

Regular Meeting #27 - 2020
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
June 23, 2020

Review

The Commissioners met at 9:00 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, Jon Kochis, Lt. Marc Churchill, Mark Conrad, Joshua Horacek, Amy Brown-Thompson, Bennet Niceswanger, Paige Herron, Dennis Keller, Joining via teleconference were Elisa Dowdy, Tony Vogel, Rick Szabrak, Tom Lininger, Jon Slater, Jim Bahnsen, Sarah Garren, Jeff Barron, Stacy Hicks, Larry Hanna, and Tiffany Nash.

- COVID-19 Update

Mr. Kochis provided an update about COVID-19 from a statewide perspective. There are 500,000 deaths worldwide with 120,000 US cases. Ohio ranked 12th in the US for COVID deaths. Ohio is trending up, but Fairfield County is not trending as fast as the rest of Ohio. There have been 729 new cases in Ohio where they had been averaging in the 400's. The percentage of cases continues at 3-4% of those tested. There are 174 active cases in Fairfield County. Jon reminded everyone that we are still in the marathon.

Mr. Davis asked about the hope of Summer bringing the measure of relief like with the flu season. He asked if that was realistic or if they should expect to need to keep hammering away at the virus.

Mr. Kochis replied that the science of what happens in Summer balanced with everyone coming back together has kept the numbers steady. They could have seen a Summer decline, but everyone would need to stay at home for that to occur. Mr. Kochis stated that as long as the health care systems are stocked with their needs, they can manage the virus.

Mr. Levacy stated his son had to go into the hospital for a procedure, but they did a nasal swab test for COVID-19.

Mr. Kochis replied the nasal swab is the definitive diagnostic test.

Mr. Levacy is curious as to why they are going that way and not doing a blood test. From his standpoint the other test is a better test. He stated there is a diagnostic blood test for COVID positivity, but the results take more time.

Mr. Kochis stated there were two cases in the hospital positive with the virus right now.

Mr. Fix stated that there seemed to be a lot of people testing positive without symptoms. He asked if the true measurement to review would be the number of hospitalizations and deaths. With two people in the hospital, that indicates that they are doing ok.

Mr. Kochis replied that the problem is that deaths are skewed upward but those increases are in skilled nursing centers. He showed an "info graph" of the increase in COVID related deaths in the world.

Mr. Davis asked Mr. Hanna and Ms. Nash if COVID was falling as a cause of death on death certificates in Fairfield County.

Ms. Nash replied she is still working on it and will get him the information as soon as she has it.

Mr. Hanna stated Mr. Kochis did a good job with the update. Fairfield County is at 414 cases today. They should be fully trained and up and running for contact tracing by the end of the week. By the middle of next week, they should be making significant strides, so they will be ready to handle the next surge.

**Regular Meeting #27 - 2020
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
June 23, 2020**

Mr. Kochis stated there is free testing site on Thursday at the old South School location. No doctor order is necessary. The City of Lancaster is helping with the traffic.

Mr. Davis asked how the appointments versus walk up process would work.

Mr. Kochis replied that they were still working on how they can separate the appointments from the walk ups as there is currently only one line to get it.

Dr. Brown stated the final round of antibody testing onsite at the Sheriff's Office would be June 25th. She is trying to get information on whether people can go (and when they should go) to the Diley Medical Services site on their own to get tested if there are Court and Sheriff personnel who were unable to be tested earlier.

- Welcome
- Legal Update

Ms. Brown-Thompson did not have a legal update.

Commissioner Davis requested a refresher on actions that can (and cannot) be taken when there is a question from the public regarding a change in the speed limit.

- Administration and Budget Update/Carri's List

a. Announcements & Date Reminders

Anyone can email or text a question anytime:
Carri.Brown@FairfieldCountyOhio.gov
(740) 777-8552

Date Reminders and Calendar Review

June 26 – Microchipping Event at the Dog Shelter – looks like a great event!

June 30 – Meetings resume in the Hearing Room

July 3 – Independence Day celebrated

b. Highlights of Resolutions

There were 17 resolutions planned for the voting meeting.

We had four contracts for protective placement in network for child protective services.

RPC proposed two change orders for CDBG projects.

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

- A resolution for approval and support to apply for funding to CFLP Solid Waste District for the Recycling Processing Improvements Contract relating to Community Action;
- A resolution to authorize the Fairfield-Hocking Athens Major Crimes Unit Sub-Grant Award Agreement;
- An account to account transfer of appropriations for Juvenile Court and a fund to fund transfer (along with an advance) for EMA (three resolutions);
- Three transfers by operation of law for JFS reimbursements;
- Appropriations for the FCFACF Council (two resolutions); and

Regular Meeting #27 - 2020
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
June 23, 2020

- Appropriations for the Sheriff's Office for overtime (mostly relating to the needs arising from coverage at demonstrations and protests throughout the county).

In queue, there were financial and contractual resolutions at various stages of progress.

c. Administrative Approvals, Program, & Budget Update

Administrative Approvals and Update

The review packet contained a list of administrative approvals, and there were no questions.

Budget Update

The level 2 tax budget was filed on June 18, 2020. The proposed general fund portion totals \$49.68 Million. The proposed general fund expense budget is **.5% below the original 2020 budget and 1% above the current budget**, as we have made net reductions to the original 2020 budget. In the coming days, the details will be examined, and basic parameters are being followed, from a high-level review.

CARES Act related funding is anticipated this week. We are ready to adjust and expend those funds. We are in the process of documenting our expenses. For the first round, the simulated distribution shows \$1.67 M for the county as an entity. We need to expend this by October 15.

Commissioner Fix commented that he had spoken with State Auditor Faber who indicated a desire for flexibility for counties and local governments regarding CARES Act funding and flexibility for the 2020 audits that will occur in 2021.

Commissioner Levacy stated he was glad Commissioner Fix was able to reach Auditor Faber on this topic.

Dr. Brown reported that on June 30th, there will be a proposed resolution to allow for a direct placement for debt refinancing and airport debt issue. The refinancing will result in projected savings of \$449,000 in the aggregate through 2028 and with no extension in time for any debt. This is based on estimated market rates.

We are also examining the energy conservation project (phase 2), planning on that issuance in 2021 when it makes sense to do so.

d. BRAVOs

We appreciate the work of Facilities as they continue to make sure our buildings are clean and safe even while shifting their work assignments.

- Old Business

MARCS Tower at Walnut Township

Commissioner Davis stated there was a good turnout at the MARCS dedication last week. Everyone appreciated the collaboration to support the creation of the new radio tower.

Amstutz Mural

The mural project will begin on July 6. Dennis Keller will send email out to everyone as a friendly reminder.

**Regular Meeting #27 - 2020
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
June 23, 2020**

- New Business

City of Lancaster Request Re: Remnant Property

Commissioner Davis spoke about a request from the City of Lancaster regarding remnant property and a right of way. Dennis Keller will connect with Jeremiah Upp and others.

- General Correspondence Received (none)

- Calendar Review/Invitations Received

- a. Virtual Mid-Ohio Food Collective COVID Leadership Briefing - Wednesday, June 24th at 10:00 a.m.
- b. Virtual TID Meeting - Thursday, June 25th at 9:00 a.m.

- FYI

- a. Jail Population – 223
- b. Communication from Texas Eastern re: repairs
- c. USDA Notice re: Offices Reopening
- d. Juvenile/Probate Court 2019 Annual Report
- e. Anytime, a public records request or a question can be posed to:

Rachel.Elsea@fairfieldcountyohio.gov

or

Carri.Brown@fairfieldcountyohio.gov

- Open Items

Commissioner Davis stated at 9:51 a.m. that the Commission would be in recess until the 10:00 a.m. Regular Meeting.

Commissioners' Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, June 23, 2020 beginning at 10:00 a.m., with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Jeff Fix and Dave Levacy. Also present were Carri Brown, Rachel Elsea, Amy Brown-Thompson, Joshua Horacek, Dennis Keller, Bennet Niceswanger, and Lt. Marc Churchill. Joining via teleconference were Tom Lininger, Jim Bahnsen, Jon Slater, Rick Szabrak, and Jeff Barron.

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.

**Regular Meeting #27 - 2020
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
June 23, 2020**

Mr. Ray Stemen of 2444 West Point Road in Lancaster spoke regarding his concern for cities controlled by democrats not supporting the police. He urged everyone to support the police.

Approval of Minutes for June 16, 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, June 16, 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:

- 2020-06.23.a A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated funds in a major category expense of personal services for Sheriff Overtime costs - Fund# 1001 – Fairfield County Commissioners [Commissioners]
- 2020-06.23.b A resolution for approval and support needed by Fairfield County Commissioners to apply for funding to CFLP Solid Waste District for the Recycling Processing Improvements Contract application. [Community Action]

Discussion: Mr. Davis stated Fairfield County has been fortunate to have peaceful protests. The awareness of protests does cause the need to be diligent in ensuring the safety of the protestors.

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

Approval of the Emergency Management Agency Resolutions

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

- 2020-06.23.c A resolution authorizing an EMA fund to fund transfer. [EMA]
- 2020-06.23.d A resolution authorizing the approval of an advance from the general fund to EMA – Fund EMA 2707 (subfund 8244) Emergency Management Performance Grant FY20 Supplemental COVID-19, increase receipts, and appropriate from unappropriated funds [EMA]

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

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

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

- 2020-06.23.e A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated funds in a major category expense for the Fund# 7521– Family Adult Children First (FACF) [Family, Adult and Children First Council]
- 2020-06.23.f A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated funds in a major category expense for the Fund# 7521, subfund# 8160 – Family Adult Children First (FACF) [Family, Adult and Children First Council]

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

**Regular Meeting #27 - 2020
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
June 23, 2020**

Approval of the Job and Family Services Resolutions

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following Job and Family Services resolutions:

- 2020-06.23.g A resolution regarding Network Placement and Related Services Agreement between The Anthony House and Job and Family Services, Child Protective Services Department [JFS]
- 2020-06.23.h A resolution regarding Network Placement and Related Services Agreement between Hope Haven for Girls and Job and Family Services, Child Protective Services Department [JFS]
- 2020-06.23.i A resolution to approve a memo receipt and expenditure for Fairfield County Job & Family Services, Fund 2015 reimbursing Fund 2018 [JFS]
- 2020-06.23.j A resolution to approve a memo receipt and expenditure for Fairfield County Job & Family Services, Fund 2072 reimbursing Fund 2018 [JFS]
- 2020-06.23.k A resolution to approve a memo receipt and expenditure for Fairfield County Job & Family Services, Fund 2758 reimbursing Fund 2018 [JFS]
- 2020-06.23.l A resolution regarding Network Placement and Related Services Agreement between Returns, Inc., and Job and Family Services, Child Protective Services Department [JFS]
- 2020-06.23.m A resolution regarding Network Placement and Related Services Agreement between Journey Home Foster Care and Job and Family Services, Child Protective Services Department [JFS]

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

Approval of the Juvenile/Probate Court Resolution

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Juvenile/Probate Court resolution approving an account to account transfer; see resolution 2020-06.23.n.

Discussion: Mr. Davis stated the MCJDC boards met last Friday and had unanimous agreement to convert the MCJD employees to 20% insurance share from 15% share. This is effective January 1, 2021. He was appreciative of the unanimous consent of the two boards.

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

Approval of the Major Crimes Unit Resolution

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Major Crimes Unit resolution to authorize the Fairfield County Commissioners to sign the Fairfield-Hocking Athens Major Crimes Unit sub-grant Aware Agreement; see resolution 2020-06.23.o.

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

Approval of the Regional Planning Commission Resolution

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following Regional Planning Commission resolutions:

