

Regular Meeting #23 - 2020
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
May 26, 2020

Meeting with Geenex re: Eastern Cottontail Solar Project

The Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. to meeting with Geenex regarding the Eastern Cottontail Solar Project. 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, John Kochis, Tom Lininger, Aunie Cordle, Mark Conard, Lt. Hodder, Bennet Niswanger, Chief Lape, and Innerphase Video. Joining via teleconference Tony Vogel, Joshua Horacek, Logan Stephens, Jessica Ghila, and Kara Price with Geenex Solar Energy.

Ms. Price provided an update on Geenex's project for a solar energy project they are conducting in Fairfield County. The presentation is attached.

Mr. Stephens believes around half of the land is secured and the land team hopes to have all the land secured by the end of the year.

Mr. Davis asked for the cost of the project.

Mr. Stephens replied it would be roughly \$350 million.

Mr. Levacy thinks solar energy is a big deal. He asked if there was a township involved.

Mr. Stephens replied he would have to get with the land team for a firm answer.

Mr. Fix thanked the team for their interest in Fairfield County. He asked what the return on investment was for the project.

Mr. Stephens replied Geenex is primarily concerned with construction and teaming up with a utility to fund and manage the sites. The long-term investors look at a 30-40 year ROI. Past partners include Dominion, Duke Energy, EDF Renewables, and others.

Dr. Brown asked if all the land control agreements were finalized.

Mr. Stephens replied they would by the end of the year.

Dr. Brown asked if there were other projects in Ohio.

Ms. Price replied there were five to six other sites in Ohio with the Madison County project being the furthest along.

Dr. Brown asked what lessons had been learned with the Madison County project.

Ms. Price indicated they are learning a lot about community engagement especially during these times of the pandemic.

Mr. Davis thanked the group for their time and noted that the Commissioners are amenable to solar energy and looked forward to getting to know Geenex more.

Review

The Commissioners met at 9:48 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, John Kochis, Ray Stemen, Tom Lininger, Aunie Cordle, Mark Conard, Lt. Hodder, Bennet Niswanger, Chief Lape, and Innerphase Video. Joining via teleconference Tony Vogel and Joshua Horacek.

- Welcome

Commissioner Davis welcomed everyone.

- COVID-19 Update

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Jon Kochis, EMA Director, provided an update.

Over the weekend there were 216 negative results and 6 positive results with FMC testing. They continue to lessen the spread and push out PPE. They will eventually see a decline in resources coming from the state and federal. Everything is in a good rhythm at this time.

Regarding antibody testing, Jon is in the process of researching with his colleagues the potential use of any other vendors as part of market research. We have not yet found another vendor for comparison. The hospital is not set up for this testing. There is a lot of debate about the efficacy of antibody testing. We do know that the "test" at the county with EMA did turn out as expected for the individual who had been diagnosed with the virus.

We are administratively ready to send out communication to employees who are covered with grant funds. We will begin with the Sheriff's Office. We will be requesting their voluntary participating in testing paid by Fairfield County. We expect the lab to provide summary information (number of tests and deidentified results) as well as any results employees waive to be provided.

While the antibody testing will provide some information, it will not result in any changes relating to the current procedures to maintain multiple, recommended safe work practices. Legal counsel has also indicated we should not make work assignment decisions based on the testing, although a follow-up diagnostic testing could provide additional information in some cases to inform operations in certain cases.

For the individual, the only expectation is to continue to follow current procedures to maintain multiple, recommended safe work practices. One action step (if an active virus is discovered) could be to have the employee telework. Otherwise, the information will be available to employees (to evaluate individually) and for the organization as a whole, at least in a deidentified, wholistic way.

Mr. Davis thinks the employees of the Sheriff's Office should be afforded the opportunity to get an antibody test on a voluntary basis. He's watched the state gyrate between their philosophy of testing officers from not testing to testing to testing symptomatic. He does not fully understand the stages the state has gone through; he has a cynical feeling that they do not want the information which is why they are not testing. He is not pretending to know best which of those state stages were the proper policy.

Mr. Davis went on to state that he thinks it is a very small benefit to the employee and the person they are asking to be in an environment they are asking the public not to be. At some point on the horizon, there might be a day when knowing you've had that test and whether or not you have the antibody is something someone would like to know. Mr. Davis stated from a personal view, he would like to know if he does or does not have antibodies.

Mr. Levacy agreed with Mr. Davis and agreed that the antibody test is the best testing method to use because it can tell you if someone is currently active and if they've had the virus and developed the antibodies to protect themselves from future exposure. Hopefully, the employees at the jail feel the same way. He too would like to know if he's had the virus.

Mr. Fix asked if the antibody test was covered by the grant.

Mr. Davis replied yes and that approximately 135 individuals would be eligible to voluntarily submit to the test (at the Sheriff's Office). There is access to about 299 tests eligible for coverage under the grant.

Mr. Fix asked if it was just the Sheriff's Office or other departments they should consider as well.

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Mr. Davis replied there are other employees they may want to consider for expanding this opportunity. The starter set fit within the grant and may show them information to expand. He expects participation to be at 90%.

Mr. Fix asked if there were any more people, such as JFS, that are also at risk.

Ms. Cordle replied there are individuals in the protective services office, roughly 60-70, who are still interacting.

Dr. Brown stated there were others included in the grant application which was focused on the Sheriff and Courts based on the grant requirements. If they get the state portion of similar funding, victims' advocates would be included. Protective Services is not included in the grant terms and conditions. The idea was to begin a pilot with the population in the Sheriff's Office as they are in or near a congregate population.

Mr. Davis stated the cost to test the JFS employees would be about \$15,000. We are ready to proceed and will contact the vendor to set up testing procedures for the Sheriff's Office. Funding for testing JFS employees is still in the air.

Down the road Mr. Davis wanted every county employee to have access to this testing. He thinks the end game scenario is that every employer would try to find a way to afford their employees this type of testing.

Mr. Fix asked what the timeline was to begin testing.

Dr. Brown stated they could do it relatively quickly and would contact the vendor to come on site, if agreeable to the Sheriff, and have the tests completed in about a week.

Mr. Davis asked Mr. Kochis his feelings on the propriety of the proposal.

Mr. Kochis doesn't have strong feelings either way. He thinks the antibody test gives more information which is what they are looking for.

Mr. Davis thinks it gives the person who wants the test more information. He asked Lt. Hodder his thoughts.

Lt. Hodder thinks the Chief would have better information. He thought there were individuals who were concerned and would appreciate the testing. If offered they would take it.

Mr. Fix stated they talked about the jail population being the dynamic population with the officers being the constant. He asked about the intake protocols. He asked if there's a population of folks who have been imprisoned who have contracted the virus and then been diagnosed after being released.

Lt. Hodder replied they have not had one inmate or deputy diagnosed with the virus.

Mr. Fix is struggling with the concept of doing the test for one group and not another group.

Mr. Davis hopes a funding source would come available to make this available to every county employee. In the short term, there is funding available for arguably the most exposed environment.

Mr. Fix stated he does not know if he would agree the Sheriff's Office as the most exposed based on what Lt. Hodder stated. He thinks JFS employees may be more exposed than the Sheriff's Office.

Ms. Cordle replied they have limited the amount of face to face contact as much as they can, but that is becoming more and more difficult. She reviewed the protocol for visits.

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There is risk, and some of the staff may be interested in the tests and some may not. There is definitely a person to person component to the work.

Mr. Davis asked if Mr. Fix favored the pilot proposal with a wider approach. He and Mr. Levacy agreed with the pilot and wanted to start the first phase and work on the expansion of the pilot program.

Mr. Fix stated if it costs \$15,000 to test other employees who are exposed, he would be in favor of doing that.

Mr. Davis is not opposed to testing Protective Services employees but would prefer to have a funding mechanism other than the general fund. He asked Ms. Cordle to consider where her department would come in on that funding issue.

Mr. Davis asked Mr. Lininger if he thought a formal motion was needed to move forward.

Mr. Lininger did not think any more formal guidance was needed.

Dr. Brown felt comfortable with the guidance. She added that with the guidance needs to come with the expectation that employees must continue to follow workplace precautions regardless of how they test.

Mr. Levacy asked Ms. Cordle to poll her employees to see who would like to be tested.

Mr. Fix stated he supports the concept and is frustrated with the limitations put on the test.

Dr. Brown suggested if we were polling employees, there were other employee populations to potentially poll to see if they would be interested in the test. She suggested limiting the polling to field staff or those going to homes - and going from there.

Mr. Davis stated they should stick with the current plan with the goal of all employees being tested. He stated that we should not poll employees at this point in time.

We do have confirmation that we can use the federal grant for the purposes of antibody testing.

Mr. Fix stated that initially the idea was to flatten the curve and that the virus is still active and we are not sure if summer will lessen the impact. Is the county seeing a downward or upward trend?

Mr. Kochis replied it is definitely still active. Testing continues to see a downward trend in the number positive results and number of tests performed. The number of airborne beds is down but still high in Central Ohio. That is an indicator of three weeks ago. What they are asked to plan for is an uptick throughout the summer with impacts of people returning to school with a larger, second wave starting in December through February. That is based on other virus studies.

Mr. Levacy asked why the 216 were tested.

Mr. Kochis replied it could have been symptomatic cases or exposure to a positive case. The number is around 3-4% of symptomatic testing.

- Legal Update

Mr. Lininger did not have a legal update.

- Administration and Budget Update/Carri's List

- a. Announcements & Date Reminders

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Anyone can email or text a question anytime:

Carri.Brown@FairfieldCountyOhio.gov

(740) 777-8552

Date Reminders and Calendar Review

- June 3 – Wear Purple – Honor of Elder Abuse Awareness and Prevention

b. Highlights of Resolutions

Dr. Brown highlighted 12 resolutions for the voting meeting. We had a proclamation in honor of Elder Abuse Prevention and Awareness. JFS proposed a resolution approving the 2021 Title XX Social Services Block Grant County Profile Report. There were no changes from the previous profile report.

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

- Approval of the CHIP grant application;
- Reduction in appropriations for Juvenile Court (from the general fund, based on special revenue coverage for 2020);
- Appropriations for DD, Utilities, and the County Engineer;
- Account to account transfers of appropriations for Common Pleas Court;
- JFS reimbursements by operation of law (three resolutions); and
- The payment of bills.

In queue, there were four resolutions for child protective services for protective placement in network. Also, in queue was a PRC plan approval.

c. Administrative Approvals, Program, & Budget Update

Administrative & Program Updates

Administrative Approvals

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

Budget Update

We have talked about the 2021 parameters at length. Initial parameters for 2021 are flat parameters, with the exception of insurance, for which a 2% increase is anticipated. Budget guidance has been provided specifically for this increase in costs, which is offset by the change in cost sharing.

For several weeks, we have announced the hiring freeze, no new hires, and no increases for salaries. Certain positions have been approved for hire, such as positions with EMA, the Dog Shelter, and Utilities. Today, a position with the Engineer was approved (as it is essential and non-general fund supported).

The sales tax estimate from the state for Fairfield County for March (to be received in June) is about \$1.55 M. For comparison, the February receipts received May were \$1.67 M. We will be about \$100K ahead of the adjusted, local estimate. \$922 K is estimated for April (to be received in July).

Over time, the Commission will see various resolutions to reduce appropriations in the general fund as reconciliations and other adjustments occur. In normal times, there might not be a resolution, but during the pandemic, things are different, of course.

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In multiple ways, we continue to advocate for state and federal support.

d. BRAVOs

Great Job to JFS for their excellent result on their Comprehensive Case Management Employment Program monitoring review. JFS is doing a great job complying with WIOA and TANF programs. The coordination with WIOA activities is going very well. GREAT WORK! And congratulations to Economic and Workforce Development for their leadership with WIOA, as they had an equally successful state monitoring report this week!

Congratulations to the Real Estate Offices staff who are now working at 108 N. High in their new location. All is going very well with that change in location! Thanks to Jon Slater, Dave Burgei, and Dennis Keller for their ongoing leadership in establishing the Real Estate Assessment Offices.

Thanks to IT from Sophia Boyer in Utilities for all the help they have provided to support teleworking, which is working out very well. Thanks for the training on TEAMS with Office 365, which is helping everyone stay connected.

Thanks to the Finance Department for pulling together on May 21st to correct an error in payroll.

- Old Business

- a. Antibody Testing

Mr. Davis wanted to give a level of deference to the ORC declaration that the Sheriff is in charge of jail operations, not the Commissioners. He asked that Lt. Hodder convey that in the face of a strong objection or veto from the Sheriff or Chief, they would stop the program for antibody testing in its tracks.

- New Business (none)

- General Correspondence Received (none)

- Calendar Review/Invitations Received

- a. TID Virtual Meeting is May 28

- FYI

- a. Jail Population – 214

- b. Health Department Newsletter

- c. Anytime, a public records request or a question can be posed to Rachel.Elsea@fairfieldcountyohio.gov or Carri.Brown@fairfieldcountyohio.gov

- Open Items

Mr. Davis stated that he was, like Mr. Fix, noting that the investment number from Geenex was staggering.

Commissioners' Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, May 26, 2020 beginning at 10:31 a.m., with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Jeff Fix and Dave Levacy. Also present were Carri Brown, Rachel Elsea, Jon Kochis, Tom Lininger,

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Mark Conrad, Aunie Cordle, Ray Stemen, Bennet Niswanger, and Innerphase Video. Also joining via teleconference was Tony Vogel and Joshua Horacek.

Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Davis led everyone in 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.

Mr. Ray Stemen of 2444 West Point Road stated the most important thing he has come up with is that we are more in trouble economically than medically and that is what more people are concerned about in his opinion.

Approval of Minutes for May 19, 2020

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the minutes for the Tuesday, May 19, 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 Commissioners' Resolutions

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

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 2020-05.26.a | A resolution authorizing the approval of a proclamation [Commissioners] |
| 2020-05.26.b | A resolution authorizing the reduction appropriations in major expenditure object categories for Juvenile Court/General Fund # 1001 - Fairfield County Commissioners [Commissioners] |
| 2020-05.26.c | A resolution to approve the contracts between Fairfield County and the Community Action Program (CAP) Commission of the Lancaster-Fairfield County Area for administration of the PY 20 Community Housing Impact and Preservation (CHIP) Program and CHIP Program Income projects [Community Action] |

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 approving an account to account transfer in major object expense categories; see resolution 2020-05.26.d.

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 Board of Developmental Disabilities Resolution

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Board of Developmental Disabilities resolution to approve additional appropriations by appropriating from unappropriated into a major expense object category – Fund #2060; see resolution 2020-05.26.e.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of the Engineer's Resolution

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Engineer's Office resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure object category County Engineer 2024-Motor Vehicle for ORC publication book updates; see resolution 2020-05.26.f.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of the JFS Resolutions

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

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 2020-05.26.g | A resolution to approve a memo receipt and expenditure for Fairfield County Job & Family Services, Fund 2758 reimbursing Fund 2018 [JFS] |
| 2020-05.26.h | A resolution to approve a memo receipt and expenditure for Fairfield County Job & Family Services, Fund 2015 reimbursing Fund 2018 [JFS] |
| 2020-05.26.i | A resolution to approve a memo receipt and expenditure for Fairfield County Job & Family Services, Fund 2072 reimbursing Fund 2018 [JFS] |
| 2020-05.26.j | A resolution approving the 2021 Title XX Social Services Block Grant County Profile Report [JFS] |

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of the Utilities' Office Resolution

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Utilities Office resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure object category Utilities Fund 5841 Greenfield Water Admin; see resolution 2020-05.26.k.

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; see resolution 2020-05.26.l.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

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Review Continued

Dr. Brown stated the Commission would have an opportunity to update their videos to the community and employees later in the morning. The videos can then be posted on the website.

Mr. Davis feels the Commissions' views have changed a bit since the last videos and is looking forward to sharing a new message with the county.

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 10:38 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, June 2, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

Motion by: _____ Seconded by: _____
that the May 26, 2020 minutes were approved by the following vote:

YEAS:

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

*Approved on June 2, 2020



Steven A. Davis
Commissioner


Dave Levacy
Commissioner

Dave Levacy
Commissioner

Jeff Fix
Commissioner

Jeff Fix
Commissioner

Raul all

Rachel A. Elsea, Clerk



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The Fairfield County Commission
May 26, 2020

2


2



5/26/2020



3


COVID 19 Update
Jon Kochis, EMA Director





Public Health
Prevent • Promote • Protect

Fairfield Department of Health



4


4

Public Well-Being


Fairfield County


ADAMH

Mental Health & Recovery Matter




LANCASTER - FAIRFIELD






FAIRFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF
**DEVELOPMENTAL
DISABILITIES**



MEALS & WHEELS
FAIRFIELD COUNTY
TOGETHER, WE CAN DELIVER




FAIRFIELD
COUNTY

5

Presentation from Geenex

- Kara Price
- Logan Stephens
- Jessica Gliha



FAIRFIELD
COUNTY

6

5/26/2020

Legal Update

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County
Administrator
Update

8

8

Email -or- Text


Carri.Brown@fairfieldcountyohio.gov

740 777 8552

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Reminders

- **June** - Wear Purple for Awareness of Prevention of Elder Abuse




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5/26/2020

Highlights of Resolutions

- Elder Abuse Prevention & Awareness
- Title XX County Profile Report



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Highlights of Resolutions

financial & grant related resolutions

- Approval of the CHIP grant application
- Reduction in appropriations for Juvenile Court
- Appropriations for DD, Utilities, & the County Engineer
- Account to account transfers for Common Pleas Court
- JFS reimbursements by operation of law
- Payment of bills

In queue, there were 4 resolutions for protective placement in network. There was also a PRC plan approval in queue.



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Administrative Approvals


- Administrative Approvals - in packet



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Budget Update

- Continue hiring freeze
- No new hires
- Flat wages for 2021
- Temporary work assignments
- Change to insurance plan - 20% cost sharing




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5/26/2020

Other budget items


- Level 2 deadline - June 16
- Communicated insurance amounts
- Sales tax estimate
- Continued advocacy for CARES Act changes for flexibility and local government use




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BRAVO!




- Great Job to JFS and Economic & Workforce Development for the terrific monitoring reviews.
- Congratulations to the Real Estate Offices staff who are now working at 108 N. High in their new location.
- Thanks to IT from Sophia Boyer for all the help they have provided for teleworking.
- Thanks to the Finance Department for pulling together on May 21st to correct an error.




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Old Business



17

New Business


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5/26/2020


Correspondence


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Invitations


- TID Virtual Meeting – May 28


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Quick FYI

- Jail Population
- Health Department Newsletter



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Have a Public Records Request?



Rachel.Elsea@fairfieldcountyohio.gov



22


22

5/26/2020

Have a question?

Carri.Brown@fairfieldcountyohio.gov

Text 740 777 8552




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Meeting with Meals on Wheels

Thanks to Anna Tobin and her team for the presentation on the 2021 budget and on current operations.




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Great job to the Fairfield County Community!

Thank you!




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Thank You - Elected Officials

• Commissioner Steve Davis	• Judge Terre Vandervoort
• Commissioner Jeff Fix	• Judge Laura Smith
• Commissioner Dave Levacy	• Prosecutor Kyle Witt
• Auditor Jon Slater	• Recorder Gene Wood
• Clerk of Courts Branden Meyer	• Sheriff Dave Phalen
• Coroner Dr. Varney	• Treasurer Jim Bahnsen
• Engineer Jeremiah Upp	
• Judge Richard Berens	
• Judge David Trimmer	




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5/26/2020

Thank You – Appointed Officials & Department Heads

- County Administrator-
Dr. Carri Brown
- Human Resources –Jeff Porter
- JFS – Aunie Cordle
- Facilities – Dennis Keller
- Economic/Workforce
Development – Rick Szabrak
- IT – Mark Conrad
- GIS – Dave Burgei
- Dog Shelter – Todd
McCullough
- EMA – Jon Kochis
- Board of Elections – Jane
Hanley
- Utilities – Tony Vogel
- ADAMH – Rhonda Myers
- Board of DD – Jon Pekar
- Veterans Services – Park Russell
- Airport Board –Dr. Glenn Burns
- Visitation Center – Mandi Crist




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Commissioners’ Administration Team

- **Rachel Elsea** – *Clerk to the Board of Commissioners*
- **Staci Knisley** – *Budget Officer*
- **Christina Foster** – *Payroll Officer*
- **Shar Bails** – *Account Clerk*
- **Christy Barker** – *Mail Clerk*



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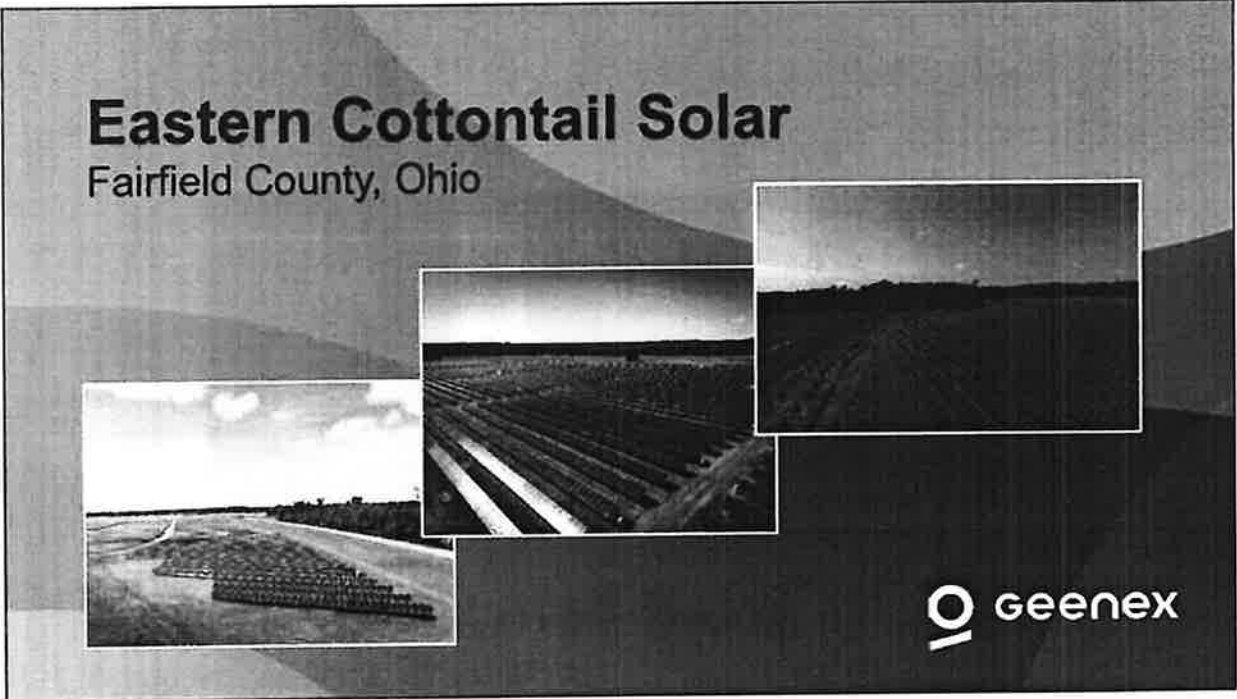


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5/22/2020



1



2




Your local greenfield developer of utility-scale solar projects


240 MW in operation :: 415 MW under construction

4000+ MW under development

- Highly skilled in all aspects of solar development: site evaluation, real estate procurement, environmental analysis and federal, state and local permitting.
- Focused on solar development, local community engagement and education in the Southeastern U.S. since 2012.
- Geenex projects are valued by our development partners for their well-sited locations, their adherence to best-development practices and their standards that meet and usually exceed county and state requirements.
- Geenex Solar is the founder of the non-profit Center for Energy Education based in Halifax County whose programs are currently being introduced in the Ohio communities in which we are developing.





3



Center for Energy Education

The Center for Energy Education (C4EE) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation and a center for renewable energy research, education, and workforce development for the eastern United States. The C4EE provides a place to raise awareness of renewable energy and its importance locally, regionally, and globally. The C4EE is a hub for the renewable energy industry, a hands-on training ground for solar installations, a destination for students and families to learn about renewable energy resources, and an education and training facility to provide the knowledge and skills needed to pursue a career in the growing renewable energy industry.




Our Numbers Are Growing

Summer Camps	Adult Community Training	High School Internships	College Scholarships
210	112	99	97
Students	Students	Students	Students


4

5/22/2020



Your local greenfield developer of utility-scale solar projects

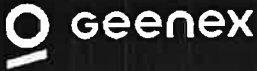
- Has quietly built one of the largest solar development pipelines within the PJM wholesale electricity marketplace.
- Geenex-sourced projects are in demand from some of the largest developers, utilities and investors in the country.
- In comparison to 5 years ago, Geenex Solar begins the year 2020 with triple the employees and more than four (4) times the number of solar projects in development. Our expansion into now five (5) states in the Southeast, Mid-Atlantic and Midwest regions of the US initiated the need for Geenex to open a second office which is located in Columbus, Ohio.



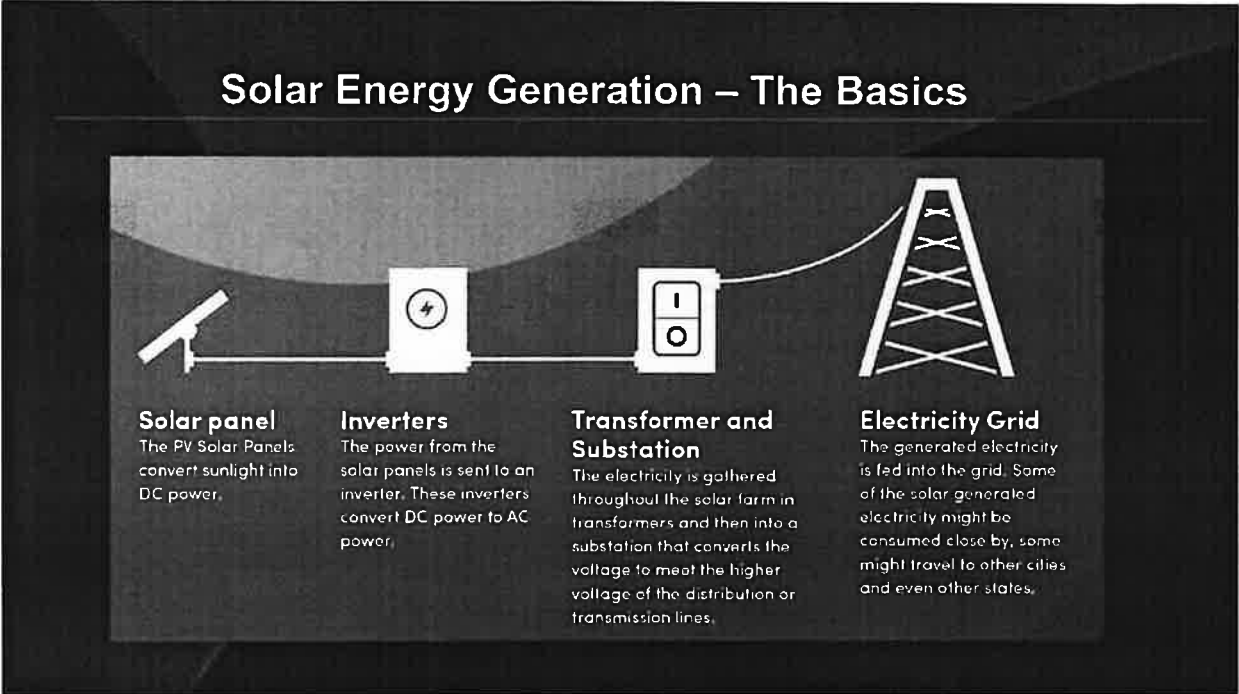
"Geenex's proven processes and experienced team members are what has enabled us to quickly build an extensive development pipeline in only a few short years," stated Georg Veit, CEO of Geenex Solar. "What's more, our partners and investors appreciate that our solar projects deliver tangible benefits to the local communities in which we develop." Geenex is pleased to be able to provide the opportunity for landowners, communities, and industry to work together to secure our energy needs and independence for the future.

5

Utility-Scale Solar



6



7

Why Solar? Why Now? Why Fairfield County, OH?

- High demand for low-carbon renewable energy by customers, corporations, and institutions.
- Cost of solar continues to decrease making it highly competitive with traditional fossil fuel sources.
- Location, location, location – available solar resource combined with good topography near areas with high energy demands.
- Available land with existing transmission and/or distribution lines with available capacity for more energy.
- Landowners wanting to diversify income and protect their real estate assets.

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5/22/2020


Solar: A Proven & Environmentally Safe Technology

- Solar photovoltaic technology has been in use for more than 50 years.
- No emissions or contamination (air, water or soil)
- No noise outside of fence line.
- Very little reflectivity or glare from panels that are designed to absorb as much sunlight as possible.
- More than 90% of materials can be sold for scrap or recycled at end of project's useful life.
- Land can be returned to its original agricultural use after its life as a solar farm; solar is a place-holder for the future.



9






Farming for the Future

Agricultural landowners earn greater income from leasing land to a solar developer than from traditional agricultural operations.

This income source allows the landowner the freedom to keep the land under family control for future generations and possibly eliminate the need to sell off land for more intrusive commercial development.



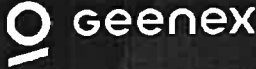
Property Impact Analysis

Matched pairs in multiple areas across the southeastern and midwestern U.S. show no impact on adjoining property value.

The criteria for making downward adjustments on property values such as appearance, noise, odor, and traffic all indicate that a solar farm is a compatible use for a rural/residential transition area.

"We have to get our power from somewhere and I would much rather see a solar farm next to my land than a nuclear or coal plant that could be dangerous. Solar farms are safe and make good, clean power. I am pleased to have worked with Geenex Solar on such a project."

David Dunlow, Hemlock Solar Landowner in Northampton County, NC




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Extensive Permitting Oversight


Federal Agencies	US Army Corps of Engineers, Federal Aviation Administration, US Fish and Wildlife Service
State Regulatory Agency	Ohio Power Siting Board (Public Utilities Commission of Ohio) Intensive regulatory process for solar projects larger than 50 MW. Requires rigorous environmental, cultural, geotechnical and economic impact studies, consultations with various state and federal agencies, and a series of public meetings and hearings to receive community input.
Construction Permits	Stormwater & Erosion Control, Section 404 Clean Water Act, Water Quality Certification Section 401 Ohio EPA, Transportation
Local Jurisdiction	Property tax exemption program requires agreements with County to repair roads, bridges and culverts affected by construction.

PJM / AEP

Interconnection studies and agreements.







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Decommissioning Plan

- Ensures the landowner, the County, and its citizens will not be financially liable for the future return of the proposed site to its pre-existing condition and use.
- Provides that the Project site will be stabilized and restored in such a manner to ensure it is clean, safe and able to return to previous land use.
- Sets guidelines for updating plan to:
 - 1- Address changes in the economics of decommissioning costs; and
 - 2- Ensure the use of best management practices and procedures at time of decommissioning.




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5/22/2020





Eastern Cottontail Solar, LLC

334 MW AC Solar PV

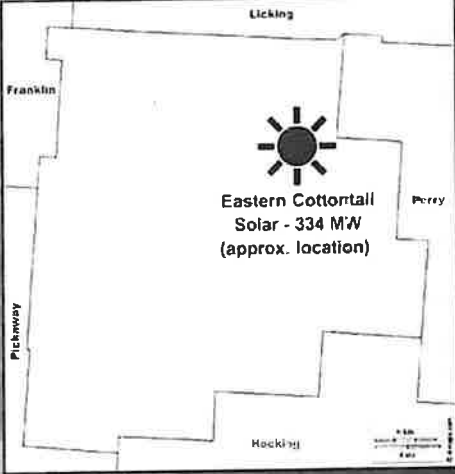


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Project Overview



Eastern Cottontail is Solar PV project up to 334 MW under development in northeastern Fairfield County, OH approximately five miles east of Baltimore.

The project will consist of approximately 2,600 build acres secured via land lease agreements. The project is currently designed as a single-axis tracker solar system and approximately 780 acres (30%) of the site will be "under glass" with virtually no impermeable surface or permanent land use impacts.

Eastern Cottontail will pursue a PILOT with Fairfield County that will guarantee 80% of its construction team will be comprised of Ohio-based employees. A 334 MW project would provide a minimum of \$2,338,000 of annual property tax revenue to Fairfield County.

Once operational, the 334 MW project would generate 705 GWh of clean electricity each year, offsetting the annual electricity consumption of over 64,000 average Ohio households.

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• simply solar

geenex

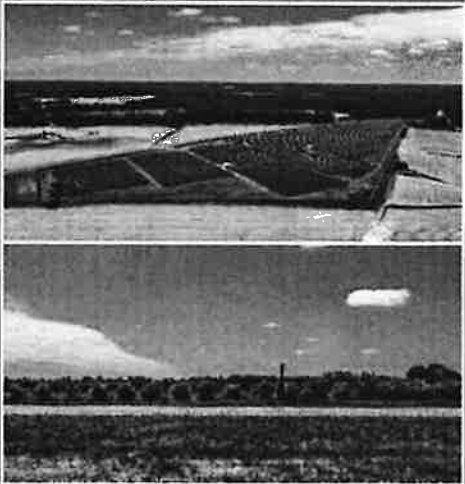
Early Development

Land Control: Geenex identified the project area and began securing land for the project in early 2019. All land control will be secured prior to submission of the OPSB application.

Interconnection: The project is being interconnected through the PJM regional transmission operator system. A feasibility study and system impact study have been completed on the project to determine impacts and estimated costs to interconnect the facility.

Studies: Various desktop analyses have been completed and now comprehensive environmental, cultural and engineering work will soon be underway to address all application requirements of the OPSB application.

Design: The project will be designed to incorporate generous setbacks and vegetative screening to mitigate impacts to the neighbors and fit well within the surrounding community.



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Community Benefits

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5/22/2020

Local Project Impacts

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT




❑ Solar construction companies actively seek local hires for installation and additional construction support positions. The PILOT process afforded solar development actually stipulates that 80% of the project's construction workforce must come from within the state.

❑ Permanent full-time positions

• Landscaping and grounds-keeping

• Site operations and maintenance

❑ Local workforce development programs through the Center for Energy Education's engagement with local community colleges and other area workforce organizations.



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Local Project Impacts




ECONOMIC & EDUCATIONAL

❑ Increase of tax revenue dollars for Fairfield County. The OHIO PILOT program will guarantee a minimum of \$7,000 per MW to the county each year over the life of the project; \$2,338,000 to \$3,006,000 annually.

❑ Increased business for local restaurants, supply stores, gas stations, accommodations, and contractors during time of construction.

❑ Solar facilities can enhance a county's reputation as an attractive and friendly environment for advanced manufacturing, technology and related jobs.

❑ Geenex solar facilities are also a resource for educational opportunities for local students and teachers. The Center for Energy Education will include area teachers and students in summer camps and educational training programs.



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Eastern Cottontail Solar Development Team

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Questions?

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