

**Regular Meeting #32 - 2022**  
**Fairfield County Commissioners' Office**  
**August 9, 2022**

**Review Meeting**

The Commissioners met at 7:00 p.m. at the Victoria Opera House on 101 S. Main St., Baltimore, OH. Commissioner Fix called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Dave Levacy and Jeff Fix. Also present: Aundrea Cordle, Jeff Porter, Bart Hampson, Bennett Niceswanger, Teri Wise, Brad Nicodemus, Jon Kochis, Michael Kaper, Dr. Carri Brown, Corey Clark, Tony Vogel, Vince Carpico, Dennis Keller, Bart Hampson, Audrey Stoffel, Joe Ebel, Dan Neeley, Jim Bahnsen, Ray Stemen, Judy Stemen, Chris Schmelzer, Julie Zehewdner, Ted Bailor, and Shelly Allen.

**Welcome**

Commissioner Fix opened the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance. He explained the purpose and formatting of the review and regular meetings and thanked the Village of Baltimore for hosting the Commissioners this evening.

Mayor of the Village of Baltimore, Brad Nicodemus, gave his thanks to the Commissioners for meeting in Baltimore and for conducting other evening meetings around the county.

Village Administrator, Teri Wise, also offered her thanks.

**Public Comments**

Ray Stemen from Lancaster spoke about his concerns for the future of the country.

Judy Stemen from Lancaster spoke about her concerns for the COVID-19 vaccine.

**Legal Update**

No legal update.

**County Administration Update**

*County Administrator Cordle reviewed the Week in Review, Highlights of Resolutions, the Budget Review, Recognitions, and the Jail Population, as follows.*

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**Week in Review**

*ARP Update*

From the \$30,607,546.77 received as the first and second tranche of fiscal recovery funds. \$15.7M has been appropriated, \$4.5M expended, \$6.9M encumbered or obligated.

The State Auditor's Office has reached out to begin initial auditing of the ARP fund.

A resolution is on the meeting agenda to appropriate funds from ARP revenue replacement for the purchase of the Fairfield Center.

A resolution is on the meeting agenda to appropriate funds from ARP revenue replacement for the school attendance program with Family Adult and Children First Council.

Deputy County Administrator, Jeff Porter, spoke about the Fairfield Center. He added that the Fairfield Center will house the Clerk of Courts Title Office, which is one of very few in the state which will feature a drive thru payment option.

*State Demolition & Revitalization Program*

Land Bank Director, Michael Kaper, shared information on a State Demolition & Revitalization Program project that is located in Baltimore, Ohio.

*Howell Park Clean-up with Diversion Youth and Juvenile Court Team Members*

A group of diversion youth and team members participated in cleaning Howell Park located in Bremen. They were honored to help Mr. and Mrs. Wolfe who help attend to the park. Mrs. Wolfe is a retired teacher who devotes most of her time caring for the park.

The kids did an outstanding job and Mrs. Wolfe was beyond happy with the outcome. One young man personally offered to return on his own and encouraged Mrs. Wolfe to contact his mother.

If you happen to be in the area or are up for a drive, the park is truly beautiful. Mr. and Mrs. Wolfe take great pride in the park.

The park cleanup will be an ongoing partnership.

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*Request for Proposals for Economic Development Strategic Plan*

A press release was released to seek proposals for the comprehensive economic development strategic plan. The plan will focus on smart growth to ensure the County maintains a balance between its agricultural base and expansion of residential and commercial land. A communication is being sent to all township, village, and city officials to make them aware of the plan and the timeline of implementation.

**Highlights of Resolutions**

*Administrative Approvals*

The review packet contains a list of administrative approvals.

*Resolution Review*

There are 26 resolutions for the voting meeting.

Resolutions of note:

- 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 for the purchase of the Fairfield Center.
- A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated for the unified telecommunications system. This was accounted for in the budget projection tool but needs appropriations for 2023
- 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 for the Community School Attendance Program

**Budget Review**

- No update

**Recognition**

- Auditor Brown thanked Lori Kidder for helping a real estate agent obtain addresses from our website. The realtor was previously paying for addresses from a private site. There is never a charge to access information from a public site.

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- Auditor Brown thanked the conveyance team for working late to manage electronic transfers on the same day they are received, even if they are received late in the day. We are at about 65% of all transfers accomplished electronically (up from 0% at the beginning of the year).
- Thank you to Staci Knisley for her assistance with payroll while folks were out on leave.
- The County Administration team is excited to have Bennett Niceswanger serving as acting Clerk during the Clerk's extended absence. Please contact Bennett for Clerk assistance.

**Calendar Review/Invitations Received**

- Roundtable with Lt. Gov. Jon Husted, Tuesday, August 9, 2022, 2:00 p.m., Fairfield County Records Center, 138 W. Chestnut St., Lancaster (Fix, Levacy)
- MORPC Meeting, Thursday, August 11, 2022, at 1:30 p.m., 111 Liberty St., Suite 100, Columbus (Fix)
- MCJDC Trustees Meeting, Friday, August 12, 2022, 9:00 a.m., MCJDC Conference Room, 923 Liberty Dr., Lancaster (Davis)
- MCJDC Joint Board of Commissioners Meeting, Friday, August 12, 2022, 10:30 a.m., MCJDC Conference Room, 923 Liberty Dr., Lancaster (Fix, Davis, Levacy)
- 4-H Achievements Recognition, Ohio University-Lancaster, Saturday, August 13, 2022, 7:00 p.m., Wagner Theatre, 1570 Granville Pike, Lancaster (Fix, Levacy)
- American Red Cross Ribbon Cutting and Open House, August 15, 2022, 4:30 p.m., 828 N. Memorial Dr., Lancaster
- Community Listening Session at Ohio University-Lancaster, Wednesday, August 17, 2022, at 10:00 a.m., Wilkes Art Gallery, 1570 Granville Pike, Lancaster

**Correspondence**

*Items Requiring Response*

*Informational Items*

- Items of Interest from the County Auditor, dated August 2, 2022
- Pickerington Senior Center August 2022 Newsletter

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- Letter from Eastern Gas Transmission and Storage regarding safety operations
- Fairfield Soil and Water Conservation District August 2022, Volume 24, Issue 2 newsletter
- Letter regarding updated soil values from the Fairfield County Auditor, dated July 28, 2022.
- Summer Workforce Center Camp Provides both Fun and Learning for Campers, Lancaster Eagle Gazette Article, Author Jeff Barron, August 3, 2022

*Jail Population*

- August 2 was 276 with 33 of those being contracted placements
- August 9 is 280 with 47 of those being contracted placements

**Old Business**

Commissioner Davis spoke about having conversations regarding Indigent Defense.

Commissioner Fix spoke about the meeting earlier that day with Lt. Gov. Jon Husted. He had the chance to meet with representatives from Lifewise Academy which is designed to bring faith and values to children and to teach them to live in a faith-based world. He commended Joel Penton with the Lifewise Academy for his work with the youth.

County Auditor, Dr. Carri Brown, stated the Auditor's Office continues to get positive feedback from the information being distributed to the public.

**New Business**

County Administrator, Aundrea Cordle, spoke about receiving official confirmation for replacing a culvert at the airport with the help from a \$1.4 million grant.

Commissioner Davis explained that one of the goals of the Commissioners Office over the years has been to improve communications with the public. The implementation of the Evening Commissioners' Meetings and the Commissioner Connection Videos have proved helpful with this goal.

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**Regular (Voting) Meeting**

The Commissioners met at the Victoria Opera House on 101 S. Main St., Baltimore, OH, for the regular voting meeting. Commissioner Fix called the voting meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Dave Levacy and Jeff Fix. Also present: Aundrea Cordle, Jeff Porter, Bart Hampson, Bennett Niceswanger, Terri Wise, Brad Nicodemus, Jon Kochis, Michael Kaper, Dr. Carri Brown, Corey Clark, Tony Vogel, Vince Carpico, Dennis Keller, Bart Hampson, Audrey Stoffel, Joe Ebel, Dan Neeley, Jim Bahnsen, Ray Stemen, Judy Stemen, Chris Schmelzer, Julie Zehewdner, Ted Bailor, and Shelly Allen.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Commissioner Fix asked everyone to rise as able and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Announcements**

None

**Approval of Meeting Minutes for August 2, 2022**

On the motion of Steve Davis and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the minutes for the Tuesday, August 2, 2022.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

**Approval of Resolutions from the Board of Commissioners**

On the motion of Steve Davis and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from the Board of Commissioners:

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|--------------|--|
| 2022-08.09.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, project code R61f, for the purchase of the Fairfield Center. |
| 2022-08.09.b | A resolution approving the reappointment of Ms. Ursula LaVeck to the Fairfield County Metropolitan Housing Board of Commissioners.   |

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| 2022-08.09.c | A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated funds in a major expenditure object category for fund# 1001 - Fairfield County Commissioners   |
| 2022-08.09.d | A resolution authorizing the approval of repayment of an advance to the General Fund from the FAA grant fund# 3011, sub fund# 8224   |
| 2022-08.09.e | A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated funds in a major expenditure object categories for fund# 1001  |
| 2022-08.09.f | 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, project code R61h, for the Community School Attendance Program. |
| 2022-08.09.g | A resolution approving an account to account transfer in a major expenditure object category - Fairfield County Human Resources and Risk Management  |

Commissioner Fix stated that the Commissioners have been wanting more presence in the northwest area of the county for some time. He added that having a higher presence in that area will help to bridge the divide between the northern and southern parts of the county. He added that he is excited to open it. Commissioner Fix went on to speak about the efforts of Rick Szabrak, Dr. Carri Brown, and the Commissioners to increase the efforts of Economic Development in Fairfield County.

Commissioner Davis stated he has seen lots of internal and external organizations interested in having space at the Fairfield Center. The relationships between the northern and the southern portions of the county are improving every day, and the Fairfield Center will help to improve them further.

Commissioner Levacy also offered his excitement for the upcoming opening of the Fairfield Center.

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

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**Approval of a Resolution from the Fairfield County Common Pleas Court**

On the motion of Steve Davis and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from the Fairfield County Common Pleas Court:

2022-08.09.h      A resolution authorizing the approval of repayment of an advance to the General Fund #8246 2020-2021 Civil Justice Grant Common Pleas Court

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

**Approval of a Resolution from the Fairfield County Board of Developmental Disabilities**

On the motion of Steve Davis and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from the Fairfield County Board of Developmental Disabilities:

2022-08.09.i      A resolution to approve a reimbursement for share of costs for Ethernet Services paid to AT&T as a memo expenditure for fund# 2060

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

**Approval of a Resolution from the Fairfield County Board of Elections**

On the motion of Steve Davis and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from the Fairfield County Board of Elections:

2022-08.09.j      A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure object category for Fund #2884 General Assembly Primary Election 2022-Board of Elections

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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



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**Approval of Resolutions from the Fairfield County Engineer**

On the motion of Steve Davis and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from the Fairfield County Engineer:

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|--------------|--|
| 2022-08.09.k | A Resolution to Approve an LPA Federal Project Agreement with ODOT for the replacement of the superstructure for the HOC-08, FAI-CR61-1.40 Christmas Rock Road Bridge. |
| 2022-08.09.l | A Resolution to Approve an LPA Federal Project Agreement with ODOT for the BLO-36, FAI-CR20-1.96 Pickerington Road Bridge Replacement.                                 |

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

**Approval of Resolutions from Fairfield County Job and Family Services**

On the motion of Steve Davis and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from Fairfield County Job and Family Services:

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| 2022-08.09.m | A resolution to approve additional appropriations by appropriating from unappropriated into a major expense object category – Fund # 2072 – Children Services Fund - Fairfield County JFS. |
| 2022-08.09.n | A resolution to approve a reimbursement for share of costs for Liability Insurance paid to CORSA as a memo expenditure for fund# 2072 Fairfield County Job and Family Services - PCSA      |
| 2022-08.09.o | A resolution regarding Network Placement and Related Services Agreement between Mayo Home for Youth Development and Child Protective Services Department                                   |
| 2022-08.09.p | A resolution regarding Network Placement and Related Services Agreement between Mohican Young Star Academy and Child Protective Services Department  |
| 2022-08.09.q | A resolution regarding Network Placement and Related Services Agreement between The Julia Paige Family Center and Child Protective Services Department                                     |

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- 2022-08.09.r      A resolution regarding Network Placement and Related Services Agreement between Cadence Care Network and Child Protective Services Department
- 2022-08.09.s      A resolution regarding Network Placement and Related Services Agreement between Lighthouse Youth Services, Inc and Child Protective Services Department
- 2022-08.09.t      A resolution approving an account to account transfer Fund 2072 Public Assistance

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

**Approval of Resolutions from the Fairfield County Regional Planning Commission**

On the motion of Steve Davis and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from the Fairfield County Regional Planning Commission:

- 2022-08.09.u      A resolution to approve Final Acceptance of the Sanitary Sewers for the Preserve at Haaf Farms Subdivision
- 2022-08.09.v      A resolution to approve Final Acceptance of the Sanitary Sewers and Water for the Spring Creek Section 2 Phase 2 Subdivision
- 2022-08.09.w      A resolution to approve Final Acceptance of the Sanitary Sewers and Water for the Spring Creek Section 2 Phase 3 Subdivision
- 2022-08.09.x      A resolution to approve Final Acceptance of the Sanitary Sewers and Water for the Spring Creek Section 2 Phase 4 Subdivision

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

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**Approval of a Resolution from Fairfield County Utilities**

On the motion of Steve Davis and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from Fairfield County Utilities:

2022-08.09.y      A resolution to approve a reimbursement for share of costs as a memo expenditure for fund# 5044, 5046, 5841 & 5842 – Utilities

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

**Approval of the Payment of Bills**

On the motion of Steve Davis and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution for the Payment of Bills:

2022-08.09.z      A resolution authorizing the approval of payment of invoices for departments that need Board of Commissioners' approval

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

**Adjournment**

Commissioner Davis thanked the Village of Baltimore for hosting the Commissioners this evening.

Commissioner Fix added his appreciation for everyone who was in attendance for the evening meeting.

With no further business, on the motion of Dave Levacy and a second of Jeff Fix, the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn at 7:43 p.m.

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

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 16, 2022, at the Historic Courthouse located at the 210 E. Main St., Lancaster, OH.

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Motion by: Steve Davis                      Seconded by: Dave Levacy  
that the August 9, 2022, minutes were approved by the following vote:


YEAS: Steve Davis, Dave Levacy, Jeff Fix  
ABSTENTIONS: None


NAYS: None


\*Approved on August 16, 2022


ABSTENTIONS: None

\*Approved on August 16, 2022

  
Jeff Fix  
Commissioner

  
Dave Levacy  
Commissioner

  
Steven A. Davis  
Commissioner

  
Bennett Niceswanger, Asst. Clerk