
2024-01.09.o	A Resolution Approving an Account-to-Account Transfer into a Major Expenditure Object Category – Fund 2002. [Dog Shelter] Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency
2024-01.09.p	A resolution to approve the 2024 Fairfield County Emergency Operations Plan and signing of the Promulgation Statement. [EMA]
2024-01.09.q	A resolution authorizing the approval of final repayment of an advance to the General Fund from EMA 2890 Hazardous Materials Emergency Grant Fund. [EMA]
2024-01.09.r	A resolution to request for appropriations for receipts and cash advance for EMA Public Utilities Commission of Ohio Grant Fund 2898 [EMA]
2024-01.09.s	A resolution to request for appropriations for receipts for EMA Central Ohio Trauma System Grant Award Fund 2090 and advance (8221) [EMA] Fairfield County Engineer
2024-01.09.t	A resolution granting Jeremiah Upp, County Engineer, and staff permission to attend. [Engineer]
2024-01.09.u	A resolution to approve the Annual County Highway System Mileage Certification for 2023. [Engineer]
2024-01.09.v	A resolution to approve a Change Order for the WAL-31, FAI-CR11-3.211 Canal Road Bridge Replacement Project. [Engineer]

2024-01.09.w	A resolution to authorize the use of a Force Account by the Fairfield County Engineer [Engineer]
2024-01.09.x	A resolution of increase appropriations, appropriate from unappropriate, account to account and fund to fund transfer for CLE-12 Bridge Replacement Project [Engineer]
2024-01.09.y	A resolution of increase appropriations, appropriate from unappropriate, account to account and fund to fund transfer for WAL-31 Bridge Replacement Project [Engineer]
2024-01.09.z	A resolution to request for appropriations for additional unanticipated receipts of memo receipts and memo expenses for fund 3434 GRE-13 Bridge Replacement Project [Engineer]
	Fairfield County Facilities
2024-01.09.aa	A resolution to sign a Contract with Veregy, and the Fairfield County Commissioners for building automation and HVAC control [Facilities]
2024-01.09.bb	A Resolution Authorizing the Approval for Amendment No. 3 to a Contract between VPL Architects, Inc., and the Fairfield County Commissioners [Facilities]
	Fairfield County Job and Family Services
2024-01.09.cc	A resolution to approve a memo receipt and expenditure for Fairfield County Job & Family Services, Fund 2072 reimbursing Fund 2018 [JFS]
2024-01.09.dd	A resolution to approve a memo receipt and expenditure for Fairfield County Job & Family Services, Fund 2015 reimbursing Fund 2018 [JFS]
2024-01.09.ee	A resolution to approve an E-payment services application between Point and Pay, LLC and Fairfield County Job and Family Services. [JFS]
	Fairfield County Juvenile/Probate Court
2024-01.09.ff	A resolution authorizing the approval of a contract by and between Fairfield County Probate Court and the Fairfield County Board of Developmental Disabilities (DD Board) (Probate Court) [Juvenile/Probate Court]
2024-01.09.gg	A resolution authorizing the approval of a service contract by Fairfield County Juvenile Court and The Village Network. [Juvenile/Probate Court]
2024-01.09.hh	A Resolution Authorizing the Reduction in Major Expenditure Object Category Appropriations for Fund # 2481, Juvenile Recovery Fund [Juvenile Court] [Juvenile/Probate Court]
2024-01.09.ii	A Resolution Authorizing the Reduction in Major Expenditure Object Category Appropriations for Fund # 2641, Title IV-E Fund [Juvenile Court] [Juvenile/Probate Court]
2024-01.09.jj	A Resolution to Appropriate from Unappropriated in a Major Expenditure Object Category for Juvenile Court; #2408 Drug Court Program Sub Fund #8209 [Juvenile Court] [Juvenile/Probate Court]
	Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action Agency

2024-01.09.kk A resolution to enter into a contract between Fairfield County and the Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action Agency for Recycling and Education Services for 2024. [Community Action]

Fairfield County Prosecutor

2024-01.09.ll A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure object category Commissioner Allocation for FOJ - Prosecutor Allowance 21105000 590100. [Prosecutor]

Fairfield County Recorder

2024-01.09.mm A resolution granting the Fairfield County Recorder, Lisa McKenzie, and the Recorder's staff, permission to travel and attend during 2024. [Recorder]

Fairfield County Regional Planning Commission

2024-01.09.nn A resolution to approve a development agreement for the Stone Hill Estates subdivision. [Regional Planning Commission]

Fairfield County Sheriff

2024-01.09.oo A Resolution for approval of an Agreement between Carbyne and the Fairfield County Sheriff's Office [Sheriff]

Fairfield County Treasurer

2024-01.09.pp A resolution granting the Fairfield County Treasurer, James Bahnsen, and Treasurer's staff, permission to travel and attend during 2024. [Treasurer]

Payment of Bills

2024-01.09.qq A resolution authorizing the approval of payment of invoices for departments that need Board of Commissioners' approval. [Commissioners]

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for January 16, 2024, 9:00 a.m.

Executive Session to Discuss Personnel Related Matters, 10:00 a.m.

Adjourn

Regular Meeting #57 - 2023
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
December 12, 2023

Review Meeting

The Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Hearing Room located at 210 E. Main St., Lancaster, OH. Commissioner Davis called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Dave Levacy, and Jeff Fix. Also present: County Administrator Aundrea Cordle; Deputy County Administrator Jeff Porter; Clerk Rochelle Menningen; Communications & Information Coordinator Bennett Niceswanger; Recorder Lisa McKenzie; Treasurer Jim Bahnsen; Auditor Carri Brown; Engineer Jeremiah Up; Chief Civil Prosecutor, Amy Brown-Thompson; Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Steven Darnell; Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Austin Lines; Facilities and EMA Director, Jon Kochis; Utilities Director, Tony Vogel; JFS Director, Corey Clark; City of Lancaster Safety Service Director, Paul Martin; Mayor of Lancaster, David Scheffler; Incoming Lancaster City Safety Service Director, Carrie Woody; JFS Budget Director, Josh Crawford; IT Director, Dan Neeley; JFS Deputy Director, Heather O'Keefe; Real Estate Director, Dave Burgei; CAUV Specialist, Greg Forquer; Real Estate Manager, Josh Harper; Appraiser, Noel Soddors; Appraisal Assistant, Crystal Walker; Appraisal Assistant, Makayla Finley; United Way Campaign Coordinator, Emily Cordle; Economic Development Specialist, Vince Carpico; Mike Fornataro; Mike Crites; PRC Planner, Safa Saleh; Ray Stemen; Judy Stemen; Sherry Pymmer; Jeanette Curtis; Francis Martin; Chief Deputy Treasurer, Michael Kaper; and Nick Bondren.

Virtual attendees: Josh Horacek, Arika Farrar, Lori Hawk, Jeanie Wears, Jessica Murphy, Jeff Barron, Michael Kaper, Jason Grubb, Shelby Hunt, Becky, Deb, Alex Alonzo, Belinda Nebbergall, Sara Madenwald, Tony Howard, Ashley Arter, Britney Lee, Tony Vogel, Lynette Barnhart, Abby King, Park Russell, BGM, Marcy Fields, Jennifer Morgan, Andy Boystel, Greg Forquer, and Hodder.

Welcome

Commissioner Davis opened the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance.

Recognize Vic Christopher for Serving on RLF Board and Welcome to Linda Sheridan

Mr. Christopher stated the Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) has changed over his nine years on the board and added that it is county funds that assist county businesses and fill the gap where banks may fall short.

Ms. Sheridan stated that she looks forward to stepping into Mr. Christopher's role and adding her expertise.

Commissioner Davis thanked Mr. Christopher for his service and added that he is appreciative of the skillset that both he and Ms. Sheridan brought and will bring to the RLF.

Recognition of Paul Martin and Mayor David Scheffler from the City of Lancaster

Commissioner Davis spoke about the opportunity to express appreciation for individuals that partner with the county and congratulated Mayor David Scheffler and Service Safety Director Paul Martin on their careers in public service. He also recalled his years spent working with Mr. Martin.

Commssioner Fix thanked Mr. Martin for his years of service and the work he assisted with at the Health Department and in other areas of the county.

Commissioner Levacy congratulated Mr. Martin on his career in public service and spoke about how he appreciated being able to call Mr. Martin regarding matters in the city.

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Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
December 12, 2023

Mr. Martin stated he worked with Commissioner Fix when he lived in Pickerington and has appreciated the relationships he has had with each commissioner and looks forward to the future of the city and the county.

Commissioner Davis recalled that Mayor Scheffler's entry to public service came at a time when there was not much trust in government and thanked the mayor for stabilizing the city.

Commissioner Levacy gave his best wishes to Mayor Scheffler and spoke about his leadership and partnerships.

Commissioner Fix stated he was republican party chairman when Mayor Scheffler stepped into his role and added that he was most impressed by how well Mayor Scheffler stepped into a difficult position.

Mayor Scheffler thanked everyone for the kind words and added that he believes his success would not have been possible without his colleagues and staff. He spoke about the outstanding working relationship between the city and the county and pointed out that there are several instances around the state where cities and counties are suing one another. The mayor complimented the Commissioners for their collaboration with other entities, agencies, and boards throughout the county and state.

Commissioner Davis stated he is looking forward to working with Carrie Woody as she steps into her new role with the city of Lancaster.

Ms. Woody stated she looks forward to continuing working with the Commissioners.

Real Estate Appraisers Appreciation Day

Commissioner Davis spoke about Real Estate Appreciation Day.

Auditor Brown stated she plans to send copies of the proclamation to their partners in private industry and added that real estate appraisers are excellent professionals that are aligned with the county's revenue. She introduced some public and private real estate professionals.

Welcome Law Library Board Member, Mike Crites

Commissioners Davis spoke about the quality of members serving on boards and introduced Mike Crites.

Mr. Crites stated he recently retired after forty-four years working for a private law firm. He added that he was raised in a family where he was taught that service never stops and looks forward to continuing to serve his community. He also stated that his wife was born and raised in Lancaster and that they moved back to Lancaster in 2019.

Commissioner Davis stated that he appreciates Mr. Crites' willingness to serve.

Commissioner Fix added his appreciation for people who have an area of expertise.

Commissioner Levacy stated that if Mr. Crites finds himself wanting to serve on other county boards, they would be happy to find more positions for him.

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Listen and Learn – Buckeye Lake Region Corporation

Executive Director of the Buckeye Lake Region Corporation (BLRC), Mike Fornataro, presented on the tri-county board that addresses items concerning the Buckeye Lake area. Mr. Fornataro provided a handout that is available in the minutes along with the projects, goals, and achievements of the BLRC. He spoke about a new dredge along the eastern third of the lake, a feeder channel owned by ODNR, the “Queen of the Lake” boat, the Independence Day celebration, water quality focus groups, and park projects. He added that Buckeye Lake is a shared economic engine and spoke about the cooperation and weekly calls with the Commissioners from all three counties surrounding the lake.

Commissioner Davis stated that it is not uncommon for the commissioners to focus and specialize on different initiatives and added that the Commission backs Commissioner Levacy in his role with the BLRC.

Commissioner Levacy stated he is a supporter of the BLRC’s projects and added that the relationship between the community and ODNR is incredible. The Commissioner added that the BLRC is effective in methods used for water quality.

Mr. Fornataro thanked Commissioner Levacy for assisting with connections in the area and at the state level.

Commissioner Fix stated that the BLRC was created at a critical time and congratulated the group on its work.

Commissioner Davis spoke about stories of the lake, and its events and celebrations, and thanked the organization for returning the region to its former glory.

Public Comments

Ray and Judy Stemen of Lancaster spoke about physical and mental health and the amount spent by governments to help children. She also spoke about COVID vaccines, disciplining children, face masks, COVID related deaths, and her concern that Bill Gates and other tech giants are working to take over the nation’s food supply.

Jeff Williamson of Baltimore spoke about Greenfield Township and Walnut Township resolutions regarding the creation of exclusionary zones to prevent solar farms.

Sherry Pymmer of Walnut Township spoke about the resolution from Walnut Township and spoke about the Fox Squirrel project in Madison Township. She stated that the project has a higher wattage per panel due to metals used and therefore has a higher possibility of leaching into the ground. She added that solar panels degrade with age and that Ohio has a 12-15% efficiency rate for solar energy. She also spoke about farmland owned by Bill Gates.

Nick Bondren of the Ohio Land and Liberty Coalition stated that the issue of solar energy farms also encompasses property rights and advocated for the emphasis of personal liberty to decide how to use one’s own land. He added that property rights give us power and that restricting property rights would also restrict innovation. Mr. Bondren stated that Americans enjoy the rights of the freedoms that have been fought for by many people.

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Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
December 12, 2023

Commissioner Davis stated that the purpose of having public comments is for the commission to have the opportunity to listen to the public's thoughts and concerns. He added that the Commission is engaged with legal counsel on issues related to land use and that the Commission is very concerned about farmland preservation and food production. The Commissioner further stated that the Commission is leading in a manner that they will be able to sustain the attacks that will follow and assured the public that the Commission is listening and doing their homework, so they are able to navigate the voters and taxpayers through an impending perilous path.

Legal Update

None.

County Administration Update

- *The County Administration Update was provided by County Administrator, Aundrea Cordle, unless otherwise noted.*

Week in Review

Conversion of New Phone System

The county discussed implementing a new phone system several years ago, and Dan Neeley has been working on that conversion for the last two years. Dan is excited to announce that the last group to receive a port and be added to the new Avaya system is almost complete. A huge thank you to Dan and his team for making this happen.

Husted Announces Industry Sector Partnership Awards

Ohio Lt. Governor Jon Husted, Director of the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation, announced that 26 workforce partnerships located throughout the state will receive \$5 million in awards through the Industry Sector Partnership (ISP) Grant.

The program supports collaborations that help bring Ohioans into the workforce pipeline while meeting the needs of job creators and the local economy.

We were pleased to learn that the Fairfield 33 Development Alliance was awarded a \$120,000 from this program. These funds will go toward the four Career Navigators who are serving more than 200 students across the county.

Hearing for Violet Township New Community Authority

At the January 9, 2024, Review and Regular Meeting (9:15 a.m.), The Commissioners will have a hearing to determine that the establishment of that the Violet Township New Community Authority, under O.R.C. 349.01, is conducive to the public's health, safety, convenience, and welfare.

Reorganization Meeting and First Meeting of 2024

January 8 at 9:00 will be the 2024 Reorganization Meeting of the Commission with the first Regular Meeting to be held on January 9 at 9:00.

Records Commission

The Reorganizational Meeting for the Records Commission is scheduled for January 9 at 8:30 am and the first meeting of the year will take place at 8:40 that same morning.

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Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
December 12, 2023

Highlights of Resolutions

Administrative Approvals

The review packet contains a list of administrative approvals.

Resolution Review

There are 44 resolutions on the agenda for the voting meeting.

Resolutions of note:

- A resolution authorizing three proclamations. Two proclamations for retiring Lancaster Mayor David Scheffler and retiring City of Lancaster Service Safety Director, Paul Martin, and a proclamation for Real Estate Appraiser Appreciation Day on January 7th.
- A resolution authorizing the signing of a contingent purchase agreement for a property on Sheridan Drive in Lancaster.

Commissioner Davis stated they have held executive sessions regarding the Colonnade Building and added that the Commission heavily considers the return on investment and reduction of rent costs when they are considering acquiring buildings.

- Nine resolutions for Board Appointments.
 - A resolution to reappoint Michael Kaper and Jon Kochis to the Airport Board.
 - A vacancy does still exist for this board due to the resignation of long time member Bill McNeer completing his term of service. We are currently seeking applicants who have some aeronautical experience.
 - Three resolutions for new board appointments:
 - Mike Crites to the Law Library,
 - Jared Collins to the Peace Officers Board
 - Linda Sheridan to the Revolving Loan Fund Board.
 - And five resolutions for board reappointments:
 - Corey Clark and Donna Fox-Moore to the Meals on Wheels Board
 - Scott Ervin to the Peace Officers Board
 - Mary Snider to the Revolving Loan Fund Board
 - Jennifer Morgan to the Regional Planning Commission
 - Jeff Beard to the Visitors and Convention Bureau Board.
- Two resolutions to establish new funds. One for the Ohio Department of Development grant funds for the Basil-Western Project, and one for the Redevelopment Tax Equivalent project.
- A resolution to approve an intergovernmental agreement between the City of Canal Winchester, Violet Township, and the Fairfield County TID to finance, construct, reconstruct, improve, alter, maintain, repair, and operate transportation projects as authorized by ORC Chapter 5540.

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Mr. Szabrak spoke about the agreement and the opportunities for the involvement opportunities.

Commissioner Fix stated the new community authority serves as an example of what is possible when communities work together and practice smart development, which ultimately protects property and saves taxpayers.

- Eight resolutions to declare a necessity the establishment, altering, widening, straightening, vacating, or changing of a public road, path, or culvert.

Engineer Upp stated this process is necessary when right of ways are required.

- A resolution authorizing the County Administrator to sign an agreement for the replacement of the HVAC units at the Workforce Center.

Calendar Review/Invitations Received

- *A review of the calendar and invitations received was provided by the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners, Rochelle Menningen.*
 - Transportation Improvement District Meeting, December 12, 2023, 1:00 p.m., Fairfield County Records Center, 138 W. Chestnut St., Lancaster
 - Revolving Loan Fund Meeting, December 12, 2023, 2:00 p.m., Commissioners' Hearing Room, 210 E. Main St., Room 301, Lancaster
 - Lithopolis Land Use Plan Meeting, December 12, 2023, 6:00 p.m., Lithopolis Village Mayor's Office, 11820 Lithopolis Rd. NW, Lithopolis
 - Richland Township and Village of Rushville Combined Land Use Plan Meeting, December 12, 2023, 6:00 p.m., Richland Township Fire Department, 3150 Market St., Rushville
 - Job and Family Services All Staff Meeting, December 14, 2023, 8:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., Liberty Center, 951 Liberty Dr., Lancaster
 - Family and Children First Council Executive Committee Meeting, December 15, 2023, 8:30 a.m., Fairfield County Agricultural Center, 831 College Ave., Lancaster
 - Commissioners Volunteering with Salvation Army by Participating in Red Kettle Bell Ringing, December 16, 2023, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., Kroger, 1621 N. Memorial Dr., Lancaster
 - Swearing in Ceremony for City of Lancaster Elected Officials, December 18, 2023, 6:00 p.m., Alley Park, 2805 Old Logan Rd. SE, Lancaster
 - Retirement Open House Honoring Bruce Simmons, December 19, 2023, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., Fairfield County Hall of Justice, 224 E. Main St., 3rd Floor, Courtroom C, Lancaster
 - Retirement Celebration to Honor Mayor David Scheffler and Safety Service Director Paul Martin, December 22, 2023, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m., Lancaster City Hall, 1897 Conference Room, 104 E. Main St., Lancaster
 - Hearing for Proposed Violet Township New Community Authority, January 9, 2024, 9:15 a.m., Commissioners Hearing Room, 210 E. Main St., Room 301, Lancaster

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- Canal Winchester, State of the City Address, January 17, 2024, 11:30 a.m., Canal Winchester Community Center, 45 E. Waterloo St., Canal Winchester

Correspondence

- *A review of correspondence received was provided by Ms. Menningen.*
 - Lancaster Eagle Gazette, Jeff Barron, December 5, 2023, “Commissioner Steve Davis Dispels Rumors of Health Issues and Plans to Run for Re-Election”
 - Press Release, Mike DeWine Governor of Ohio, December 5, 2023, “Governor DeWine Announces \$73 Million in Funding Support for Traffic Safety Projects”; List of Highway Safety Improvement Projects
 - Fairfield Area Humane Society 2024 Donor Application
 - News Release, Office of the County Auditor, December 7, 2023, “Carter Promoted to New Position with the County Engineer”
 - Memo from Dr. Carri Brown, County Auditor, December 7, 2023, Subjects: Strategic Plan; VCB Collections; Property Owners Voice in Valuations; Updated Fact Sheet Showing Statistics Including Average Residential Sales Prices
 - “Wins of the Week!”, Dr. Carri Brown, Including New GIS Effort to Provide Information about the Heritage District
 - Notice, City of Canal Winchester, December 4, 2023, Regarding Hearing for Rezoning of 48.66 Acres at the Corner of Basil-Western and Hill Roads
 - November 2023 Criminal/Traffic Division Fees Collected Report from Fairfield County Municipal Court
 - Newsletter, e-Link Winter, Fairfield County Job & Family Services

Old Business

Commissioners Levacy and Fix spoke about attending the Fairfield County Economic Update and the 33 Development Alliance Annual Update.

Commissioner Fix spoke about being encouraged by the positive momentum of the township and village Land Use Plan meetings. He also spoke about participating in the CCAO winter conference and added that Fairfield County is receiving attention around the state for its programs.

New Business

Commissioner Davis stated that he is concluding his thirteenth year serving as Commissioner and expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to continue serving as County Commissioner. He added that it is an honor and privilege to work with the Commission, county staff, and county residents.

Commissioner Levacy stated he would be at the Kroger on Memorial Drive to volunteer for the Salvation Army as a kettle bell ringer.

Commissioner Fix thanked Safa Saleh for her dedication to providing information on the land use plan and added that he would also be volunteering for the Salvation Army.

Commissioner Davis thanked the Sheriff's Office for always providing safety during the meetings and County Officials for attending. He added that the cooperation between the county elected officials gives him comfort and confidence.

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Treasurer Bahnsen stated he attended the 4th quarter Land Bank meeting in Mansfield with Deputy Treasurer, Michael Kaper. He also added kind remarks regarding Mayor Scheffler.

Recorder McKenzie spoke about a FIDLAR user group meeting and added that there are exciting things on the horizon for employees and others that work with the Recorder's office.

Engineer Upp spoke about culvert and road projects and thanked the Commissioners and the Auditor for their support.

Clerk of Courts Meyer stated he attended the Clerks Association meeting and added that he has new employees in his office.

Auditor Brown stated her office will be receiving a new weights and measures vehicle and thanked her staff for meeting year end deadlines. She added that Mayor Scheffler will continue serving on Destination Downtown Lancaster and further added that HB 87 passed the Senate, but it is different than that we are familiar with.

Regular (Voting) Meeting

The Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Hearing Room located at 210 E. Main St., Lancaster, OH. Commissioner Davis called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Dave Levacy, and Jeff Fix. Also present: County Administrator Aundrea Cordle; Deputy County Administrator Jeff Porter; Clerk Rochelle Menningen; Communications & Information Coordinator Bennett Niceswanger; Recorder Lisa McKenzie; Treasurer Jim Bahnsen; Auditor Carri Brown; Engineer Jeremiah Up; Chief Civil Prosecutor, Amy Brown-Thompson; Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Steven Darnell; Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Austin Lines; Facilities and EMA Director, Jon Kochis; Utilities Director, Tony Vogel; JFS Director, Corey Clark; City of Lancaster Safety Service Director, Paul Martin; Mayor of Lancaster, David Scheffler; Incoming Lancaster City Safety Service Director, Carrie Woody; JFS Budget Director, Josh Crawford; IT Director, Dan Neeley; JFS Deputy Director, Heather O'Keefe; Real Estate Director, Dave Burgei; CAUV Specialist, Greg Forquer; Real Estate Manager, Josh Harper; Appraiser, Noel Soddors; Appraisal Assistant, Crystal Walker; Appraisal Assistant, Makayla Finley; United Way Campaign Coordinator, Emily Cordle; Economic Development Specialist, Vince Carpico; Mike Fornataro; Mike Crites; PRC Planner, Safa Saleh; Ray Stemen; Judy Stemen; Sherry Pymmer; Jeanette Curtis; Francis Martin; Chief Deputy Treasurer, Michael Kaper; and Nick Bondren.

Virtual attendees: Josh Horacek, Arika Farrar, Lori Hawk, Jeanie Wears, Jessica Murphy, Jeff Barron, Michael Kaper, Jason Grubb, Shelby Hunt, Becky, Deb, Alex Alonzo, Belinda Nebbergall, Sara Madenwald, Tony Howard, Ashley Arter, Britney Lee, Tony Vogel, Lynette Barnhart, Abby King, Park Russell, BGM, Marcy Fields, Jennifer Morgan, Andy Boystel, Greg Forquer, and Hodder.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Commissioners asked everyone to rise as able and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements

Ms. Menningen stated an agenda correction for resolution 2023-12.12.s and added that the resolution was correct.

**Regular Meeting #57 - 2023
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
December 12, 2023**

Approval of Minutes for December 5, 2023

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Minutes for the Tuesday, December 5, 2023, meeting.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Dave Levacy, and Steve Davis

Approval of Resolutions from the Board of Commissioners

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from the Board of Commissioners:

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 2023-12.12.a | A resolution authorizing the approval of proclamations. |
| 2023-12.12.b | A resolution authorizing the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners to enter into a purchase agreement. |
| 2023-12.12.c | A resolution approving the reappointments of Mr. Michael Kaper and Mr. Jon Kochis to the Fairfield County Airport Authority Board. |
| 2023-12.12.d | A resolution approving the appointment of Mr. D. Michael Crites to the Fairfield County Law Library Resources Board. |
| 2023-12.12.e | A resolution approving the reappointment of Mr. Corey Clark and Ms. Donna Fox-Moore to the Meals on Wheels – Older Adult Alternatives of Fairfield County Board of Directors. |
| 2023-12.12.f | A resolution to approve the appointment of Chief Deputy Jared Collins to the Volunteer Peace Officers Dependents Fund Board. |
| 2023-12.12.g | A resolution approving the reappointment of Chief Deputy Scott Ervin to the Volunteer Peace Officers Dependents Fund Board. |
| 2023-12.12.h | A resolution to appoint Ms. Linda Sheridan to the Fairfield County Revolving Loan Fund Review Committee. |
| 2023-12.12.i | A resolution approving the reappointment of Ms. Mary Snider to the Fairfield County Revolving Loan Fund Review Committee. |
| 2023-12.12.j | A resolution approving the reappointment of Ms. Jennifer Morgan to the Fairfield County Regional Planning Commission. |
| 2023-12.12.k | A resolution approving the reappointment of Mr. Jeff Beard to the Fairfield County Visitors and Convention Bureau Board. |
| 2023-12.12.l | A resolution approving grant awards for the Older Adult Services Levy. |
| 2023-12.12.m | A resolution to authorize the establishment of a new fund, Appropriate from Unappropriated into a major expenditure object category, and Advance from the General Fund for the Ohio Department of Development 629 grant funds for the Basil Western Project. |

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|--------------|---|
| 2023-12.12.n | A resolution to authorize the establishment of a new fund, 2023 Budget, and Cash Transfer to TID for the for the Fairfield County Redevelopment Tax Equivalent project. |
| 2023-12.12.o | A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in major expenditure object categories for the General Fund# 1001 to approve a payment to SAS Title Agency. |
| 2023-12.12.p | A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in major expenditure object categories for the General Fund# 1001. |
| 2023-12.12.q | A Resolution in support of South Central Power Company's Fiber Optic Internet Grant application through BroadbandOhio. |
| 2023-12.12.r | A resolution to approve a fund to fund transfer for the Further of Justice (FOJ) Appropriation for the County Prosecutor as a fund to fund transfer. |
| 2023-12.12.s | A resolution to approve a fund to fund transfer for the Further of Justice (FOJ) Appropriation for the County Prosecutor as a fund to fund transfer. |
| 2023-12.12.t | A resolution to account to account transfer into a major expenditure object category for the New Energy Fund# 3879 and fund to fund transfer from Fund# 3879 to Bond Retirement New Energy Fund# 4878 |

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Dave Levacy, and Steve Davis

Approval of Resolutions from the Fairfield County Court of Common Pleas

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from the Fairfield County Court of Common Pleas:

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 2023-12.12.u | A resolution approving an account to account transfer in major object expense categories – Fairfield County Common Pleas Court – Jury Commission |
| 2023-12.12.v | A resolution approving an account to account transfer in major object expense categories – Fairfield County Adult Probation |

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Dave Levacy, and Steve Davis

Approval of a Resolution from the Fairfield County Domestic Relations Court

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from the Fairfield County Domestic Relations Court:

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 2023-12.12.w | A resolution authorizing an account to account transfer for the adjustment Personal Services. |
|--------------|---|

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Dave Levacy, and Steve Davis

**Regular Meeting #57 - 2023
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
December 12, 2023**

Approval of Resolutions from the Fairfield County Engineer

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from the Fairfield County Engineer:

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 2023-12.12.x | A resolution to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement. |
| 2023-12.12.y | A Resolution to Declare the FAI-CR53-4.440 Bauman Hill Road Culvert Replacement Project a Necessity. |
| 2023-12.12.z | A Resolution to Declare the Basil-Western Road Improvements Project a Necessity. |
| 2023-12.12.aa | A Resolution to Declare the FAI-CR13-5.380 Basil-Western Road Culvert Replacement Project a Necessity. |
| 2023-12.12.bb | A Resolution to Declare the FAI-CR4-2.181 Fosnaugh School Road Culvert Replacement Project a Necessity. |
| 2023-12.12.cc | A Resolution to Declare the Refugee Road Multi-Use Path Project a Necessity. |
| 2023-12.12.dd | A Resolution to Declare the FAI-CR51-0.832 Schwilk Road Culvert Replacement Project a Necessity. |
| 2023-12.12.ee | A Resolution to Declare the FAI-CR88-1.729 Mt. Zwingli Road Culvert Replacement Project a Necessity. |
| 2023-12.12.ff | A Resolution to Declare the FAI-CR88-2.366 Mt. Zwingli Road Culvert Replacement Project a Necessity. |

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Dave Levacy, and Steve Davis

Approval of a Resolution from Fairfield County Facilities

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from Fairfield County Facilities:

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 2023-12.12.gg | A Resolution Authorizing the County Administrator to sign an Agreement for the replacement of the HVAC Units at the Workforce Center with Ameresco. |
|---------------|---|

Director Kochis stated the HVAC units are on order but will not come in for approximately twenty-six weeks.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Dave Levacy, and Steve Davis

Approval of a Resolution from Fairfield County Family and Children First Council

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from Fairfield County Family and Children First Council:

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Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
December 12, 2023

2023-12.12.hh A resolution authorizing the approval of partial repayment of an advance to the General Fund from Fund# 7521 Family, Children First Council

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Dave Levacy, and Steve Davis

Approval of a Resolution from Fairfield County Job and Family Services

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from Fairfield County Job and Family Services:

2023-12.12.ii A resolution authorizing the approval to extend the repayment date of an advance of funds – Fund (2072) Public Children Services, sub-fund (8182) EPIC Grant

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Dave Levacy, and Steve Davis

Approval of Resolutions from the Fairfield County Juvenile & Probate Court

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from the Fairfield County Juvenile & Probate Court:

2023-12.12.jj A resolution authorizing the approval of a contract by and between Fairfield County Probate Court and the Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Board of Fairfield County (ADAMH Board) (Probate Court)

2023-12.12.kk A Resolution Approving an Account-to-Account Transfer into a Major Expenditure Object Category – Fund #1001 General Fund.

2023-12.12.ll A Resolution Approving an Account-to-Account Transfer into a Major Expenditure Object Category – Fund # 2859 Guardianship Services Board

2023-12.12.mm A Resolution Approving an Account-to-Account Transfer into a Major Expenditure Object Category – Fund #2316 Probate Computer Fund

2023-12.12.nn A Resolution Approving an Account-to-Account Transfer into a Major Expenditure Object Category – Fund # 1001 General Fund.

2023-12.12.oo A Resolution Approving an Account-to-Account Transfer into a Major Expenditure Object Category – Fund #8209 ATP Sub Fund to #2408 Drug Court.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Dave Levacy, and Steve Davis

Approval of a Resolution from the Fairfield County Sheriff

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from the Fairfield County Sheriff:

2023-12.12.pp A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure object category Sheriff's Office Fund 2503 Police Revolving

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December 12, 2023

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Dave Levacy, and Steve Davis

Approval of a Resolution from Fairfield County Utilities

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from Fairfield County Utilities:

2023-12.12.qq A resolution to approve the contract award for the Pickerington & Refugee Road Watermain Improvement Project; Utilities Fund 5046 Water

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Dave Levacy, and Steve Davis

Approval of the Payment of Bills

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution for the Payment of Bills:

2023-12.12.rr A resolution authorizing the approval of payment of invoices for departments that need Board of Commissioners' approval

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Dave Levacy, and Steve Davis

Adjournment

Commissioner Davis stated the meeting was the last scheduled meeting for the year but that any Commissioner can request a special meeting if the business of the county requires it.

Commissioner Fix stated 2023 has been a great year and added his deep appreciation of the other two commissioners and all the county elected officials.

Commissioner Levacy echoed the sentiments of Commissioner Fix.

With no further business, on the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn at 11:07 a.m.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Dave Levacy, and Steve Davis

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, in the Commissioners' Hearing Room located at 210 E. Main St., Lancaster, OH.

Motion by: Steve Davis Seconded by: Jeff Fix
that the December 12, 2023, minutes were approved by the following vote:

NAYS: None

*Approved on January 9, 2024

Jeff Fix
Commissioner

Rochelle Menningen, Clerk

Reorganization Meeting - 2024
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
January 8, 2024

Reorganization Meeting

The Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Hearing Room located at 210 E. Main St., Lancaster, OH. Commissioner Davis called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Dave Levacy, and Jeff Fix. Also present: County Administrator Aundrea Cordle; Deputy County Administrator Jeff Porter; Clerk Rochelle Menningen; Communications & Information Coordinator, Bennett Niceswanger; Auditor, Dr. Carri Brown; Clerk of Courts, Branden Meyer; Treasurer, James Bahnsen; Chief Civil Prosecutor, Amy Brown-Thompson; Budget Director, Bart Hampson; Facilities and EMA Director, Jon Kochis; IT Director, Dan Neeley; and Utilities Director, Tony Vogel.

Virtual attendees: None

Welcome

Commissioner Davis opened the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance.

Public Comments

Commissioner Fix spoke about his appreciation for the changes in the Commissioners' Hearing Room and thanked all those involved.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Commissioners asked everyone to rise as able and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements

Ms. Menningen stated that the first meeting of 2024 would be held on January 9, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

Approval of Resolutions from the Board of Commissioners

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from the Board of Commissioners:

2024-01.08.a A resolution to approve the appointment of the President of the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Davis stated his appreciation for the opportunity to serve as a commissioner and as the President of the Commission in 2023. He also spoke about his appreciation for the fiscal responsibility of the Commission and County employees and departments and stated that he had every confidence in Commissioner Levacy as the President of the Commission.

Commissioner Fix spoke about his appreciation for the Commission as a whole and the opportunity to serve with the other two Commissioners.

Commissioner Levacy stated his appreciation for the insight and guidance provided to the Commission by Commissioner Davis and for the ability to serve with Commissioners Davis and Fix.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

On the motion of Dave Levacy, and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from the Board of Commissioners:

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Dave Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from the Board of Commissioners:

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Dave Levacy, and Steve Davis

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from the Board of Commissioners:

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Dave Levacy, and Steve Davis

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, in the Commissioners' Hearing Room located at 210 E. Main St., Lancaster, OH.

Motion by: Steve Davis Seconded by: Jeff Fix
that the January 8, 2024, Reorganization Meeting minutes were approved by the following vote:

YEAS: Steve Davis, Jeff Fix, and Dave Levacy
ABSTENTIONS: None

*Approved on January 9, 2024

Dave Levacy Commissioner	Jeff Fix Commissioner	Steve Davis Commissioner
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Rochelle Menningen, Clerk

A resolution authorizing the amendments to five existing 2006 land use restriction agreements, and matters related thereto.

WHEREAS, this Board of County Commissioners (sometimes referred to herein as the "Board") of the County of Fairfield, Ohio (the "County") has heretofore issued its \$8,126,000 Multifamily Housing Revenue Bond (Collins Road Properties, LTD. Project), Series 2006, dated May 1, 2006 (the "2006 Bond") pursuant to authority granted by Resolution No. 06-02.21a adopted by the Board on February 21, 2006 (the "Prior Resolution"); and

WHEREAS, the proceeds of the 2006 Bond were loaned to Collins Road Properties, Ltd., an Ohio limited liability partnership (the "Borrower"), by U.S. Bank National Association (the "Lender") for the purpose of financing and refinancing the costs of the acquisition, renovation, installation and equipping of all or a portion of multifamily housing facilities intended to provide decent, safe and sanitary housing for residents of the County and for each political subdivision in which a portion of the Project is located; and

WHEREAS, in connection with the issuance of the 2006 Bond, the Borrower, the County, and the Lender entered into five separate Land Use Restriction Agreements (each an "Agreement" and collectively, the "Agreements"), as a requirement under Section 142(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code") and the Treasury Regulations thereunder; and

WHEREAS, the Borrower, with the consent of the Lender, has decided to refinance the 2006 Bond through a loan with Lument Real Estate Capital, LLC and/or The Federal National Mortgage Association (the "New Lender"), and the New Lender has requested that Section 10(b) of each Agreement be amended in connection with such refinancing;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, STATE OF OHIO:

A resolution authorizing the amendments to five existing 2006 land use restriction agreements, and matters related thereto.

Section 1. That each member of this Board is hereby authorized, alone or with others, to execute and deliver an amendment to each Agreement (each, an "Amendment" and collectively, the "Amendments"). The Amendments shall be in such form and substance as are presently on file with this Board; provided however, that changes may be made to such Amendments that are not averse to and are in the best interests of the County, as determined by the signatories thereof, which signatures shall be conclusive thereof. Each Amendment shall bear the signatures of at least two members of this Board.

Section 2. That the appropriate officers of the County, including any one or more members of this Board, be and they hereby are authorized to execute and deliver on behalf of the County such other certificates, documents and instruments in connection with the refunding of the 2006 Bond as may be required, necessary or appropriate, including, without limitation, any documents which are necessary or appropriate in order to ensure compliance of the 2006 Bond with the Code and including conveyances of title to real and personal property. Such documents including the ones specifically authorized hereby, shall be subject to such changes, insertions and omissions as may be approved by this Board, which approval shall be conclusively evidenced by the execution thereof by the proper officer or officers of the County.

Section 3. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of the Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were adopted in an open meeting of the Board, and that all deliberations of the Board and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with the law, including Section 121.22 of the Revised Code of Ohio.

Section 4. That all defined terms used in this resolution and not otherwise defined herein shall have the respective meanings given to them in the prior resolution.

Section 5. That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Prepared by Dinsmore & Shohl LLP

LURA #1
FRANKLIN COUNTY
(CASTLETON GARDENS)

**FIRST AMENDMENT TO
LAND USE RESTRICTION AGREEMENT**

THIS FIRST AMENDMENT TO LAND USE RESTRICTION AGREEMENT (this “Agreement”) is dated as of [REDACTED], 2024, by and among COLLINS ROAD PROPERTIES, LTD., a limited partnership duly organized, validly existing and in full force and effect under the laws of the State of Ohio (together with its permitted successors and assigns, the “Owner”), the COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO (together with its successors and assigns, the “Issuer”), and U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, a national banking association (the “Lender”), as lender and purchaser of the Issuer’s Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds, Series 2006 (Collins Road Properties, Ltd. Project), in the original aggregate principal amount of \$8,126,000 (the “Obligations”), and amends that certain Land Use Restriction Agreement recorded May 31, 2006, as Instrument No. 200605310104319 in the Official Records of Franklin County, Ohio (the “LURA”).

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Issuer heretofore issued the Obligations pursuant to the terms of that certain Loan Agreement dated as of May 1, 2006 (as amended, modified or supplemented from time to time, the “Loan Agreement”) between the Issuer and the Owner for the purpose of financing and refinancing the costs of the acquisition, renovation, installation and equipping of all or a portion of multifamily housing facilities (the “Project”), as more fully described in the LURA and as set forth on Attachment 2 therein and affixed hereto; and

WHEREAS, the Lender purchased the Obligations and loaned the proceeds to the Owner so that the Owner could finance or refinance the Project; and

WHEREAS, in connection with the issuance of the Obligations, the Owner, the Issuer, and the Lender executed and delivered the LURA, which sets forth certain requirements and restrictions pertaining to the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Obligations will be paid in full and redeemed pursuant to a refinance loan made on the date of this Agreement by Lument Real Estate Capital, LLC and/or the Federal National Mortgage Association (together with their successors and/or assigns, the “New Lender”) and New Lender requires that the LURA be amended to revise certain remedies contained therein; and

WHEREAS, the parties hereto desire to amend the LURA to revise certain remedies contained therein; and

WHEREAS, this Agreement shall be effective as of the date first set forth above.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and undertakings set forth herein, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Owner, the Issuer, and the Lender do hereby contract and agree as follows:

SECTION 1. Amendment to Section 10(a) of the LURA. The following sentence is added to the end of Section 10(a) of the LURA:

“Issuer and/or Owner will provide a copy of any notice of a Regulatory Agreement Default or any draft amendments to the LURA to New Lender at 2001 Ross Avenue, 19th Floor, Dallas, Texas, 75201 or lumentloanadmin@lument.com.”

SECTION 2. Amendment to Section 10(b) of the LURA. The last sentence of Section 10(b) of the LURA is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

“The Owner represents, warrants and covenants that if any such violation is not corrected to the satisfaction of the Issuer within the period of time specified by the Issuer, or without further notice, the Issuer may declare a default under this agreement, effective on the date of such declaration of default; and”

SECTION 3. Amendment to Section 10(d) of the LURA. Section 10(d) of the LURA is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

(d) Specific Performance. The Owner acknowledges that the Issuer may also apply to any court, state or federal, for specific performance of this Agreement, or for an injunction against any violation of this Agreement, or for any such other actions as shall be necessary or desirable so as to correct non-compliance with this Agreement.

SECTION 4. Amendment to LURA. Upon redemption of the Obligations, the lien of the Loan Agreement shall be released and the Lender shall no longer be a party to the LURA.

SECTION 5. Recording and Filing; Covenants to Run With the Land.

(a) Upon the execution and delivery of this Agreement by the Owner, the Issuer, and the Lender, the Owner shall cause this Agreement to be recorded and filed in the public records of Franklin County, Ohio, and the Owner shall pay all fees and charges incurred in connection therewith.

(b) This Agreement and the covenants contained herein with respect to the LURA shall run with the land and shall bind the Owner, and its successors and assigns, and the benefits shall inure to the Issuer, and its respective successors and assigns, during the term of the LURA; provided, however, nothing contained in this paragraph shall be deemed to authorize or consent to any assignment by the Owner.

(c) This Agreement is not intended to affect the priority of the LURA.

SECTION 6. Remaining Provisions Unaffected. Except as expressly modified and amended by this Agreement, the covenants, terms and conditions of the LURA shall remain unaffected and shall remain in full force and effect until terminated pursuant to its terms.

SECTION 7. Severability. If any provision of this Agreement or the LURA, as amended hereby, shall be invalid, illegal or unenforceable, the validity, legality and enforceability of the remaining portions hereof or thereof shall in no way be affected or impaired, nor shall such holding of invalidity, illegality or unenforceability affect the validity, legality or enforceability of such provision under other dissimilar facts or circumstances.

SECTION 8. Governing Law. Notwithstanding that, for the convenience of the parties, the parties may be executing this Agreement outside of the State of Ohio, the LURA and all amendments thereto shall be governed by the laws of the State of Ohio, both substantive and remedial.

SECTION 9. Multiple Counterparts. This Agreement may be simultaneously executed in one or more counterparts, all of which shall constitute the same instrument and each of which shall be deemed an original.

SECTION 10. Future Amendments. The LURA may not be further amended except by an instrument in writing signed by the Owner, the Issuer, and the Lender.

SECTION 11. Miscellaneous. The Issuer, the Owner and the Lender each agrees that this Agreement shall be placed of record in the land records of Franklin County, Ohio, and except as specifically provided otherwise, the covenants contained herein and in the LURA shall run with the land and shall bind, and the benefits shall inure to, respectively, the Owner and all subsequent owners of the Project or any interest therein, and the Issuer and its assigns, for the Qualified Project Period. The recordation of this Agreement is not intended to affect the priority of the LURA and the parties agree that the LURA is senior in status and priority to any later recorded claims, liens, or restrictions against the Project, other than as specifically subordinated. Capitalized terms used in this Agreement and not otherwise defined herein shall have those meanings assigned to them in the LURA.

[Signature Pages to Follow]

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COLLINS ROAD PROPERTIES, LTD.,
an Ohio limited partnership

By: COLLINS ROAD HOUSING
PARTNERS, LLC, an Ohio limited
liability company, its General Partner

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

STATE OF OHIO)
) SS:
COUNTY OF _____)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, the _____ of Collins Road Housing Partners, LLC, the General Partner of Collins Road Properties, Ltd., on behalf of the limited liability company. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

STATE OF OHIO)
) ss:
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, _____, and _____, the County Commissioners of the County of Fairfield, Ohio. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

ATTACHMENT 2

[ADD FROM LURA]

LURA #2
CLARK COUNTY
(JEFFREY PLACE)

**FIRST AMENDMENT TO
LAND USE RESTRICTION AGREEMENT**

THIS FIRST AMENDMENT TO LAND USE RESTRICTION AGREEMENT (this “Agreement”) is dated as of [REDACTED], 2024, by and among COLLINS ROAD PROPERTIES, LTD., a limited partnership duly organized, validly existing and in full force and effect under the laws of the State of Ohio (together with its permitted successors and assigns, the “Owner”), the COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO (together with its successors and assigns, the “Issuer”), and U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, a national banking association (the “Lender”), as lender and purchaser of the Issuer’s Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds, Series 2006 (Collins Road Properties, Ltd. Project), in the original aggregate principal amount of \$8,126,000 (the “Obligations”), and amends that certain Land Use Restriction Agreement recorded June 1, 2006, as Instrument No. 200600011233 in Volume 1776 Page 1064 of the Official Records of Clark County, Ohio (the “LURA”).

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Issuer heretofore issued the Obligations pursuant to the terms of that certain Loan Agreement dated as of May 1, 2006 (as amended, modified or supplemented from time to time, the “Loan Agreement”) between the Issuer and the Owner for the purpose of financing and refinancing the costs of the acquisition, renovation, installation and equipping of all or a portion of multifamily housing facilities (the “Project”), as more fully described in the LURA and as set forth on Attachment 2 therein and affixed hereto; and

WHEREAS, the Lender purchased the Obligations and loaned the proceeds to the Owner so that the Owner could finance or refinance the Project; and

WHEREAS, in connection with the issuance of the Obligations, the Owner, the Issuer, and the Lender executed and delivered the LURA, which sets forth certain requirements and restrictions pertaining to the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Obligations will be paid in full and redeemed pursuant to a refinance loan made on the date of this Agreement by Lument Real Estate Capital, LLC and/or the Federal National Mortgage Association (together with their successors and/or assigns, the “New Lender”) and New Lender requires that the LURA be amended to revise certain remedies contained therein; and

WHEREAS, the parties hereto desire to amend the LURA to revise certain remedies contained therein; and

WHEREAS, this Agreement shall be effective as of the date first set forth above.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and undertakings set forth herein, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Owner, the Issuer, and the Lender do hereby contract and agree as follows:

SECTION 1. Amendment to Section 10(a) of the LURA. The following sentence is added to the end of Section 10(a) of the LURA:

“Issuer and/or Owner will provide a copy of any notice of a Regulatory Agreement Default or any draft amendments to the LURA to New Lender at 2001 Ross Avenue, 19th Floor, Dallas, Texas, 75201 or lumentloanadmin@lument.com.”

SECTION 2. Amendment to Section 10(b) of the LURA. The last sentence of Section 10(b) of the LURA is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

“The Owner represents, warrants and covenants that if any such violation is not corrected to the satisfaction of the Issuer within the period of time specified by the Issuer, or without further notice, the Issuer may declare a default under this agreement, effective on the date of such declaration of default; and”

SECTION 3. Amendment to Section 10(d) of the LURA. Section 10(d) of the LURA is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

(d) Specific Performance. The Owner acknowledges that the Issuer may also apply to any court, state or federal, for specific performance of this Agreement, or for an injunction against any violation of this Agreement, or for any such other actions as shall be necessary or desirable so as to correct non-compliance with this Agreement.

SECTION 4. Amendment to LURA. Upon redemption of the Obligations, the lien of the Loan Agreement shall be released and the Lender shall no longer be a party to the LURA.

SECTION 5. Recording and Filing; Covenants to Run With the Land.

(a) Upon the execution and delivery of this Agreement by the Owner, the Issuer, and the Lender, the Owner shall cause this Agreement to be recorded and filed in the public records of Clark County, Ohio, and the Owner shall pay all fees and charges incurred in connection therewith.

(b) This Agreement and the covenants contained herein with respect to the LURA shall run with the land and shall bind the Owner, and its successors and assigns, and the benefits shall inure to the Issuer, and its respective successors and assigns, during the term of the LURA; provided, however, nothing contained in this paragraph shall be deemed to authorize or consent to any assignment by the Owner.

(c) This Agreement is not intended to affect the priority of the LURA.

SECTION 6. Remaining Provisions Unaffected. Except as expressly modified and amended by this Agreement, the covenants, terms and conditions of the LURA shall remain unaffected and shall remain in full force and effect until terminated pursuant to its terms.

SECTION 7. Severability. If any provision of this Agreement or the LURA, as amended hereby, shall be invalid, illegal or unenforceable, the validity, legality and enforceability of the remaining portions hereof or thereof shall in no way be affected or impaired, nor shall such holding of invalidity, illegality or unenforceability affect the validity, legality or enforceability of such provision under other dissimilar facts or circumstances.

SECTION 8. Governing Law. Notwithstanding that, for the convenience of the parties, the parties may be executing this Agreement outside of the State of Ohio, the LURA and all amendments thereto shall be governed by the laws of the State of Ohio, both substantive and remedial.

SECTION 9. Multiple Counterparts. This Agreement may be simultaneously executed in one or more counterparts, all of which shall constitute the same instrument and each of which shall be deemed an original.

SECTION 10. Future Amendments. The LURA may not be further amended except by an instrument in writing signed by the Owner, the Issuer, and the Lender.

SECTION 11. Miscellaneous. The Issuer, the Owner and the Lender each agrees that this Agreement shall be placed of record in the land records of Clark County, Ohio, and except as specifically provided otherwise, the covenants contained herein and in the LURA shall run with the land and shall bind, and the benefits shall inure to, respectively, the Owner and all subsequent owners of the Project or any interest therein, and the Issuer and its assigns, for the Qualified Project Period. The recordation of this Agreement is not intended to affect the priority of the LURA and the parties agree that the LURA is senior in status and priority to any later recorded claims, liens, or restrictions against the Project, other than as specifically subordinated. Capitalized terms used in this Agreement and not otherwise defined herein shall have those meanings assigned to them in the LURA.

[Signature Pages to Follow]

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COLLINS ROAD PROPERTIES, LTD.,
an Ohio limited partnership

By: COLLINS ROAD HOUSING
PARTNERS, LLC, an Ohio limited
liability company, its General Partner

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

STATE OF OHIO)
)
COUNTY OF _____) SS:

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, the _____ of Collins Road Housing Partners, LLC, the General Partner of Collins Road Properties, Ltd., on behalf of the limited liability company. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

STATE OF OHIO)
) ss:
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, _____, and _____, the County Commissioners of the County of Fairfield, Ohio. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

ATTACHMENT 2

[ADD FROM LURA]

LURA #3
MIAMI COUNTY
(LIBERTY COMMONS)

**FIRST AMENDMENT TO
LAND USE RESTRICTION AGREEMENT**

THIS FIRST AMENDMENT TO LAND USE RESTRICTION AGREEMENT (this “Agreement”) is dated as of [REDACTED], 2024, by and among COLLINS ROAD PROPERTIES, LTD., a limited partnership duly organized, validly existing and in full force and effect under the laws of the State of Ohio (together with its permitted successors and assigns, the “Owner”), the COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO (together with its successors and assigns, the “Issuer”), and U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, a national banking association (the “Lender”), as lender and purchaser of the Issuer’s Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds, Series 2006 (Collins Road Properties, Ltd. Project), in the original aggregate principal amount of \$8,126,000 (the “Obligations”), and amends that certain Land Use Restriction Agreement recorded June 5, 2006, in Volume 0772 Page 602 of the Official Records of Miami County, Ohio (the “LURA”).

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Issuer heretofore issued the Obligations pursuant to the terms of that certain Loan Agreement dated as of May 1, 2006 (as amended, modified or supplemented from time to time, the “Loan Agreement”) between the Issuer and the Owner for the purpose of financing and refinancing the costs of the acquisition, renovation, installation and equipping of all or a portion of multifamily housing facilities (the “Project”), as more fully described in the LURA and as set forth on Attachment 2 therein and affixed hereto; and

WHEREAS, the Lender purchased the Obligations and loaned the proceeds to the Owner so that the Owner could finance or refinance the Project; and

WHEREAS, in connection with the issuance of the Obligations, the Owner, the Issuer, and the Lender executed and delivered the LURA, which sets forth certain requirements and restrictions pertaining to the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Obligations will be paid in full and redeemed pursuant to a refinance loan made on the date of this Agreement by Lument Real Estate Capital, LLC and/or the Federal National Mortgage Association (together with their successors and/or assigns, the “New Lender”) and New Lender requires that the LURA be amended to revise certain remedies contained therein; and

WHEREAS, the parties hereto desire to amend the LURA to revise certain remedies contained therein; and

WHEREAS, this Agreement shall be effective as of the date first set forth above.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and undertakings set forth herein, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Owner, the Issuer, and the Lender do hereby contract and agree as follows:

SECTION 1. Amendment to Section 10(a) of the LURA. The following sentence is added to the end of Section 10(a) of the LURA:

“Issuer and/or Owner will provide a copy of any notice of a Regulatory Agreement Default or any draft amendments to the LURA to New Lender at 2001 Ross Avenue, 19th Floor, Dallas, Texas, 75201 or lumentloanadmin@lument.com.”

SECTION 2. Amendment to Section 10(b) of the LURA. The last sentence of Section 10(b) of the LURA is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

“The Owner represents, warrants and covenants that if any such violation is not corrected to the satisfaction of the Issuer within the period of time specified by the Issuer, or without further notice, the Issuer may declare a default under this agreement, effective on the date of such declaration of default; and”

SECTION 3. Amendment to Section 10(d) of the LURA. Section 10(d) of the LURA is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

(d) Specific Performance. The Owner acknowledges that the Issuer may also apply to any court, state or federal, for specific performance of this Agreement, or for an injunction against any violation of this Agreement, or for any such other actions as shall be necessary or desirable so as to correct non-compliance with this Agreement.

SECTION 4. Amendment to LURA. Upon redemption of the Obligations, the lien of the Loan Agreement shall be released and the Lender shall no longer be a party to the LURA.

SECTION 5. Recording and Filing; Covenants to Run With the Land.

(a) Upon the execution and delivery of this Agreement by the Owner, the Issuer, and the Lender, the Owner shall cause this Agreement to be recorded and filed in the public records of Miami County, Ohio, and the Owner shall pay all fees and charges incurred in connection therewith.

(b) This Agreement and the covenants contained herein with respect to the LURA shall run with the land and shall bind the Owner, and its successors and assigns, and the benefits shall inure to the Issuer, and its respective successors and assigns, during the term of the LURA; provided, however, nothing contained in this paragraph shall be deemed to authorize or consent to any assignment by the Owner.

(c) This Agreement is not intended to affect the priority of the LURA.

SECTION 6. Remaining Provisions Unaffected. Except as expressly modified and amended by this Agreement, the covenants, terms and conditions of the LURA shall remain unaffected and shall remain in full force and effect until terminated pursuant to its terms.

SECTION 7. Severability. If any provision of this Agreement or the LURA, as amended hereby, shall be invalid, illegal or unenforceable, the validity, legality and enforceability of the remaining portions hereof or thereof shall in no way be affected or impaired, nor shall such holding of invalidity, illegality or unenforceability affect the validity, legality or enforceability of such provision under other dissimilar facts or circumstances.

SECTION 8. Governing Law. Notwithstanding that, for the convenience of the parties, the parties may be executing this Agreement outside of the State of Ohio, the LURA and all amendments thereto shall be governed by the laws of the State of Ohio, both substantive and remedial.

SECTION 9. Multiple Counterparts. This Agreement may be simultaneously executed in one or more counterparts, all of which shall constitute the same instrument and each of which shall be deemed an original.

SECTION 10. Future Amendments. The LURA may not be further amended except by an instrument in writing signed by the Owner, the Issuer, and the Lender.

SECTION 11. Miscellaneous. The Issuer, the Owner and the Lender each agrees that this Agreement shall be placed of record in the land records of Miami County, Ohio, and except as specifically provided otherwise, the covenants contained herein and in the LURA shall run with the land and shall bind, and the benefits shall inure to, respectively, the Owner and all subsequent owners of the Project or any interest therein, and the Issuer and its assigns, for the Qualified Project Period. The recordation of this Agreement is not intended to affect the priority of the LURA and the parties agree that the LURA is senior in status and priority to any later recorded claims, liens, or restrictions against the Project, other than as specifically subordinated. Capitalized terms used in this Agreement and not otherwise defined herein shall have those meanings assigned to them in the LURA.

[Signature Pages to Follow]

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COLLINS ROAD PROPERTIES, LTD.,
an Ohio limited partnership

By: COLLINS ROAD HOUSING
PARTNERS, LLC, an Ohio limited
liability company, its General Partner

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

STATE OF OHIO)
) SS:
COUNTY OF _____)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, the _____ of Collins Road Housing Partners, LLC, the General Partner of Collins Road Properties, Ltd., on behalf of the limited liability company. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

STATE OF OHIO)
) ss:
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, _____, and _____, the County Commissioners of the County of Fairfield, Ohio. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

ATTACHMENT 2

[ADD FROM LURA]

LURA #4
BUTLER COUNTY
(TAMARIND SQUARE)

**FIRST AMENDMENT TO
LAND USE RESTRICTION AGREEMENT**

THIS FIRST AMENDMENT TO LAND USE RESTRICTION AGREEMENT (this “Agreement”) is dated as of [REDACTED], 2024, by and among COLLINS ROAD PROPERTIES, LTD., a limited partnership duly organized, validly existing and in full force and effect under the laws of the State of Ohio (together with its permitted successors and assigns, the “Owner”), the COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO (together with its successors and assigns, the “Issuer”), and U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, a national banking association (the “Lender”), as lender and purchaser of the Issuer’s Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds, Series 2006 (Collins Road Properties, Ltd. Project), in the original aggregate principal amount of \$8,126,000 (the “Obligations”), and amends that certain Land Use Restriction Agreement recorded May 31, 2006, as Instrument No. 200600034459 in Book 7747 Page 1497 of the Official Records of Butler County, Ohio (the “LURA”).

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Issuer heretofore issued the Obligations pursuant to the terms of that certain Loan Agreement dated as of May 1, 2006 (as amended, modified or supplemented from time to time, the “Loan Agreement”) between the Issuer and the Owner for the purpose of financing and refinancing the costs of the acquisition, renovation, installation and equipping of all or a portion of multifamily housing facilities (the “Project”), as more fully described in the LURA and as set forth on Attachment 2 therein and affixed hereto; and

WHEREAS, the Lender purchased the Obligations and loaned the proceeds to the Owner so that the Owner could finance or refinance the Project; and

WHEREAS, in connection with the issuance of the Obligations, the Owner, the Issuer, and the Lender executed and delivered the LURA, which sets forth certain requirements and restrictions pertaining to the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Obligations will be paid in full and redeemed pursuant to a refinance loan made on the date of this Agreement by Lument Real Estate Capital, LLC and/or the Federal National Mortgage Association (together with their successors and/or assigns, the “New Lender”) and New Lender requires that the LURA be amended to revise certain remedies contained therein; and

WHEREAS, the parties hereto desire to amend the LURA to revise certain remedies contained therein; and

WHEREAS, this Agreement shall be effective as of the date first set forth above.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and undertakings set forth herein, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Owner, the Issuer, and the Lender do hereby contract and agree as follows:

SECTION 1. Amendment to Section 10(a) of the LURA. The following sentence is added to the end of Section 10(a) of the LURA:

“Issuer and/or Owner will provide a copy of any notice of a Regulatory Agreement Default or any draft amendments to the LURA to New Lender at 2001 Ross Avenue, 19th Floor, Dallas, Texas, 75201 or lumentloanadmin@lument.com.”

SECTION 2. Amendment to Section 10(b) of the LURA. The last sentence of Section 10(b) of the LURA is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

“The Owner represents, warrants and covenants that if any such violation is not corrected to the satisfaction of the Issuer within the period of time specified by the Issuer, or without further notice, the Issuer may declare a default under this agreement, effective on the date of such declaration of default; and”

SECTION 3. Amendment to Section 10(d) of the LURA. Section 10(d) of the LURA is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

(d) Specific Performance. The Owner acknowledges that the Issuer may also apply to any court, state or federal, for specific performance of this Agreement, or for an injunction against any violation of this Agreement, or for any such other actions as shall be necessary or desirable so as to correct non-compliance with this Agreement.

SECTION 4. Amendment to LURA. Upon redemption of the Obligations, the lien of the Loan Agreement shall be released and the Lender shall no longer be a party to the LURA.

SECTION 5. Recording and Filing; Covenants to Run With the Land.

(a) Upon the execution and delivery of this Agreement by the Owner, the Issuer, and the Lender, the Owner shall cause this Agreement to be recorded and filed in the public records of Butler County, Ohio, and the Owner shall pay all fees and charges incurred in connection therewith.

(b) This Agreement and the covenants contained herein with respect to the LURA shall run with the land and shall bind the Owner, and its successors and assigns, and the benefits shall inure to the Issuer, and its respective successors and assigns, during the term of the LURA; provided, however, nothing contained in this paragraph shall be deemed to authorize or consent to any assignment by the Owner.

(c) This Agreement is not intended to affect the priority of the LURA.

SECTION 6. Remaining Provisions Unaffected. Except as expressly modified and amended by this Agreement, the covenants, terms and conditions of the LURA shall remain unaffected and shall remain in full force and effect until terminated pursuant to its terms.

SECTION 7. Severability. If any provision of this Agreement or the LURA, as amended hereby, shall be invalid, illegal or unenforceable, the validity, legality and enforceability of the remaining portions hereof or thereof shall in no way be affected or impaired, nor shall such holding of invalidity, illegality or unenforceability affect the validity, legality or enforceability of such provision under other dissimilar facts or circumstances.

SECTION 8. Governing Law. Notwithstanding that, for the convenience of the parties, the parties may be executing this Agreement outside of the State of Ohio, the LURA and all amendments thereto shall be governed by the laws of the State of Ohio, both substantive and remedial.

SECTION 9. Multiple Counterparts. This Agreement may be simultaneously executed in one or more counterparts, all of which shall constitute the same instrument and each of which shall be deemed an original.

SECTION 10. Future Amendments. The LURA may not be further amended except by an instrument in writing signed by the Owner, the Issuer, and the Lender.

SECTION 11. Miscellaneous. The Issuer, the Owner and the Lender each agrees that this Agreement shall be placed of record in the land records of Butler County, Ohio, and except as specifically provided otherwise, the covenants contained herein and in the LURA shall run with the land and shall bind, and the benefits shall inure to, respectively, the Owner and all subsequent owners of the Project or any interest therein, and the Issuer and its assigns, for the Qualified Project Period. The recordation of this Agreement is not intended to affect the priority of the LURA and the parties agree that the LURA is senior in status and priority to any later recorded claims, liens, or restrictions against the Project, other than as specifically subordinated. Capitalized terms used in this Agreement and not otherwise defined herein shall have those meanings assigned to them in the LURA.

[Signature Pages to Follow]

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COLLINS ROAD PROPERTIES, LTD.,
an Ohio limited partnership

By: COLLINS ROAD HOUSING
PARTNERS, LLC, an Ohio limited
liability company, its General Partner

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

STATE OF OHIO)
) SS:
COUNTY OF _____)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, the _____ of Collins Road Housing Partners, LLC, the General Partner of Collins Road Properties, Ltd., on behalf of the limited liability company. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

STATE OF OHIO)
) ss:
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, _____, and _____, the County Commissioners of the County of Fairfield, Ohio. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

ATTACHMENT 2

[ADD FROM LURA]

LURA #5
FAIRFIELD COUNTY
(WINDSOR PLACE)

**FIRST AMENDMENT TO
LAND USE RESTRICTION AGREEMENT**

THIS FIRST AMENDMENT TO LAND USE RESTRICTION AGREEMENT (this “Agreement”) is dated as of [REDACTED], 2024, by and among COLLINS ROAD PROPERTIES, LTD., a limited partnership duly organized, validly existing and in full force and effect under the laws of the State of Ohio (together with its permitted successors and assigns, the “Owner”), the COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO (together with its successors and assigns, the “Issuer”), and U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, a national banking association (the “Lender”), as lender and purchaser of the Issuer’s Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds, Series 2006 (Collins Road Properties, Ltd. Project), in the original aggregate principal amount of \$8,126,000 (the “Obligations”), and amends that certain Land Use Restriction Agreement recorded May 31, 2006, as Instrument No. 200600013240 in Book 1430 Page 3285 of the Official Records of Fairfield County, Ohio (the “LURA”).

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Issuer heretofore issued the Obligations pursuant to the terms of that certain Loan Agreement dated as of May 1, 2006 (as amended, modified or supplemented from time to time, the “Loan Agreement”) between the Issuer and the Owner for the purpose of financing and refinancing the costs of the acquisition, renovation, installation and equipping of all or a portion of multifamily housing facilities (the “Project”), as more fully described in the LURA and as set forth on Attachment 2 therein and affixed hereto; and

WHEREAS, the Lender purchased the Obligations and loaned the proceeds to the Owner so that the Owner could finance or refinance the Project; and

WHEREAS, in connection with the issuance of the Obligations, the Owner, the Issuer, and the Lender executed and delivered the LURA, which sets forth certain requirements and restrictions pertaining to the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Obligations will be paid in full and redeemed pursuant to a refinance loan made on the date of this Agreement by Lument Real Estate Capital, LLC and/or the Federal National Mortgage Association (together with their successors and/or assigns, the “New Lender”) and New Lender requires that the LURA be amended to revise certain remedies contained therein; and

WHEREAS, the parties hereto desire to amend the LURA to revise certain remedies contained therein; and

WHEREAS, this Agreement shall be effective as of the date first set forth above.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and undertakings set forth herein, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Owner, the Issuer, and the Lender do hereby contract and agree as follows:

SECTION 1. Amendment to Section 10(a) of the LURA. The following sentence is added to the end of Section 10(a) of the LURA:

“Issuer and/or Owner will provide a copy of any notice of a Regulatory Agreement Default or any draft amendments to the LURA to New Lender at 2001 Ross Avenue, 19th Floor, Dallas, Texas, 75201 or lumentloanadmin@lument.com.”

SECTION 2. Amendment to Section 10(b) of the LURA. The last sentence of Section 10(b) of the LURA is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

“The Owner represents, warrants and covenants that if any such violation is not corrected to the satisfaction of the Issuer within the period of time specified by the Issuer, or without further notice, the Issuer may declare a default under this agreement, effective on the date of such declaration of default; and”

SECTION 3. Amendment to Section 10(d) of the LURA. Section 10(d) of the LURA is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

(d) Specific Performance. The Owner acknowledges that the Issuer may also apply to any court, state or federal, for specific performance of this Agreement, or for an injunction against any violation of this Agreement, or for any such other actions as shall be necessary or desirable so as to correct non-compliance with this Agreement.

SECTION 4. Amendment to LURA. Upon redemption of the Obligations, the lien of the Loan Agreement shall be released and the Lender shall no longer be a party to the LURA.

SECTION 5. Recording and Filing; Covenants to Run With the Land.

(a) Upon the execution and delivery of this Agreement by the Owner, the Issuer, and the Lender, the Owner shall cause this Agreement to be recorded and filed in the public records of Fairfield County, Ohio, and the Owner shall pay all fees and charges incurred in connection therewith.

(b) This Agreement and the covenants contained herein with respect to the LURA shall run with the land and shall bind the Owner, and its successors and assigns, and the benefits shall inure to the Issuer, and its respective successors and assigns, during the term of the LURA; provided, however, nothing contained in this paragraph shall be deemed to authorize or consent to any assignment by the Owner.

(c) This Agreement is not intended to affect the priority of the LURA.

SECTION 6. Remaining Provisions Unaffected. Except as expressly modified and amended by this Agreement, the covenants, terms and conditions of the LURA shall remain unaffected and shall remain in full force and effect until terminated pursuant to its terms.

SECTION 7. Severability. If any provision of this Agreement or the LURA, as amended hereby, shall be invalid, illegal or unenforceable, the validity, legality and enforceability of the remaining portions hereof or thereof shall in no way be affected or impaired, nor shall such holding of invalidity, illegality or unenforceability affect the validity, legality or enforceability of such provision under other dissimilar facts or circumstances.

SECTION 8. Governing Law. Notwithstanding that, for the convenience of the parties, the parties may be executing this Agreement outside of the State of Ohio, the LURA and all amendments thereto shall be governed by the laws of the State of Ohio, both substantive and remedial.

SECTION 9. Multiple Counterparts. This Agreement may be simultaneously executed in one or more counterparts, all of which shall constitute the same instrument and each of which shall be deemed an original.

SECTION 10. Future Amendments. The LURA may not be further amended except by an instrument in writing signed by the Owner, the Issuer, and the Lender.

SECTION 11. Miscellaneous. The Issuer, the Owner and the Lender each agrees that this Agreement shall be placed of record in the land records of Fairfield County, Ohio, and except as specifically provided otherwise, the covenants contained herein and in the LURA shall run with the land and shall bind, and the benefits shall inure to, respectively, the Owner and all subsequent owners of the Project or any interest therein, and the Issuer and its assigns, for the Qualified Project Period. The recordation of this Agreement is not intended to affect the priority of the LURA and the parties agree that the LURA is senior in status and priority to any later recorded claims, liens, or restrictions against the Project, other than as specifically subordinated. Capitalized terms used in this Agreement and not otherwise defined herein shall have those meanings assigned to them in the LURA.

[Signature Pages to Follow]

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COLLINS ROAD PROPERTIES, LTD.,
an Ohio limited partnership

By: COLLINS ROAD HOUSING
PARTNERS, LLC, an Ohio limited
liability company, its General Partner

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

STATE OF OHIO)
) SS:
COUNTY OF _____)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, the _____ of Collins Road Housing Partners, LLC, the General Partner of Collins Road Properties, Ltd., on behalf of the limited liability company. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

STATE OF OHIO)
) ss:
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, _____, and _____, the County Commissioners of the County of Fairfield, Ohio. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

ATTACHMENT 2

[ADD FROM LURA]

DINSMORE & SHOHL LLP
191 West Nationwide Boulevard ^ Suite 200
Columbus, OH 43215

Joshua D. Grossman, Esq.
614-628-6950 (direct) ^ 614-628-6890 (fax)
Joshua.grossman@dinsmore.com

January 2, 2024

VIA E-MAIL (aundrea.cordle@fairfieldcountyohio.gov)

Aundrea N. Cordle, County Administrator
County of Fairfield, Ohio
210 East Main Street
Lancaster, Ohio 43130

Re: Matters Related to Refunding of County of Fairfield, Ohio Multifamily Housing Revenue Bond, Series 2006 (Collins Road Properties, Ltd. Project) (the “2006 Bond”)

Dear Aunie:

Dinsmore & Shohl LLP (“Dinsmore”) has been asked to serve as counsel to Collins Road Properties, Ltd. (the “Borrower”) in connection with a loan to be made by Lument Real Estate Capital, LLC and/or The Federal National Mortgage Association (the “New Lender”) to, in part, refund the above-captioned 2006 Bonds originally issued by the County of Fairfield, Ohio (the “County”) for the benefit of the Borrower (the “Matter”). As part of the Matter, the Borrower, the County, and U.S. Bank National Association, as the original purchaser of the 2006 Bond, have been requested by the New Lender to execute amendments to the existing 2006 Land Use Restriction Agreements in order for the New Lender to agree to make the loan.

Dinsmore represents the County in matters unrelated to the aforementioned Matter. Consequently, our representation of the Borrower with respect to the Matter, on the one hand, and our representation of the County in matters unrelated to the Matter, on the other hand, may present a conflict of interest. The purpose of this letter is to disclose this potential conflict of interest to you and to obtain the County’s consent to our representation of the Borrower in the Matter and our continuing representation of both the County and the Borrower in unrelated matters.

It is our understanding that, in connection with the Matter, the Borrower will be represented by Dinsmore. Further, it is our understanding that the Borrower will rely on Dinsmore for legal representation in connection with the Matter, and that all parties understand that Dinsmore would be representing only the interests of the Borrower in connection with the Matter. Therefore, we are requesting that the County waive any conflict of interest in the Matter and consent to Dinsmore’s representation of the Borrower in the Matter.

We have disclosed to the Borrower the potential conflict of interest related to the Matter and Dinsmore’s representation of the County in other unrelated matters. After full disclosure of Dinsmore’s relationship with the County, the Borrower has consented to the conflict and has

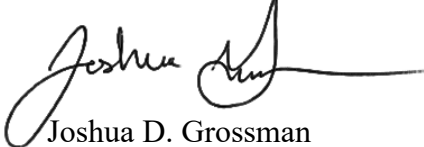
agreed that Dinsmore's representation of the Borrower in the Matter will not preclude Dinsmore's representation of the County in unrelated matters. Dinsmore will preserve confidential and proprietary information of the County and the Borrower and will not disclose or otherwise use such information in representing either party.

Further, we will not represent either the Borrower or the County if the Matter, or any other matter, becomes adversarial, involves equitable subordination, involves adversarial proceedings in bankruptcy or preference claims against the County. While representing the Borrower, we will not use in any manner detrimental to the County any information obtained while representing the County in any prior, ongoing or future matters.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Very truly yours,

DINSMORE & SHOHL LLP

Per 
Joshua D. Grossman

JDG/plm

The County hereby consents to the above request of Dinsmore & Shohl LLP.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY, OHIO

By: _____

Name: Aundrea N. Cordle

Title: County Administrator

Dated: _____, 2024

41166569



Via First Class Mail, Postage Prepaid and Overnight Delivery (exceptions noted)

December 6, 2023

County of Fairfield, Ohio
210 Main Street
Lancaster, Ohio 43130
Attention: Economic Development Department

Collins Road Properties, Ltd.
c/o The Windsor Company
1430 Collins Road, N.W.
Lancaster, Ohio 43130
Attention: Thomas Moore

County of Fairfield, Ohio
4465 Coonpath Road NW
Carroll, Ohio 43112
Attention: Rick Szabrak

Collins Road Properties, Ltd.
c/o The Windsor Company
1430 Collins Road, N.W.
Lancaster, Ohio 43130
Attention: Johnny Moore

Collins Road Properties, Ltd.
c/o The Windsor Company
1430 Collins Road, N.W.
Lancaster, Ohio 43130
Attention: Brian Moore

Carlile Patchen & Murphy, LLP
366 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
Attention: Carol Sheehan, Esq.

Carlile Patchen & Murphy, LLP
950 Goodale Boulevard
Suite 200
Columbus, Ohio 43212
Attention: Carol Sheehan, Esq.

Re: \$8,126,000 United States of America State of Ohio County of Fairfield Multifamily Housing
Revenue Bond, Collins Road Properties, Ltd. Project, Series 2006 (the "**Bond**")

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Reference is made herein to the Bond. Pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in that certain Bond Acquisition Agreement dated May 31, 2006 ("**Bond Acquisition Agreement**"), by and between Collins Road Properties, Ltd., an Ohio limited partnership ("**Borrower**"), and U.S. Bank National Association, a national banking association ("**Lender**"), Lender agreed to purchase the Bond from County of Fairfield, a county organized and existing under the laws of the State of Ohio ("**Issuer**"). The proceeds of the sale of the Bond from Issuer to Lender were utilized by the Issuer to make a loan to Borrower in the amount of \$8,126,000 (the "**Loan**"), pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in the Bond Acquisition Agreement and that certain Loan Agreement dated as of May 1, 2006 (the "**Loan Agreement**"), between Issuer and Borrower. All capitalized terms used but not defined herein shall have the meaning ascribed thereto in the Bond.

Pursuant to Section 2 of the Bond, the Lender may, at its election and upon notice to Borrower and Issuer, tender the Bond to Borrower on the Tender Date of May 10, 2024 for the price equal to the Principal Balance of the Bond on the Tender Date (together with the monthly payment due on the Tender Date as provided in Section 2 of the Bond) (the “***Tender Option***”). Lender hereby notifies Borrower and to Issuer that Lender has elected to exercise this Tender Option and to tender the Bond to Borrower on the Tender Date. Accordingly, the Bond must be purchased from Lender by or on behalf of Borrower on the Tender Date in accordance with the terms of the Bond or such failure shall constitute an event of default under Bond and an “Event of Default” under the Loan Documents.

Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions at (636) 248-7772.

Sincerely,

U.S. BANCORP IMPACT FINANCE
a national banking association



Cyrus Malik
Assistant Vice President

LURA #1
FRANKLIN COUNTY
(CASTLETON GARDENS)

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

STATE OF OHIO)
) ss:
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, _____, and _____, the County Commissioners of the County of Fairfield, Ohio. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

STATE OF OHIO)
) ss:
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, _____, and _____, the County Commissioners of the County of Fairfield, Ohio. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

STATE OF OHIO)
) ss:
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, _____, and _____, the County Commissioners of the County of Fairfield, Ohio. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

STATE OF OHIO)
) ss:
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, _____, and _____, the County Commissioners of the County of Fairfield, Ohio. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

LURA #2
CLARK COUNTY
(JEFFREY PLACE)

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

STATE OF OHIO)
) ss:
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, _____, and _____, the County Commissioners of the County of Fairfield, Ohio. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

STATE OF OHIO)
) ss:
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, _____, and _____, the County Commissioners of the County of Fairfield, Ohio. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

STATE OF OHIO)
) ss:
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, _____, and _____, the County Commissioners of the County of Fairfield, Ohio. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

STATE OF OHIO)
) ss:
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, _____, and _____, the County Commissioners of the County of Fairfield, Ohio. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

LURA #3
MIAMI COUNTY
(LIBERTY COMMONS)

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

STATE OF OHIO)
) ss:
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, _____, and _____, the County Commissioners of the County of Fairfield, Ohio. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

STATE OF OHIO)
) ss:
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, _____, and _____, the County Commissioners of the County of Fairfield, Ohio. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

STATE OF OHIO)
) ss:
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, _____, and _____, the County Commissioners of the County of Fairfield, Ohio. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

STATE OF OHIO)
) ss:
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, _____, and _____, the County Commissioners of the County of Fairfield, Ohio. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

LURA #4
BUTLER COUNTY
(TAMARIND SQUARE)

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

STATE OF OHIO)
) ss:
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, _____, and _____, the County Commissioners of the County of Fairfield, Ohio. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

STATE OF OHIO)
) ss:
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, _____, and _____, the County Commissioners of the County of Fairfield, Ohio. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

STATE OF OHIO)
) ss:
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, _____, and _____, the County Commissioners of the County of Fairfield, Ohio. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

STATE OF OHIO)
) ss:
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, _____, and _____, the County Commissioners of the County of Fairfield, Ohio. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

LURA #5
FAIRFIELD COUNTY
(WINDSOR PLACE)

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

STATE OF OHIO)
) ss:
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, _____, and _____, the County Commissioners of the County of Fairfield, Ohio. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

STATE OF OHIO)
) ss:
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, _____, and _____, the County Commissioners of the County of Fairfield, Ohio. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

STATE OF OHIO)
) ss:
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, _____, and _____, the County Commissioners of the County of Fairfield, Ohio. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

[Signature Page to First Amendment to Land Use Restriction Agreement]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed in their respective names by their duly authorized representatives as of the date first set forth above.

COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, OHIO

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

By: _____
Title: County Commissioner

STATE OF OHIO)
) ss:
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 2024 by _____, _____, and _____, the County Commissioners of the County of Fairfield, Ohio. No oath or affirmation was administered to the signer with regard to the notarial act.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

Prosecutor's Approval Page

Resolution No.

A resolution authorizing the amendments to five existing 2006 land use restriction agreements, and matters related thereto.

(Fairfield County Commissioners)

Approved as to form on 1/5/2024 3:30:51 PM by Amy Brown-Thompson,



Amy Brown-Thompson
Prosecutor's Office
Fairfield County, Ohio

Resolution No. 2024-01.09.a

A resolution authorizing the amendments to five existing 2006 land use restriction agreements, and matters related thereto.

(Fairfield County Commissioners)

This resolution has not yet been voted on.

CERTIFICATE OF CLERK

It is hereby certified that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of a resolution acted upon by the Board of County Commissioners, Fairfield County, Ohio on the date noted above.