

**Regular Meeting #35 - 2022  
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office  
August 30, 2022**

**Public Viewing – 8:00 a.m.**

The Commissioners met at 8:00 a.m. at the intersection of Columbus St. and Havensport Rd., Carroll, OH, to view the proposed vacation of an alley in the unincorporated Village of Havensport in Greenfield Township with the following Commissioners present: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, Dave Levacy. Also present: Jeff Camechis and Jim Spires.

**Review Meeting**

The Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. at the Historic Courthouse on 210 E. Main St., Lancaster, OH. Commissioner Fix called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Dave Levacy and Jeff Fix. Also present: Aundrea Cordle, Bart Hampson, Bennett Niceswanger, Brian Wolfe, Corey Clark, Tony Vogel, Chris Schmelzer, Marty Norris, Jon Kochis, Dr. Carri Brown, Abby Watson, Amy Brown-Thompson, Heather O'Keefe, Josh Horacek, Dennis Keller, Rick Szabrak, Dan Neeley, Raz Sabaiduc, Judy Stemen, Branden Meyer, Ray Stemen, Toni Ashton and Jeff Camechis.

Attending virtual: Tony Vogel, Chris Wagner, Jessica Murphy, Lori Hawk, Lynette Barnhart, Michael Kaper, Park, Jeff Barron, Belinda Nebbergall, Lisa McKenzie, Ashley Arter, Nikki Drake, Audrey, Britney Lee, Shelby Hunt, Tiffany Wilson, BMarshall, Caller 02, James Bahnsen, and Jeremiah Upp.

**Welcome**

Commissioner Fix opened the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance.

**Public Comments**

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

Ray Stemen from Lancaster spoke about his concerns for Agenda 30.

**Legal Update**

Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Josh Horacek, commented on resolution 2022-08.30.d, which petitions the Ohio Tax Commissioner for approval to transfer funds from the Fairfield County GSCNW Capital Projects Fund to the Fairfield County General Fund.

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County Auditor, Dr. Carri Brown, asked if she could be supplied a copy of the application, and added that future expenditures for the Fairfield Center would be reflected in the Capital Project Fund. Dr. Brown also stated that this action was due to a change in Federal rules and not related to financial distress.

**County Administration Update**

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

**Week in Review**

*ARP Update*

From the \$30,607,546.77 received as the first and second tranche of fiscal recovery funds. \$18.9M has been appropriated, \$7.5M expended, \$6.7M encumbered or obligated.

*Developmental Disabilities (DD) Board Member Vacancy*

The County Commissioners are seeking applicants of qualified, passionate adults who are an immediate family member of an individual eligible for early intervention services for preschool or school-age children. DD Board member positions are volunteer positions, and the County Commissioners are seeking dedicated, qualified applicants to begin serving immediately, for a term to expire December 31, 2025.

*Blue Ribbon 5K Run*

The Citizens to Protect Children and Elderly shared information on their upcoming Blue Ribbon Run taking place on September 24 at 9:00 am at Victory Park in Pickerington.

Heather O'Keefe and employees from Child Protective Services spoke about the upcoming the Blue Ribbon 5k Run and encouraged anyone to participate.

Director of JFS, Corey Clark, stated that participants can choose to run or walk.

*State of Ohio Development Director and Ohio University Chillicothe Dean Visits Workforce Center*

Ohio Department of Development Director Lydia Mihalik met with Claypool Electric and our Workforce Center team to learn more about we are utilizing the tech cred program to support electrical apprentices. In addition, Ohio University Chillicothe Dean,

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Roberta Milliken, Ph.D., visited the Workforce Center and shared her appreciation to the Workforce team for making the time to talk to a group from Chillicothe who are exploring ways of collaborating and coordinating their efforts to meet workforce needs in Ross County.

Director of Economic Development, Rick Szabrak, stated that the State Development Director was amazed by what the County has been doing.

*September Proclamations*

National Preparedness Month, National Recovery Month, and Constitution Week were recognized during today's meeting.

**Highlights of Resolutions**

*Administrative Approvals*

The review packet contains a list of administrative approvals.

*Resolution Review*

There are 22 resolutions for the voting meeting.

Resolutions of note:

- A resolution to petition the Ohio Tax Commissioner for approval to transfer funds from Fairfield County GSCNW Capital Projects Fund to the Fairfield County General Fund
- A resolution appointing three members to the Fairfield County Tax Incentive Review Council, President of the Fairfield County Commission, Fairfield County Administrator, Regional Planning Commission Executive Director
- A Resolution to Assess 2022 Water/Sewer Delinquencies
- Advances for FACFC and Sheriff

Commissioner Davis asked if Tony Vogel, Director of Utilities, was seeing any statistical data regarding water/sewer delinquencies that raises concerns.

Tony stated he is not concerned.

Commissioner Davis stated his concerns for potential food pantry shortages.

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Aundrea Cordle stated she spoke with Community Action, and they did not express any concerns at the moment regarding food pantry operations.

**Budget Review**

- Reminder of Level 3 budget entry deadline of September 8.
- County Auditor, Dr. Carri Brown, stated the revenues are at 56.2 million. At this point the revenue aspect of the entry is exceeded the 95% level.

**Recognition**

- Auditor Brown thanked to the Commissioners and HR for the employee recognition luncheon.
- Auditor Brown thanked the Fairfield County Auditor's staff for stepping up the "Happiness Project" with excellent volunteer work in 2022.
- Auditor Brown congratulated Robin Balthaser, County Appraiser, for making good referrals for community resources during the informal hearings for property valuations. She was able to help a citizen with medical concerns.
- Thank you to the HR, Facilities, and EMA team for making the Employee Recognition event such a huge success. A special thank you to Heather Funk of JFS who took pictures that day and to Lori Hawk for her overall organization of the event and to Jeanne Wears, Jess Bowlen, and Christina Foster for pitching in where needed.
- Thank you to the IT and Auditor's Payroll teams for their teamwork on solving a Tyler Enterprise ERP outage issue.

**Calendar Review/Invitations Received**

- Public Hearing for the vacation of Alley in the unincorporated Village of Havensport, Tuesday, August 30, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Hearing Room (Fix, Davis, Levacy)
- Tax Incentive Review Council, Tuesday, August 30, 2022, at 11:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Hearing Room (Fix, Davis, Levacy)

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- Commissioner Connection Video, Tuesday, August 30, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. at Beaver's Field, 1651 Granville Pike, Lancaster, OH (Fix, Davis, Levacy)
- CCAO Time to Connect, Thursday, September 1, 2022, at 8:00 a.m. at Provisions Deli and Bakery, 135 W. Main St., Lancaster, OH (Fix, Davis, Levacy)
- Tree Dedication and lunch in memory of John Russ, Thursday, September 1, 2022, at 11:30 a.m. at the Fairfield County Utilities Office, 6670 Lockville Rd., Carroll, OH (Fix)(Davis)
- Invitation to Fairfield DD's 2022 Celebration of Possibilities, Thursday, September 15, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at the Wigwam Event Center, 10190 Blacklick-Eastern Rd., Pickerington, OH (Levacy)
- Invitation to Lighthouse Behavioral Health Solutions Lancaster Opening and Reception, Thursday, September 29, 2022, at 4:30 p.m., 1434 Collins Rd. NW, Lancaster, OH
- Invitation to the Fairfield Soil & Water Conservation District Annual Meeting, Thursday, September 15, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. at the Fairfield County Agriculture Center, 831 College Ave., Lancaster, OH

**Correspondence**

*Items Requiring Response*

*Informational Items*

- Letter from Fairfield County Auditor, Dr. Carri Brown, titled "Topics of Interest", dated August 25, 2022
- Letter from Eastern Cottontail Solar Project, subject line: Eastern Cottontail Solar Project Introduction, dated August 8, 2022
- Thank-you card from the County Auditor's Team for the 2022 Employee Recognition lunch on August 23, 2022

*Jail Population*

- August 23 was 270 with 41 of those being contracted placements
- August 30 is 285 with 45 of those being contracted placements

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**Old Business**

Commissioner Fix spoke about a meeting he had with Remo & Remo Designs at the Fairfield County Airport to prepare for the 2022 State of the County and expressed his excitement for the State of the County this year. He also spoke about a meeting he attended with Columbus Partnership where Fairfield County was the topic of much discussion and recognition regarding economic and workforce development. He commended Rick Szabrak for his work. Commissioner Fix also spent two days at the CCAO conference on Workforce, Families, and Children initiatives in Newark the previous week. Fairfield County is further along in these efforts compared to the rest of the state.

County Auditor, Dr. Carri Brown, spoke about the second round of public hearings for minimum standards for conveyance of property. The Board of Revisions hearings have also concluded for the year. The Auditor's Office continue to receive more surveys on the informational meetings and hearings.

**New Business**

Commissioner Davis spoke about a story in the news about a potential Honda plant being located in Ohio. He hopes the reporting is true. He continues to learn more about transportation issues in the County and will have conversation with different agencies to look at improving transportation in the community.

Commissioner Levacy offered his excitement for being invited to participate in the economic development talks with Columbus Partnership. He also spoke about the upcoming Sweet Corn Festival.

Rick Szabrak stated the importance of being involved in the conversations with Columbus Partnership and being the topic of so much positive conversation in the region.

Dr. Carri Brown spoke about the informational piece on the Pickerington Local Schools District levies.

**Regular (Voting) Meeting**

The Commissioners met at the Historic Courthouse on 210 E. Main St., Lancaster, 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, Bart Hampson, Bennett Niceswanger, Brian Wolfe, Corey Clark, Tony Vogel, Chris Schmelzer,

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Marty Norris, Jon Kochis, Dr. Carri Brown, Abby Watson, Amy Brown-Thompson, Heather O'Keefe, Josh Horacek, Dennis Keller, Rick Szabrak, Dan Neeley, Raz Sabaiduc, Judy Stemen, Branden Meyer, Ray Stemen, Toni Ashton and Jeff Camechis.

Attending virtual: Tony Vogel, Chris Wagner, Jessica Murphy, Lori Hawk, Lynette Barnhart, Michael Kaper, Park, Jeff Barron, Belinda Nebbergall, Lisa McKenzie, Ashley Arter, Nikki Drake, Audrey, Britney Lee, Shelby Hunt, Tiffany Wilson, BMarshall, Caller 02, James Bahnsen, and Jeremiah Upp.

**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 23, 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 23, 2022 meeting.

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 resolution from the Board of Commissioners:

2022-08.30.a      A resolution authorizing the approval of proclamations.

Jon Kochis spoke about the proclamation for National Preparedness Month and mentioned some upcoming efforts that will relate to mitigation.

Toni Ashton from ADAMH spoke about the proclamation for Nation Recovery Month.

Commissioner Levacy added that recovery issues are one of the biggest problems facing Fairfield County.

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Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

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

2022-08.30.b      A resolution to approve the annexation of 3.258 acres from Walnut Township to the Village of Baltimore, Expedited Type II, pursuant to ORC 709.023, Annexation of Land by the agent for petitioners, Jeffrey Feyko

Attorney Jeff Feyko spoke about the annexation and explained it was a very straightforward procedure.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

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

2022-08.30.c      A resolution approving an account to account transfer in a major expenditure object category - Fairfield County Human Resources and Risk Management

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

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

2022-08.30.d      A resolution to petition the Ohio Tax Commissioner for approval to transfer funds from Fairfield County GSCNW Capital Projects Fund to the Fairfield County General Fund

Dr. Brown stated the changes are due to a change in Federal rules and are not related to financial distress.



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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 Auditor - Finance**

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 Auditor - Finance:

2022-08.30.e	A resolution authorizing repayment of unexpended fund balance in Special Revenue Fund, Appropriate from unappropriated into a major object category, and fund to fund transfer to the General Fund from Fairfield Co. JFS – Child Protective Services (CPS) Division – Ohio Start Grant
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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 Board of Elections**

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 Board of Elections:

2022-08.30.f	A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure object category for Fund #2884 General Assembly Primary Election 2022- Board of Elections
2022-08.30.g	A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure object category for Fund #2861 Secretary of state (SOS) Elections Security Grant 2022- Board of Elections

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

**Approval of a Resolution from Fairfield County Economic & Workforce Development**

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 Economic Development:

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2022-08.30.h      A resolution appointing three members to the Fairfield County Tax Incentive Review Council

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 Emergency Management Agency**

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 Emergency Management Agency:

2022-08.30.i      A resolution to approve a memo expenditure for EMA fund 2091

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 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:

2022-08.30.j      A resolution to request for appropriations for additional unanticipated receipts of memo receipts and memo expenses for fund 3445 Refugee Rd CR7-1.94

2022-08.30.k      A resolution to request for appropriations for additional unanticipated receipts of memo receipts and memo expenses for fund 3434 HOC-17 Bridge Replacement Project

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 Family, Adult and Children First Council**

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 Family, Adult and Children First Council:

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- 2022-08.30.l      A resolution authorizing the approval of an advance from the General Fund to Help Me Grow – Early Intervention sub-fund #8160 org. 60816022. Family Adult Children First Council.
- 2022-08.30.m      A resolution authorizing the SFY 2023 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.

Executive Director of FACFC, Raz Sabaiduc, briefly summarized the two resolutions and how they related.

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

**Approval of a Resolution 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 resolution from Fairfield County Job and Family Services:

- 2022-08.30.n      A resolution to approve a memo receipt and expenditure for Fairfield County Job & Family Services, Fund 2758 reimbursing Fund 2018

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 Juvenile & Probate Court**

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 Juvenile & Probate Court:

- 2022-08.30.o      A resolution approving an account to account transfer
- 2022-08.30.p      A resolution to approve the disposal of obsolete assets within the Juvenile/Probate Department – Fairfield County Juvenile/Probate Court and Fairfield County Commissioners

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 Sheriff**

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 Sheriff:

- 2022-08.30.q      A resolution authorizing the approval of an advance from the General Fund to Fund 2503 Police Revolving
- 2022-08.30.r      A resolution approving an account to account transfer Fund 1001

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 Treasurer**

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 Treasurer:

- 2022-08.30.s      A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure object category (Treasurer ) (1080 Trust, Unclaimed )

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

**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:

- 2022-08.30.t      A Resolution to Assess 2022 Water/Sewer Delinquencies.

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

**Approval of a Resolution from South Central Major Crimes Unit**

On the motion of Steve Davis and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from South Central Major Crimes Unit:

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2022-08.30.u        A resolution approving an account to account transfer for the South Central Major Crimes Unit

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:

2022-08.30.v        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

The Commissioners went into recess at 10:02 a.m.

**Public Hearing**

The Commissioners met at 10:18 a.m. in the Commissioners' Hearing Room to discuss the proposed vacation of an alley in the unincorporated Village of Havensport, Carroll, OH, in Greenfield Township.

Jeff Camechis from the Fairfield County Engineer's Office provided a summary of the petition to vacate an alley in Havensport by petitioner Charles Welch.

Commissioner Fix asked if any adjacent property owners had objected to the vacation, and if the Engineer's Office was in favor.

Jeff Camechis stated there had been no objections and that the Engineer's Office had no problems with the vacation. He explained the next step will be to alert the petitioner to record the vacated property.

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

2022-08.30.w	A resolution approving a vacation request to vacate a part of a public road, Alley in unincorporated Village of Havensport, Greenfield Township
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Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:  
Voting aye thereon: Steve Davis, Dave Levacy and Jeff Fix

**Adjournment**

With no further business, on the motion of Steve Davis and a second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn at 10:23 a.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, September 6, 2022, in the Commissioners' Hearing Room located at the 210 E. Main St., Lancaster, OH.

Motion by: Steve Davis                      Seconded by: Dave Levacy  
that the August 30, 2022, minutes were approved by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None

\*Approved on September 6, 2022

Jeff Fix  
Commissioner

Dave Levacy  
Commissioner

Steven A. Davis  
Commissioner

Bennett Niceswanger, Asst. Clerk