

**Regular Meeting #39 - 2022
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
September 27, 2022**

Review Meeting

The Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Hearing Room located at 210 E. Main Street, Lancaster, OH. Commissioner Fix called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Dave Levacy, Jeff Fix. Also present: Aundrea Cordle, Jeff Porter, Rochelle Menningen, Bennett Niceswanger, Bart Hampson, Tony Vogel, Jonathan Ferbrache, Gary Hummel, Dennis Lowe, Corey Clark, Dan Neeley, Jon Kochis, Raz Sabaiduc, Audrey Stoffel, Ray Stemen, Judy Stemen, Dennis Keller, Dr. Carri Brown, Rick Szabrak, Amy Brown-Thompson, Brian Wolfe, Sheriff Alex Lape, Josh Horacek, Lori Hawk and Brian Plummer.

Attending virtually: Jeanie Wears, Tony Vogel, Caller C, Jeff Barron, Lori Hawk, Nikki Drake, Caller T, Vince Carpico, Alex Cooley, Shelby Hunt, Michael Kaper, James Bahnsen, Stacy Hicks, Cameron Laughlin, Chief Collins, Lisa McKenzie, Nick Enger, Park, T Ashton, Tiffany Wilson, Becky, Britney Lee and Connie Vargo.

Welcome

Commissioner Fix opened the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance and thanked all involved with the preparation and execution of the 2022 State of the County the previous week.

Listen & Learn – Information Technology

Information Technology Director, Dan Neeley, began by explaining the staffing changes that have happened in the IT department this year. Dan moved on to the scope of County IT. There are 32 interconnected locations, with over half having internet connection. The department has seen a number of accomplishments in 2022, which includes endpoint management programming, contract and phase one of the Fairfield Center Connectivity, stand up 911 dispatch and public safety environment, and deployment of managed tablets for Engineer's field staff. He spoke on the resolution on the agenda to move forward with the new phone system for the County that has been in-the-works for several years. Dan went on to speak on some projects which are in process, as well as future plans and projects. He finished by thanking the Commissioners and County Administrator Cordle for helping to facilitate changes that have occurred in the department in 2022.

Commissioner Levacy spoke on the importance of election integrity and the collaboration between IT and the Board of Elections.

Commissioner Fix applauded Dan and the IT department for their continued hard work.

Executive Director of FACFC, Raz Sabaiduc, thanked IT for helping solve some technology issues within his department over the last couple weeks.

Update – South Central Major Crimes Unit

Commander Dennis Lowe with the South Central Major Crimes Unit began by describing the mission of the Major Crimes Unit and the ongoing projects the Unit has worked on over the years. Major Crimes focuses on drug enforcement in Fairfield County and other neighboring Counties. They also work with individuals and families who have been charged, faced, or impacted by drug issues. He stated that Ohio leads the nation in diversion programs, and Fairfield County leads the State of Ohio in these efforts. Although they are a multi-jurisdictional agency, nearly 95% of their work occurs within Fairfield County. The task force currently is funded by six separate funding sources totaling more than \$600,000. Commander Lowe continues to search for additional funding sources to expand the department and their services to

**Regular Meeting #39 - 2022
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
September 27, 2022**

the community. He highlighted the enforcement activity of the department, which included statistics on drug use/trafficking, seizures, warrants, and sentencing. In 2021, the Major Crimes Unit was named Ohio Task Force of the Year. He went on to highlight outreach activity of the Major Crimes Unit from 2018-2021. The Major Crimes Unit recognizes the transportation issues people face due to substance abuse and homelessness and have worked to distribute transportation vouchers to those impacted. He is very proud of their drug treatment programs which have successfully rehabilitated 63 people. These programs help people with drug abuse issues to reenter the community as contributing members of the society. The goal of the Major Crimes Unit is to change the lives of those impacted by drugs and prevent further abuse of illegal substances. The Commander closed by providing a proposal for grant matches, a county forgiveness for advances received, a forgiveness for rent fees, and funding for Project FORT.

Commissioner Davis thanked Commander Lowe for the presentation and will follow up during the budgeting process.

Commissioner Levacy asked what the staffing cooperation looks like with other counties.

Commander Lowe stated they have staffing partnerships with different counties, cities, and other municipalities in South Central Ohio. He expects additional staffing partnerships once other units and departments are up to staff themselves.

Commissioner Fix thanked Commander Lowe for their work in the community and is proud that they are a leader in the state.

Public Comments

Court Magistrate, Josh Horacek, stated he was open to take questions regarding the proposed increase in the hourly rate for Court Appointed Council.

Ray Stemen from Lancaster gave his opinions on the import role the Commissioners play in collaborating with the State of Ohio on different matters.

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

Legal Update

None.

County Administration Update

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, \$8.4M expended, \$5.7M encumbered or obligated.

Received guidance from the Department of Treasury regarding outlining a reduction in the areas of reporting and compliance staff and their ability to meet local jurisdictions needs.

- Ending our call center support, which has provided an entry point for questions from recipients facing issues, including around payments and reporting. This shutdown will begin going into effect in October.

Regular Meeting #39 - 2022
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
September 27, 2022

- Sharply curtailing our e-mail response operations, limiting our ability to respond to most questions that arrive in the inbox. As you know, our call center, e-mail response, and other recipient communications efforts have provided critical support to the 30,000 states, territories, cities, counties, towns, and Tribes participating in programs like SLFRF, helping to answer questions around how to access funds and understand the rules of the programs.
- Reducing our reporting and recipient monitoring footprint, slowing Treasury's responses to incoming questions from jurisdictions and potentially impacting resolution of Single Audits.
- Instituting a hiring freeze of Federal staff for these programs, limiting Treasury's ability to participate in direct engagement with recipients or resolve ongoing policy questions that arise.

Food Donation

Fairfield County employees are encouraged to help Stock the Trailer - Fill the Pantry campaign happening at the Fairfield County Fair with Farm Credit – Mid-America. Last year the Fairfield County Fair, with the help of the Junior Leaders, won the contest with 2.5 tons of donated foods for 8 local food pantries. Drop off locations are throughout County offices and food will be accepted now and through October 7. We will be taking our donations to the Grand Opening of the Fair on Monday, October 10.

Highlights of Resolutions

Administrative Approvals

The review packet contains a list of administrative approvals.

Resolution Review

There are 21 resolutions for the voting meeting.

Resolutions of note:

- A resolution to enter into a purchasing agreement for communication services for Fairfield County between the Board of County Commissioners and Advanced Technology Consulting along with Avaya, INC and RingCentral, INC.
- A resolution to approve an agreement for County Employees to participate in the NACO Leadership Academy
- A resolution approving the partial recension and revision of the Sheriff's Office Fiscal Year 2023 CFLP Litter Law Enforcement Grant Application to CFLP.
- A resolution approving the appointments of Mr. Robert Carbonara, Mr. Richard Lemonds, Mr. Mark Matthews, and Ms. Luann Snyder to the Fairfield County Port Authority.
- A resolution to implement sections 3735.65 through 3735.70 of the Ohio Revised Code, establishing and describing the boundaries of a community reinvestment area in Violet Township, designating a housing officer to administer the program, and creating a community reinvestment housing council and a tax incentive review council
- A Resolution authorizing Jon Kochis, Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency Director, to prepare and submit a grant application to the Ohio Emergency Management Agency Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant program for a generator for Fairfield Medical Center

**Regular Meeting #39 - 2022
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
September 27, 2022**

- A resolution to apply for a funding allocation to acquire Agricultural Easements through the Clean Ohio Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program for Fairfield County, Ohio

Budget Review

- Updated Sales Tax numbers were shared by Bart Hampson, Budget Director

Recognition

- County Auditor, Dr. Brown, thanked HR for holding the benefits fair on October 4.
- County Auditor, Dr. Brown, thanked everyone who created Autumn Auditor, our scarecrow on the trail of scarecrows.
- County Auditor, Dr. Brown, congratulated Chris Wagner on his promotion to Financial Systems Director effective in January 2023. He and the members of the leadership team are working on some transitional items.
- County Auditor, Dr. Brown, congratulated Nick Dilley and the County Auditor's GIS team for winning first place in the analytical maps contest at the state GIS conference last week.
- Marcey Shaffer, Parks Director, shared a positive experience she had with the Recorder's office and appreciated the customer service she received.
- A visitor came into the building and left without realizing her wristlet was open. Consequently, all the money in her purse came out and scattered. Laurie Kennedy, from the Recorder's Office, collected the various bills she had found on the bathroom floor and placed them in an envelope in hopes of finding the owner. The owner returned and left her name and number and will be retrieving her money.
- Thank you to Brian, Ruchie, and Michael with County IT for their evening work on some server issues.
- Congratulations to Brian Wolfe who is moving to the position of Assistant to the Magistrate in the Common Pleas Court.
- Thank you to everyone on the County Admin team that helped to make the State of the County a success.

Calendar Review/Invitations Received

- Ribbon Cutting, October 17, 2022, 5:30 p.m., FMC Whetstone Campus, 12135 Lancaster St., Millersport
- Ribbon Cutting, October 26, 2022, 11:30 a.m., Trilogy Health Services 1495 Granville Pike, Lancaster
- Ohio Means Jobs and Fairfield County Job Fair, October 20, 2022, 4:00-6:00 p.m., Fairfield County Workforce Center, 4465 Coonpath Rd. NW, Carroll

**Regular Meeting #39 - 2022
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
September 27, 2022**

Correspondence

Items Requiring Response

Informational Items

- Lancaster Eagle Gazette Article, "County Commissioner Steve Davis Sees Local Transportation Issues Firsthand as Uber Driver", Author Jeff Barron, Published September 21, 2022
- Lancaster Eagle Gazette Article, "Jeff Fix Channels President Kennedy When Declaring War on Poverty", Author Jeff Barron, Published September 22, 2022
- Email from Judge Richard E. Berens Regarding Hourly Rate Compensation for Court-Appointed Counsel
- Email from Judge Richard E. Berens Regarding Supplement to Request on Hourly Rate Compensation for Court-Appointed Counsel
- City of Lancaster Engineer's Office, Notice of Public Hearing for Proposed Zoning Change, Parcel # 0140112530
- Press Release from Rick Szabrak, "Governor DeWine Tours Workforce Center, Meets with Students and Officials", Dated September 19, 2022
- Press Release from the Fairfield County Auditor, "Fairfield County Auditor Updates Levy Estimator Tool for November 8 Election Levies", Dated September 20, 2022
- Thank You Note to the Fairfield County Administrator and Commissioners' Staff For Participation in the United Way Community Care Day
- Congratulatory Note from Fairfield County Auditor to the Fairfield County Commissioners, County Administrator, and Commissioners' Team for the State of the County Address
- Fairfield County Board of Developmental Disabilities Newsletter, September 2022
- Aspire Energy of Ohio, Pipeline Safety Resources
- "Stock the Trailer and Fill the Pantry" Food Drive, September 26 – October 7, 2022, Fairfield County in Conjunction with the Fairfield County Fair, and Farm Credit-Mid America

Jail Population

- September 20 was 290 with 47 of those being contracted placements
- September 27 is 295 with 46 of those being contracted placements

Old Business

Commissioner Davis stated he attended the Lancaster City Council Meeting last night. He was moved by the positive feedback and support he received for the transportation proposal.

Commissioner Levacy spoke about the grand opening of the Fairfield Center Sheriff Substation the previous Tuesday.

Director of Economic Development, Rick Szabrak, added that he is finalizing the financial ask today to request funding for the Workforce Center.

Commissioner Fix also spoke on the grand opening of the Sheriff Substation. On Saturday, he attended the Blue Ribbon Run and thanked JFS for organizing the event.

**Regular Meeting #39 - 2022
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
September 27, 2022**

County Auditor, Dr. Carri Brown, spoke about plans for local events.

New Business

Commissioner Davis stated he is expecting an article soon regarding comments he made last week about the County jail. On October 4th he will address Pickerington City Council regarding transportation issues.

Dr. Brown spoke on the Ohio Women's Leadership summit and the possibility of Fairfield County being a sponsor for the event.

Regular (Voting) Meeting

The Commissioners continued to their Regular Voting Meeting in the Commissioners' Hearing Room of the Historic Courthouse at 210 E Main St., Lancaster, OH. Commissioner Fix called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Dave Levacy, Jeff Fix. Also present: Aundrea Cordle, Jeff Porter, Rochelle Menningen, Bennett Niceswanger, Bart Hampson, Tony Vogel, Jonathan Ferbrache, Gary Hummel, Dennis Lowe, Corey Clark, Dan Neeley, Jon Kochis, Raz Sabaiduc, Audrey Stoffel, Ray Stemen, Judy Stemen, Dennis Keller, Dr. Carri Brown, Rick Szabrak, Amy Brown-Thompson, Brian Wolfe, Sheriff Alex Lape, Josh Horacek, Lori Hawk and Brian Plummer.

Attending virtually: Jeanie Wears, Tony Vogel, Caller C, Jeff Barron, Lori Hawk, Nikki Drake, Caller T, Vince Carpico, Alex Cooley, Shelby Hunt, Michael Kaper, James Bahnsen, Stacy Hicks, Cameron Laughlin, Chief Collins, Lisa McKenzie, Nick Enger, Park, T Ashton, Tiffany Wilson, Becky, Britney Lee and Connie Vargo.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Announcements

There were no announcements.

Approval of Meeting Minutes for September 20, 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, September 20, 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 resolutions from the Board of Commissioners:

2022-09.27.a A resolution authorizing the approval of a proclamations.

Commissioner Fix presented proclamations for Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Cybersecurity Awareness Month, National Customer Service Week, Manufacturing Month, and Adopt a Shelter Dog Month.

**Regular Meeting #39 - 2022
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
September 27, 2022**

- 2022-09.27.b A resolution to approve a memo expense for interest allocation reimbursements for Fairfield Department of Health, Fairfield County Parks, & Fairfield County Port Authority – Fund #7012, #7321, #7308, & #7865, – Fairfield County Commissioners
- 2022-09.27.c A resolution to approve an agreement for County Employees to participate in the NACO Leadership Academy.
- 2022-09.27.d A resolution approving the partial recension and revision of the Sheriff's Office Fiscal Year 2023 CFLP Litter Law Enforcement Grant Application to CFLP.

Deputy Hummel spoke on the partial recension and revision of the Sheriff's Office Fiscal Year 2023 CFLP Litter Law Enforcement Grant Application. He stated he works closely with the County Health Department and all 13 townships for this program.

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 ADAMH Board

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 ADAMH Board:

- 2022-09.27.e A resolution approving an account to account transfer in a major object expenditure category for the Fund# 2066 Fairfield County ADAMH Board

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 - Administration

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 - Administration:

- 2022-09.27.f A resolution approving an account to account transfer into a major expenditure object category

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:

- 2022-09.27.g A resolution authorizing the approval of an engagement letter for preparation of 2022 ACFR financial statements provided by Local Government Services of the Auditor of State

Dr. Brown stated this is a traditional contract with the State Auditor.

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

**Regular Meeting #39 - 2022
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
September 27, 2022**

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

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 Court of Common Pleas:

2022-09.27.h A resolution approving an account to account transfer

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 Domestic Relations 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 Domestic Relations Court:

2022-09.27.i A resolution authorizing an account to account transfer for the adjustment of Personal Services and Fringe Benefits

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 Economic & Workforce Development

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 Economic & Workforce Development:

2022-09.27.j A resolution approving the appointments of Mr. Robert Carbonara, Mr. Richard Lemonds, Mr. Mark Matthews, and Ms. Luann Snyder to the Fairfield County Port Authority.

2022-09.27.k A resolution to implement sections 3735.65 through 3735.70 of the Ohio Revised Code, establishing and describing the boundaries of a community reinvestment area in Violet Township, designating a housing officer to administer the program, and creating a community reinvestment housing council and a tax incentive review council

2022-09.27.l A resolution to approve the reimbursement of expenses incurred by Board of County Commissioners Economic Development Department, the administrative and fiscal agent for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Area 20/21 for administering the program as a memo expenditure for fund 7831 Workforce Innovation OPP Act 20/21

Rick Szabrak stated that when Violet township dissolved their Port Authority and was incorporated into the Fairfield County Port Authority, it was agreed that members of the Violet Township Port Authority would be joining the Fairfield County Port Authority.

Commissioner Fix thanked Rick for brokering this agreement.

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

**Regular Meeting #39 - 2022
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
September 27, 2022**

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:

2022-09.27.m A Resolution authorizing Jon Kochis, Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency Director, to prepare and submit a grant application to the Ohio Emergency Management Agency Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant program and to execute contracts as required.

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 Information Technology

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 Information Technology:

2022-09.27.n A resolution to enter into a purchasing agreement for communication services for Fairfield County between the Board of County Commissioners and Advanced Technology Consulting along with Avaya, INC and RingCentral, INC.

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:

2022-09.27.o A resolution regarding an MOU regarding Workforce Retention between Public Children Services Association of Ohio (PCSAO) and Fairfield County Child Protective Services Department

2022-09.27.p A resolution approving an account to account transfer Fund 2018 Public Assistance Fund

2022-09.27.q A resolution to approve a memo receipt and expenditure for Fairfield County Job & Family Services

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 Juvenile and Probate Court

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 Juvenile and Probate Court:

2022-09.27.r A resolution approving an account to account transfer

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

**Regular Meeting #39 - 2022
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
September 27, 2022**

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:

2022-09.27.s A resolution authorizing the approval of an advance from the General Fund to Fund 2503 Police Revolving.

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 Soil and Water Conservation District

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 Soil and Water Conservation District:

2022-09.27.t A resolution to apply for a funding allocation to acquire Agricultural Easements through the Clean Ohio Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program for Fairfield County, Ohio.

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:

2022-09.27.u 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 Board of Commissioners went into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters with the Sheriff's Office at 10:50 a.m.

Executive Session

With no further business, on the motion of Steve Davis and a second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn from Executive Session at 11:15 a.m.

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

