

Regular Meeting #30 - 2021
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
July 13, 2021

Public Viewing – Vacation Petition of 2 Alleys in Walnut Township

The Commissioners met at 8:00 a.m. to view the site of 2 alleys petitioned to be vacated in Walnut Township. Commissioner Levacy called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Jeff Fix, and Dave Levacy.

The Commission viewed the proposed site to be vacated.

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, Rachel Elsea, Terry Horn, Chris Schmelzer, Tony Vogel, Thomas Lininger, Joshua Horack, Mark Conrad, Margaret Euler, Jeff Porter, Audrey Stoffel, Dennis Keller, Ray Stemen, Judy Stemen, Jon Kochis, Corey Clark, Aunie Cordle, Jonathan Ferbrache, Bill Vance, Sherry Orlando, Andrea Spires.

Attending virtually were: Tony Howard, Jeff Camechis, Belinda Nebbergall, Jim Bahnsen, Donna Fox-Moore, Jason Dolin, Lisa McKenzie, Nikki Drake, Jeff Barron, Chris Wagner, Lynette Barnhart, Adam Tippet, David Miller, Rick Szabrak, Stacy Hicks,

- Welcome
- Fairfield Forward

Special Events

Dr. Brown commented on the Distinctly Paramount exhibit at the Decorative Arts Center of Ohio (which is located at the Reese Peters House which the county owns) at 145 East Main Street in Lancaster. The exhibit runs through January 2, 2022, and it features costumes used at Paramount Pictures; it was expertly curated by Randall Thrapp, a Lancaster, Ohio native. Mr. Thrapp plans to add new costumes in the fall. Many of these costumers are on exhibit for the first time. Dr. Brown provided some additional information for those interested in attending the exhibit or some of the other art education opportunities.

There was a flier in the review packet about Fairfield Forward events.

- Pickerington Palooza begins July 15, and the Lancaster Festival begins July 23.
- The dedication of the Patriotic Mural is August 17th.
- On August 26th, there is a tour of the Mambourg Estates.
- There is an open house tentatively planned for 108 N. High on September 21.
- The State of the County Address is September 28. We are accepting input for the address.

On July 6th, following the Commission meeting, Commissioner Davis and Dr. Brown met with Fair Board representatives to gather information about how the county could help with the Fairfield County Fair and events held at the fairgrounds. Previously, on June 15th, the County Commissioners approved \$500,000 of appropriations for ARP subgrants for purposes to support the County Fair (to support tourism and the economy).

We are now working on the details of what the subgrant agreement should entail. A draft agreement has been prepared. Carri Brown will talk with Fair Board leadership. Members of the Fair Board continue to gather information and will name points of contact for the subgrant process and for the grand opening event, too. The Fair Board meets on July 20.

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Strategic Planning

Main Uses of the ARP Fiscal Recovery Funds

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:

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. As we think about this 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.
2. Making necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

The review packet contains a list of these two main uses that the county is focusing upon, as well as the framework for the first use in justifying the use of ARP fiscal recovery funds.

July 27 Kick-off Meeting

July 27 marks the community strategic planning kick-off. The purpose of this kick-off meeting is to introduce the process and expectations for strategic planning to elected officials and department heads.

We hope to have a timeline envisioned for the strategic planning, to share the list of stakeholder groups, and to generally become acquainted with RAMA, the vendor supporting the stakeholder group effort. The meeting will be an in-person meeting, but there will be a "Go to Meeting" option available for convenience.

ARP Reporting, Example of CARES Act Summary

A summary of reporting requirements for the ARP fiscal recovery funds, noted as State and Local Government Fiscal Recovery Funds, or SLFRF, was in the review packet. There are three categories of required federal reports: interim, project & expenditure, and recovery plan performance reports. By August 31, an interim report and recovery plan performance report are due to the federal government.

The interim report is a one-time report, and the recovery plan performance report is one that will be updated. The recovery plan performance report will be placed on the county website. There is no prescribed format, yet there are prescribed elements to include.

Similar CARES Act reports were reviewed multiple times in public session. The final CARES Act report has been helpful with the audit of the CARES Act expenditures and in documenting expenditures by project, such as noted on page 15 and 16 of that report (which was in the review packet).

This information was previously shared in public meetings, usually weekly during the expenditure period for the CARES Act. The report is an example of a report by project (or federal expenditure category).

This report was useful with the recent review of Moody's as well. The dialogue with Moody's centered around the energy conservation project and upgrades to the Administrative Courthouse and other improvements, for which there continue to be posters of renderings in the hallways of the Administrative Courthouse.

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Three ARP-related Resolutions for the Voting Meeting

There are three resolutions for the voting meeting relating to appropriations of ARP fiscal recovery funds. One is for administrative costs, and the other two are for subgrant agreements for stormwater planning for Walnut Township and for the Hunters Run Conservancy District.

- Legal Update

- a. Prosecutor's Training – July 22

Next Thursday the Prosecutor's Office will be offering a training for anyone who does purchasing through Fairfield County. They will be reviewing competitive bidding and purchasing requirements. An email with more details will go out soon.

- b. Franklin County Litigation

Mr. Davis stated that Franklin County refused to do in-person mediation, so they will go forward with mediation virtually which Mr. Davis does not believe will be fruitful.

- c. ADAMH Stabilization Center

Dr. Brown reported the ADAMH leadership met before the Lancaster Board of Zoning Appeals on July 12th regarding their application for the stabilization center. The county is supportive of this project. The Lancaster BZA heard testimony and provided a positive response to the ADAMH Board. ADAMH will continue to promote good neighbor policies. Marcy Fields did an excellent job describing the stabilization center and its purpose. Josh Horacek and Amy Brown Thompson prepared well and provided excellent guidance as legal counsel. We look forward to the project's implementation. There is a 30-day period for an appeal process of the BZA decision to the Common Pleas Court.

- 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
(740) 777-8552

- Dates/Events of Interest

- July 22 – Employee Recognition Event
 - July 27 – Workforce Lunch n Learn
 - July 27 – Strategic Planning Kick-Off
 - July 27 – Commissioner Davis – Commission Connection video to be taped
 - August 4 - Wear Green for Child Support Awareness
 - August 10 – Treasurer's Lunch N Learn, Land Bank Meeting
 - August 17 – Patriotic Mural Dedication
 - August 19 – EO/DH Roundtable Meeting
 - August 31- Commission Connection Taping – Dave Levacy
 - August 31 – Board of Elections Lunch n Learn

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The State of the County Address is scheduled for *September 28* at the WigWam. We are accepting ideas about the Address.

b. Highlights of Resolutions

Dr. Brown highlighted 19 resolutions for the voting meeting.

- We had a resolution authorizing the SFY 2022 Help Me Grow Early Intervention service agreement between the Fairfield County Commissioners, as administrative agent of the Fairfield County Family, Adult and Children First Council and the Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action Agency. This was a renewal of an agreement.
- We had a resolution, following the competitive bidding process, to approve the Spires Paving contract for the Baldwin parking lot project, just under \$160 K, the Engineer's estimate.
- RPC proposed a resolution authorizing the contract to The Shelly Company and Notice of Commencement for the Walnut Township/Fairfield Beach FY2020 CDBG Paving Project.
- The Engineer proposed a resolution to approve advertising for the 2022 Guardrail Repair/Improvement Project. The Engineer also proposed a resolution to approve the construction drawings for the 2022 Guardrail Repair/Improvement Project.

There were 14 *financial and grant related resolutions* to approve:

- A resolution approving the adoption of Tax Budget for Fiscal Year 2022;
- A resolution to authorize signature for a Fairfield-Hocking Athens Major Crimes Unit subgrant award agreement;
- JFS reimbursements for Wendy's Wonderful Kids, CPS reimbursements for SSI/SSA, and appropriations for JFS (three resolutions);
- An account-to-account transfer of appropriations for EMA;
- Three resolutions prepared by Community Action: one is for release and satisfaction of a mortgage consistent with Community Housing Improvement Program terms and conditions; the other two are for subordination consistent with the same terms and conditions (for down payment & rehab loans);
- Appropriations and memo transactions for the County Engineer (two resolutions);
- A resolution authorizing uses of American Rescue Plan fiscal recovery funds and approving appropriations from unappropriated funds for the County ARP fiscal recovery fund for managing ARP fiscal recovery funds, disbursing funds, and monitoring of contracts and grants association with fiscal recovery; annual costs here represent .8 % (less than 1%) of the first tranche; and
- Two resolutions to approve authorized use of American Rescue Plan fiscal recovery funding and appropriate from unappropriated funds for the County ARP fiscal recovery fund, #2876, for stormwater planning, anticipating a subgrant agreement with Walnut Township and anticipating a subgrant agreement with the Hunters Run Conservancy District.

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These last two ARP-related resolutions were in the review packet and were discussed with the administrative update, as well.

There were additional financial and contracting resolutions in queue.

c. Administrative, Program, and Budget Update

Administrative & Program Updates

Administrative Approvals

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

Required Recoupment Policy for Indigent Defense – Draft Under Review

Dr. Brown reported a draft recoupment policy for indigent defense is being circulated for feedback from Courts.

Courts are not deeply engaged in the policy development because the benefit of ordering recoupment is less than costs associated with recoupment. Rarely are income levels above 125% of federal poverty guidelines and recoupment could create undue burdens on parties.

Discussion drafts of the policy and resolution were in the review packet. A recoupment policy is required by the state. A resolution will be proposed in about a month, allowing time for review by stakeholders.

Administrative Meeting about Flooding in Walnut Township – ARP Appropriations for Walnut Township and for the Hunters Run Conservancy District

Residents are concerned about flooding in the area. Flooding risk has increased after ODNR rules were put in place following the dam construction at Buckeye Lake State Park.

ODNR made some changes and no longer allows discharge into Buckeye Lake. Therefore, the risk of flooding has increased.

Walnut Township will likely be commissioning a study which will match the EPA Clean Water Stormwater expenditure category for stormwater projects. Walnut Township anticipates funding a study at a level of about \$50,000, and the Village of Buckeye Lake will be approached by Walnut Township the same contribution. Walnut Township anticipates using \$50,000 of ARP funds they will receive (of about \$500 K).

They would be grateful for support from the county ARP funds for the balance of the funds (about \$400K for an anticipated \$500K study, which will be an extensive study, including surveying).

There is a resolution on the voting agenda to accommodate the appropriations that would be needed for the support of the study – but the subgrant to Walnut Township will be a separate resolution to approve, once there is more information. More information will be gathered by Walnut Township and EMA. The resolution provides the appropriations from ARP funds and approves its anticipated use as a subgrant.

With this approval, appropriations for subgrants will be \$900,000 (with \$500,000 for the County Fair).

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There was an additional \$100,000 provided to contract on behalf of townships in general for technical assistance, previously approved. There will be an RFP issues relating to this \$100,000.

The Hunters Run Conservancy District is also in the process of stormwater planning, and it makes sense to appropriate for an anticipated need for their study now, as well. They anticipate a study costing about \$150,000, and the county is anticipating a subgrant of \$75,000 at this time. The City of Lancaster and certain townships also benefit from the HRCD and the 29 dams it maintains. The HRCD will be able to use the approved county resolution to encourage others to support their efforts. The resolution today sets the stage with appropriations. There will be an additional approval for the subgrant agreement in the future.

These appropriations are separate from the \$30,000 anticipated from general fund money to support work for improvements that will be a match to federal funds, which is not permitted with ARP fiscal recovery funds.

Mr. Levacy stated the area for the Walnut Township study effects more than the 300 residents noted in the area – probably two to three times larger than those residents. Mr. Kochis added that the study will encompass the entire area.

Roundtable Meeting – August 19th

An in-person roundtable meeting for elected officials and department heads will be held on August 19th. There will be a virtual option, as well. An email reminder was sent to all elected officials and department heads.

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.

For May sales tax revenues, to be paid to the County in August, the non-auto sales tax revenues for Fairfield County were \$1.827 M, or 21% above the previous year. In 2019, total sales tax revenues were \$1.867. Auto sales tax of about \$100K will equal a 3% increase over 2019. We will continue to monitor sales tax revenues. The state experienced a 20% increase overall in non-auto sales tax revenues, as compared to the prior year.

A tax budget public hearing was held on July 7. Notes were in the review packet. Details were previously shared, too. There was a resolution on the voting agenda to approve the tax budget.

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

d. BRAVOS

Bravo to the DACO leadership and staff for the marvelous exhibit known as Distinctly Paramount. Many of the costumes are on display for the first time ever. There are new costumes that will be added in the fall, in time for the Victorian Christmas exhibit, too.

Thanks to Brian Wolfe for quickly mailing the notifications to the property owners of the DMD of Rushville Estates. (Commissioners will have access to the full packet mailed to property owners.)

Thanks to EMA for being supportive of Perry County on a case.

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The Commission has certificates to share with multiple partners conducting summer events.

- Old Business

- a. Commissioner Communications

Last Friday, Commissioner Davis visited the site of the shooting range for the Sheriff's Office and was impressed with the training opportunities the range will provide. Dennis Keller reported that there would be equipment onsite tomorrow for this project.

The latest Commission Connection video (from Commissioner Fix) was sent globally to employees on July 8th and was posted to the county website. We received positive feedback. Commissioner Davis complimented Commissioner Fix on his video.

Dr. Brown reported Governor Mike DeWine and the State Legislature passed an income-tax cut that returns part of the Ohio's surplus to individuals and businesses. A federal judge ruled in favor of this action which was a challenge to provisions of the ARP Act which restricted such a tax cut. An editorial from the Wall Street Journal on this topic was in the review packet.

- New Business

- General Correspondence

- Invitations

Secretary of State LaRose visit to the Board of Elections – Wednesday, July 14th at 12:00 p.m.

Secretary LaRose will be visiting the Board of Elections on Wednesday, July 14th at noon and invited the Commissioners to attend. Commissioner Fix and Commissioner Levacy will attend.

- FYI

- a. Jail Population – 239
 - b. Fairfield Up Newsletter
 - c. Article of Interest – Waterline Improvements
 - d. Article of Interest – Blue Label
 - e. Communication re: Amateur Radio - EMA is our point of contact and has no additional needs at this time.

Dolly's Imagination Library Presentation

Ms. Sherry Orlando and Ms. Andrea Spires presented information on Dolly's Imagination Library.

In 2019, 900 children were receiving monthly books. The Governor has decided to include financial help in the state budget for Dolly's Imagination Library. With the Fairfield Foundation and the current budget, they will have over 3,800 children receiving monthly books. All income levels are eligible, but the focus is on low-income children for United Way support. The purpose

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of the program is to improve preparedness for kindergarten. To date, over 6,400 children have participated. The goal is to reach 50% of children eligible to be participating (currently at 41%).

Those attending the meeting asked some questions about the program.

Participants can sign up at www.uwayfairfieldco.org.

The Commissioners thanked the United Way for their leadership with the program.

Commissioners' Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, July 13, 2021 beginning at 9:29 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, Rachel Elsea, Terry Horn, Chris Schmelzer, Tony Vogel, Thomas Lininger, Joshua Horack, Mark Conrad, Margaret Euler, Jeff Porter, Audrey Stoffel, Dennis Keller, Ray Stemen, Judy Stemen, Jon Kochis, Corey Clark, Aunie Cordle, Jonathan Ferbrache, Bill Vance, Sherry Orlando, Andrea Spires.

Attending virtually were: Adam Tippet, Jim Bahnsen, Belinda Nebbergall, Britney Lee, Chris Wagner, David Miller, Donna Fox-Moore, Jeff Barron, Jessica Murphy, Lisa McKenzie, Lynette Barnhart, Rick Szabrak, Staci Hicks.

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. Elsea 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.

Mr. Ray Stemen reviewed an article by Tom DeWeese regarding a UN-led program known as Agenda 21.

Mr. Terry Horn of Walnut Township thanked the Commissioners for their support of the ARP appropriations and future subgrant for Walnut Township. He also thanked Dr. Brown, Mr. Kochis, and Mr. Ferbrache.

Ms. Judy Stemen reviewed articles noted in the attached handout. The articles related to COVID-19 and vaccines.

Ms. Margaret Euler spoke about a recent school board meeting where there was discussion about an effort to file a lawsuit regarding funding following the students. She wants to know where these individuals were when they should have been standing up against masks and the vaccine. She also read a statistical update relating to COVID-19 vaccines. She does not want children pressured to get the vaccine.

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Approval of Minutes for Tuesday, July 6, 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, July 6, 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:

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 2021-07.13.a | A resolution to approve an authorized use of American Rescue Plan fiscal recovery funding and appropriate from unappropriated funds for the County ARP fiscal recovery fund, #2876, for stormwater planning, anticipating a subgrant agreement with the Hunters Run Conservancy District [Commissioners] |
| 2021-07.13.b | A resolution approving the adoption of Tax Budget for Fiscal Year 2022 [Commissioners] |
| 2021-07.13.c | A resolution authorizing the subordination FY 2016 Community Housing Improvement Program (CHIP) for Joshua and Heather Colopy [Community Action] |
| 2021-07.13.d | A resolution authorizing the subordination FY 2016 Community Housing Improvement Program (CHIP) for Joshua and Heather Colopy [Community Action] |
| 2021-07.13.e | A resolution to approve an authorized use of American Rescue Plan fiscal recovery funding and appropriate from unappropriated funds for the County ARP fiscal recovery fund, #2876, for stormwater planning, anticipating a subgrant agreement with Walnut Township [Commissioners] |
| 2021-07.13.f | A resolution authorizing initial uses of American Rescue Plan fiscal recovery funding and approving appropriations from unappropriated funds for the County ARP fiscal recovery fund, #2876, for managing ARP fiscal recovery funds, disbursing funds, and monitoring of contracts and grants association with the ARP. [Commissioners] |
| 2021-07.13.g | A resolution authorizing the release and satisfaction of mortgage on a PY 2018 Community Housing Impact and Preservation (CHIP) for Gary and Joyce Riddle [Community Action] |

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 Resolution

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Emergency Management Agency resolution authorizing an account-to-account transfer for EMA Fund 2707 (subfund 8213) Emergency Management Performance Grant; see resolution 2021-07.13.h.

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 Engineer Resolutions

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

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 2021-07.13.i | A Resolution to Approve Advertising for the 2022 Guardrail Repair/Improvement Project. [Engineer] |
| 2021-07.13.j | A resolution to request for appropriations for additional unanticipated receipts of Memo receipts and memo expenses for fund 2580 for subdivision inspections of Heron West, Heron West S2, Spring Creek S3 P1 & P2, Chesapeake S2 & S3 [Engineer] |
| 2021-07.13.k | A Resolution to Approve the Construction Drawings for the 2022 Guardrail Repair/Improvement Project. [Engineer] |
| 2021-07.13.l | A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure object category County Engineer 2024-Motor Vehicle for unemployment [Engineer] |

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of the Facilities Resolution

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Facilities resolution authorizing the approval of a construction agreement and bid award for the re-construction and paving of the parking area at the Baldwin EFMC Complex; see resolution 2021-07.13.m.

Discussion: Mr. Keller stated the paving project included more than resurfacing. There were some preexisting conditions that needed to be addressed that will require digging out the area and improving drainage. The main portion of the project will last 20-30 years and should not need resurfaced for at least 10 years.

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 Resolution

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Family, Adult and Children First Council resolution authorizing the SFY 2022 Help Me Grow Early Intervention service agreement between the Fairfield County Commissioners, as administrative agent to the Fairfield County Family, Adult, and Children First Council and the Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action Agency; see resolution 2021-07.13.n.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of the Job & Family Services Resolutions

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

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 2021-07.13.o | A resolution to approve a memo receipt and expenditure for Fairfield County Job & Family Services, Sub Fund 8056 reimbursing Fund 2018 [JFS] |
|--------------|--|

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- 2021-07.13.p A resolution to approve a memo receipt and expenditure for Fairfield County Job & Family Services [JFS]
- 2021-07.13.q 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, Dave Levacy, and Steve Davis

Approval of the Major Crimes Unit Resolution

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, 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 Subgrant Award Agreement; see resolution 2021-07.13.r.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of the Regional Planning Commission Resolution

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Regional Planning Commission resolution authorizing the contract to The Shelly Company and Notice of Commencement for the Walnut Township/Fairfield Beach FY2020 CDBG Paving Project; see resolution 2021-07.13.s.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Open Items

Mr. Davis asked which entities were involved in the shooting range.

Dr. Brown replied that Republic Services donated the land.

Mr. Davis asked about the material that was near where the pond will be.

Mr. Keller replied it was recycled asphalt millings that the Sheriff acquired.

Mr. Davis stated he believed those were supplied by Shelly.

Mr. Keller added that the prefabricated classrooms were donated by Lancaster High School.

Mr. Davis stated how neat it was to see the community support and the donations that have been made.

Mr. Keller stated that even the farmer who used to farm the land has been helpful with information regarding drainage.

Dr. Brown stated that the Facilities Department will take pictures and refresh the list of donors so that acknowledgements could be sent.

She also added they would be using the site for water rescue training, which is a helpful addition to the project.

Commissioner Levacy stated at 10:10 a.m. that the Commission would take a recess until 10:30 a.m. at the time of the scheduled public hearing.

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Public Hearing – Petition to Vacate Two Alleys in Walnut Township

The Commissioners met at 10:30 a.m. to hold a public hearing regarding the petition to vacate two alleys in Walnut Township. Commissioner Levacy called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Jeff Fix, and Dave Levacy. Also present were Carri Brown, Rachel Elsea, Sherry Pymer, Audrey Stoffel, Jeff Camechis, Joshua Horacek, Terry Horn, and Becky Belleau.

Attending virtually were Brittney Lee and Chris Wagner.

Mr. Camechis reviewed the proposed vacation of 2 alleys in Walnut Township.

Ms. Pymer spoke in favor of her petition. She thanked everyone in Fairfield County for their help in filing the petition. She plans on improving the property and drainage issues with the neighbors.

Mr. Horn stated the township trustees have passed a resolution in support of the petition.

There were no comments in opposition to the vacation petition.

Mr. Davis thanked Ms. Pymer for the kind words and for her explanation of what was being asked for at the viewing.

Mr. Fix asked Mr. Camechis if the alleys were ever developed.

Mr. Camechis replied they were not and mentioned a lot of roads in the area were platted but never developed.

The public hearing ended at 10:38 a.m.

Adjournment


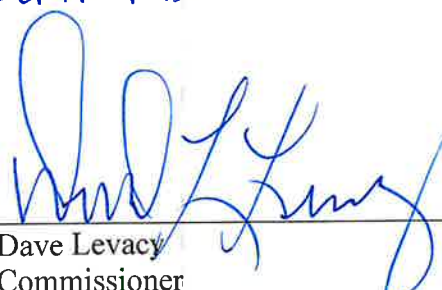
With no further business, on the motion of Jeff Fix and a second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn at 10:38 a.m.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Motion by: Davis Seconded by: Levacy
that the July 13, 2021 minutes were approved by the following vote:

YEAS: Davis, Levacy NAYS: None
ABSTENTIONS: None Absent: Fix
*Approved on July 20, 2021

 Steven A. Davis Commissioner	 Dave Levacy Commissioner	<u>Absent</u> Jeff Fix Commissioner
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 Rachel A. Elsea, Clerk

Ohio Governor's Imagination Library



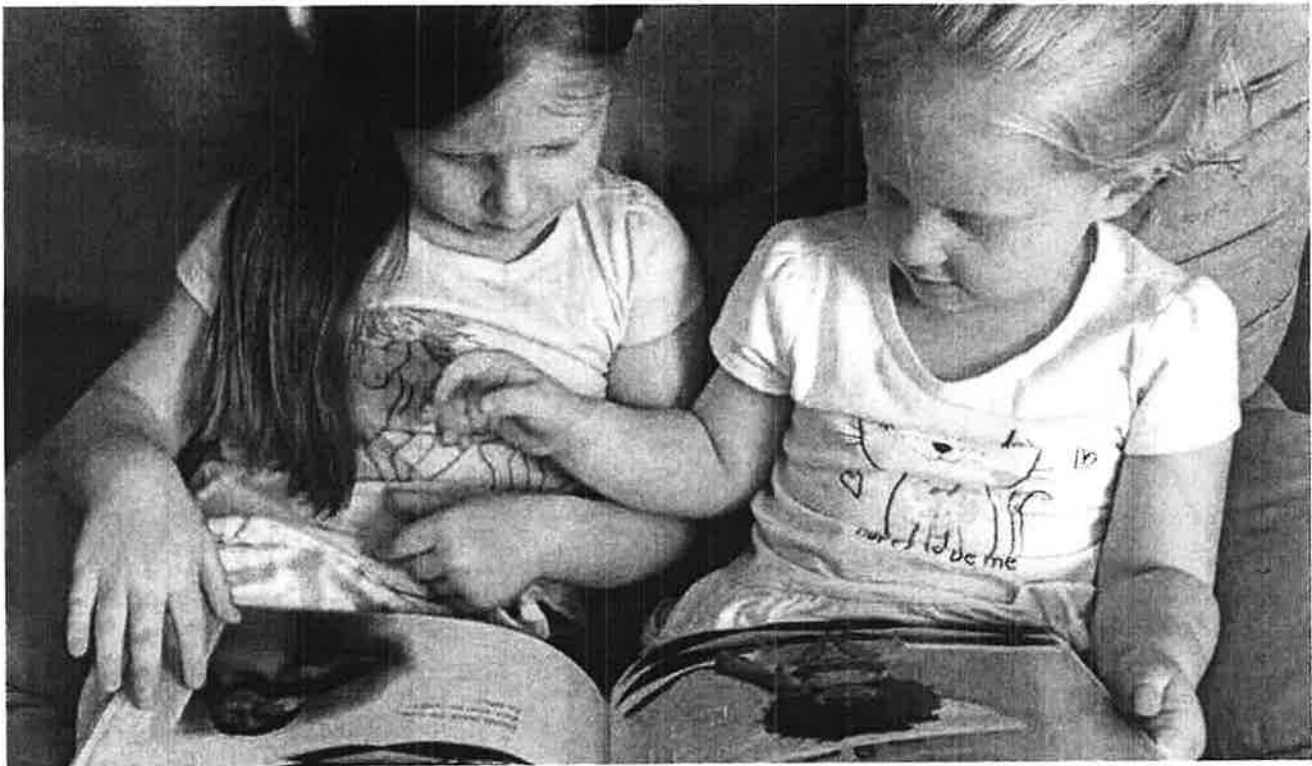
Updated: July 1, 2021

July 2021

UNITED WAY

of Fairfield County

Dolly Parton's
Imagination
Library



3,721

Children 0-5 currently receiving a book every month directly to their home in Fairfield County at no cost to the child's family

6,410

Children have participated in the program since inception in Fairfield County in 2013

112,123

books have been mailed out to children over the last 9 years

Partnerships

Since October of 2019 the State of Ohio Budget has provided a 50% match to support Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. Since that time we have more than quadrupled the number of children enrolled in the program. Starting July of 2021 we have partnered with the Fairfield County Foundation to directly support the program as well. These partnerships along with many other generous donors, sponsors, and grants have allowed us to offer this program at no charge to any child in Fairfield County.

The annual cost of the program is \$85,750 in Fairfield County



COMMISSIONERS' MEETING 07-13-21-B

Why Are National Heritage Areas a Threat?

|

By Tom DeWeese

July 6th, 2021

The Threat of National Heritage Areas And How to Stop Them: [Part One](#)

Proposals for new National Heritage Areas (NHA) are raising their ugly, land-grabbing heads again in Congress and they must be stopped. Here's why.

National Heritage Areas are one of the most despicable stealth land grabs in the nation. Americans love our history. We love preserving significant places that played an important role in the making of our unique nation. So, when we hear of a new plan in our area presented offering a chance to preserve some of our local heritage we are interested and even supportive.

But, in this day of massive government control over so much of our land, our economy, and our basic ability to live free lives, we must be cautious and look at the details of plans, no matter how innocent or well meaning they may seem.

National Heritage Areas are such a concern because they are sold to residents as simply a means to honor historic or cultural events that took place in a specific locale. We are told that they will preserve our culture and honor the past, that they will preserve battlefields where our forefathers fought and died for freedom, and that they will preserve birth places, homes, buildings, and hallowed grounds for posterity. Most importantly, we are assured that NHAs will help build tourism and boost local economies.

As described by property rights expert Leo Schwartz in 2007, in reality, NHAs are a massive sham, full of government pork, imposed by dishonest, anti-heritage, anti-private property elitism. Politicians, federal agencies, and private non-governmental organizations (NGOs) use the NHAs as a tool to gain votes, political power, and wealth. Moreover, these forces use the NHAs to impose politically-motivated restrictions on private land.

Wrote Schwartz, "In the 1980s, the National Park Service's record of abusive land acquisition practices had become a political nightmare. It needed a new approach to continue expanding its power. During the mid-1970s, several national land use control studies proposed innovative methods for federal control of private property. Applying these methods, NHAs were designed as a 'new kind of national park.' Seen as pork-laden gravy trains, many elected officials eagerly jumped aboard and the empire building continued."

It's worth noting that in 1928, then-Interior Secretary Hubert Work said National Park Service policy "is to eliminate all private holdings in our national parks". So, it is an honest question to ask, if NHAs are a new kind of national park, does that not mean that all of the private land located inside the massive federal boundaries established for the Heritage Area now federal park property?

Private organizations and planning groups are the actual recipients of most of these funds supposedly earmarked for the Heritage Area. These entities operate as the promoters of the NHA in partnership with the Park Service. Eventually they form a commission or a "managing entity" to enforce the "vision" to implement the Heritage Area.

Typically, such commissions consist of strictly ideological special interests groups. In the mix of these groups, one will find all of the usual suspects: environmental groups, planning groups, historic preservation groups — all with their own private agendas, and all working behind the scenes, creating policy. The managing entity then sets up non-elected boards and regional councils to oversee policy inside the Heritage Area that stretches over numerous communities and counties.

In many cases, these groups actually form a compact with the Interior Department to determine the guidelines that will make up a land use management plan and the boundaries of the Heritage Area itself. The management plan is their goal for how they envision the territory inside the boundary to be run. The plan will include guidelines for development goals, energy use, bike trails, undefined conservation controls, tourism, and anything else they want to control.

Now, after the boundaries are drawn and the management plan has been approved by the Park Service, the management entity and its special interest groups are given the federal funds, typically a million dollars a year, or more, and told to spend that money to get the management plan enacted at the local level.

Here's how those special interest groups operate with those funds. They go to local county boards and city councils and announce that Congress has passed legislation designating the Heritage Area and that the community is now within those boundaries. They pull out maps and announce the properties they have identified to be significant for preservation.

However, as the managing entity, they don't have the power to make laws, but the local elected officials do and so the partnership is born, fed by the federal money. Now the managing entity will help create tools, legislation, guidelines, and whatever regulatory procedures are needed to make the management plan come into fruition.

Incredibly, proponents argue that National Heritage Areas do not influence local zoning or land-use planning. Yet, by definition this is precisely what they do. Found right in the language of most Heritage Area legislation, the management entity is specifically directed to restore, preserve, and manage anything and everything that is naturally, culturally, historically, and recreationally significant to the Heritage Area.

The biggest threat to citizens living in a National Heritage Area is that it includes all the land in the designated boundary areas, not just recognized historic sites. This sweeping mandate ensures that virtually every square inch of land within the boundaries is subject to the scrutiny of Park Service bureaucrats and their managing partners. That means private property, homes, businesses, and whole communities now come under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service.

Of course, as with so many other invasive planning schemes, we are always assured that these are local initiatives, and that these are something citizens want in order to bring an honorary federal designation to help drive tourism into their regions. That simply isn't the case. The private, non-governmental organizations and planning groups are the ones who want the plan because they get to enforce their private agendas and then get to live off the grant money as they implement them. As proponents talk about historic preservation inside the Heritage Area, one will also find the catchwords "resource conservation" and "resource stewardship," for example. Those are the clues to watch for.

It's all about control. Control of the land, control of resources, control of decision making. How does that fit with their stated purpose of preserving American culture – which, of course, was built on the ideals of free enterprise and private property? In fact, it does the opposite by making government more powerful and dictatorial, and the property owners lose both the use and value of their property.

As I said above, proponents of NHAs also claim that they are “locally driven” projects. Nothing could be further from the truth. Landowners within the boundaries of proposed Heritage Areas are left in the dark throughout the entire process. For example, the final official map for the 2018 proposed Caddo Lakes National Heritage Area, revealing its official boundary, was not to be released to the public until after the actual Congressional legislation was passed!

In addition, Heritage Area proponents refuse to supply a simple written notification to property owners that their land will be inside the boundaries. Seemingly the Park Service and their management “partners” are not too eager to share all the good news with the local citizenry.

I have personally been in meetings with congressional staffers to discuss Heritage Areas. I asked them if they intended to notify affected landowners living inside the boundaries of a specific Heritage Area. They looked at me like I had two heads. They shuffled their feet and looked down at the table and then said, “There’s no way to do that.” “It would be too costly.” “How could we reach everyone?” I then suggested that they research a little known federal agency called the U.S. Postal Service. Mailmen appear to deliver to each and every one of the homes in the designated area every day.

The fact is, they don’t want to tell you in advance. You might object. And that would disrupt the “process.” No matter how noble a project may sound, alarm bells should go off when proponents want to enforce their vision in secret.

National Heritage Areas depend on federal tax dollars because they lack local interest— and not a single National Heritage Area has ever succeeded in attracting strong tourism throughout their entire infinite lives. The federal money is the villain. If you just wanted to honor an area for its historic or cultural achievements, a simple resolution from Congress and a plaque at the county line could do that. The local Chamber of Commerce could then pick it up from there and build the expected tourism.

But of course, it’s not about that. It’s about control and money – lots of money in the pockets of private groups promoting their own agendas. Including taking control of people’s private land.

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING 07-13-21

WND

How COVID divided America into 2 classes

Americans for Limited Government commentary reveals nation wasn't 'in it together'

By Bob Unruh

<https://www.wnd.com/2021/07/covid-divided-america-2-classes/>

Published July 9, 2021

The COVID pandemic over the last year and a half divided the nation into the feds – and the not-feds

WND

CDC announces it is targeting kids for COVID shots

Tests underway on experimental treatments for children

By Bob Unruh

<https://www.wnd.com/2021/07/cdc-announces-targeting-kids-covid-shots/>

Published July 9, 2021

CDC's instructions for schools in the fall include: "Masks should be worn indoors by all individuals (age 2 and older) who are not fully vaccinated."

Italian Neurosurgeon Who Operated on Covid Vaccine Victim Says "Never Seen Anything Like This"

<https://www.infowars.com/posts/italian-neurosurgeon-who-operated-on-covid-vaccine-victim-says-never-seen-anything-like-this/>

by Adan Salazar

July 9th 2021

Neurosurgeon interviewed by Italian media says brain of 18-year-old swelled to point that skull was opened to relieve pressure.

'I had never seen a brain that was affected by such an extensive and severe thrombosis.'

WND

'Ignore no soliciting signs. Use your script': COVID door-knockers get marching orders

Jenna Ellis: 'Who did Nazi that one coming?'

www.wnd.com/2021/07/ignore-no-soliciting-signs-use-script-covid-door-knockers-get-marching-orders/

By Bob Unruh

Published July 12, 2021

There's no mention of possible conflicts with HIPPA.

WND

GOP moves to protect 'unvaccinated' people with civil-rights laws

2 states already have installed red lines against discrimination

By Bob Unruh

Published July 12, 2021

Plus eight more GOP states have banned vaccine "passports."....BUT NOT OHIO

Mystery: 3 Presidents All Died After Blocking Distribution of COVID Vaccines In Their Countries

<https://www.infowars.com/posts/mystery-3-presidents-all-died-after-blocking-distribution-of-covid-vaccines-in-their-countries/>
by Jamie White
July 12th 2021

- Haitian President Jovenel Moise, who was assassinated at his home
 Psaki announced the U.S. would be sending COVID vaccines to Haiti, in addition to \$5 million in aid and a team of FBI agents “as early as next week.”
 - Burundi President Pierre Nkurunziza was the next to recently die, from cardiac arrest in June.
 Burundi’s health minister declined the vaccines in February
 - Tanzanian President John Magufuli had also died of a “heart ailment.”
- *****

Dad In Hospital Paralyzed By 1st Covid Vaccine Continues Receiving Texts About Jab #2

<https://www.infowars.com/posts/dad-in-hospital-paralyzed-by-1st-covid-vaccine-continues-receiving-texts-about-jab-2/>
BUT ‘is still getting texts from the NHS to go for a second jab and he is lying in a NHS hospital paralyzed.
 This is how impersonal it is. It’s wrong on all levels.’
by Adan Salazar
July 12th 2021

YouTube fined \$118,000 for deleting anti-lockdown protest video

German court rejects its 'misinformation' excuse
<https://www.wnd.com/2021/07/youtube-fined-118000-deleting-anti-lockdown-protest-video/>
By WND News Services
Published July 12, 2021
The court first, in late April 2020, issued an injunction ordering the behemoth to restore the video immediately – but YouTube ignored the ruling for almost an entire month before complying on May 14, 2020. The German court found this behavior to be a “deliberate and serious violation” and fined the giant. (NOW isn’t that **profound** and **amazing** !!! ? ? Just where else could this be factual also ? ? ?)

Kristi Noem slams GOP governors who instituted lockdowns and mask mandates:

‘We need leaders with grit’
<https://www.wnd.com/2021/07/kristi-noem-slams-republican-governors-instituted-lockdowns-mask-mandates-need-leaders-grit/>
By Andrew Jose, The Western Journal
Published July 12, 2021

State offers prisoners conjugal visits and parties as incentive for getting COVID vaccine

<https://www.wnd.com/2021/07/new-york-offers-prisoners-conjugal-visits-parties-incentive-getting-covid-vaccine/>
By C. Douglas Golden, The Western Journal
Published July 11, 2021
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