

Regular Meeting 24 - 2026
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
June 16, 2026

Review Meeting

The Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners Hearing Room located at 210 E. Main St., Lancaster, OH. Commissioner Davis called the meeting to order, and the following Commissioners were present: Jeff Fix and David Levacy. Also present: County Administrator, Aundrea Cordle; Deputy County Administrator, Jeff Porter; Communications and Information Coordinator, Bennett Niceswanger; Records Center Clerk, Ash Sark; JFS Director, Corey Clark; Auditor, Dr. Carri Brown; Budget Director, Bart Hampson; EMA and Facilities Director, Jon Kochis; Economic and Workforce Development Director, Rick Szabrak; Utilities Director, Tony Vogel; Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Steven Darnell; Engineer, Jeremiah Upp; Recorder, Lisa McKenzie; Clerk of Courts, Branden Meyer; Judge, Laura Smith; Chief Deputy Clerk of Courts, Michelle Carper; Deputy JFS Director, Heather O'Keefe; Regional Planer, Josh Hillberry; Treasurer, Jim Bahnsen; Economic Development Coordinator, Anthony Iachini; Sheriff, Alex Lape; Budget Officer, Staci Knisley; Soil and Water Manager, Nikki Drake; Sheriff's Deputy, Kevin Romine. Also in attendance: Ray Stemen, Garrett Davis, Kaela Ricketts, Melissa Linville, and Michael Gibbons-Camp.

Virtual attendees: Ash Sark, Shelby Hunt, Ashley Arter, Andy Robberts, Lori Lovas, Jeff Barron, Shannon Ward, Lori Hawk, David Uhl, BGM, Britney Lee, Baylie Blevins, Deborah French, Tony Vogel, Stacy Hicks, Jennifer Effinger, Brian Wolfe, Abby King, Jason Grubb, and Rick Szabrak.

Welcome

Commissioner Levacy opened the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance.

Introduction of Workforce Center Intern – Kaela Ricketts

Director Szabrak introduced Kaela Ricketts, an Ohio University student, who is interning with the Workforce Center this summer.

Listen & Learn – Legal Help Center

Clerk of Courts Branden Meyer introduced Melissa Linville, Development Director, and Michael Gibbons-Camp, Managing Attorney, of Legal Aid of Southeast and Central Ohio (LASCO).

Ms. Linville provided an overview of LASCO's mission, explaining that the organization provides free legal aid and advocacy services to low-income individuals and families. She also outlined LASCO's funding sources as a nonprofit organization.

Commissioner Levacy asked what LASCO's impact has been in Fairfield County.

Mr. Gibbons-Camp stated that LASCO served 539 households, representing 1,576 individuals, in Fairfield County during the past year.

Ms. Linville attributed the strong utilization of LASCO services in Fairfield County to the organization's accessible location within the Legal Help Center at the Hall of Justice.

Mr. Gibbons-Camp explained that the majority of cases involve family law matters through the Domestic Relations Court. He stated that many clients need assistance understanding legal terminology and properly completing forms, which helps improve access to the legal system. He also noted that referrals are received from multiple courts.

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Clerk of Courts Meyer stated that the partnership has been highly successful, resulting in a smoother filing process and improved staff satisfaction by allowing legal questions to be directed to qualified legal professionals.

Judge Laura Smith emphasized the importance of the services provided, particularly in family law matters, and noted that LASCO improves access to justice for families who might otherwise be unable to afford legal assistance. She added that litigants are better informed and court proceedings operate more efficiently as a result.

Mr. Gibbons-Camp stated that the program also provides valuable insight into community trends and strengthens partnerships with local organizations.

Commissioner Fix expressed appreciation for LASCO's contributions and services to the Fairfield County community.

Public Comments

Ray Stemen of Lancaster offered a prayer.

County Administration Update

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

Week in Review

Workforce Center Signing Day

County Administrator Cordle shared a video about the Workforce Center signing day, and expressed appreciation for securing additional funding for the Workforce Center.

Adult Protective Services

County Administrator Cordle shared a story of the dedicated and caring employees in Fairfield County and the lengths they go to serving the community, and shared a video of the scam prevention program through Job and Family Services

Highlights of Resolutions

Administrative Approvals

The review packet contains a list of administrative approvals.

Resolution Review

There are 25 resolutions on the agenda for the Regular voting meeting.

Resolutions of note:

- A resolution from the Commissioners to prohibit the Village of Baltimore from using the Fairfield County Jail.

Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Steven Darnell stated that the resolution would be sent to the Baltimore Village Council and they would have 90 days to enter a contract with the Sheriff's Office.

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Sheriff Alex Lape believed the resolution to be an important first step in addressing the issue with the mayors court.

- Two resolutions from the Commissioners regarding board appointments. Lori Sanders will be appointed to serve the remainder of the unexpired term of Jeff Beard on the Visitors and Convention Bureau Board, and Cindy Lyttle and Christina Marstiller will both be reappointed to serve an additional term on the ADAMH Board.
- A resolution from the Clerk of Courts – Title Division declaring a surplus of \$150,000 and transferring those funds to the General Fund.
- A resolution from Economic Development approving a subgrant agreement with the Fairfield 33 Alliance to provide funds for pre-apprenticeship training through a grant from the Ohio Department of Development.

Economic Development Coordinator Anthony Iachini stated that the grant would help fund the career navigators at the Workforce Center.

- Three resolutions from the Engineer: The approval of a plat for Victory Commons, the approval of a contract with Pavement Maintenance Systems, LLC for the 2026 Microsurfacing Project, and a notice to commence for the 2026 Microsurfacing Project.

Engineer Jeremiah Upp stated that the City of Lancaster is plating certain right of ways to the county.

- A resolution from Facilities to approve a change order to the contract with Spires Paving for the Liberty Center.

EMA and Facilities Director Jon Kochis stated that issues with the parking lot were discovered after the project had begun but that the project was still under budget.

- Two resolutions from JFS regarding amendments to previously approved network placement and related services agreements with Journey Home Foster Care and Sojourners Care Network.
- A resolution from Utilities authorizing the purchase of a Vac truck.

Utilities Director Tony Vogel stated that the new vac truck will allow his department to perform functions that they previously had to obtain via contract services.

Budget Review

Budget Director Bart Hampson stated that the meetings regarding the 2027 budget will soon conclude. He also mentioned that the level 2 budget entry access ends on June 22nd.

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Calendar Review/Invitations Received

Informational Items

- i. Veterans Hall of Fame meeting, Tuesday, June 16, 2026, 11:00 a.m.
- ii. Millersport Business Group meeting, Wednesday, June 17, 2026, 8:30 a.m. at the American Legion, 2557 Canal Dr., Millersport, OH.
- iii. CFLP Public Hearing, Wednesday, June 17, 2026, 12:30 p.m. in the Commissioners' Hearing Room, 210 E. Main St., Lancaster, OH

Correspondence

- i. Fairfield County Municipal Court, Criminal/Traffic Division, May 2026 fees report.
- ii. Letter from a resident regarding the Vantage Data Center.

Updates from Elected Officials and Department Heads

Recorder Lisa McKenzie reported attending the Ohio Recorder's Conference and noted that the Legal Help Center has been a valuable resource for residents seeking assistance with filing forms.

Auditor Carri Brown thanked Legal Aid for its presentation on wills and reported ongoing outreach efforts regarding Budget Commission policies. She also provided an update on Tax Incentive Review Council (TIRC) meetings and potential legislative changes affecting executive session requirements.

Economic Development Coordinator Anthony Iachini reported that the Workforce Center's summer camps are underway, with approximately 70 students participating from all Fairfield County school districts. He also highlighted partnerships with Anduril and Vantage Data Centers to support workforce training initiatives.

EMA and Facilities Director Jon Kochis reported that Facilities staff will be completing projects in county buildings during the Juneteenth holiday.

JFS Director Corey Clark noted the success of the Elder Abuse Prevention Breakfast and the positive impact of the event's speakers.

Deputy Administrator Jeff Porter reported on attendance at the OHPELRA meeting and stated that Human Resources recently completed an employee benefits survey to assist with upcoming benefits renewals.

Soil and Water Manager Nikki Drake recognized Mike Wolfe for his soil and water conservation efforts.

Judge Laura Smith reported that local agencies are collaborating to comply with new Ohio Supreme Court requirements regarding fingerprinting procedures and BCI compliance plans.

Old Business

Commissioner Levacy provided remarks to the Lancaster Rotary earlier in the week regarding the Fairfield County Veterans Hall of Fame.

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New Business

None.

Regular (Voting) Meeting

The Commissioners continued to the Regular/Voting portion of the meeting, and the following Commissioners were present: Jeff Fix and David Levacy. Also present: County Administrator, Aundrea Cordle; Deputy County Administrator, Jeff Porter; Communications and Information Coordinator, Bennett Niceswanger; Records Center Clerk, Ash Sark; JFS Director, Corey Clark; Auditor, Dr. Carri Brown; Budget Director, Bart Hampson; EMA and Facilities Director, Jon Kochis; Economic and Workforce Development Director, Rick Szabrak; Utilities Director, Tony Vogel; Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Steven Darnell; Engineer, Jeremiah Upp; Recorder, Lisa McKenzie; Clerk of Courts, Branden Meyer; Judge, Laura Smith; Chief Deputy Clerk of Courts, Michelle Carper; Deputy JFS Director, Heather O'Keefe; Regional Planer, Josh Hillberry; Treasurer, Jim Bahnsen; Economic Development Coordinator, Anthony Iachini; Sheriff, Alex Lape; Budget Officer, Staci Knisley; Soil and Water Manager, Nikki Drake; Sheriff's Deputy, Kevin Romine. Also in attendance: Ray Stemen, Garrett Davis, Kaela Ricketts, Melissa Linville, and Michael Gibbons-Camp.

Virtual attendees: Ash Sark, Shelby Hunt, Ashley Arter, Andy Robberts, Lori Lovas, Jeff Barron, Shannon Ward, Lori Hawk, David Uhl, BGM, Britney Lee, Baylie Blevins, Deborah French, Tony Vogel, Stacy Hicks, Jennifer Effinger, Brian Wolfe, Abby King, Jason Grubb, and Rick Szabrak.

Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Levacy asked everyone to rise as able and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements

Assistant Clerk Bennett Niceswanger announced that county offices would be closed Friday, June 19, 2026, in observance of Juneteenth.

Approval of Minutes for June 9, 2026

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of David Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Minutes for the Tuesday, June 9, 2026, meeting.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix and David Levacy

Approval of Resolutions from the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners

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

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|--------------|--|
| 2026-06.16.a | A RESOLUTION TO PROHIBIT THE VILLAGE OF BALTIMORE FROM USING THE FAIRFIELD COUNTY JAIL |
| 2026-06.16.b | A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF MS. LORI SANDERS TO THE FAIRFIELD COUNTY VISITORS AND CONVENTION BUREAU BOARD. |

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2026-06.16.c A RESOLUTION TO REAPPOINT MS. CHRISTINA MARSTILLER AND MS. CINDY LYTTLE TO THE FAIRFIELD COUNTY ADAMH BOARD

Commissioner Fix expressed his appreciation for all those that dedicate their time to serving on boards.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix and David Levacy

Approval of a Resolution from the Fairfield County Board of Elections

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of David Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from the Fairfield County Board of Elections:

2026-06.16.d A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN ACCOUNT-TO-ACCOUNT TRANSFER INTO A MAJOR EXPENDITURE OBJECT CATEGORY – FUND 1001, GENERAL FUND

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix and David Levacy

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

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

2026-06.16.e A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE TO DECLARE A SURPLUS FOR THE CLERK OF COURTS TITLE FUND #2326, AND A FUND-TO-FUND TRANSFER FROM THE CLERK OF COURTS TITLE FUND #2326 TO THE GENERAL FUND #1001

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix and David Levacy

Approval of a Resolution from Fairfield County Economic & Workforce Development

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of David Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from Fairfield County Economic & Workforce Development:

2026-06.16.f A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A SUBGRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE FAIRFIELD 33 DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR PRE-APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING THROUGH A GRANT FROM THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT (DOD)

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix and David Levacy

Approval of Resolutions from the Fairfield County Engineer

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

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- 2026-06.16.g A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE NOTICE TO COMMENCE FOR THE 2026 MICROSURFACING PROJECT.
- 2026-06.16.h A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT WITH PAVEMENT MAINTENANCE SYSTEMS, LLC FOR THE 2026 MICROSURFACING PROJECT.
- 2026-06.16.i A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A PLAT FOR VICTORY COMMONS.
- 2026-06.16.j A RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE FROM UNAPPROPRIATED IN A MAJOR EXPENDITURE OBJECT CATEGORY COUNTY ENGINEER 2362-LEVY FOR THE LITHOPOLIS-WINCHESTER ROAD RESURFACING PROJEC

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix and David Levacy

Approval of a Resolution from Fairfield County Facilities

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of David Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from Fairfield County Facilities:

- 2026-06.16.k A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE CHANGE ORDER 001 AND 002 TO THE CONTRACT WITH SPIRES PAVING COMPANY INC AND THE FAIRFIELD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix and David Levacy

Approval of a Resolution from Fairfield County Family & Children First Council

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of David Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from Fairfield County Family & Children First Council:

- 2026-06.16.l A RESOLUTION TO REQUEST FOR APPROPRIATIONS FOR FUND #7521 FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix and David Levacy

Approval of a Resolution from Fairfield County Job and Family Services

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of David Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from Fairfield County Job and Family Services:

- 2026-06.16.m A RESOLUTION REGARDING AN AMENDMENT FOR A PREVIOUSLY APPROVED NETWORK PLACEMENT AND RELATED SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN JOURNEY HOME FOSTER CARE AND CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES DEPARTMENT.
- 2026-06.16.n A RESOLUTION REGARDING AN AMENDMENT FOR A PREVIOUSLY APPROVED NETWORK PLACEMENT AND

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RELATED SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN SOJOURNERS
CARE NETWORK AND CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES
DEPARTMENT.

- 2026-06.16.o A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A MEMO RECEIPT AND EXPENDITURE FOR FAIRFIELD COUNTY JOB & FAMILY SERVICES, FUND 2015 REIMBURSING FUND 2018
- 2026-06.16.p A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A MEMO RECEIPT AND EXPENDITURE FOR FAIRFIELD COUNTY JOB & FAMILY SERVICES, FUND 2758 REIMBURSING FUND 2018
- 2026-06.16.q A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A MEMO RECEIPT AND EXPENDITURE FOR FAIRFIELD COUNTY JOB & FAMILY SERVICES, FUND 2072 REIMBURSING FUND 2018
- 2026-06.16.r A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A MEMO EXP./ MEMO RECEIPT FOR THE COSTS OF TRANSPORTATION PAID TO FAIRFIELD COUNTY TRANSIT AS A MEMO EXPENDITURE FOR FUND# 2599 WORKFORCE FUND
- 2026-06.16.s A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A MEMO EXP./ MEMO RECEIPT FOR THE COSTS OF TRANSPORTATION PAID TO FAIRFIELD COUNTY TRANSIT AS A MEMO EXPENDITURE FOR FUND# 2018 PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FUND

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix and David Levacy

Approval of a Resolution from the Fairfield County Law Library

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of David Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from the Fairfield County Law Library:

- 2026-06.16.t A RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE FROM UNAPPROPRIATED IN A MAJOR EXPENDITURE OBJECT CATEGORY FOR LAW LIBRARY; FUND 2761, LAW LIBRARY RESOURCES BOARD

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix and David Levacy

Approval of Resolutions from Fairfield County Transit

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of David Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from Fairfield County Transit:

- 2026-06.16.u A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS BY APPROPRIATING FROM UNAPPROPRIATED INTO A MAJOR EXPENSE OBJECT CATEGORY – 2908, PUBLIC TRANSIT
- 2026-06.16.v A RESOLUTION APPROVING TO APPROPRIATE FROM UNAPPROPRIATED INTO A MAJOR EXPENSE CATEGORY FOR GRANT FUND# 2908 FOR THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION GRANT FOR SFY2027

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YEAS: Jeff Fix, David Levacy, and Steve Davis
ABSTENTIONS: None

NAYS: None

*Approved on June 23, 2026



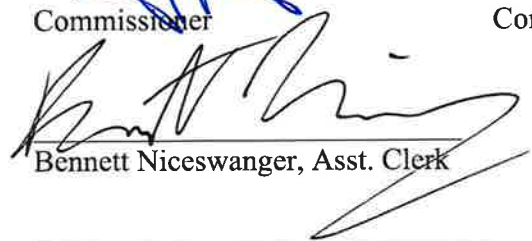
Jeff Fix
Commissioner



Steve Davis
Commissioner



David Levacy
Commissioner



Bennett Niceswanger, Asst. Clerk
