

**Regular Meeting #1 - 2021**  
**Fairfield County Commissioners' Office**  
**January 12, 2021**

**Review**

The Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. to review legal issues and pending or future action items and correspondence. Commissioner Levacy called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Jeff Fix, and Dave Levacy. Also present were Carri Brown, Rachel Elsea, Joshua Horacek, Thomas Lininger, Chief Churchill, Chief Collins, Jon Kochis, Jeff Porter

Attending virtually were: Jim Bahnsen, Jesse Shamp, Nikki Drake, Tony Vogel, CJ Roberts, Aunie Cordle, Jeff Barron, Larry Hanna, Jason Dolin, Tony Howard, Park Russell, Dennis Keller, Jon Slater, Lisa McKenzie, Amy Brown-Thompson, Stacy Hicks, Shannon Carter, Branden Meyer, Jeremiah Upp, and others.

- **Welcome**

Mr. Levacy welcomed everyone to the first Regular Meeting of 2021.

- **COVID-19 Update**

Jon Kochis, EMA Director, and Larry Hanna, Health Department Director, provided an update on the COVID-19 responses. The first round of vaccinations began the week of December 28<sup>th</sup>. There is a tiering schedule for the vaccinations.

Mr. Hanna reported they averaged about 124 new cases per day. It appears they are seeing a surge from the holidays. They hope it will not get significantly worse. This is a little higher than where they have been.

Mr. Hanna stated the COVID vaccine remains in low supply. By the end of the week, they should be 75% of the way done with tier 1a. They are projecting to open a pod next Thursday at the fairgrounds for tier 1b for those 80 years and above. There is information on the Health Department's website, and they hope to have a press release out later this week.

Mr. Fix asked how the 80+ age group would know they can get their vaccine.

Mr. Hanna replied the info would be on their press release. They already have a lot of people registered, as well.

Mr. Kochis replied the link will asked general questions that will get fed into the Commissioners Alert System. Once that person's turn is ready to schedule, they will receive an alert.

Mr. Levacy noted there are a lot of people not getting the information with less printed media.

Mr. Fix asked what percentage of the 1a group was turning down the vaccine.

Mr. Kochis replied that long term care givers are accepting the vaccine at a 30% rate. EMS workers are even lower. Those in long-term care facilities have been vaccinated at roughly 80%. He is hearing that a lot of people want their vaccines to go to someone else in more need. This is difficult as everyone needs vaccinated to reduce community spread.

Mr. Kochis explained level 1b in further detail with other sub section age ranges, congenital defects, and school staff population (which is estimated to be 2,800 in the county).

The state has provided a roll-out schedule of *eligibility*. The state administration is asking the local Emergency Management Agency in each county issue communications on Wednesday January 13<sup>th</sup> or Thursday January 14<sup>th</sup> announcing *where* the vaccines will be available and *how* individuals 80 or older can receive them. The question remaining is *when* the vaccinations will be available.

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The week of February 1st, the administration plans to begin vaccinating school personnel.

Superintendents are being asked to sign forms agreeing to return to in-person instruction or hybrid learning by March 1st. This is a condition of getting the vaccine for school employees. Schools are asked to send the number of vaccinations they anticipate needing and whether or not they are already working with a provider to administer those vaccines.

We received a copy of the slide show about the vaccination eligibility schedule of the state.

We are aware of a letter from the Attorney General which indicates that the Attorney General believes law enforcement should be included in the first groups to receive the vaccination. This letter was in the review packet.

The communications dashboard was also in the review packet, demonstrating a broad reach of the Commission's communications.

We continue to focus communications on the basics of masking up. We do have \$40 K of 2021 appropriations (in addition to about \$50K of 2020 appropriations) for communications if we determine it is a good idea to have an effort to encourage vaccinations once the Health Department is ready for the general population to be vaccinated and to receive additional, broad communication about the vaccination effort.

Returning to vaccinations, Mr. Fix asked about the lack of doses and supplies.

Mr. Hanna replied that the government has been holding back second doses and that the President-elect has proposed releasing all doses. They hope to have more information in the next few weeks. They should know this weekend how many doses they'll received next week.

The Health Department will begin their second round of doses next week. They are taking someone from their contact tracing team to staff a phone line for COVID questions and scheduling.

- CARES Act/Stafford Act Update

The federal government is allowing for another year to expend CARES Act resources. Fairfield County had already encumbered or spent all resources by the end of 2020. We also had more eligible expenses than requested for reimbursement. A summary of all activity will be available early in February. We have already reported to OBM for January for activity in 2020.

At this time, there are no additional CARES Act resources available (except for some special grants that will be managed at the department level).

We will likely be making some adjustments with the hospital based on the subrecipient agreements. The original subgrant agreements totaled \$487,255.56. After asking if FMC had additional subgrant items, the total was \$893,544.08. Even with adjustments, FMC will still have more than what they originally expected.

In addition, the county has Stafford Act funds they have offered to the Health Department to assist them with vaccination clinics.

- Legal Update (none)

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- Administration and Budget Update/Carri's List

- a. Announcements

Congratulations to Chief Churchill and Chief Collins on their promotions. We look forward to working with them in their new roles.

Anyone can email or text a question anytime:

[Carri.Brown@FairfieldCountyOhio.gov](mailto:Carri.Brown@FairfieldCountyOhio.gov)

(740) 777-8552

Dates of Interest

Jan 18 MLK Day

Jan 19 Lunch n Learn – Ohio Means Jobs

Jan 26 Commissioner Davis – Commissioner Connection video

Jan 28 Virtual Job Fair

Feb 11 EL/DH Virtual Roundtable

Feb 15 Presidents Day

Feb 23 Commissioner Levacy – Commissioner Connection video

- b. Highlights of Resolutions

Dr. Brown highlighted 41 resolutions for the voting meeting.

JFS proposed approval of a contract for Functional Training Services (a renewal for Public Assistance services).

The Dog Shelter proposed disposition of an obsolete vehicle.

As in years past, there were standard resolutions to approve for the Emergency Operations Plan and the Local Emergency Planning Committee, of which all had been updated with contact information but had no substantive changes.

We proposed an agreement with NACo for the countywide leadership academy attendees. In 2020, Carri Brown, Jon Kochis, and Aunie Cordle graduated from the course. In 2021, there are multiple attendees which we encouraged during our leadership conference. The return on this investment is increased organizational knowledge, improved leadership skills, and an indication of value to the employees, which research and our own strategic plan indicates is important to productivity. The course was opened to all departments.

The County Engineer proposed that Jeremiah Upp and Eric McCrady serve as representatives for the OPWC Integrating Committee, as previously approved.

The County Engineer also proposed a change order (reduction in costs) for a bridge project in Walnut Township.

The Sheriff proposed the purchase of three vehicles (following a competitive process).

We proposed the reappointment of Jeff Sauer to the Port Authority Board.

We also had a resolution to approve an annexation of 38.727 +/- acres from Violet Township to the City of Pickerington, Expedited Type II, pursuant to ORC 709.023, annexation of land by Devon Nicole Foltz, Kaitlyn Michelle Foltz, Zachary Robert Foltz, and Terry Lynn Foltz.



1. The first part of the document is a letter from the President of the United States to the Congress.

2. The second part is a report on the state of the Union.

3. The third part is a report on the state of the Treasury.

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There were 31 *financial and grant related resolutions* to approve:

- Approval of a new fund for the Clerk of Courts who received a grant for equipment and a new fund for MCU for a pandemic related grant;
- Repayment of advances relating to CDBG and Juvenile Court;
- Two fund-to-fund transfers for the LGIF loan payment and EMA;
- 11 resolutions for new appropriations, all relating to grant activity: for CDBG (two, with advances), the County Engineer, FCFACF (two), 911 wireless, Common Pleas, EMA, MCU, the Sheriff, and for the city of Lancaster to receive the full match for the county match of the grant for the lead-based paint mitigation project;
- Reduction in appropriations for seven special revenue funds;
- A minor adjustment for FOJ, a \$5 correction;
- Memo transactions relating to the Stafford Act (with EMA as the lead agency) and the County Engineer (for shared GIS costs);
- Utilities payment of indirect costs;
- An account-to-account transfer of appropriations for EMA;
- Planned 2021 allocations for the Humane Society, LFPT, and Municipal Court; and
- Bills over \$100,000.

There were financial and contracting resolutions in queue.

c. Administrative Approvals, Program, & Budget Update

**Administrative Update**

Administrative Approvals and Update

The review packet will contain a list of administrative approvals from December 19<sup>th</sup> forward.

JFS Donation Drive Update

We had an update of some numbers about the Holiday Donation Drive:

- 236 Wish lists
- Over 400 individual children supported
- 25 elderly supported
- Shop with a Cop 17 kids (10 families)
- 30 bikes given away
- Turkey meals – nearly 50

Airport Vacancy/ADAMH Vacancy

For the Airport Board, we had three applicants now. We will set up interviews for January 26th.

Also, we have posted for the ADAMH vacancy. Interviewing will likely occur early in February.

Update about Actions Taken for Cultural Competency

Throughout 2020, we reflected upon cultural competency, diversity, and inclusion.

- In September, the county updated its Equal Employment Opportunity Plan.
- We continue to affirm the promotion of diversity and inclusion with training. There are training opportunities available for all employees with the essential Services Skills modules as well as with presentations by leadership.

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- Carri Brown provided a presentation to MORPC, as well, and it has brought about additional conversations in Fairfield County and in other areas about the importance of open dialogues and making human connections, especially with marginalized groups. This training module is in the review packet.
- Rick Szabrak is participating on a committee with MORPC to examine issues of inclusivity in Central Ohio. We are also aware of a group reviewing such matters with the Chamber of Commerce.
- The Commission department heads meet monthly with a standing agenda. These monthly leadership team meetings include an agenda item about cultural competency to increase communications and review policy decisions under the lens of how marginalized groups are affected.
- As we explore technology improvements, we will seek out ways to improve data management to provide more information about demographic factors.
- If there are other departments who would like to have additional training or to have group discussions to improve cultural competencies, please contact Carri Brown. We would be happy to help provide some educational tools or to lead discussions.

Budget Update

- We reported an estimated \$23 M+ of unencumbered cash, and because encumbrances were as expected, this was accurate. For the general fund, \$23.98M was unencumbered at the end of the year. Encumbrances were a bit higher this year as compared to last year. Cash prior to encumbrances was about \$26 M at the end of the year.
- The carry over cash for the general fund increased based on multiple factors, including strong financial stewardship which controlled expenditures (even in a year with the timing of 27 pays) and attention to practices to maintain services during the pandemic. The increase of carry-over cash was also due to management of the CARES Act resources for eligible expenses. Of the unencumbered cash, about \$5.5M of the increase was due to the CARES Act resources while \$3.5 M was due to these other factors mentioned, and that is a credit to the collaborative processes in place for financial stewardship.
- The state non-auto sales tax receipts for November (to be paid in by counties in February) increased 2% in November 2020, as compared to November 2019. Fairfield County non-auto sales tax data for the same time shows an increase of 6% at about \$1.6 M. Last year, we experienced about a 3.4% increase for the same time, overall. We projected a 3% increase in sales tax for the year.
- There will be a rating call with Moody's on either January 18 or 19. We will receive a list of questions to review. Carri Brown and Jon Slater are scheduled for the call. The list of questions has not yet been received.

Strategic Goals/Review of Special Dates, Proclamations, and Events

The review packet contained a list of strategic goals, special dates, proclamations, and events for 2021.

Summary statistics from 2020 were also included in the review packet.

Mr. Fix asked when it was appropriate to revisit the strategic plan.

Dr. Brown replied that typically strategic plans are updated organically and revisited after the expiration of the plan's term, which is 202 in this case. While updated regularly, the plan would be prime for a new look next year.

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d. BRAVOs

Thank you to Tony Vogel, Ted Schmelzer, Eric McCrady, and Jeff Camechis for their expert help in ensuring the pump at Buckeye Lake was working properly over the holidays.

BRAVO to the Facilities Department and ServiceMaster for the annual deep cleaning at the administrative courthouse and other buildings.

Thanks to the County Auditor and Commission for working well together for year-end processes.

Great job to the Child Support Enforcement Agency: Collections exceeded \$23 M this past year. That is a new milestone. Thanks for the agency's work in serving children and families.

Thank you to Jon Kochis for leading the improvements of technology in the hearing room, which mirrors that of the EMA conference room. Mr. Kochis will lead training about the use of the technology. Rachel Elsea sent out information about this.

- Old Business

- a. Commissioner Communications

- Mr. Fix will attend a meeting on Wednesday night with Pickerington and Violet Township regarding a development idea they are kicking around.

- New Business

- General Correspondence Received

- a. Email from Mr. Long re: Refugee Road Concerns – Mr. Long was invited to the meeting later today.

- Calendar Review/Invitations Received

- FYI

- a. Jail Population - 209
  - b. 2020 Sheriff's Office FOJ Report
  - c. 2020 Prosecutor's Office FOJ Report
  - d. Utilities/RPC Presentation re: Development
  - e. Notice from FEMA re: new Flood Hazard Restrictions for Unnamed Tributary to Sycamore Creek
  - f. Congratulations to all elected officials taking office
    - Ethics training can be taken online in one hour and/or with the leadership conference.
    - Notes from an Ethics training are included within the review packet.
    - Sunshine law training can be taken online and/or with a designee.



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- Open Items

At 9:37 a.m., Commissioner Levacy stated the Commission would be in recess until the 10:00 a.m. Regular Meeting.

**Commissioners' Regular Meeting**

A regular meeting of the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 beginning at 10:00 a.m., with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Jeff Fix, and Dave Levacy. Also present were Carri Brown, Rachel Elsea, Jon Kochis, Chief Churchill, Chief Collins, Joshua Horacek, Thomas Lininger, and Jeff Porter.

Attending virtually were: Jim Bahnsen, Branden Meyer, Aunie Cordle, Dennis Keller, Jeremiah Upp, Jeff Barron, Jessa Shamp, Jon Slater, and Tony Vogel.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Commissioner Levacy asked everyone to rise as able, and he led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Announcements**

Commissioner Levacy asked if there were any announcements.

There were no announcements.

**Public Comment**

Commissioner Davis asked if anyone from the public who would like to speak or offer comments.

**Approval of Minutes for Tuesday, December 29, 2020 and Monday, January 11, 2021**

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 29, 2020 Regular Meeting and Monday, January 11, 2021 Reorg Meeting.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

**Approval of the Auditor's Office Resolution**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Auditor's Office resolution authorizing the reduction appropriations in major expenditure object categories for Fund # 2443 GIS; see resolution 2021-01.12.a.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

**Approval of the Clerk of Courts - Legal Resolution**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Clerk of Courts – Legal resolution to authorize the establishment of a new fund for the Fairfield County Clerk of Courts, Appropriate from Unappropriated and authorizing the approval of an advance from the General Fund to NCHIP Livescan Purchase Fund; see resolution 2021-01.12.b.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

**Approval of the Commissioners' Resolutions**

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On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following Commissioners' Office resolutions:

- 2021-01.12.c      A resolution to approve the annexation of 38.727 +/- acres from Violet Township to the City of Pickerington, Expedited Type II, pursuant to ORC 709.023, Annexation of Land by Devon Nicole Foltz, Kaitlyn Michelle Foltz, Zachary Robert Foltz, and Terry Lynn Foltz. [Commissioners]
- 2021-01.12.d      A resolution to approve an agreement for County Employees to participate in the NACO Leadership Academy. [Commissioners] [Commissioners]
- 2021-01.12.e      A resolution authorizing the approval of repayment of an advance to the General Fund from the CDBG Allocation & NRP grant fund# 2788, subfund# 8205- Fairfield County Commissioners [Commissioners]
- 2021-01.12.f      A resolution authorizing the reduction appropriations in major expenditure object categories for Fund # 2731, subfund# 8201 FY2018 CHIP/HOME grant - Fairfield County Commissioners [Commissioners]
- 2021-01.12.g      A resolution authorizing the reduction appropriations in major expenditure object categories for Fund # 3011, subfund# 8224, FY19 FAA grant – Fairfield County Commissioners [Commissioners]
- 2021-01.12.h      A resolution approving the appointment of the Mr. Jeff Sauer to the Fairfield County Port Authority Board. [Commissioners]
- 2021-01.12.i      A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated funds in a major expenditure object category for fund# 1001 - Fairfield County Commissioners [Commissioners]
- 2021-01.12.j      A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated into a major expense category for fund # 2788, Subfund#8257 & Advance from the General Fund – FY2020 CDBG Critical Infrastructure Grant – Fairfield County Commissioners [Commissioners]
- 2021-01.12.k      A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure object category for capital outlay for the 911 Wireless Fund# 2683 – Fairfield County Commissioners [Commissioners]
- 2021-01.12.l      A resolution authorizing the reduction appropriations in major expenditure object categories for Fund # 3034, subfund# 8245, FY2021 ODOT grant - Fairfield County Commissioners [Commissioners]
- 2021-01.12.m      A resolution authorizing fund to fund transfer from the General Fund # 1001 to Fund# 4832 LGIF debt – Fairfield County Commissioners [Commissioners]
- 2021-01.12.n      A resolution to approve the Further of Justice (FOJ) appropriation for the County Sheriff - fund to fund transfer – Fairfield County Commissioners [Commissioners]
- 2021-01.12.o      A resolution authorizing the reduction appropriations in major expenditure object categories & Account to Account transfer into a major expenditure object category for Fund # 2788, subfund# 8204 FY2018 CDBG Critical Infrastructure Grant - Fairfield County Commissioners [Commissioners]
- 2021-01.12.p      A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated into a major expense

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category for fund # 2788, Subfund#8258 & Advance from the General Fund – FY2020 CDBG Allocation – Fairfield County Commissioners [Commissioners]

2021-01.12.q      A resolution authorizing 2021 Allocations for Humane Society, Lancaster Public Transit & Fairfield County Municipal Court - Fairfield County Commissioners [Commissioners]

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

**Approval of the Common Pleas Court Resolution**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Common Pleas Court resolution to appropriate from unappropriated into a major expense category for fund #2689, subfund #8220 – 2019 ISP Grant – Fairfield County Common Pleas Probation; see resolution 2021-01.12.r.

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

**Approval of the Dog Shelter Resolution**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Dog Shelter resolution authorizing the disposal of a vehicle by internet auction with Gov Deals, Inc. – Fairfield County Dog Shelter; see resolution 2021-01.12.s.

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

**Approval of the Economic Development Resolution**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Economic Development resolution authorizing the reduction in major expenditure object category appropriations and estimated receipts; see resolution 2021-01.12.t.

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

**Approval of the Board of Elections Resolution**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Board of Elections resolution authorizing the reduction in major expenditure object category appropriations for Board of Elections Fund 2588 Voter Registration Fund; see resolution 2021-01.12.u.

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

**Approval of the Emergency Management Agency Resolutions**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following Emergency Management Agency resolutions:

- 2021-01.12.v      A resolution in the matter of nominations to the Fairfield County Local Emergency Planning Committee – LEPC for the EMA [EMA]
- 2021-01.12.w      A resolution authorizing an account to account transfer for EMA Fund 2707 (Subfund 8213) Emergency Management Performance Grant [EMA]
- 2021-01.12.x      A resolution for memo transactions and increase receipts relating to the





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Stafford Act Relief Fund# 2649 (Subfund 8253) [EMA]

- 2021-01.12.y      A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure object category EMA 2090 Emergency Management Agency Fund [EMA]
- 2021-01.12.z      A resolution authorizing an EMA fund to fund transfer. [EMA]
- 2021-01.12.aa      A resolution approving the Fairfield County Emergency Operations Plan and signing of the Promulgation Statement [EMA]

Discussion: Mr. Kochis thanked the Commissioners for the approvals. Dr. Brown added that if there was ever doubt an EOP was needed, this last year was a great example.

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

**Approval of the Engineer's Office Resolutions**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following Engineer's Office resolutions:

- 2021-01.12.bb      A resolution to approve a Change Order for the WAL-38, FAI-TR473-00.57 South Bank Road over a Tributary to Buckeye Lake Bridge Replacement Project [Engineer]
- 2021-01.12.cc      A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure object category County Engineer 2024-Motor Vehicle for MORPC membership fees [Engineer]
- 2021-01.12.dd      A resolution to approve a reimbursement for GIS services as a memo expenditure for fund 2024 – Motor Vehicle [Engineer]
- 2021-01.12.ee      A resolution to authorize Jeremiah D. Upp and Eric McCrady to be reappointed to the OPWC Integrating Committee. [Engineer]

Discussion: Dr. Brown sated that as the resolutions were being reviewed, it was a good time to thank Mr. Upp and his team for their work on multiple projects. She also thanked Mr. Upp for the projects update he was planning to provide at 11:30 during the Commission meeting.

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

**Approval of the Family, Adult, and Children First Council Resolutions**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following Family, Adult, and Children First Council resolutions:

- 2021-01.12.ff      A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated funds in a major category expense for the Fund# 7521– Family Adult Children First [Family, Adult and Children First Council]
- 2021-01.12.gg      A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated funds in a major category expense for the Fund# 7521, subfund#8232 – Family Adult Children First [Family, Adult and Children First Council]

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

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**Approval of the JFS Resolution**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the JFS resolution regarding a Purchase of Service Contract between Functional Training Services, Inc. and Job & Family Services, Community Services Division; see resolution 2021-01.12.hh.

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

**Approval of the Juvenile/Probate Court Resolution**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Juvenile/Probate Court resolution authorizing the approval of repayment of an advance to the General Fund from Fund #2856 Child Abuse & Neglect Discretionary Fund (QIC); see resolution 2021-01.12.ii.

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

**Approval of the Major Crimes Unit Resolutions**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following Major Crimes Unit resolutions:

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|---------------|---|
| 2021-01.12.jj | A resolution to reduce and increase appropriations in COAP 7858 Grant fund [Sheriff - Major Crimes Unit]  |
| 2021-01.12.kk | A resolution to authorize the establishment of a new fund for Fairfield Hocking Athens Major Crimes Unit, Appropriate from unappropriated, approval of an advance form the Fairfield county General Funds to Covid-19 Supplemental Grant 78XX [Major Crimes Unit] [Sheriff - Major Crimes Unit] |

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

**Approval of the Sheriff's Office Resolutions**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following Sheriff's Office resolutions:

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|---------------|---|
| 2021-01.12.ll | A resolution authorizing the reduction in major expenditure object category appropriations for Fund 2394 CFLP Litter Enforcement Grant. [Sheriff]   |
| 2021-01.12.mm | A resolution authorizing the purchase of three vehicles (Ford Interceptor SUVs) from Lebanon Ford, with the State of Ohio Department of Administrative Services state competitive bidding process, for use by the Fairfield County Sheriff's Office [Sheriff] |

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

**Approval of the Utilities Resolution**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Utilities resolution to approve a reimbursement for share of costs as a memo expenditure for fund #5044, 5046, 5842, & 5841; see resolution 2021-01.12.nn.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Dave Levacy, 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 Payment of Bills resolution authorizing the approval of payment of invoices for departments that need Board of Commissioners approval; see resolution 2021-01.12.00.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

**Open Items**

At 10:11 a.m. the Commission was in recess until the 10:30 a.m. Executive Session.

**Executive Session – Pending Litigation**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and second of Dave Levacy, the Board voted to enter into Executive Session to discuss the pending litigation at 10:30 a.m.

Discussion: Commissioner Levacy stated that the following people be included in the executive session: Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Levacy, Commissioner Fix, Carri Brown, Rachel Elsea, Jeff Porter, representatives from the Prosecutor's office, and Marc Fishel.

Roll call on the motion as follows:

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

On the motion of Jeff Fix and second of Dave Levacy, the Board voted to exit Executive Session at 10:40 a.m.

Roll call on the motion as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix and Dave Levacy

Absent: Steve Davis

**Review (continued)**

The Commissioners met at 10:40 a.m. to review legal issues and pending or future action items and correspondence. Commissioner Levacy called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Jeff Fix and Dave Levacy. Also present were Carri Brown, Rachel Elsea, Jeff Porter, Amy Brown-Thompson, Thomas Lininger, and Marc Fishel.

**Executive Session – The Employment and Compensation of Public Officials**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and second of Dave Levacy, the Board voted to enter into Executive Session to discuss the employment and compensation of public officials at 10:42 a.m.

Discussion: Commissioner Levacy stated that the following people be included in the executive session: Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Levacy, Commissioner Fix, Carri Brown, Rachel Elsea, representatives from the Prosecutor's Office, representatives from Human Resources, and Sheriff Lape, Chief Collins, and Chief Churchill.

Roll call on the motion as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix and Dave Levacy

Absent: Steve Davis



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On the motion of Jeff Fix and second of Dave Levacy, the Board voted to exit Executive Session at 11:29 a.m.

Roll call on the motion as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix and Dave Levacy

Absent: Steve Davis

**Review (continued)**

The Commissioners met at 11:29 a.m. to review legal issues and pending or future action items and correspondence. Commissioner Levacy called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Jeff Fix and Dave Levacy. Also present were Carri Brown, Rachel Elsea, Joshua Horacek.

**Engineer's Projects Update**

The Commissioners met at 11:30 a.m. to for an update on Engineer's Projects. Commissioner Davis called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Commissioner Fix and Dave Levacy. Also present were Carri Brown, Rachel Elsea, and Joshua Horacek.

Attending virtually were: Branden Meyer, Jeremiah Upp, Eric McCrady, and John Long.

Mr Upp reviewed upcoming Engineer projects.

He discussed the Pickerington/Route 33 interchange to serve traffic on 33 coming to and from Columbus. This project is not linked to any other project right now. There is discussion about an Allen Road connector, but that project is just an idea. It would be an extremely large project with a very large price tag.

They have been working with ODOT closely on the I-270 to 256/270 interchange area. The TID has been huge supporters of looking at the Taylor Road area especially due to the fact that Pickerington has grown so much.

Mr. Fix asked if there was a timeline for the Taylor Road on ramp idea.

Mr. Upp replied there is not a timeline yet. There are several steps to go yet, but he does see ODOT going through those steps and taking the project seriously.

The other large project is Refugee Road. They secured some ODOT funding to make improvements. Pickerington and Refugee Road will see substantial improvements. They did a traffic study for the entire corridor and that study shows that substantial improvements are needed to function properly including five lanes and multi-use paths.

The Engineer's Office has looking into phasing these Refugee Road projects due to the number of improvements needed. The current plan is work on safety and then widen the road. The cost to build out the project is \$17-\$18 million.

Dr. Brown asked for a list of current Engineer projects to have on file if that would be possible.

Mr. Fix stated that RPC just reviewed all the building developments going on in the Northwest corner of the county. He discussed the traffic issues in that area. He asked what the timeframe was for the phase of improvements.

Mr. Upp replied that phase 1, the intersection upgrades, will be constructed in 2023. Phase 2, the widening of lanes, would be 5-10 years for the first part of that phase. After that is hard to tell how quickly they can do it. The second part typically falls into place sooner. He noted that funding for the second phase may be an issue and bonding may be needed by the TID or Engineer's Office.

Dr. Brown asked if any new debt was expected for 2021.

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Mr. Upp replied there was not any expected.

Mr. Upp commented on a handful of bridge projects and other maintenance projects coming up.

Mr. Fix asked if Mr. Upp had heard anything about a project at Hill Road south of Diley.

Mr. Upp replied he had not. He does have a meeting coming up with Greg Butcher with the City of Pickerington and wasn't sure if that would come up in the meeting.

Mr. Long joined the call and stated he taught at the schools for 38 years. When he heard of the road expansion he wondered why this was being done with all the additional building going on. He believes there needs to be communication with the schools with promotes reducing the building as much as possible. He hopes the Engineer takes all this into consideration as they move forward.

Mr. Upp replied he understood the concerns and appreciated them. He, too, was around during the boom and has witnessed what Mr. Long has seen. Right now, they find themselves in the situation where they have a safety concern and they are reacting to that.

Mr. Fix reviewed the current developments that are mainly in Violet Township. He noted the only thing they can really do is rezone.

Mr. Long replied he understood that and had spoken with the Township Trustees as well. He believes speaking with the schools now will help plan for the growth. He asked if there was room in the Mingo Estates area and if they could fit five lanes there.

Mr. Upp replied it was difficult, but could be done.

Mr. Fix suggested that Mr. Long continue to stay involve with the Township Trustees and City of Pickerington as they control the growth.

Mr. Long replied that he would continue to do so.

Adjournment

With no further business, on the motion of Jeff Fix and a second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn at 12:03 p.m.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix and Dave Levacy  
Absent: Steve Levacy

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

Motion by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Seconded by: \_\_\_\_\_  
that the January 12, 2021 minutes were approved by the following vote:

YEAS: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSTENTIONS: None

\*Approved on January 19, 2021

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steven A. Davis  
Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dave Levacy  
Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Fix  
Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rachel A. Elsea, Clerk

