

**Regular Meeting #11 - 2020**  
**Fairfield County Commissioners' Office**  
**March 10, 2020**

**Public Hearing to Re-Hire Dr. Carri Brown**

The Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. to hold a public hearing to consider the re-hire of Dr. Carri Brown. Commissioner Davis called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Jeff Fix, and Dave Levacy. Also present were Carri Brown, Rachel Elsea, Dennis Keller, Staci Knisley, Todd McCullough, Tony Vogel, Ray Stemen, Chief Lape, Sheriff Phalen, Joshua Horacek, Tom Lininger, Dave Burgei, Chris Wagner, Commander Dennis Lowe, Bart Hampson, Heather O'Keefe, Laura Holton, Aunie Cordle, Dan Neeley, Corey Clark, Loudan Klein, Jeff Barron, Jim Bahnsen, Mark Conrad, Donna Fox-Moore, Jon Kochis, Jon Slater, David Miller, Chris Veidt, Branden Meyer, and Ed Laramée.

Commissioner Davis thanked everyone for attending and stated the first item on the agenda was a Public Hearing for the potential rehire of Dr. Carri Brown as required by the Ohio Revised Code when an employee who reports to the Board has submitted their letter of retirement with the desire to be rehired. Dr. Brown submitted a letter on December 31, 2019, noting an intention to retire with an effective date of March 31, 2020. The proposed rehire date is April 1, 2020.

Commissioner Davis highlighted the process for the hearing including comments in support of Dr. Brown's rehire, comments opposed to the rehire, and any general questions. Several letters of support this week for Dr. Brown's rehire have been received from the following: Judge Trimmer, Judge Berens, Magistrate Boone, Linda Sheridan, Mandi Crist, Kim Dent, Dr. Rose Handon, Beverly Hoskinson, Dave Smith, and Deb Smith. An additional letter was received during the meeting from Susan Stoughton, and Mr. Davis commented that other letters were received the previous week. Mr. Davis commented he had the opportunity to read all of the letters; the letters would be included in the record.

Commissioner Davis opened comments for those in favor of the rehire of Dr. Carri Brown.

Chief Alex Lape stated he has enjoyed working with Dr. Brown and looks forward to working with her in the future. He detailed her experience relative to building the new jail and implementing new programs in partnership with the Sheriff's Office, and he stated he appreciated her leadership qualities and support of the Sheriff's Office as well as all county departments.

Sheriff Phalen stated that the interactions between the Sheriff and Commissioners has greatly improved since Dr. Brown has joined the Commissioners' office. It has been nice to have someone like Dr. Brown to work with and he felt as if her style of communication has manifested itself in other agencies. He stated it would show a lot of wisdom if she would continue in her current position.

Chris Veidt of 180 Wilson Avenue in Logan spoke of his storied friendship with Dr. Brown. He was a long-time resident of Fairfield County and worked with Dr. Brown in the CSEA. He has continued to observe Dr. Brown's career. He appreciates what Dr. Brown has done in the Commissioners' office and noted his perspective as a former County Prosecutor. He stated that he gives his wholehearted endorsement to her rehiring.

Commander Dennis Lowe has worked with Dr. Brown for the last four and a half years. He has worked with communities across the state of Ohio, but Fairfield County's local government cooperation is a level above the others which he attributes to Dr. Brown. Commander Lowe spoke about Dr. Brown's help with Project FORT. He appreciates her leadership and oversight and looks forward to continuing to work with her.

Aunie Cordle of 410 North Cherry Street stated the Commission would not find a more committed and dedicated public servant than Dr. Carri Brown. Dr. Brown is not one to shy away from a challenge or helping someone and is motivated by finding solutions to challenges.

Laura Holton of 7855 Bowers Road in Amanda stated she was fortunate to stand and ask the Commissioners support for rehiring Dr. Brown. She stated she believed Dr. Brown epitomizes the idea of servant leadership and serves as a mentor for many in the room.

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Corey Clark, 2114 Lavender Street in Lancaster, has had the privilege of working with and for Dr. Brown for over 20 years. He considers her a mentor and can think of no one who is harder working and more dedicated. He wholeheartedly endorses her rehire for all of those in county government who rely on her.

Donna Fox-Moore of 543 East Wheeling Street in Lancaster has known Dr. Brown for several years. Since becoming the director of the FACFC, she has benefited from Dr. Brown's leadership. Her example of leadership and her positive attitude while having a full grasp of the big picture is incredible. Ms. Fox-Moore also experienced this while working at Community Action. She wholeheartedly supports Dr. Brown's rehire.

Tony Vogel has worked with Fairfield County for 13 years. When Mr. Vogel joined 13 years ago Dr. Brown was serving in the Commissioners' Office, after some time away she came back to the Commission as the County Administrator and worked through the early years of the Commission not being sure what the County Administrator should do. Many of the departments' changes in budgets are a result of her work. This allows every department to manage their operations. Mr. Vogel spoke highly of Dr. Brown's work ethic and leadership and how she is the reason why so many work in Fairfield County.

Branden Meyer began working with Dr. Brown when she was the finance director at JFS, and he was with the Commissioners' Office. She is always professional and overly prepared - ready to fully answer all questions from the Commissioners. She understands complex financial situations, and he appreciates that.

Mark Conrad, IT Director, has known Dr. Brown since high school. Fairfield County is often seen as a place to go to pilot programs because the county has their act together. That is a result of a foundation laid by Dr. Brown.

Todd McCullough of Lancaster stated that he is excited about the future and living in Fairfield County when Dr. Brown is involved in the county government.

Jon Kochis, EMA Director, stated he takes Dr. Brown's rehire personally as he believes his growth in his position is only because of Dr. Brown and her leadership.

Dennis Keller, Facilities Manager, agreed with everything everyone has said. Dr. Brown's leadership is infectious and elevates everyone around her constantly. He endorses her rehire.

Commissioner Davis asked if there were any comments in opposition to the proposed rehire.

There were no comments.

Commissioner Davis asked if there were any questions or concerns from those in attendance, with such questions or concerns not having an indication of being opposed or in favor.

There were none.

Commissioner Davis thanked everyone for attending and expressing their opinions. He stated the Commission is having the hearing because the ORC requires the Commission to have it. Mr. Davis spoke to the difference of the Commission prior to Dr. Brown's hire and the current functionality of the Commission as a result of Dr. Brown serving as County Administrator. He discussed projects that Dr. Brown has been a part of and stated her leadership was a big reason for the projects' successes. He conveyed his profound respect and appreciation for the work Dr. Brown has done for the County.

Commissioner Levacy stated there was not enough time to discuss all Dr. Brown's qualities. She is an amazing wealth of information and she looks at her position not just as a job, but as a passion - which is a benefit to all of the residents of Fairfield County. It would be difficult to calculate all of the savings the county has experienced because of her work. He is privileged that she is willing to continue to serve as County Administrator.

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Commissioner Fix stated that in the short time he was worked as a Commissioner he has been blown away by Dr. Brown's intellect, compassion, heart, and work ethic. It is rare that you find someone that has all of those qualities in one package. Fairfield County is fortunate to have Dr. Brown serving as County Administrator.

Mr. Davis thanked everyone for their time and participation. He is thankful for everyone having had an opportunity to express their gratitude to Dr. Brown and her service to Fairfield County. At the 10:00 voting pattern, the Commission will consider a resolution for the rehire of Dr. Brown.

The Public Hearing was closed at 9:31 a.m.

**Review**

The Commissioners met at 9:31 a.m. to review legal issues and pending or future action items and correspondence. Commissioner Davis called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Jeff Fix, and Dave Levacy. Also present were Carri Brown, Rachel Elsea, Dennis Keller, Staci Knisley, Todd McCullough, Tony Vogel, Ray Stemen, Chief Lape, Sheriff Phalen, Joshua Horacek, Tom Lininger, Dave Burgei, Chris Wagner, Commander Dennis Lowe, Bart Hampson, Heather O'Keefe, Laura Holton, Aunie Cordle, Dan Neeley, Corey Clark, Loudan Klein, Jeff Barron, Jim Bahnsen, Mark Conrad, Donna Fox-Moore, Jon Kochis, Jon Slater, David Miller, Rick Szabrak, Branden Meyer, and Ed Laramée.

- Welcome
- Legal Update

There was no legal update.

- Administration and Budget Update/Carri's List

Mr. Davis provided an update on the State of the County address and plans in regard to recent virus outbreaks. The Commission has asked that Violet Township have the facility sanitized prior to and after the event and bill the Commissioners. Additionally, Mr. Davis asked that Dr. Brown work with the Chambers and vendors to see what the absolute last possible moment is to cancel the event if necessary. He asked that Mr. Kochis, Ms. Nash (on behalf of the Health Commissioner), and a representative from FMC work to determine if the event should be canceled.

Commissioners Levacy and Fix agreed with the approach.

Mr. Kochis, EMA Director, also agreed and stated that things are changing daily with yesterday being a big change for Ohio (referencing the state of emergency declared by the Governor). He will work with Ms. Nash and a representative from FMC and advise the Commissioners. They will also develop protocol if the event is held.

Returning to the meeting held earlier, Dr. Brown paused to thank everyone for the positive comments they made during the public meeting to consider her re-hiring. She found it gratifying and humbling to know her years of service and work means so much. She stated she looked forward to working with everyone in the future.

a. **Announcements**

March 15-21 – Sunshine Week

April 1 – Career Readiness Expo

April 8 – Wear Blue for Child Abuse Prevention Awareness - *Lt. Governor Husted to Speak*

April 11 – Township Trustees Assoc. Meeting (need to verify)

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April 10 – Good Friday – Close at Noon

April 23 – Circus Night at JFS

April 28 – State of the County Address – WigWam in Violet Township

**b. Highlights of Resolutions**

Dr. Brown highlighted 15 resolutions for the voting meeting. There was an additional resolution ready to be added to the voting agenda, for a potential total of 16 resolutions for the meeting.

We had a resolution approving the re-appointment of Ms. Heather O'Keefe to the Central Ohio Regional Prevention Council for a 2-year period beginning March 7, 2020.

The Commissioners proposed rehiring the County Administrator and conferring authority as of April 1, 2020, as discussed in public meetings.

The County Engineer proposed approval of a contract bid award for resurfacing and the Sugar Grove Guardrail Improvement project, following competitive bidding processes.

There were *financial and grant related resolutions* to approve, such as:

- An account to account transfer of appropriations and a memo transaction to settle up the County Auditor paying for costs associated with a copier in their use (but previously paid for by the Dog and Kennel fund);
- An account to account transfer for the Sheriff;
- Appropriations for the Records Center related position (as discussed last week), JFS and FCFACF;
- The repayment of advances by Juvenile/Probate Court and the Major Crimes Unit; and
- The payment of bills over \$50,000.

In addition, the County Commissioners Association of Ohio model of a resolution in support of the Second Amendment was proposed.

Previously, Dr. Brown met with Mr. Waits who is an advocate of the Constitution, especially the Second Amendment. Mr. Waits provided his personal story and gave heartfelt reasons for support of a resolution.

Also, Dr. Brown received a follow up letter from A. C. Worthey who indicated he had volunteered to be a lead spokesperson for the group known as Constitutional Citizens of Fairfield County. The two who had visited a Commission meeting previously were mentioned in the letter. The letter was in the review packet. There was reference to the Regional Planning Commission, as well, and the letter was provided to RPC as a courtesy, but it is believed that the letter was intended for the County Commissioners.

Also, previously, the County Commissioners have taken the opportunity to individually review multiple resolutions and the Governor's executive summary of "Strong Ohio".

Dr. Brown went on to describe a resolution that could be added.

We had a draft resolution to add pursuant to ORC 307.86 making a determination that a real and present emergency exists for exempting competitive bidding for supplies or services less than \$100,000, in connection with efforts to address the Coronavirus. This resolution will make purchasing processes more efficient, if

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there is a need to go outside of the normal competitive process for bidding.

Mr. Davis asked that the COVID related resolution be added to the agenda and asked the Sheriff to discuss preparations for a viral outbreak at the jail.

Sheriff Phalen explained how they prepare for the possibility of an outbreak among inmates or staff.

Mr. Bahnsen suggested leniency on requiring doctor's notes for taking sick days for the time being.

Mr. Davis stated that without getting into details about policies, he does find it helpful for people to go to the doctor if they need medical attention.

Dr. Brown spoke about the steps being taken to encourage staff and to take extra precautions. She has been meeting with Jon Kochis, EMA Director, Dennis Keller, Facilities Manager, and Jeff Porter, HR Director, and will meet weekly to review planning for the Coronavirus and other flu impacts. At our buildings, we have:

- Installed additional hand sanitizer pumps,
- Added cleaners to the rotation of supplies for the specific purposes of addressing flu viruses,
- Implemented training of staff on the use of the cleaners;
- Ordered additional hand sanitizers;
- Posted signage at the buildings and in restrooms; and
- Obtained additional supplies for employees to clean their own desk surfaces, as able.

ServiceMaster, our vendor partner, has:

Stepped up the use of disinfecting solutions on high touch areas, such as doorknobs, and researching the possibility of purchasing an electrostatic sprayer in case there is a need.

Noting that we want to encourage people to stay home when they are ill, we are thinking about the county leave without pay approach in case that would become more commonplace.

c. Administrative Approvals, Program, & Budget Update

**Administrative & Program Updates**

**Administrative Approvals**

The review packet contained a list of administrative approvals. There were no questions posed.

Dr. Brown highlighted the approval of an addendum that resulted in several people at JFS, the Prosecutor's Office, and the Commissioners' Office quickly cooperating to meet needs for a child in our protective care.

**Tour of 108 N. High – the Real Estate Offices**

In previous meetings, we have discussed how the Real Estate Offices will be on the Heritage Tour this year in June. The project is coming along as expected. We do know there will be painting and repair work to be completed after the Gutknecht portion of the project is done. The costs of things like painting would actually be lower if separated from the Gutknecht contract as opposed to being within that contract.

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Electronic Idea Box

**Idea 32/33:** An employee suggested an ATM machine be placed at the Administrative Courthouse and that a chair be placed in the men's restroom at the Records Center.

**Response:** Thank you for the ideas. We will explore the possibility of an agreement for an ATM machine at the Administrative Courthouse. Right now, there is an ATM machine at the One-Stop, and we can see if the provider has interest in other locations. In addition, we are aware that all payment-accepting offices at the Administrative Courthouse will soon accept credit card payments, making an ATM machine less significant from a practical perspective.

As far as a chair being placed in the men's restroom, consider it done.

We thank all employees for their ideas. To date, 33 ideas have been received in the electronic idea box. 29 of those ideas have been implemented and/or addressed in detail. Four ideas remain under review:

- A recommendation from April 2019 is under review with the County Auditor who is working with Tyler Technologies on the recommendation, which was to include a memo item on County Auditor warrants (checks) for efficient communication with vendors.
- A recommendation from September 2019 is under review with the Clerk of Courts who is gathering information and evaluating the idea. The recommendation was to change the decision tree of the telephone response.
- A recommendation from December 2019 is under review with the Recruitment and Retention Committee. They are conducting research and will offer a policy recommendation after evaluating options. The recommendation is expected for the policy manual update of February 2021 or sooner. The recommendation related to the provision of additional paid leave in connection with FMLA circumstances, such as a birth of a new baby.
- A recommendation from January 2020 was presented to IT and will be presented to the Data Board, as well. This related to password processes.

Sunshine Week!

Sunshine week technically begins March 15, and we are seeking additional participants for our county press releases. Please see Carri Brown with ideas for news releases.

State of the County Address

Save the date now for the State of the County Address! It will be April 28 at 11:30 am at the WigWam in Violet Township. We already have the summary of accomplishments and informational packets ready, with some placeholders.

A video for county operations is in progress. We will be using Lancaster Festival music.

The theme is Counties Matter – and Fairfield County Matters!

If anyone has information to add to the packets, please contact Carri Brown, [carri.brown@fairfieldcountyohio.gov](mailto:carri.brown@fairfieldcountyohio.gov)

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Again, we have reached out to Violet Township to indicate we would pay for cleaning of the WigWam, before and after the event. They will send us an addendum to the agreement we have for using their space.

We will seek guidance from subject matter experts with respect to holding the event during this time.

Complete Count – US Census 2020

The Complete Count Committee continues to conduct outreach. There is good coverage in all sectors. Thanks to Loudan Klein, RPC Director, for his leadership.

March 23<sup>rd</sup> marks the day self-responses begin!

The review packet included a flier for information.

Budget Update

We are working on refunding of various bonds. A tentative schedule has been provided to the Commissioners, County Auditor, and County Treasurer. We plan for a public offering with a meeting by telephone with Moody's. We turned to the topic in Old Business because of its relationship to the budget.

- Old Business

- a. Energy Conservation Project, Phase 2

We reviewed hypothetical refunding illustrations, by general fund and enterprise fund savings and by actual bond issuance. We also reviewed hypothetical financing illustrations.

We examined the net payments for the second phase of the energy conservation project. While we do not necessarily think of the payments as net payments, it is useful for discussion.

We have confirmed that the ending cash for 2024 is just as healthy with the variable of the new project added, as compared to keeping the projections with allocations to the capital improvement fund. In each scenario, with that one variable altered, the ending unencumbered cash exceeds \$17M, with the planning tool, which is within our target.

The refunding of various outstanding bond issues is recommended based on savings attributed to low interest rates. An official statement will be needed for the public offering, and we have a schedule of activities. The combined savings of general and enterprise funds is an estimated \$1.334 M. None of the maturity dates have been adjusted.

We are also recommending converting the Airport note to bonds given the low interest rates. (We discussed that aspect last week, as far as the Airport debt, which is county debt associated with the Airport.)

We continued to review the two options discussed on March 5<sup>th</sup> regarding the energy conservation project, phase 2. Again, the low interest rates are advantageous for the next phase, and it is defining the next phase that is important.

We have been working on the details of this project throughout 2019 as a follow up to the energy conservation project initiated in 2013. Now that five major projects (in addition to the energy conservation project's first phase) have been completed, we are proposing to move into the next phase.

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With financing, the full project must be completed at least by 10% in the first year following the debt issuance and completed fully within three years, which is an acceptable timeline for the energy conservation project.

Mr. Levacy thought the Commission should take advantage of the low rates given the stock market.

Mr. Bahnsen stated it is a great opportunity to borrow money but a challenge to find places to invest.

Mr. Levacy also spoke about the proposed building upgrades, savings, and renovations to ensure the longevity of the Administrative Courthouse. The building needs to be preserved and that may cost a lot, but it is worth the investment.

Mr. Fix stated that while he questioned the spending of about \$4 million to renovate the building, several people have encouraged and convinced him that these upgrades are needed to keep the building up.

Commissioner Davis stated at 9:59 a.m. that the Commission would be in recess until the Regular Meeting.

**Commissioners' Regular Meeting**

A regular meeting of the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 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, Staci Knisley, Dennis Keller, Jon Slater, Ed Laramée, Jon Kochis, Todd McCullough, Ray Stemen, Chief Lape, Jeff Barron, Jim Bahnsen, Tom Lininger, Joshua Horacek, David Miller, Chris Wagner, Commander Dennis Lowe, Bart Hampson, Heather O'Keefe, Laura Holton, Dan Neeley, Aunie Cordle, Rick Szabrak, Branden Meyer, Loudan Klein, Corey Clark, Dave Hauge, and Todd Younkin.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

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

**Announcements**

Commissioner Davis 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.

There were no public comments.

**Approval of Minutes for Thursday, March 5, 2020**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the minutes for the Thursday, March 5, 2020 Regular 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 Resolutions**

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

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- 2020-03.10.a      A resolution approving an account to account transfer in a major expenditure object category [Auditor- Finance]
- 2020-03.10.b      A resolution to approve a reimbursement for a copy machine expenditure for fund# 1001- Auditor's office [Auditor- Finance]

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

**Approval of the Commissioners' Resolutions**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Commissioners' Office resolution declaring support for the Second Amendment; see resolution 2020-03.10.c.

Discussion:

Mr. Davis stated that the Commission was initially reticent to involving itself in the "2A movement" (regarding the Second Amendment) as it was inconsistent with its personality. This resolution proposed expresses broad support of the Constitution, like the resolution passed each year for Constitution Week, but it is short of declaring Fairfield County a Sanctuary County which means different things to different people.

Mr. Fix stated that everyone has taken an oath to uphold the U.S. Constitution and the laws of Ohio and that he would not support anything contrary to those laws. The 2A movement is a political issue at the state level. While the Commission is interested in supporting the Constitution, the county is not the place for the 2A movement. There are hundreds of things that the county does do that are important to the residents.

Mr. Levacy added that it is important to not single out one issue within the whole Constitution, and he honors the document as a whole. The Founders had the foresight for the Second Amendment, and he appreciated that.

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 Commissioners' Office resolution to approve rehiring of Dr. Carri L. Brown as County Administrator; see resolution 2020-03.10.d.

Discussion:

Mr. Fix stated he was never prouder to vote in favor of a resolution.

Mr. Levacy agreed and thanked Dr. Brown for her service.

Mr. Davis added that hiring Dr. Brown was the best decision he has made as a public servant and he would make that decision again.

Dr. Brown thanked the Commission for the opportunity and the kind words. She also thanked those she has worked with through the years including Jim Reid (who hired her into public service first, and she was remembering him today, as she often does), Barbara Curtiss (who gave her even more opportunity in the County Auditor's Office), Michael Orlando (who hired her as the Child Support Director), Chris Veidt (who was a mentor and friend), all of the Fairfield County Senior Leadership Team, Elected Officials, Department Heads, and Commission Staff. She also thanked her family for their support and sacrifice which allowed her to be dedicated to public service.

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

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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:

- 2020-03.10.e            A resolution to approve contracting and financial related authority to the County Administrator. [Commissioners]
- 2020-03.10.f            A resolution approving the re-appointment of Ms. Heather O'Keefe to the Central Ohio Regional Prevention Council for a 2-year period beginning March 7, 2020. [Commissioners]
- 2020-03.10.g            A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated funds into major expenditure categories – Fairfield County Records Center [Commissioners]

Discussion: Dr. Brown stated resolution "f" was to reappoint Heather O'Keefe to the Regional Prevention Council. She thanked her for her work and service with Protective Services. Mr. Davis thanked Ms. O'Keefe.

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

**Approval of the Engineer's Resolutions**

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

- 2020-03.10.h            A Resolution to Approve the Contract Bid Award for the FAI-CR33A-0.000 Resurfacing Project. [Engineer]
- 2020-03.10.i            A Resolution to Approve the Contract Bid Award for the BER-34, FAI-CR154-0.687 Sugar Grove Road Guardrail Improvement Project. [Engineer]

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 Resolution**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Family, Adult, and Children First Council resolution to appropriate from unappropriated funds in a major category expense for the Fund #7521; see resolution 2020-03.10.j

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

**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 to approve additional appropriations by appropriating from unappropriated into a major expense object category – Fund #2018 – Public Assistance; see resolution 2020-03.10.k.

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

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advance to the General Fund from Fund #2856 Child Abuse & Neglect Discretionary Fund; see resolution 2020-03.10.l.

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 Resolution**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Major Crimes Unit resolution authorizing the approval of repayment of an advance to Project Income Fund 7594; see resolution 2020-03.10.m.

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 Resolution**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Sheriff's Office resolution approving an account to account transfer Fund 1001; see resolution 2020-03.10.n.

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 Payment of Bills 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

**Approval of the Commissioners' Resolution**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Commissioners resolution pursuant to ORC 307.86 making a determination that a real and emergency exists for exemptive bidding for supplies or services less than \$100,000, in connection with effort to address the Coronavirus; see resolution 2020-03.10.p.

Discussion: Mr. Levacy stated it was important to be able to act quickly if necessary. Mr. Davis stated that this resolution was being passed as a desire to be prepared for any circumstances with as much information as possible.

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

**Meeting with the Parks District**

The Commissioners met at 10:14 a.m. for an update from the Parks District. Commissioner Davis called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Jeff Fix, and Dave Levacy. Also present were Carri Brown, Rachel Elsea, Dennis Keller, Jon Skater, Ed Laramée, Jon Kochis, Todd McCullough, Tony Vogel, Rick Szabrak, Ray Stemen, Jim Bahnsen, Tom Lininger, Joshua Horacek, David Miller, Commander Dennis Lowe, David Hague, Todd Younkin, Loudan Klein, and Aunie Cordle.

David Hague from Coyote Run and Todd Younkin with the County Parks District presented information to the Board of Commissioners and attendees about their recent operations.

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Ms. Hague showed the Commission some photos from Coyote Run. The mission was to restore the land to pre-European colonization. He stated he will be donating a home on the land to serve as an office for the Parks District.

Mr. Younkin reviewed some of the upcoming events with the County Parks District.

Mr. Davis thanked Mr. Hague and Mr. Younkin for the update and added that he looks forward to hearing from them again soon.

**Review (continued)**

The Commissioners met at 10:30 a.m. to continue review legal issues and pending or future action items and correspondence. Commissioner Davis called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Jeff Fix, and Dave Levacy. Also present were Carri Brown, Rachel Elsea, Dennis Keller, Jon Skater, Ed Laramée, Jon Kochis, Todd McCullough, Tony Vogel, Rick Szabrak, Ray Stemen, Jim Bahnsen, Tom Lininger, Joshua Horacek, David Miller, Commander Dennis Lowe, Loudan Klein, and Aunie Cordle.

- **Old Business**

- a. Energy Conservation Project, Phase 2 (continued)

Mr. Davis stated he was not initially enamored with the bells and whistles of phase 2, but it is never a good year to take care of the building and the responsibility of it's care falls on the Commissioners so they might as well bite the bullet now.

The Commissioners gave guidance to proceed with the planning for the energy conservation project phase 2 including Administrative Courthouse improvements, such as the sandstone wall improvements and replacement of the roof.

Relating to the debt issuance, consolidating resolutions are being prepared for March 17<sup>th</sup>, at which time Dennis Schwallie will be able to attend the Commission Meeting.

Dr. Brown stated rates would be locked in on or about April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Motion for the County Administrator to proceed with the planning for the refunding and financing as recommended, including the energy conservation project, phase 2 (at a total of approximately \$5.9 M), and allowing for the County Administrator to enter into engagements as necessary for planning.**

On the motion of Dave Levacy and the second of Jeff Fix, the Board of Commissioners voted to authorize the County Administrator to proceed with the planning for the refunding and financing as recommended, including the energy conservation project, phase 2 (at a total of approximately \$5.9 M), and allowing for the County Administrator to enter into engagements as necessary for planning.

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

- **Administration and Budget Update/Carri's List**

- a. Administrative Approvals, Program, & Budget Update

**Budget Update (continued)**

Dr. Brown reported that Community Action is working on gathering a grant match for which they had previously anticipated obtaining from a grantor but that was not going to happen now. They inquired if we at the county had any designated grants for recycling (we do not). They also inquired about a match of CFLP, and CFLP

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suggested managing such a request at the time of application, as opposed to after the application had been filed. Community Action has agency funds available (they stated this was not an emergency or crisis), and they will reach out to us again as needed. Community Action continues to work on the grant application for the CFLP related improvements reported upon last week, and we are impressed with their work on that proposal.

Dr. Brown also reported she provided a letter of support for the 33 Alliance grant application to support the Career Readiness Program. A copy was in the review packet.

b. Debriefing of the Leadership Conference

Mr. Davis stated he found the leadership conference educational and appreciated it was scheduled in a way that encouraged participation.

Mr. Fix thought it was well done and allowed ample time for discussion.

Mr. Levacy has heard a lot of good comments on the event.

Dr. Brown reported we have received tremendously positive feedback from attendees. We also know that our “echoes are rolling from soul to soul” because employees are commenting on the shared language of the leadership metaphor.

As a follow up, the Supervised Visitation Center will be using the Coffee Bean books at the Center, with the books available to children and adults.

We are also aware of several employees who have successfully shared the metaphor concepts with children, with good successes.

There was also appreciation for the explanation of the State Auditor star rating system, as well, because that information was new to some.

The Roundtables continue to be a welcome event. The next Roundtable is May 14.

c. BRAVOs

Thanks to everyone for making the leadership conference and roundtable such a pleasant and productive event.

Thank you to Amy Brown-Thompson, Karla Nelson, Amy McCoy, Aunie Cordle, Dan Neeley, Heather O’Keefe and others for pulling together to document an agreement to take care of a case. Everyone pulled together to get this done in record time.

Bravo to Kaylib Young with JFS for his exceptional customer service orientation. The review packet contained a nice note of thanks for a customer.

Thanks to Wendy Hale with JFS; she also received great feedback through a survey.

Carri Brown, Aunie Cordle, and Jon Kochis have been accepted to the NACo high performance leadership academy which begins on August 3. Each have a scholarship (at least in part) and will attend these online courses and group discussions, some of which are led by national leaders, such as Colin Powell.

Thanks to participants of debriefing meetings regarding Executime implementation.

- New Business (none)

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- General Correspondence Received

- a. Letters of Support for the rehire of Dr. Carri Brown
  - 1. Judge Trimmer, Judge Berens, Magistrate Boone
  - 2. Linda Sheridan
  - 3. Mandi Crist
  - 4. Kim Dent
  - 5. Dr. Rose Handon
  - 6. Beverly Hoskinson
  - 7. Dave and Deb Smith
  - 8. Susan Nixon-Stoughton

Mr. Davis thought the public hearing was a powerful moment to celebrate the continued service of Dr. Brown.

- Calendar Review/Invitations Received

- a. 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Plan Open House – Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup> from 3:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
  - 1. Commissioner Fix will attend.
- b. OCCO Legislative Reception – Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup> from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the Ohio Statehouse Atrium
  - 1. Commissioners Fix and Levacy will attend.
- c. Child Abuse Prevention Month Awareness Breakfast – Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:45 a.m. at Life Church, 5550 Lancaster-Newark Rd NE, Pleasantville
  - 1. All three Commissioners will attend.
- d. Ohio Township Association Meeting on Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>
  - 1. Commissioners Fix and Levacy will attend.

- FYI

- a. Jail Population – 287
- b. Ohio Department of Health News Release re: COVID-19 Response
- c. ODAS letter re: COVID-19
- d. Violet Township Variance Applications – Public Hearing on March 19<sup>th</sup>
- e. EG article re: ODOT plan for deadly county intersection
- f. Bike Buckeye Lake Safe the Date for Tour de Buckeye Lake – August 22<sup>nd</sup>
- g. Pickerington Food Pantry Donation Request
- h. Secretary State Announcement re: Polling Locations- Mr. Kochis reported the Secretary of State is adjusting polling locations to remove assisted living facilities and nursing homes.

- Open Items (none)

**Executive Session – Pending Litigation**

On the motion of Steve Davis and second of Jeff Fix, the Board voted to enter into Executive Session to discuss the employment of a public employee at 10:41 a.m.

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

Roll call on the motion as follows:

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

On the motion of Jeff Fix and second of Dave Levacy, the Board voted to exit Executive Session at 10:50 a.m.

Roll call on the motion as follows:

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

### Review (continued)

The Commissioners met at 10:50 a.m. to review legal issues and pending or future action items and correspondence.

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, Joshua Horacek, and Tom Lininger.

**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 10:50 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 Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

Motion by: \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by: \_\_\_\_\_  
that the March 10, 2020 minutes were approved by the following vote:

YEAS:

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

\*Approved on March 17, 2020

Steven A. Davis  
Commissioner

Dave Levacy  
Commissioner

~~Jeff Fix~~  
~~Commissioner~~

Rachel A. Elsea, Clerk

