

**Regular Meeting #28 - 2021**  
**Fairfield County Commissioners' Office**  
**June 29, 2021**

**Review**

The Commissioners met at 9:00 a.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, Josh Horacek, Thomas Lininger, Tony Vogel, Aundrea Cordle, Audrey Stoffel, Judy Stemen, Ray Stemen, Lieutenant Hodder, Margaret Euler, Chris Schmelzer, Becky B., and Dennis Keller.

Attending virtually were: S. Herdnan, Lisa McKenzie, Jim Bahnsen, Sheriff Lape, Jason Dolin, Dave Burgei, Tony Howard, Donna Fox-Moore, Brett Riffle, Jeff Barron, Emily, Jon Kochis, Jon Slater, Jr., Rick Szabrak, and Jeremiah Upp.

- **Welcome**

Commissioner Levacy welcomed everyone to the meetings.

- **Fairfield Forward**

The review packet contained a flier about Fairfield Forward events.

After the meeting of June 22, we honored the Flag Day award recipients. We received several emails and notes of thanks for the civic education and lunch.

There are several July 4<sup>th</sup> events planned, and we have kept the Flag Day presentation displayed in honor of Independence Day.

HR will be sending out information about the employee recognition event (food trucks at the Records Center) which will be held on July 22.

Pickerington Palooza begins July 15, and the Lancaster Festival begins July 23.

And the Friday Night Bandstand concerts are back through August 14<sup>th</sup> in downtown Lancaster.

On August 17<sup>th</sup>, we will dedicate (formally) the Patriotic Mural at Amstutz.

Commissioner Davis commented that the Commissioners participated in the Sugar Grove Stars and Stripes pie auction on June 25<sup>th</sup> and June 26<sup>th</sup>. Others attended the pie auction and enjoyed it very much. A picture was sent to the Commissioners following the auction.

The pie auction was a fundraiser for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Fairfield County, and Commissioner Davis thanked Commissioner Levacy for bringing the opportunity to participate to the Commission.

Commissioner Fix added that he appreciated Audrey Stoffel and Margaret Euler for their support in the event. All three Commissioners participated, and he was thankful for that, too. Commissioner Fix thanked the Executive Director of BBBS, Jolyn Pugh. There were 59 entries in the pie contest.

Ms. Cordle later stated that the event fundraiser made \$8,825. She received this information by text from Abby Watson, a JFS employee who served as the treasurer for the event.

**Strategic Planning**

We will be using the Fairfield Forward theme for strategic planning.

We anticipate catalytic uses of the ARP fiscal recovery funds. There are two main uses that stand out to us:

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1. Responding to the public health emergency with respect to the COVID19 or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality.

2. Making necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

As we think about the first purpose, we will need to:

- Identify a need or negative impact of the public health emergency,
- Identify how the county investment would specifically address that need, and
- Readily explain how the investment helps the county respond to the disease or the harmful economic consequences of the economic disruption.

On July 27, there is a kick-off planning session for elected officials and department heads. It will be at 1 pm in the Commission Hearing Room.

Thinking about water and sewer infrastructure, Commissioner Davis asked Mr. Vogel to give examples of what projects might be in mind for fiscal recovery funds.

Mr. Vogel said that there were two projects under review. The first project is related to new infrastructure for 60 people who have arsenic in their wells. They are currently using bottled water for drinking water. They can take showers with the well water, though. The second project in discussion is the interconnect with Greenfield Township and Little Walnut Water Treatment Plants. This will give the county a "redundancy" and will connect water and sewer services for Plum Road to Coonpath, the Route 33/Coonpath Interchange.

Commissioner Davis asked Ms. Cordle what projects she was excited about relating to the American Rescue Plan funds.

Ms. Cordle stated that she is most excited about being able to work with businesses on their coaching, retention, and recruitment processes.

Mr. Levacy stated that he hopes the consulting services will help business with their business plan and will improve businesses, helping them recover from the pandemic.

Ms. Cordle stated that employees expect money and benefits from an employer. They also want to hear what else a business has to offer for their employees. We would have someone talk to businesses and see what they have already and what their needs are.

Dr. Brown reported that the Board of Commissioners have also approved appropriations to help townships and villages with technical assistance, as well, and today, there is a resolution for a response to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19 or its negative economic impacts, specifically for assistance to the Fairfield County agricultural community for consulting services to produce a Fairfield Growing plan. This plan will support "growers" in the agricultural community coming out of the pandemic. The Soil & Water Conservation District supports this effort for a long-term plan. There were comments in the past that the plan was helpful for the creation of a new organization, the Keller Market.

- Legal Update

Mr. Horacek reported that there is a memo in the review packet about the process for annexation hearings. The next hearing is July 27<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm for the annexation of 25.8723 acres from Hocking Township into the City of Lancaster. A representative of the Prosecutor's Office will be there in attendance.

Commissioner Davis thanked Mr. Horacek for the Prosecutor's Office memo to refresh everyone on procedures.

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Mr. Horacek also reported that the National Consortium of attorneys and the Opioid Multi-District Litigation team recommended a motion related to the Opioid Litigation. The deadline for response is July 9, 2021.

Dr. Brown added that legal counsel recommends all governmental agencies involved vote to approve the Purdue Bankruptcy Plan.

**Motion to approve the Purdue Bankruptcy Plan (and authorize the County Administrator to send voting instructions) as recommended by the Opioid Multi-District Litigation team and National Consortium of attorneys, legal counsel for the opioid litigation cases, with such legal counsel recommending that all governmental agencies involved vote to approve the Purdue Bankruptcy Plan.**

On motion of Jeff Fix and second of Steve Davis, the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners motioned to approve the Purdue Bankruptcy Plan (and authorize the County Administrator to send voting instructions) as recommended by the Opioid Multi-District Litigation team and National Consortium of attorneys, legal counsel for the opioid litigation cases, with such legal counsel recommending that all governmental agencies involved vote to approve the Purdue Bankruptcy Plan.

Discussion: Commissioner Davis stated that this was exactly what they anticipated. There is nothing to report specifically at this point.

Commissioner Levacy stated that the most important factor from the litigation is change in behavior.

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

- Administration and Budget Update/Carri's List

- a. Announcements & Dates of Interest

- Announcements

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

- Dates/Events of Interest

- June 29 – Commissioner Fix – Commission Connection video to be taped
      - July 5 – Offices Closed for July 4<sup>th</sup>
      - July 11 – Sheriff's Office Lunch n Learn
      - July 22 – Employee Recognition Event
      - July 27 – Workforce Lunch n Learn
      - July 27 – Commissioner Davis – Commission Connection video to be taped

The State of the County Address is scheduled for *September 28* at the WigWam.

- b. Highlights of Resolutions

Dr. Brown reported there were 17 resolutions for the voting meeting.

We proposed the mid-year proclamation to communicate about customer service as a core value of Fairfield County. Elected officials and department heads have provided quotes about exceptional services during the pandemic.

We saluted the excellent work of county essential employees.

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The review packet contained the resolution in its entirety. The quotes will continue to journalize the experiences of the pandemic, as we come out of the pandemic.

Providing an example of excellent customer service, Commissioner Davis reported that he was recently at the One Stop Shop, the County Title Office & Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV). The traffic was out the door on the BMV side. At the county Title Office, staff were kind and helpful to work with; he was done in about three-four minutes. He appreciated their service.

There were 16 *financial and grant related resolutions* to approve:

- Three MOUs for FCFACF;
- A resolution amending a resolution authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$6,000,000 of bonds for the purpose of paying part of the costs of acquiring and installing improvements comprising “energy conservation measures”, as defined in section 307.041 of the Ohio Revised Code, to the County Courthouse, the Hall of Justice, and the Title Office at Liberty Center, and matters related to such bonds;
- Authorized use of American Rescue Plan fiscal recovery funding and appropriations from unappropriated funds for the County ARP fiscal recovery fund, #2876, for a response to the public health emergency with respect to COVID19 or its negative economic impacts for assistance to the Fairfield County agricultural community for consulting services to produce a Fairfield Growing plan to support the agricultural community coming out of the pandemic;
- A resolution authorizing the release and satisfaction of mortgage on a FY 2008 Community Housing Improvement Program (CHIP) in accordance with grant terms and conditions;
- A resolution to approve reimbursement for CORSA share of costs by Utilities;
- A resolution to approve an agreement with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency for the 2021 Community and Litter Grant;
- An account-to-account transfer of appropriations to properly classify expenditures (for payment of property taxes of the Airport) and for Airport grant accounting (with memo transactions) – for two resolutions;
- Appropriations for an Airport grant, FCFACF grant, JFS, and Juvenile Court (Youth Services) grant (four resolutions);
- Appropriations from unappropriated funds for the shooting/training range (discussed last week); and
- A bill requiring Commission approval.

Forecasting a resolution for next week, Dr. Brown reported there was a resolution in queue to amend and replace the resolution to define food as a public expenditure considered to be proper public purpose. The new resolution adds community engagement as a purpose for purchasing food (such as candy) at a *de minimus* value when there is specific documentation of the community engagement and its purpose or expected outcomes.

There were additional financial resolutions in queue.

c. Administrative, Program, and Budget Update

Administrative Approvals & Program Updates

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

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*RFQ for an Architect for the Sheriff's Garage at the Airport*

We are in the process of requesting Statements of Qualifications from architectural/engineering firms to provide professional design services for the Sheriff's garage at the Airport. Qualified architects and engineers shall have until 4:00 PM, July 16, 2021, to submit their Statements of Qualifications.

Commissioner Davis asked Mr. Keller to explain the timeline for this project.

Mr. Keller reported that the next step is to review the qualifications and approve a contract for professional services. Then the design will begin. He hopes to be bidding the project by September, with the construction to begin in October. The building should not take long for construction.

Commissioner Davis asked that Mr. Keller and his staff review the project and make sure that they plan for future needs.

Mr. Keller stated that the design will be simple, but they will be thorough for future needs.

*Presentation for the Pickerington Chamber of Commerce*

Dr. Brown conducted a presentation to the Pickerington Chamber of Commerce on June 23<sup>rd</sup> at the request of Tony Howard and Theresa Byers. The group was interested in plans, progress, and perspectives of Fairfield County. She appreciated the opportunity, and the group remains interested in additional presentations in the future.

During the Pickerington Chamber meeting, there were several people to comment that they appreciate the virtual options for the Commission meetings (held in addition to the in-person meeting) as a convenient, low-cost way to stay informed in real time.

*Idea Box Update*

An idea from January 2020 was formerly under review with IT:

A recommendation from January 2020 was presented to IT and to the Data Board, as well. It related to password processes. IT is reviewing options but there is no recommendation for change. If IT has a recommendation, they will provide that to the Commission for a budget request and also present it to the Data Board. IT is continuing to ensure procedures meet security goals.

**Idea 57:** An employee offered an idea to use the Fairfield County logo umbrellas for employee incentives as the umbrellas look very nice and have a good, useful purpose.

**Response:** This is being considered for incentives (de minimis) and was provided as a suggestion right away to the recruitment and retention committee. There may be multiple ways to make the umbrellas available. For example, umbrellas may be used as incentive for the employee recognition event.

**Idea 58:** An employee provided positive feedback about the Coffee Bean book provided to employees and offered some ideas for additional inspirational and leadership books. For example, the employee took a leadership course where the "5 Dysfunctions of A Team" (a book on leadership) was reviewed. The employee commented how it felt good to know that the county care cares about employees and employee well-being through hard times by purchasing an inspirational book for employees to read and discuss.

**Response:** To the employee, we noted that we are so very happy you are enjoying the Coffee Bean book, and it seems as if other leadership development books would be beneficial. Leadership development is important to Fairfield County, and offering opportunities for growth and development with books (whether ones that are in hand or online) is something we can do more often. Doing so would inspire more discussions as a follow up to the Coffee Bean book discussions. The suggestion for more books is one that a few departments have been doing with

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a “leadership book club” or “recommended reading list” where employees offer leadership or development books that they have enjoyed and provide a summary of the lessons they have learned. For example, the Sheriff’s Office has a recommended reading list they share.

At the department level, there will be reasonable budgets provided to allow for books to be purchased and shared. Department heads who need appropriations can review requests with the County Administrator as needed.

In this way, the department would have an ability to tailor their provision of books to the desires of the employees in the department (which could differ a bit across the multiple departments of the county simply based on the operations of the departments). Right now, this is being piloted with the Utilities Department and other interested departments.

*As of the end of June*, 58 ideas have been received in the electronic suggestion box. Of those, all ideas have been addressed with the employee and have been shared with staff (or will be shared with staff in the case of the ideas from June). There have been 10 ideas recognized as the top ideas.

Budget Update

The sales tax estimate for 2021 in Fairfield County is \$23.6 M, or 3% above the sales tax revenues of 2020. We are tracking ahead of that estimate, but we have not changed the projection or planning tool. We have included an annual estimate for the rental of jail beds to Athens County, and we will monitor that.

Last week, we talked about the sales tax receipts and the comparisons of 2019, 2020, and 2021.

Here is a chart for additional review.

<i>As of the end of June</i>				
Sales Tax Receipts in Millions	increase of 2021 over 2020		increase of 2021 over 2019	
2021		2020		2019
12.95	15.52%	11.21	18.92%	10.89

On July 7<sup>th</sup>, there is a tax budget public hearing scheduled. It has been advertised in the media.

On July 27<sup>th</sup>, there will be an additional mid-year review of the budget.

**A. BRAVOS**

- Bravo to the Master Gardners and Connie Smith at OSU Extension for their exceptional skills and work!
- Thanks to Jeff Porter and Cheryl Reeves for their support of the FCFACF Council as they hired a new director, pending the retirement of Donna Fox-Moore.

Commissioner Davis asked if the new director position was a competitive process.

Dr. Brown reported that the process was a competitive one with multiple applicants. The selected candidate, Mr. Dumitru “Raz” Sabaiduc, begins his new position in July; he has good, applicable experience which will transfer well to his new position.

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Commissioner Levacy stated he participated in the process and believes Raz should work out well.

- From Human Resources, thanks to the Recruitment and Retention Committee for their ongoing work. From Facilities, thanks to the Environmental Stewardship Committee for their ongoing work. From EMA, thanks to the Security Committee for their ongoing work. These work groups with multiple employees participating are continuing successfully.
- In August at the Roundtable meeting, there will be a new opportunity for work group participation. In addition, there is a work group for IT strategic planning (which is open to all interest parties and may evolve to an IT roundtable group that meets regularly) and for the Government Services Center in Pickerington (which has two subgroups). One of the goals of the county was to promote opportunities for work group participation with supervisor approval. If anyone has any questions about work groups, they can contact Carri Brown.
- Old Business

Commission Communications/Additional Updates

Commissioner Davis reported that he met with State Auditor Keith Faber. Mr. Faber commented on how well county operations were managed in Fairfield County. He felt good talking with Mr. Faber.

- New Business

*Type 1 Expedited Annexation*

An annexation for a type 1 annexation, expedited, was received on Friday, June 25, and the packet was returned to the City of Canal Winchester for clarification on the agreement included with the packet. In the meantime, we are reviewing the legal description and the map.

- General Correspondence

*Letter from Jack Weidner, Board President of the Walnut Creek Sewer District*

We received a letter from Jack Weidner, Board President of the Walnut Creek Sewer District. We responded to the letter with information about the American Rescue Plan and will keep him on our invitation list for the strategic planning. This response will be in the review packet.

- Invitations

August 14 – Summer Reading Finale Pickerington Public Library, 10:30 am – 2 pm  
(RSVP required)

Tony Howard, Director for the Pickerington Public Library, spoke about the event (from online participation). The Summer Reading Finale is a community event for families. They partnered with Violet Township and are hosting this at the WigWam Event Center. He went on to report the library had three goals in mind this year:

1. *Retain* customers who stayed with the library during the pandemic
2. *Regain* customers who had changing patterns during the pandemic
3. *Recover* – help the community recover and bring people together

This event is a celebration of reading. The outlook for the library is a good outlook.

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Commissioner Fix commented he would be attending the event on August 14.

Dr. Brown reported she would provide copies of the invitation in case others were interested and able to attend the event.

- FYI
  - a. Jail Population – 226
  - b. Project Playhouse Information
  - c. FCFAF Council Announcement – Raz Sabaiduc, Executive Director, July 19

**Commissioners' Regular Meeting**

A regular meeting of the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, June 29, 2021 beginning at 9:37 a.m. 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, Josh Horacek, Thomas Lininger, Tony Vogel, Aundrea Cordle, Audrey Stoffel, Judy Stemen, Ray Stemen, Lieutenant Hodder, Margaret Euler, Chris Schmelzer, Becky B., and Dennis Keller.

Attending virtually were: S. Herdman, Lisa McKenzie, Jim Bahnsen, Sheriff Lape, Jason Dolin, Dave Burgei, Tony Howard, Donna Fox-Moore, Brett Riffle, Jeff Barron, Emily, Jon Kochis, Jon Slater, Jr., Rick Szabrak, and Jeremiah Upp.

**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.

Ms. Knisley stated that there were no announcements.

**Public Comment**

Commissioner Levacy asked if anyone from the public who would like to speak or offer comments. He stated this is a time for voters and taxpayers (members of the public) to provide comments.

Ms. Judy Stemen shared news on her recent vacation. She and her husband, Ray Stemen, celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary this month. She reported how everyone was so friendly to them during their vacation. She also reported that her son-in law was ill, and she asked for prayers. She gave the Board of Commissioners handouts related to reports about the COVID-19 disease and masks. (See attached to minutes.) She concluded by stating she appreciated the Board of Commissioners.

Ms. Margaret Euler from the Sugar Grove/Hideaway Hills area thanked the Board of Commissioners for their support during the Stars and Stripes event in Sugar Grove. She spoke about communications about the COVID19 vaccine at colleges, specifically at Marietta College. She spoke with a college student from Marietta College who took a free, online course. The discussion at one event was from college leadership asking college students to get the vaccination (so that they would not be perceived as selfish). She asked the Board of Commissioners for help in addressing this.



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**Approval of Minutes for Tuesday, June 22, 2021**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the minutes for the Tuesday, June 22, 2021, Regular Meeting.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

**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' resolutions:

2021-06.29.a            A resolution affirming "customer service" as a core value and recognizing exemplary customer service in Fairfield County government.  
[Commissioners]

Discussion:            Dr. Brown reported that Fairfield County's employees are the county's best assets, and the resolution salutes the employees for their exceptional public service and extraordinary customer service during the pandemic. Commissioner Levacy commented that it is important for Fairfield County to be aware of customer service. We have experienced and witnessed examples in Fairfield County employees.

Commissioner Davis spoke to the importance of tracking turnover in key areas, such as with Protective Services and the Sheriff's Office, to help ascertain if our actions for recruitment and retention make a difference.

Commissioner Davis asked Ms. Cordle for a solid three-year look back for retention and recruitment, focusing on turnover statistics. Ms. Cordle provided some statistics of turnover for Protective Services. Ms. Cordle reported that 2020 was a unique year, the turnover rate was 14%. In 2019 the rate was 27%. They should be able to report more by August.

Lt. Hodder indicated he would engage Chief Churchill and Sheriff Lape in these discussions.

2021-06.29.b            A resolution amending a resolution authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$6,000,000 of bonds for the purpose of paying part of the costs of acquiring and installing improvements comprising "energy conservation measures", as defined in section 307.041 of the Ohio Revised Code, to the County Courthouse, the Hall of Justice, and the Title Office at Liberty Center, and matters related to such bonds. [Commissioners]

Discussion:            Dr. Brown reported this resolution is a formality that helps with the reporting of our legal debt margin and identifies the full project as energy conservation. The review packet contained additional information for support. She added that given we have had a recent rating call with Moody's, an additional call was not likely to be required at this time.

2021-06.29.c            A resolution of an account-to-account transfer into a major expense object category and approve a refund as a memo expenditure from Grant Fund# 3034, subfund# 8245 and memo receipt to the General Fund# 1001 – Fairfield County Commissioners [Commissioners]

2021-06.29.d            A resolution to approve an authorized use of American Rescue Plan fiscal recovery funding and to appropriate from unappropriated funds for the County ARP fiscal recovery fund, #2876, for a response to the public

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health emergency with respect to COVID19 or its negative economic impacts for assistance to the Fairfield County agricultural community for consulting services to produce a Fairfield Growing plan to support the agricultural community coming out of the pandemic [Commissioners]

- 2021-06.29.e A resolution approving an account to account transfer in a major object expense category – Fairfield County Commissioners [Commissioners]
- 2021-06.29.f A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated into a major expense category and Cash advance from the General Fund for fund # 3011, Subfund #8273 Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Grant FY2021 Grant – Fairfield County Commissioners [Commissioners]
- 2021-06.29.g A resolution authorizing a fund to fund transfer from General Fund# 1001 and Appropriate from Unappropriated into a major expenditure category to the General Fund# 1001 & Capital Improvement Fund # 3435 -Fairfield County Commissioners [Commissioners]
- 2021-06.29.h A resolution to approve an Agreement with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency 2021 Community and Litter Grant. [Community Action]
- 2021-06.29.i A resolution authorizing the release and satisfaction of mortgage on a FY 2008 Community Housing Improvement Program (CHIP) for Patricia Snider [Community Action]

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**

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

- 2021-06.29.j A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated funds in a major category expense for the Fund# 7521, subfund#8232 – Family Adult Children First [Family, Adult and Children First Council]
- 2021-06.29.k A resolution regarding a memorandum of understanding between the Fairfield County Family, Adult and Children First Council and the Fairfield County ADAMH. [Family, Adult and Children First Council]
- 2021-06.29.l A resolution regarding a memorandum of understanding between the Fairfield County Family, Adult and Children First Council and the Fairfield County Board of Developmental Disabilities. [Family, Adult and Children First Council]
- 2021-06.29.m A resolution regarding a memorandum of understanding between the Fairfield County Family, Adult and Children First Council and the Fairfield County Juvenile Court. [Family, Adult and Children First Council]
- Discussion: Ms. Fox-Moore reported that the MOU's are approved annually. There are no changes in language. FACFC services 150-200 people. The financial resolution is a result of additional funding approved by the Ohio Department of Medicaid. This is for residential care costs.

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Commissioner Levacy thanked Ms. Fox-Moore for her service, noting her retirement was coming soon.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

**Approval of the Job and Family Services Resolutions**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Job and Family Services resolution to the following Job and Family Services resolution:

2021-06.29.n            A resolution to approve additional appropriations by appropriating from unappropriated into a major expense object category – Fund # 2018 – Public Assistance Fund - Fairfield County JFS [JFS]

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

**Approval of the 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 resolution:

2021-06.29.o            A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure object category – Juvenile Court Fund #2036 Department of Youth Services (reclaim) [Juvenile/Probate Court]

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

**Approval of the Utilities Resolution**

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

2021-06.29.p            A resolution to approve a reimbursement for share of costs for Liability Insurance paid to CORSA as a memo expenditure for funds 5044 & 5046 [Fairfield County Utilities Department] [Utilities]

Discussion:            Dr. Brown reported that this resolution reimburses the general fund from enterprise funds of the Utilities for their portion of property insurance recently paid. This is a normal process, and there will be other departments to make similar reimbursements. The Utilities Department just so happens to have their resolution ready first in a series of reimbursements.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

**Approval of payment of bills**

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

2021-06.29.q            A resolution authorizing the approval of payment of invoices for departments that need Board of Commissioners' approval

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Discussion: Dr. Brown reported that this bill was for the reimbursement of her expense for continuing professional education. CPE is required for Certified Government Financial Managers.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted 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 10:04 a.m.


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


Motion by: \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by: \_\_\_\_\_  
that the June 29, 2021 minutes were approved by the following vote:


YEAS: NAYS: None  
ABSTENTIONS: None  
\*Approved on July 6, 2021

Approved on July 3, 2011

  
Steven A. Davis  
Commissioner

  
Dave Levacy  
Commissioner

  
Jeff Fox  
Commissioner

  
Staci A. Knisley, Acting Clerk

## Commissioners' Meeting 6-29-21

WND

**Doctors challenge CDC claim that COVID kills 'healthy' kids Researchers warn against pushing vaccine on low-risk children**

By [Art Moore](#)

Published June 15, 2021

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**Update – World Health Organization Recommends: “Children Should Not Be Vaccinated”**

by Adam Salazar

June 22nd 2021

.....

**Ohio Health Department Doctor Says COVID Jabs ‘Unquestionably Safe’ Same Day CDC Planned to Investigate Higher-than-Expected Post-Vaxx Inflammation in Adolescents**

June 21, 2021

by Jack Windsor

WORTHINGTON, Ohio - Ohio Department of Health Chief Medical Officer Dr. Bruce Vanderhoff, clad in a white lab coat and his customary bowtie, stood on the track at Thomas Worthington High School during a Friday news conference designed [to market vaccines](#) to student-athletes and Ohio kids and said “vaccines that we have available to us are safe and very, very effective...unquestionably safe and effective.”

Vanderhoff went on to declare that “the Pfizer vaccine has been approved down to the age of 12.” His full statement can be viewed below.

Both comments are contrary to the [Centers for Disease Control](#) and Prevention (CDC) information and the U.S. [Food and Drug Administration \(FDA\)](#) statement on the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine.

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**Vaccination is More Important Than Your Individual Freedom**

By [Devvy Kidd](#)

June 14th, 2021

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**Shocking CDC data dump: Do NOT give kids the COVID shot**

*This week's number of reported deaths surpasses 6,000*

<https://www.wnd.com/2021/06/shocking-cdc-data-dump-not-give-kids-covid-shot/>

June 26, 2021

(FREEDOM FIRST NETWORK) – This week’s number of reported deaths among all age groups following COVID vaccines surpassed 6,000 according to data released today by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The data comes directly from reports submitted to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS).

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## **Legal team issues serious warning to schools about COVID vaccines**

*'Before your students are harmed or killed'*

<https://www.wnd.com/2021/06/legal-team-issues-serious-warning-schools-covid-vaccines/>

A legal team at Law and Order has confirmed dispatching letters to the chiefs of colleges and universities across Virginia suggesting – strongly – that they **withdraw** their demands for students to take the experimental COVID vaccines.

"Your institution's policy of putting these students, and their parents, in an untenable situation, where they **must choose** between accepting the significant risk of bodily injury, possible lifelong disability, or death **or continue their education at your institution.**"

A "statistically significant number" of those students who take the shot **"will be harmed seriously, and some may die,"** the letter warns. **"Moreover, a policy of coercion can impose on your institution great responsibility, as well as liability."**

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## **'Single biggest public health mistake, possibly of all history'**

**Lockdown policies actually increased mortality**

<https://www.wnd.com/2021/06/single-biggest-public-health-mistake-possibly-history/>

By WND News Services

Published June 26, 2021

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## **Thousands of vaccinated people hospitalized or dead due to COVID**

**'breakthrough' cases**

**CDC claims it's 'only a small percentage'**

<https://www.wnd.com/2021/06/thousands-vaccinated-people-hospitalized-dead-due-covid-breakthrough-cases/>

By Joe Kovacs

Published June 27, 2021

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LIFE WITH BIG BROTHER

## Court unleashes verdict on orders to mask up

So 'white hot' it should serve as 'wakeup call'

By WND News Services

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[Editor's note: This story originally was published by [Real Clear Markets](#).]

By Jeffrey Tucker

Real Clear Markets

We've all been there — or most of us have — during these last 16 months. We've wondered, "Am I the crazy one or has the world gone crazy?" We were subjected to astounding mandates among which were restrictions on movement, commerce, travel, even worship. Government officials shut down vast amounts of society and told us that it was necessary and really a normal thing to do because of the public-health emergency.

"I've been the object myself of a phenomenal amount of hostility," Anthony Fauci **told** Chelsea Clinton on her podcast, "merely because I'm promoting what are really fundamental, simple public health principles."

There is a name for this: gaslighting. There is nothing in public-health principles that would ban elective surgeries, force schoolkids into a Zoom life, close movies and theaters, or issue stay-at-home orders. Nothing like this has ever happened, and yet we are now told that this is normal. Stop complaining!

In the list of terrible impositions, the mask mandates seemed like the least of the problems. When mom can't get a cancer screening, the kids seem to be losing their minds, small businesses are collapsing, artists are out of work for the duration, the requirement that you wear a government-approved face cloth seems minor by comparison.

Perhaps this is why we put up with it, even those of us who found them ridiculous and antisocial. We all finally acquiesced. This is how it always works in dystopia: the managers of society negotiate on the extreme measures while allowing the culture to adapt to the minor ones. People eventually go along with the new normal.

I fear this is what happened to the whole culture, which is why mask mandates have generated far less controversy than I might otherwise have expected.

Well, I've got [a court decision](#) you should read. It was issued by Florida's First District Court of Appeal, written by Judge Adam Tanenbaum and signed also by Judge Robert Long, along with a dissent signed by Judge Joseph Lewis. Reading it was a revelation to me. It is so sensible, so obvious, so white hot in its fury that it serves as a kind of wakeup call. Why precisely did we go along?

The original plaintiff was businessman Justin Green, who sued the state back when mandates were in effect (hence why the lawsuit lists one of the now-great emancipators Ron DeSantis as a defendant). The lower court decided against the plaintiff on grounds that there was a public health emergency and hence mask mandates are wholly justified. The mandate was since repealed, so one might think there would be no case for appeal.

The appellate judges didn't see it that way. If it can happen once, it can happen again. They sought to make a constitutional case that can serve as a precedent, even if the lower court doesn't revisit the issue. So this decision stands as a model for other courts around the country. Here are a few excerpts.

**The opening is a satisfying blast of clarity:**

"From May 2020 until around mid-May 2021, anyone residing in or visiting Alachua County has found himself under the yoke of a mask mandate, accomplished through a series of emergency orders from the chair of the board of county commissioners. Under these fiats, any person in the county had to wear a government-approved face-covering to patronize a restaurant, grocery store, or retail establishment; visit or work on a construction site; or use public transit. The diktats also required that a person cover his face in any location "where social distancing measures are not possible." One consequence for being caught without a mask was a fine. Another consequence was being subjected to whispering informants, impelled by county-designed publicity like the following proposed signage encouraging citizens to inform on their disobedient neighbors.... The threat of government-sponsored shaming was not an idle one."

Just on the face of it, check your intuition about how a free society works. Does this make any sense? Is it fitting for the government to issue such mandates and enforce them with these creepy tactics? Surely not but the burden of the court was to figure out precisely why. The upshot of the opinion is to uphold a long-established precedent in courts at all levels. **There is such a thing as a right to privacy. It is your body, your choice.** The court merely applied that thinking to masks.

"A person reasonably can expect," reads the opinion, "not to be forced by the government to put something on his own face against his will." Florida's own constitution includes a "guarantee of bodily and personal inviolability" which "must include the inviolability of something so intimate as one's own face. A person then reasonably can expect to be free from governmental coercion regarding what he puts on it."

My non-expert read of this opinion is that it pertains only to government and law, and does not address private institutions and their rules. So, for example, a store could ask people to wear masks and not run afoul of this decision. To my mind, this appellate court decision is correct in every way.

The decision further suggests that the same thinking could also rule out other invasions such as mandatory testing and vaccination, plus quarantines, all of which impinged on individual rights. The decision ends by anticipating the thinking of the dissenting opinion: "There is this warning from William Pitt the Younger, roughly paraphrasing a similar sentiment in John Milton's *Paradise Lost*: 'Necessity is the plea for every infringement of human freedom.'"



Sure enough, the dissent merely asserts that a mask mandate is a “minimal inconvenience; and, its benefits to the public in potentially reducing the spread of COVID-19 outweigh any inconvenience.” Further, the mandate “is not permanent” and subject to review by the experts, hence there is no real problem. The “need to take measures to control the spread of Covid-19 clearly outweighs” all other considerations.

The dissent really nails what has always bugged me about the public-health excuse for throttling or eliminating basic freedoms. **Once you grant it – once you say to powerful people that they can do what they want to your body and rights so long as they have a good excuse – you create a grave moral hazard. It’s a tyrant’s dream. Cite the right reasons and restrictions on the use of power vanish.**

As the year of lockdowns went on, we began to see the assertion of an interesting new right that supposedly trumps all others. It is the right not to be exposed to germs. Even the lower court in this case invoked that idea: the right not to wear a mask “is no more precious than the corresponding right of his fellow citizens not to become infected by that person and potentially hospitalized.”

Here is where we bumped into a major issue that needs a complete rethinking. **We are now and always have been and always will be surrounded by invisible pathogens. A government that acts on the supposed right not to be infected by germs is one that can assume totalitarian powers. Conceding that right is astonishingly dangerous.** It would pretty well destroy the social order. Further, it would wreck public health simply because exposure is precisely how humans have evolved via the immune system to avoid severe outcomes of the most invasive forms of pathogens.

The assertions over this past year of the right not to be exposed to germs – I’m pretty sure this is a very recent invention – could only have come from sources that are unaware of modern science and 20th-century discoveries in the field of immunology. It is to draw on an unscientific and deeply primitive instinct to run away, isolate, and stigmatize. It is borne of the same mindset that regards changes in the weather as a reflection of divine judgement. But these days, you have otherwise intelligent people dabbling in it, without a serious thought concerning its implications for human liberty.

And this is one reason why I’m grateful for this opinion from Florida’s district court of appeals. It taps into an intuition that most everyone had before last year – **governments cannot mandate that we all strap a cloth to our faces** – that has been worn down in the course of dealing with so many myriad attacks on our liberty. We have to get the intuition back concerning what it means to be and act like we are people blessed with freedom and rights.

