

Regular Meeting 34 - 2026
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
September 1, 2026

Review Meeting

The Commissioners met at 6:00 p.m. at the Pleasantville Community Center, 207 W. Columbus St., Pleasantville, OH. Commissioner Steve Davis called the meeting to order, and Commissioners David Levacy and Jeff Fix were also in attendance. Also present: County Administrator Aundrea Cordle, Deputy County Administrator Jeff Porter, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners Rochelle Menningen, Communications and Information Coordinator Bennett Niceswanger, Budget Director Bart Hampson, Utilities Director Tony Vogel, IT Director Dan Neeley, EMA and Facilities Director Jon Kochis, Economic and Workforce Development Director Rick Szabrak, Director of Financial Systems Bev Hoskinson, JFS Director Corey Clark, Clerk of Courts Branden Meyer, and Sheriff's Deputies Kevin Romine and Andy Robberts. Also in attendance: Samantha McCreery, Michelle Dumolt, Liz Moe, Frank Martin, Barb Martin, Robert Slater II, Albert Moore, Donald B. Grant, Shannon Ward, Krista Fox, Betty Bennett, and Patsy Cole.

Welcome

Commissioner Davis welcomed everyone in attendance and expressed appreciation to the Village of Pleasantville for its hospitality.

Mayor Michelle Dumolt of Pleasantville welcomed the Commissioners and attendees, thanked everyone for participating in the meeting, and expressed her appreciation to the Commissioners for holding the meeting in Pleasantville.

Listen & Learn, National Preparedness Month

EMA and Facilities Director Jon Kochis discussed the county's efforts to improve emergency preparedness and identified additional steps that can be taken at the community level. Kochis reported that the recent severe weather resulted in property damage in Fairfield County. He also noted that a recent cyberattack on the City of Lancaster is an example of the types of potential threats that EMA considers when assessing risks to county residents. Kochis stated that EMA will be reaching out to county departments to review and update their Continuity of Operations Plans (COOPs). He noted that the county has continued to strengthen its emergency response capabilities, including expanding the EMA team and increasing its skill set. He also indicated that continuity planning includes coordination with IT to address potential technology-related disruptions.

Commissioner Davis commended Jon Kochis for successfully elevating the agency into a dependable and effective team. He expressed the Commissioners' confidence in the EMA office and credited the agency's strong response and performance during emergency situations.

Commissioner Levacy asked whether lightning strikes are tracked by the county.

Kochis explained that the National Weather Service tracks lightning activity. He stated that the recent storm produced some of the highest levels of lightning activity seen in Fairfield County in recent history. He encouraged residents to contact their homeowner's insurance providers to understand what types of storm-related damage are covered and to consider appropriate measures for protecting and grounding their homes.

Commissioner Fix discussed a presentation he attended at the CCAO Summer Symposium titled "When Disaster Strikes." He stated that the presentation reinforced the importance of COOPs and noted that he feels confident in Fairfield County EMA's preparedness and response capabilities. Commissioner Fix asked whether Continuity of Operations Plans could be made more mandatory for county departments. He also referenced the ongoing impacts of major disasters in other counties, noting that some residents in Perry County remain in emergency housing.

Regular Meeting 34 - 2026
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
September 1, 2026

Kochis reiterated that while the county cannot prepare for every possible situation, it has established plans and partnerships to address a wide range of emergencies, including continuity planning and IT-related disruptions.

Commissioner Fix stated that there is no way to prepare for every event that may occur, but he believes Fairfield County is well prepared to respond to major emergencies.

Commissioner Davis thanked Director Kochis for his presentation and for the work EMA continues to do to prepare the county for emergencies.

Public Comment

Albert Moore of Carroll Eastern Road addressed the Commissioners regarding serious flooding issues involving a culvert on his property. He stated that he had met with the Engineer's Office to discuss the matter but felt that his concerns were not adequately addressed. Mr. Moore described ongoing drainage problems and indicated that he has video documenting the flooding.

Krista Fox of Sitterly Road in Canal Winchester stated that she purchased her home in Canal Winchester in 2019. She expressed concerns regarding planned growth in the area, including PGM and the proposed multi-mile high-voltage transmission lines. Ms. Fox also discussed the Vantage Data Center, including the revenue it generates and its potential impact on the environment and surrounding land. She provided literature to the Commissioners regarding these concerns.

County Administration Update

- *The County Administration Update was provided by County Administrator Aundrea Cordle, unless otherwise indicated.*

September 8th Board of Commissioners' Meeting

The Board of Commissioners will not meet on Tuesday, September 8th, the day following Labor Day. The next Review and Regular meeting will be September 15th.

FMC and Adena

FMC and Adena signed a Member Substitution Agreement and celebrated the partnership with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 9:00 a.m. on September 1st. I would like to welcome Adena to Fairfield County and express my hope that this will be a long, successful, and prosperous partnership for both FMC and Adena.

Highlights of Resolutions

Administrative Approvals

The review packet contains a list of administrative approvals.

Resolution Review

There are 17 resolutions on the agenda for the Regular voting meeting.

Resolutions of note:

Regular Meeting 34 - 2026
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
September 1, 2026

- The Commissioners' Office has a resolution to certify drainage maintenance districts to the County Auditor's Office. This is an annual assessment and process to collect maintenance fees for several districts.

Bart Hampson stated that the departments involved with the Drainage Maintenance Districts have been very helpful and responsive. He reported that 31 districts are currently being assessed. Mr. Hampson thanked Todd May and the Engineer's Office, as well as Bev Hoskinson and her team, for their assistance and support throughout the process.

- Economic and Workforce Development has a resolution to authorize an agreement with Westerman Inc. for workforce training grant funds. Fairfield County Economic and Workforce Development has a Workforce Training Grant to help develop small businesses; and under this agreement Westerman would receive \$150,000 over the next five years.

Rick Sabrak stated here is a significant and immediate need for respiratory therapists and that the Respiratory Therapy program at the Workforce Center would help address that workforce shortage while providing local educational and career opportunities. He also discussed potential funding through JobsOhio and highlighted the Workforce Center's existing programs and opportunities, including welding.

Commissioner Davis discussed the addition of 210 jobs at Westerman in Bremen.

Rick Sabrak noted that the Westerman expansion is expected to generate approximately \$14 million in additional payroll.

Commissioner Fix stated that he had spoken with the Bremen Chamber of Commerce and with a Westerman representative regarding potential community needs, including discussions about establishing a daycare in the area. He indicated that additional conversations are expected to take place.

- Facilities has a resolution to approve a 2nd change order for the Fethers Run Stream Stabilization project with Buena Environmental. This change order includes rip rap rock along the west bank and channel clearing.

Director Kochis stated that he had hoped to include this portion of the bank to help protect the stream. He noted that additional projects are anticipated downstream to address and improve the condition of the stream and its bank.

- JFS, Child Protective Services Division, has four resolutions on the agenda approving service agreements for network placement and related services.
- Utilities has a resolution to amend the T-Mobile lease agreement approved in resolution 2008-02.12.e.

**Regular Meeting 34 - 2026
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
September 1, 2026**

- Community Action has a resolution on the agenda to approve the application for the 2027 CFLP Solid Waste Recycling Services and Recycling Litter Prevention Grant.

Budget Review

Bart Hampson stated that level 3 budget entry closed on August 27th.

Calendar Review/Invitations Received

Informational Items and Invitations Received

- Fairfield 33 Development Alliance Board Meeting, September 3, 2026, 8:30 a.m., Fairfield County Workforce Center, 4465 Coonpath Rd., Carroll
- MORPC Executive Committee Meeting, September 3, 2026, 1:30 p.m., MORPC, 111 Liberty St., Room 101, Columbus
- Juvenile Court's Wheel of Fortune, September 3, 2026, 4:15 p.m., Connexion West, 625 Garfield Ave., Lancaster
- CCAO/CEAO 2026 Winter Conference Save the Date, December 9-11, 2026, Hilton Columbus Downtown, 402 N. High St., Columbus

Updates from Elected Officials and Department Heads

Clerk of Courts Branden Meyer spoke about a retirement celebration for Christy Barkley and her years of service.

Rick Szabrak stated that there are nearly 50 LINK bus stop signs throughout the Lancaster area.

Dan Neeley stated that the county has begun its employee cybersecurity training. He noted that the training is designed to help employees learn something new each year by highlighting emerging cybersecurity threats.

Corey Clark stated that the statewide SNAP error rate is now 5.54% and noted that there is one more month to keep the error rate below 6%.

Bev Hoskinson presented the Map of the Month, featuring the Fairfield County Fairgrounds. She also stated that the 2026 Annual Financial Statement has been completed and is available in the Auditor's Office.

Jeff Porter stated that Human Resources will conduct a renewal meeting regarding county employee benefits.

Old Business

Commissioner Fix stated that he continues to work with the CCAO Human Services Committee. He expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to be with the Bremen Chamber and stated that the information presented at the CCAO Summer Symposium was valuable and that he would share it with the Board.

Commissioner Levacy stated he attended the tour of the Anduril facility with Governor DeWine and Lt. Governor Tressel. He offered his appreciation for Lt. Governor Tressel's attendance and presentation at the Employee Recognition event.

Regular Meeting 34 - 2026
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
September 1, 2026

New Business

Commissioner Fix stated he will attend a MORPC meeting.

Commissioner Levacy stated he looks forward to the Millersport Sweet Corn Festival.

Regular (Voting) Meeting

The Commissioners continued to their Voting portion of the meeting and the following Commissioners remained present: Steve Davis, David Levacy and Jeff Fix. Also present: County Administrator Aundrea Cordle, Deputy County Administrator Jeff Porter, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners Rochelle Menningen, Communications and Information Coordinator Bennett Niceswanger, Budget Director Bart Hampson, Utilities Director Tony Vogel, IT Director Dan Neeley, EMA and Facilities Director Jon Kochis, Economic and Workforce Development Director Rick Szabrak, Director of Financial Systems Bev Hoskinson, JFS Director Corey Clark, Clerk of Courts Branden Meyer, and Sheriff's Deputies Kevin Romine and Andy Robberts. Also in attendance: Samantha McCreery, Michelle Dumolt, Liz Moe, Frank Martin, Barb Martin, Robert Slater II. Albert Moore, Donald B. Grant, Shannon Ward, Krista Fox, Betty Bennett, and Patsy Cole.

Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Davis asked everyone to rise as able and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements

Rochelle Menningen announced that Fairfield County Offices will be closed Monday, September 7, 2026, in observance of Labor Day.

Approval of Minutes for August 25, 2026

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of David Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Minutes for the Tuesday, August 25, 2026, meeting.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of a Resolution from the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of David Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions:

2026-09.01.a A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CERIFICATION OF
DRAINAGE MAINTENANCE DISTRICTS TO THE FAIRFIELD
COUNTY AUDITOR'S OFFICE

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of a Resolution from the Fairfield County Auditor - Finance

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of David Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from the Fairfield County Auditor - Finance:

Regular Meeting 34 - 2026
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
September 1, 2026

2026-09.01.b A RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE FROM UNAPPROPRIATED IN A
MAJOR EXPENDITURE OBJECT CATEGORY FOR AUDITOR; FUND
2423, REESE PETERS

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of a Resolution from Fairfield County Economic & Workforce Development

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of David Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from Fairfield County Economic & Workforce Development:

2026-09.01.c A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH
WESTERMAN INC. FOR WORKFORCE TRAINING GRANT FUNDS

Commissioner Davis offered his excitement for Westerman Inc. and their growth in Bremen.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of a Resolution from the Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency

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

2026-09.01.d A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A MEMO EXPENDITURE FROM
EMA FUND LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE 2091
TO EMA FUND 2090 FOR AGREED SERVICES

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of a Resolution from the Fairfield County Engineer

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of David Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from the Fairfield County Engineer:

2026-09.01.e A RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE FROM UNAPPROPRIATED IN A
MAJOR EXPENDITURE OBJECT CATEGORY, FUND 2024, MOTOR
VEHICLE

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of a Resolution from Fairfield County Facilities

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of David Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from Fairfield County Facilities:

2026-09.01.f A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE OWNER CHANGE ORDER 2 TO THE
CONTRACT WITH BUENA ENVIRONMENTAL LLC AND THE
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR CONSTRUCTION
SERVICES

Regular Meeting 34 - 2026
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
September 1, 2026

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of Resolutions from Fairfield Job & Family Services

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of David Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from Fairfield County Job & Family Services:

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 2026-09.01.g | A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF A SERVICE AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE FAIRFIELD COUNTY JOB & FAMILY SERVICES, CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES DIVISION, AND THE BAIR FOUNDATION |
| 2026-09.01.h | A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF A SERVICE AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN FAIRFEILD COUNTY JOB & FAMILY SERVICES, CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES DIVISION AND SILVER LINING AGENCY |
| 2026-09.01.i | A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF A SERVICE AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN FAIRFEILD COUNTY JOB & FAMILY SERVICES, CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES DIVISION, AND POPPY'S THERAPEUTIC CORNER LLC DBA BAM'S HOME FOR KIDS |
| 2026-09.01.j | A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SERVICE AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN FAIRFIELD COUNTY JOB & FAMILY SERVICES, CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES DIVISION AND MARIE'S HOUSE OF HOPE, INC. |
| 2026-09.01.k | A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A MEMO EXPENSE/MEMO RECEIPT FOR FAIRFIELD COUNTY JOB & FAMILY SERVICES, FUND #2072, REIMBURSING FUND 2018 |

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of a Resolution from the Fairfield County Sheriff

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of David Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from the Fairfield County Sheriff:

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 2026-09.01.l | A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW AGENCY FUND FOR THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE |
|--------------|---|

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of Resolutions from the South Central Major Crimes Unit

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of David Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from the South Central Major Crimes Unit:

**Regular Meeting 34 - 2026
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
September 1, 2026**

- 2026-09.01.m A RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE FROM UNAPPROPRIATED IN A MAJOR EXPENDITURE OBJECT CATEGORY FOR THE SOUTH CENTRAL MAJOR CRIMES UNIT; FUND #7844, SUB FUND #8389, PROJECT CODE MAG26, AG DART GRABT 2026
- 2026-09.01.n A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN ACCOUNT-TO-ACCOUNT TRANSFER INTO A MAJOR EXPENDITURE OBJECT CATEGORY, FUND #7864, SUB FUND #8383, PROJECT CODE MRO26, RECOVERY OHIO 2026

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of a Resolution from Fairfield County Utilities

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of David Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from the Fairfield County Utilities:

- 2026-09.01.o A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE AMENDING THE LEASE AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH T-MOBILE IN RESOLUTION 2008-02.12.e

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of a Resolution from Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action Agency

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of David Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from the Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action Agency:

- 2026-09.01.p A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FISCAL YEAR 2027 CFLP SOLID WASTE RECYCLING SERVICES AND RECYCLING LITTER PREVENTION GRANT APPLICATION FOR FAIFIELD COUNTY

Commissioner Davis stated that the Solid Waste District was awaiting a signature from the City of Pickerington.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of the Payment of Bills

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of David Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution for the Payment of Bills:

- 2026-09.01.q A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF INVOICES FOR DEPARTMENTS THAT REQUIRE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Executive Session

Adjournment

**THIS PAGE
INTENTIONALLY
LEFT BLANK**

