

Regular Meeting #17 - 2019
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
May 7, 2019

Review

The Commissioners met at 1:00 p.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, Staci Knisley, Todd McCullough, Jeff Porter, Aundrea Cordle, Laura Holton, Valerie Carpico, Mary Jo Fox, Park Russell, Mark Conrad, Loudon Klein, Rick Szabrak, Tony Vogel, Lori Lovas, Amy Brown-Thompson, Joshua Horacek, David Burgei, Dennis Keller, Jon Slater, Jr., Ed Laramee, Chief Alex Lape, David Miller, Rhonda Myers, Johanna Pearce, Michael Kaper, Amy Koenig, Elaine Householder, and Amanda Crist.

- **Welcome**

Commissioner Levacy welcomed those who were in attendance.

- **Legal Update**

Mr. Horacek updated the Commission related to the annexations on the voting agenda today. There were no objections with the annexations. The Board must approve them today, as they have no discretion.

He also viewed the lease on the land exchange with the Eversoles and found no basis for their general claim relating to crop damage. He will follow-up with Dr. Brown later.

Mr. Horacek thanked the Commission for their recognition of the Prosecutor's Office at the State of the County Address. He mentioned how much he enjoyed the event. He also stated that over the past several days he has been in touch with multiple people from townships, and they have mentioned how much they enjoyed the State of the County Address.

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

- a. Announcements

Graduation Celebrations

We celebrate the high school graduation of Garrett Davis, Jesse Brunton, and David Rader this year!

Date Reminders

- *May 14* – Multi-county Viewing; **TCAP Lunch n Learn** – An Agenda was in the review packet.
- *May 16* – EO/DH Roundtable and **Leadership Conference** – An agenda was in the review packet.
- *May 18* – Airport Anniversary

Mr. Szabrak reported that 1,800 people say they are interested on Facebook. Speakers will start at noon. Colonel Tom Moe will speak about his trip back to Vietnam.

- *May 21* – Time with the Commission – Engineer's Office
- *May 27* – Memorial Day – Office is Closed
- *May 28* – Records Center Dedication (Commission Meetings will be held at the Records Center) – A fact sheet was in the review packet.
- *June 4* – Soil and Water Lunch n Learn
- *June 15* – Wear purple for Elder Abuse prevention
- *June 18* – Time with the Commission at the Sheriff's Office

- b. Highlights of Resolutions

Regular Meeting #17 - 2019
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
May 7, 2019

Dr. Brown highlighted 32 resolutions for the voting meeting.

We had eight proclamations to honor various programs and events. *Following the voting meeting*, we will present several of the proclamations and have tweetable moments.

We had a resolution to reappoint Linda Evangelista to the Fairfield County District Library Board.

We had two annexations for approval from Violet Township into Pickerington (12.867 acres) and into Canal Winchester (7.823 acres).

The County Engineer proposed the approval of the contract for liquid asphalt.

EMA proposed to transfer a cargo trailer to the City of Lancaster Fire Department, and the Dog Shelter proposed to transfer crates to Perry and Athens County (all are assets better used in other political subdivisions and are not needed for Fairfield County operations).

JFS also proposed the disposal of two vehicles by Internet auction.

The County Sheriff proposed salvage disposal of five disabled, obsolete vehicles.

We proposed an amendment to the contract for VPL for Baldwin (relating to subcontractor expenses as we bring the design in line with the Ohio Building Code).

There were *financial resolutions* to approve, such as:

- A CDBG draw;
- The provision of \$4K for a TID study;
- Previously, we received a memo from Ed Laramée, Chief Deputy Auditor. That memo detailed history of a ditch maintenance fund and proposed recommendations for liquidation with \$11,932.50 paid to the general fund for amounts originally provided to the fund and not needed based on inadvertent mischaracterization of a special assessment from a 1998 road improvement. Additional corrections were recommended for five property owners. A resolution was prepared to follow up on this matter.
- A “one-time” allocation for the law library relating to general fund usage of resources;
- A fund to fund transfer (with non-general fund activity) with a judicial order from Juvenile Court;
- An account to account transfer of appropriations for the Dog Adoption Center and Shelter;
- Memo transactions to correct cash transactions, with a pay-in from recycling efforts; and
- Appropriations from unappropriated funds for the County Engineer (four resolutions) including memo transactions for a safety study, and appropriations for a Common Pleas Court tech grant and a Juvenile/Probate Court special revenue fund (all non-general fund appropriations).

In queue, there was the approval of a contract with Moody's of Dayton Inc. dba G.M. Baker & Son Co. to perform the work necessary to construct Tussing Road Water Treatment Plant Well 10 Project for the sum of \$417,200. Also, JFS will be proposing approval of one or more CPS contracts in network. There are financial resolutions in progress, as well.

c. Administrative Approvals, Program, & Budget Update

Administrative Approvals

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

Update from ESC/Related Liberty Center Matters

The review packet contained information received from Dr. Marie Ward regarding the operations of the ESC, which have grown over the past several years. They are seeking support with identifying more space (for 37 central office workers, 4 classrooms, and professional development) if there are any such options without charge. They do have some resources to help

Regular Meeting #17 - 2019
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
May 7, 2019

with renovations. They help to save costs for school districts. For example, with the county providing them space, they can keep their costs down.

In thinking about the ESC lease, we already reflect market value within the lease even if we are charging \$1. We will need to do this with all \$1 leases in the future for accounting purposes.

During the ESC update, we received a referral regarding seasonal worker safety and immediately followed up with a site visit by HR/Risk Management who were satisfied with the risk management process.

In addition, Dennis Keller visited Liberty Center on May 1st to ensure the power washing of the building was being conducted safely. The entrance areas were washed after hours, and the process was conducted safely.

Dr. Brown has requested a meeting with Jane Hanley and Brett Riffle at their convenience to talk about building/security issues.

Office Moves/Staging Areas/Other Facility Updates

We are working on plans for the move to 108 N. High for Real Estate Assessment. Also, the central customer service area for the County Auditor is one area in which there has been a request for carpet and painting for about two years. Personnel have found it difficult to vacate the space in order to allow for the space to be updated, so when HR moves to the Records Center, the HR space will be used as a staging area for the office so that the carpet and paint can be updated.

HR has moved to the new location at the Records Center, and the Clerk of Courts is moving items in as well. The Records Center dedication is May 28.

Great job to Setterlin, Dennis Keller, and the work group with the final walk-through of the Records Center.

Mr. Keller reported that he is working with Setterlin on the final punch list of items.

Weather permitting, on Wednesday-Friday of this week, there will be paving at the Dog Adoption Center and Shelter. Notices will be placed in the new media and on social media.

Mr. McCullough reported that they are closed on Wednesday of this week. It is published on their social media and website.

State of the County Address Debriefing

Last week, we presented a State of the County Address at the Wigwam in Violet Township. There were three objectives for the State of the County Address. First, provided a description of the current condition of the county. The current financial condition of the county is stable and healthy. Second, we demonstrated how we provide services in Fairfield County, collaborating to connect the unconnected. Connecting the unconnected was the theme for national county awareness month. The purpose of this theme was to highlight how counties provide many, diverse services and develop connections to improve the quality of life. Third, we announced some special opportunities and events that are planned.

Commissioner Levacy stated that he would like to start 10 minutes earlier to allow for more speaking. He was sorry that Commissioner Davis did not have time to speak. He enjoys listening to Commissioner Davis speak.

The slide show was posted to the county website. More than 350 people were registered for the event. We believe this was a record year for attendance, and the desire to see the Wigwam was a factor of attendance. (We have already scheduled the Wigwam for next year's address, for the last Tuesday in April.)

Regular Meeting #17 - 2019
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
May 7, 2019

The videos were very well received. Next year, we will think about adding more videos. People also commented on how the screens were terrific and easy to see; but the stage was not as easy to see. We may want to consider additional videos for that reason.

We are thankful to the chambers, Violet Township, participants, and the many people who helped plan the event. We have already sent thank you notes.

We received a lot of positive comments (26+) about the content, the venue, and the event itself. Two emails will be in the review packet. We received one comment from an individual who wanted to speak more – he wanted to say thanks to the County for their partnership.

One person asked which eight states had a lower population census than Franklin County. They are Montana, Rhode Island, Delaware, South Dakota, North Dakota, Alaska, Vermont, and Wyoming. The District of Columbia also has a population with fewer people than Franklin County.

Budget Update

We are aligning our county budget with goals. With the implementation of the 20 *recommendations* for recruitment and retention of employees, there is an opportunity for merit-based increases. To participate in merit-based increases, departments must use the county performance assessment tools and comply with the county compensation plan.

From a local perspective, we have received the *final draw for the West Buckeye Lake Improvement Project* (The Lakes in Distress Grant). The state approved our final report.

We received *revenue reports* from the County Auditor and recommend no change to the projection. Sales tax, conveyance fees, and casino revenues have increased, based on the prior year comparison. Sales tax will be monitored to see if there is a higher increase next month.

From a *state perspective*, we are encouraged with the most recent news on the reimbursements for indigent attorney fees. The CCAO alert was in the review packet. The House version of the state budget fully funds indigent defense reimbursement beginning July 1, 2020. For July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020, reimbursement is proposed at 80%, from the Executive proposal. We appreciate the Governor and the House for their efforts to improve the reimbursement rate, which is now just under 50%. For every 10% improved, we will receive an additional \$166K reimbursement, based on current calculations. The county expenditure budget is not impacted by this measure. The revenues estimated and received are impacted. Carryover cash benefits. The main, overarching benefit is the ongoing reimbursement effect. So, we are very grateful for this step.

In addition, there was a *press release in the review packet from PCSAO* regarding Speaker Householder's action to double the county allocation within the state budget to meet needs for children.

We will also stay tuned on how the state plans to manage sales tax collection for internet purchases.

d. BRAVOs

- Thanks to Christy Barker for helping with the mail while Bob Holland has jury duty.
- Bravo to Aunie Cordle at JFS for her leadership with the all-staff meeting at JFS, which includes multiple training sessions and employee recognition activity.
- Thanks to Staci Knisley for her expertise and efficiency; she has made suggestions to help save paper and speed up the pay-in process. Also, thanks to Ms. Knisley for serving as acting Clerk.

Regular Meeting #17 - 2019
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
May 7, 2019

- Old Business

- a. MCJDC connections – rightsizing the contribution

Following last week's meeting, a letter was sent to Judge Vandervoort requesting she consider recommending withdrawal from the MCJDC. Judge Vandervoort replied with a letter recommending withdrawal from the MCJDC. (See Judge Vandervoort's letter attached to minutes.)

Commissioner Steve Davis reported on the MCJDC meetings. There was a Board of Trustees meeting and a Joint Board of Commissioners Meeting. Commissioner Davis commented the temperature of the meetings was improved over the previous work group meetings.

Commissioner Davis reported that at the Joint Board meeting, the Joint Board approved the MCJDC 2020 Tax Budget with an allocation from Fairfield County to be \$775,000 plus an additional \$25,000 for capital projects. This approval came after his motion for the operating contribution to be \$750,000, which failed. He believes that they are getting a deal for 2020.

Commissioner Davis commented on the letter received from Judge Vandervoort. This letter recommended withdraw from the MCJDC, and the MCJDC has a copy of this letter. The goal continues to be a rightsizing the contribution, which has a market value of \$400,000 or below based on the MCJDC approximate current charges (increased from \$95/day to \$100/day for example purposes). Commissioner Davis indicated he spoke briefly with Judge Vandervoort. She remains interested in having access to detention beds in 2020.

We will continue to evaluate the situation and expect a resolution to be considered for withdraw next week. A draft was prepared for review.

- New Business

- a. Vacation at Township Road, #116

Jeremiah Upp, County Engineer, provided a letter dated May 3, 2019, noting concerns, arising from the township road being a vital link to U.S. 33. The County Engineer believes the road should be maintained as a public road. The letter was in the review packet.

- General Correspondence Received

We received the RPC correspondence about the May 13th meeting for the analysis of impediments to fair housing. Surveys can be emailed to Loudan Klein.

We also received the RPC packet for the meeting on May 7th. (These materials were delivered to the Commissioners in their mailboxes.)

- Calendar Review/Invitations Received

- a. Open House in honor of National Salvation Army Wek 2019 – Tuesday, May 14 from 6-8 p. at 228 W. Hubert Avenue
 - b. Peace Officer Memorial - Friday, May 17th at noon – location at Downtown Gazebo
Commissioner Levacy & Commissioner Davis will attend and present a proclamation that is on the voting agenda today.
 - c. Bremen Area Chamber of Commerce is hosting a training event for Civilian Response to Emergency Situations Training (CREST) – Thursday, May 23 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. – location at 161 Carter Street, Bremen

**Regular Meeting #17 - 2019
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
May 7, 2019**

- FYI
 - a. Jail Population – 277
 - b. Thank you from the *Lighthouse*.
 - c. PCSAO *Fact Book Pages and Summary Report*
 - d. Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action *Recycling Report*
 - e. We reviewed the Eagle Gazette article about *FMC construction*.
 - f. Preparations for the *elections tomorrow have gone well*; there was an article in the Eagle Gazette.
 - g. We have a *list of reservable conference space owned by the county*.
 - h. We received notice from *Violet Township Zoning*.
 - i. We received the *DACO newsletter* announcing exhibits and activities. It was in the newsletter folder. We also received a flier (in the review packet).
 - j. Jeremiah Upp, County Engineer, copied the Commissioners on a letter to Liberty Township regarding *proposed township road, #232, being placed on non-maintenance status*.

Recess

At 1:27 p.m., Commissioner Levacy stated that the Commission would be in recess until the 1:30 p.m. Regular Meeting.

Commissioners' Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, May 7, 2019 beginning at 1:30 p.m., with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Jeff Fix, and Dave Levacy. Also present were Carri Brown, Staci Knisley, Todd McCullough, Jeff Porter, Aundrea Cordle, Laura Holton, Valerie Carpico, Mary Jo Fox, Park Russell, Mark Conrad, Loudon Klein, Rick Szabrak, Tony Vogel, Lori Lovas, Amy Brown-Thompson, Joshua Horacek, David Burgei, Dennis Keller, Jon Slater, Jr., Ed Laramee, Chief Alex Lape, David Miller, Rhonda Myers, Johanna Pearce, Michael Kaper, Amy Koenig, Elaine Householder, Amanda Crist, Donna Stalter, and Jeff Camechis.

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

There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes for Tuesday, April 30, 2019

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the minutes for the Tuesday, April 30, 2019 Regular Meeting.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Regular Meeting #17 - 2019
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
May 7, 2019

Approval of the Commissioners' Resolutions

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

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 2019-05.07.a | A resolution authorizing the approval of a proclamation. [Commissioners] |
| 2019-05.07.b | A resolution authorizing the approval of a proclamation. [Commissioners] |
| 2019-05.07.c | A resolution authorizing the approval of a proclamation. [Commissioners] |
| 2019-05.07.d | A resolution authorizing the approval of a proclamation. [Commissioners] |
| 2019-05.07.e | A resolution authorizing the approval of a proclamation. [Commissioners] |
| 2019-05.07.f | A resolution authorizing the approval of a proclamation. [Commissioners] |
| 2019-05.07.g | A resolution authorizing the approval of a proclamation. [Commissioners] |
| 2019-05.07.h | A resolution authorizing the approval of a proclamation. [Commissioners] |
| 2019-05.07.i | A resolution authorizing the approval of a request for payment and status of funds report for the FY2017 CDBG Critical Infrastructure Grant - \$ 26,700 |
| 2019-05.07.j | A resolution approving the reappointment of Ms. Lisa Evangelista to the Fairfield County District Library Board. [Commissioners] |
| 2019-05.07.k | A resolution authorizing a fund to fund transfer for an allocation for the Transportation Improvement District (TID) Fairfield County Commissioners [Commissioners] |
| 2019-05.07.l | A resolution authorizing a fund to fund transfer for an allocation for the Law Library Board - Fairfield County Commissioners [Commissioners] |
| 2019-05.07.m | A resolution to approve to appropriate from unappropriated into a major expense object category and memo expenditure for fund# 2050, subfund# 2498 ,the Special Assessment Ditch Fairlawn Drive Fund, and to approve a memo receipt for fund# 1001 General Fund – Fairfield County Commissioners |
| 2019-05.07.n | A resolution to approve and to approve a memo expense and receipt the General Fund # 1001– Fairfield County Commissioners [Commissioners] |
| 2019-05.07.o | A resolution to approve the annexation of 12.867 +/- acres from Violet Township to the City of Pickerington, Expedited Type II, pursuant to ORC 709.023, Annexation of Land by Thomas P. Gray, Richard E. Gray, and the City of Pickerington. |
| 2019-05.07.p | A resolution to approve the annexation of 7.823 +/- acres from Violet Township to the City of Canal Winchester, Expedited Type II, pursuant to ORC 709.023, Annexation of Land by Hsing hua Cheng. [Commissioners] |

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

**Regular Meeting #17 - 2019
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
May 7, 2019**

Approval of the Common Pleas Court Resolution

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

2019-05.07.q A resolution to approve additional appropriations by appropriating from unappropriated into a major expense object category – Fund # 2422, TECH Grant -Fairfield County Common Pleas Court

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

Approval of Dog Adoption Center & Shelter Resolutions

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following Dog Adoption Center & Shelter resolutions:

2019-05.07.r A resolution authorizing an account to account transfer in a major expense category [Dog Shelter]

2019-05.07.s A resolution authorizing the donation of dog crates to Athens County

2019-05.07.t A resolution authorizing the donation of dog crates to Perry County

Discussion: Mr. McCullough reported that Athens and Perry County have a need for the dog crates. Fairfield County no longer has use for them. They appreciate our donation.

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

Approval of Emergency Management Agency Resolution

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

2019-05.07.u A resolution regarding the transfer of vehicle - EMA [EMA]

Discussion: Dr. Brown stated that the vehicle will be transferred to the City of Lancaster Fire Department.

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

Approval of the Engineer's Office Resolutions

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

2019-05.07.v A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure object category County Engineer 2024-Motor Vehicle for chip and seal emulsion

2019-05.07.w A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure object category County Engineer 2024-Motor Vehicle for a new equipment trailer

2019-05.07.x A resolution to request for appropriations for additional unanticipated receipts of memo receipts and memo expenses for fund 3445 2018 CEAO Safety Study Project [Engineer]

**Regular Meeting #17 - 2019
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
May 7, 2019**

- 2019-05.07.y A Resolution to Approve the Contract Bid Award for the 2019 Purchase of Liquid Asphalt. [Engineer]
- 2019-05.07.z A resolution to request for appropriations for additional unanticipated receipts of Memo receipts and memo expenses for fund 2050 for annual inspections in various subdivisions as of 5/3/19 [Engineer]

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

Approval of the Facilities' Resolution

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following Facilities' resolution:

- 2019-05.07.aa A Resolution to approve an Amendment No.1 to the contract between VPL Architects, Inc. and the Fairfield County Commissioners, as approved with resolution 2018-11.27.p [Facilities]

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

Approval of the JFS Resolutions

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

- 2019-05.07.bb A resolution to approve the disposal of a vehicle – Fairfield County Job and Family Services through Gov Deals Inc. [JFS]
- 2019-05.07.cc A resolution to approve the disposal of a vehicle – Fairfield County Job and Family Services through Gov Deals Inc. [JFS]

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

Approval of Juvenile/Probate Court Resolutions

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

- 2019-05.07.dd A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure object category – #2320 Juvenile Court Computer Research Fund
- 2019-05.07.ee A resolution authorizing a fund to fund transfer. [Juvenile Court]

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

Approval of the Sheriff's Office Resolution

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following Sheriff's Office resolution:

- 2019-05.07.ff A resolution regarding the disposal of 5 disabled vehicles [Sheriff]

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

**Regular Meeting #17 - 2019
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
May 7, 2019**

Proclamation Presentation

At 1:35 p.m., the Commission presented several proclamations for exceptional public service. Directors and Staff members from Job and Family Services, ADAMH, Veteran Services, Sheriff's Office, and Visitation Center were there to accept the proclamations. They thanked the Commission for their support.

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 pending litigation at 1:53 p.m.

Discussion: Commissioner Davis stated that the following people be included in the executive session: Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Levacy, Commissioner Fix, Carri Brown, Staci Knisley, representatives from the Prosecutor's Office, and representatives from Engineer's Office.

Roll call on the motion as follows:

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

On the motion of Steve Davis and second of Jeff Fix, the Board voted to exit Executive Session at 2:00 p.m.

Roll call on the motion as follows:

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

Annual Fraud Update

The Board of Commissioners met at 2:02 p.m. for an update with Job and Family Services representatives relating to fraud. Commissioner Levacy called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Commissioner Fix and Dave Levacy. Also present were Carri Brown, Staci Knisley, Aundrea Cordle, Laura Holton, Mary Jo Fox, Jeff Porter, Todd McCullough, Amy Brown-Thompson, Joshua Horacek, Tony Vogel, Jon Slater, Jr., Ed Laramee, Chief Alex Lape, and Mark Conrad.

Ms. Cordle presented a Fraud and Benefit Summary handout. (See attached to minutes)

Ms. Horton thanked the Commission for their support. She reported that fraud was not common but significant. Out of 14,000 recipients, only .05% are prosecuted for fraud. The Prosecutor's Office is very instrumental in the increase of prosecutions. There are 51 referrals a month relating to fraud. Ms. Fox and her team of 2 reach out to other partners. She has worked with Federal Agents, IRS, Social Security, HUDD and Schools. One case of theft was \$500,000 between all agencies. Our loss was \$89,000.

Ms. Cordle reported that Ms. Fox had to press the schools to even open up the case on their end.

Ms. Fox reported that the collaboration with other agencies lead her to different Federal groups such as U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

Ms. Cordle reported that fraud investigations are a lot of investment. There are mounds of paper such as bank records, school records, and other records.

Ms. Horton reported that the new process in 2018 with the Prosecutor's Office is very helpful. The prosecutions have been 100% successful.

Ms. Horton reported that challenges going forward are with the telephone application process.

Ms. Fox stated that training staff is important. They are trained how to input the information in the system.

Regular Meeting #17 - 2019
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
May 7, 2019

Ms. Horton reported that they are brainstorming with their 10 county shared service agencies on how to look for red flags and have consistent practices. The shared service agencies is a great partnership.

Ms. Fox reported that fraud is referred by caseworkers, family members, and community members. The majority is referred by caseworkers.

Commissioner Fix stated that he hopes that the more we communicate about fraud, the less we have.

Ms. Cordle reported that her Chief Finance Officer, Bart Hampson would point out that the incentives received has helped fund Ms. Fox's team.

Ms. Horton reported that the phone application is a good thing for clarification questions. There is an audio signature at the end of the conversation that is recorded.

Ms. Cordle reported that Fairfield County is a leader in Fraud prosecutions around the state. Ms. Fox is often sought out to help other agencies.

Mr. Levacy reported that having Adult Protective Services (APS) is a good thing. Many years ago, we did not have APS. His wife had an Uncle with early onset Alzheimer's that had his money taken.

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 pending litigation at 2:23 p.m.

Discussion: Commissioner Davis stated that the following people be included in the executive session: Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Levacy, Commissioner Fix, Carri Brown, Staci Knisley, representatives from the Prosecutor's Office, representatives from Human Resources, and Mark Fishel.

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 Steve Davis, the Board voted to exit Executive Session at 2:50 p.m.

Roll call on the motion as follows:

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

Adjournment

With no further business, on the motion of Jeff Fix and a second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn at 2:51 p.m.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

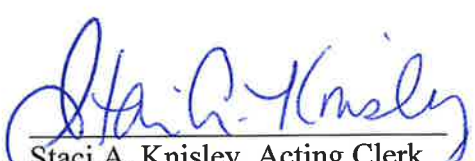
Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 14, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

Motion by: _____ Seconded by: _____
that the May 7, 2019 minutes were approved by the following vote:

YEAS: NAYS: None
ABSTENTIONS: None
*Approved on May 14, 2019

Regular Meeting #17 - 2019
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
May 7, 2019


Steven A. Davis
Commissioner
Dave Levacy
Commissioner
Jeff Fix
Commissioner
Staci A. Knisley, Acting Clerk



**JUVENILE & PROBATE DIVISIONS
COMMON PLEAS COURT**

JUDGE TERRE L. VANDERVOORT

May 3, 2019

Fairfield County Board of Commissioners
Commissioner Dave Levacy, President
210 East Main Street, Room 301
Lancaster, Ohio 43130

Dear Board of Commissioners:

On April 29, 2019, the Board of Commissioners passed a resolution requesting that I, as Fairfield County Juvenile Court Judge, issue a letter recommending that Fairfield County withdraw from the Multi-County Juvenile Detention Center, pursuant to ORC 2152.41(D).

Fairfield County Juvenile Court remains committed to protecting public safety. Any juvenile under the jurisdiction of the court that presents a safety threat to the community will continue to be maintained in a secure facility.

I support the efforts by the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners to "right size" the financial participation of Fairfield County in the multi-county juvenile detention center partnership.

Over the course of the nearly two decades since the initial agreement was reached, needs have changed and taxpayers expect that their elected officials will act accordingly to protect their financial interests. Therefore, as requested by the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners, I hereby issue my letter recommending withdrawal from the Multi-County Juvenile Detention Center, pursuant to ORC 2152.41(D).

Respectfully,

Judge Terre L. Vandervoort

Fraud and Benefit Recovery Summary

Background: Fairfield County Job and Family Services is serious about investigating and pursuing allegations of fraud. We employ one full-time Fraud/Benefit Recovery Supervisor, MaryJo Fox, one full-time investigator Simon Welker, and one full-time Benefit Recovery Specialist, Bekah Montgomery.

Objectives

- To ensure that public assistance benefits are received only by those individuals who are eligible and in the correct amounts
- To recover tax dollars that were obtained by participants through fraudulent activities, unintentional participant error, or administrative error
- To deter future occurrences of fraud and maintain program integrity

2018 Statistics

- An average of 51 fraud referrals are received each month or 621 referrals in 2018
- Collected over \$480,000 in overpayments
- In 2018, the agency kept \$119,969 in fraud incentives from SNAP, TANF, and Medicaid
- Incentive amounts are based on program area. SNAP incentives 35%, Medicaid 25%, and TANF 20% of dollars collected
- In 2018 the Prosecutor's Office completed 26 prosecutions; all found guilty
- The increase in 2018 incentives reflects the increased number of cases prosecuted
- Established 92 SNAP disqualifications
- 99% of fraud cases involve unreported income or household members
- .05% of the total Food Assistance cases are prosecuted for fraud

Fraud: participant knowingly and willfully provides false information or intentionally fails to report changes in circumstances in a timely manner in order to receive benefits for which they are not eligible.

Referral: Any information received by the agency which could affect the eligibility of the case. It can be received from citizens, computer data matches, caseworkers, or other agencies. The public can contact the Fraud Hotline at 740-652-7616 or via the agency website www.fcjfs.org.

Investigation: Fraud Investigator reviews the referral and determines if the information would impact eligibility. Gathers evidence through multiple sources and determines if there is evidence to pursue fraud, whether the case should be closed or if it is an overpayment only.

Overpayment: The household received assistance in an amount they were not technically eligible for, but there was no intention of the household to willfully deceive. They are still required to pay the amount back.

Intentional Program Violation (IPV): The household intended to obtain benefits that they were not eligible for by false statements, fraudulent documents, or concealing facts. For the Food Assistance program, participants are disqualified for 12 months and required to repay the amount. For cash assistance or TANF the participant is disqualified until the amount is paid back.

Referred for Prosecution: Fraud Supervisor Fox and Deputy Director Holton review the evidence, the amount of the loss, and the intent of the household to determine if a referral to the Prosecutor's Office is warranted. Typically, cases over \$5,000 are referred. Supervisor Fox and Deputy Director Holton attempt to interview the participant for a confession. Supervisor Fox seeks guidance and investigative strategies from the Prosecutor's Office attorneys; Ken Oswalt or Investigator Scott Hargrove. Supervisor Fox prepares the Grand Jury packet. The Prosecutor's Office determines if they will charge the participant and seek an indictment from the Grand Jury. If they decline prosecution, FCJFS would impose an Intentional Program Violation.

Fraud and Benefit Recovery
County Incentives
2014 -2018

