

Regular Meeting 37 - 2026
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
September 29, 2026

Review Meeting

The Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Hearing Room located at 210 E. Main St., Lancaster, 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, Records Center Clerk Ash Sark, Communications and Information Coordinator Bennett Niceswanger, Budget Director Bart Hampson, Utilities Director Tony Vogel, Clerk of Courts Branden Meyer, Payroll Specialist Christina Spencer, EMA and Facilities Director Jon Kochis, Economic and Workforce Development Director Rick Szabrak, JFS Director Corey Clark, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Steven Darnell, Operations Administrator Jeff Camechis, Treasurer Jim Bahnsen, Deputy IT Director Joe Niebert, FCFC Manager Shavonda Green, Auditor Carri Brown, and Sheriff's Deputy Kevin Romine. Also in attendance: Jennifer Sitterly, Kesley Miller and Ray Stemen.

Virtual attendees: Zykia McDaniel, Andy Robberts, Jason Grubb, Vince Carpico, Lisa McKenzie, Shannon Ward, Jessica Murphy, Jeff Barron, Shelby Hunt, Britney Lee, Stacy Hicks, Ralph, David Uhl, Baylie Blevins, Andy Boystel, Beth, and Jared Collins.

Welcome

Commissioner Davis welcomed everyone in attendance.

Public Comment

Ray Stemen of Lancaster offered a prayer.

County Administration Update

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

Week in Review

The 2026 State of the County Address

The 2026 State of the County Address is scheduled for September 29th at the Levacy Center, with registration opening at 11:00 a.m. The event had sold out and there were 348 registered to attend.

Governor DeWine Announces \$13.5 Million in Public Transit Funding for the SFY2027 Ohio Workforce Mobility Partnership Program

Governor Mike DeWine, Lt. Governor Jim Tressel, and Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Director Pamela Boratyn announced \$13.5 million in SFY2027 Ohio Workforce Mobility Partnership (OWMP) funding to support 19 public transit projects across 13 Ohio counties. The program provides funding for infrastructure, equipment, technology, vehicles, and planning projects designed to improve transportation access to employment centers and help connect Ohioans with job opportunities outside their home communities. Awarded urban systems must work with their Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) to program projects in SFY2027 and submit the required update form to ODOT, with funding encouraged to be flexed during the October or January amendment periods.

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Highlights of Resolutions

Administrative Approvals

The review packet contains a list of administrative approvals.

Resolution Review

There are 22 resolutions on the agenda for the Regular voting meeting.

Resolutions of note:

- A resolution from the Commissioners to enter into a Comprehensive Economic Development Agreement with the City of Lancaster and Greenfield Township to promote orderly economic growth and development in the unincorporated territory of the township.

Commissioner Fix spoke on the CEDA with Greenfield Township and the City of Lancaster. The resolution confirms that agreement.

Greenfield Township Trustee Jennifer Sitterly commented that she believes the agreement will benefit the entire county.

- 11 financial resolutions on the agenda. During the fourth quarter the number of financial resolutions tends to increase due to year-end deadlines, and the completion of projects and administrative processes that require formal approval.
- A resolution from the Engineer's Office to approve an LPA (Local Public Agency) Federal Project Agreement with ODOT for the LIB-19 Basil Road Cridge Replacement Project.
- A resolution from the Major Crimes Unit to authorize the renewal of a contract between South Central Major Crimes and Clearview AI. Clearview AI's technology is designed to use public information to counter crime, fraud, and threats to public safety.
- A resolution from Soil and Water to authorize the signing of the title services agreement for the Harden Farm through the ODA's Clean Ohio Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program.
- A resolution from the Community Action Agency to approve the budget revision to the CFLP Solid Waste District's third quarter budget revision. The Commissioners are required to approve CFLP budget revisions before they are submitted to the CFLP Solid Waste District for approval.

Budget Review

Budget Director, Bart Hampson, touched on the upcoming budget hearings.

Calendar Review/Invitations Received

Informational Items and Invitations Received

- Board of Revision, September 30, 2026, 8:00 a.m. at the Fairfield County Auditor's Office, 108 N. High St., Lancaster
- CCAO Human Services Meeting, September 30, 2029, 1:00 p.m.
- Central Ohio Housing Coalition Leadership Meeting, October 2, 2026, 7:30 a.m.

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Correspondence

- Letter from AEP Transmission, Subj: Conesville – West Millersport 765-kV Transmission Line Project Open House Invitation Case No. 26-0814-EL-BTX
- Letter from the City of Pickerington Development Services Department regarding addresses for The Villages at Sycamore Creek Section 13.
- Letters from residents regarding transmission lines.
- Independent Auditor's Report of Fairfield County, prepared by Perry & Associates, Certified Public Accountants, for the year ended December 31, 2025

Updates from Elected Officials and Department Heads

Treasurer Jim Bahnsen reported that the Treasurer's Office continues to assist more than 2,000 citizens through its in-house escrow program. He also provided a brief update on the county's investments, which are performing well.

Operations Administrator Jeff Camechis reported that the Engineer's Office continues to assess and repair damage from recent severe weather. He noted that the Basil-Western Bridge project and several other projects are progressing.

Clerk of Courts Branden Meyer reported on several recent staff retirements and thanked the County HR team for its assistance with those processes. He also recognized Deputy HR Director Abby Watson for her presentation and participation at a recent Ohio Clerk of Courts Association meeting and praised Fairfield County's strong human resources department.

Auditor Carri Brown reported an unusual increase in out-of-state requests for dog licensing records and cautioned that the information could potentially be used for future marketing. She introduced the Fairfield County Map of the Month and office accomplishment fact sheets. She also recognized two Auditor's Office employees who recently completed CERT training and reported that a recent State Auditor review found no significant findings in Fairfield County.

Utilities Director Tony Vogel congratulated Lancaster and Greenfield Township on their recent agreement, noting that it will also benefit their utilities.

Economic and Workforce Development Director Rick Szabrak reported that enrollment in the Discovery Days program increased from 160 to 216 students, representing approximately 12% of Fairfield County high school students. Staff are making adjustments to accommodate increased participation in areas including electricity and healthcare.

EMA and Facilities Director Jon Kochis reported that five agencies participated in a recent Community Emergency Response Team training conducted by the Emergency Management Agency. He also noted that his staff assisted the Sheriff's Office with a large event over the weekend and that renovations to the Family and Children First Council building are nearly complete.

Deputy IT Director Joe Neibert reminded county staff that annual cybersecurity training is due by the end of October.

JFS Director Corey Clark reported that the statewide SNAP payment error rate has decreased to 5.22%.

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Deputy County Administrator Jeff Porter reported on a recent presentation regarding public records request software that could potentially be implemented county-wide. He also noted that the County Risk Sharing Authority reported a 9.7% increase in Fairfield County's property values.

FCFC Manager Shavonda Greene noted that Tiffany Wilson's final week was approaching and expressed appreciation to the facilities team for its recent renovation work.

Regional Planner Kelsey Miller reported that CDBG projects are nearing completion.

Old Business

Commissioner Fix met with officials from Greenfield Township and the Villages of Lithopolis and Baltimore as part of a continued effort to better understand and address the needs of local communities.

Commissioner Levacy met with the 9-1-1 Committee to discuss new technological advancements and coordinate efforts toward a unified system.

Commissioner Davis met with the Finance Committee for the Juvenile Detention Center and addressed attendees at the 70th anniversary celebration of Ohio University-Lancaster.

New Business

Commissioner Levacy expressed enthusiasm for the upcoming State of the County event and commended county staff for the significant work involved in planning and organizing the event.

Commissioner Fix reported that he has been invited to speak in Belmont County in support of a future county commissioner's fundraising efforts and campaign.

Commissioner Davis reported that he will attend the Grid Growth Open House.

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, Records Center Clerk Ash Sark, Communications and Information Coordinator Bennett Niceswanger, Budget Director Bart Hampson, Utilities Director Tony Vogel, Clerk of Courts Branden Meyer, Payroll Specialist Christina Spencer, EMA and Facilities Director Jon Kochis, Economic and Workforce Development Director Rick Szabrak, JFS Director Corey Clark, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Steven Darnell, Operations Administrator Jeff Camechis, Treasurer Jim Bahnsen, Deputy IT Director Joe Niebert, FCFC Manager Shavonda Green, Auditor Carri Brown, and Sheriff's Deputy Kevin Romine. Also in attendance: Jennifer Sitterly, Kelsey Miller and Ray Stemen.

Virtual attendees: Zykia McDaniel, Andy Robberts, Jason Grubb, Vince Carpico, Lisa McKenzie, Shannon Ward, Jessica Murphy, Jeff Barron, Shelby Hunt, Britney Lee, Stacy Hicks, Ralph, David Uhl, Baylie Blevins, Andy Boystel, Beth, and Jared Collins.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

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Announcements

None.

Approval of Minutes for September 22, 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, September 22, 2026, meeting.

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

Approval of Resolutions 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:

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| 2026-09.29.a | A RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE FROM UNAPPROPRIATED IN MAJOR EXPENDITURE OBJECT CATEGORIES FOR THE GENERAL FUND# 1001, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – IT |
| 2026-09.29.b | A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A MEMO TRANSACTIONS FOR INTEREST ALLOCATION REIMBURSEMENTS FOR FAIRFIELD DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAIRFIELD COUNTY PARKS – FUND #7012, #7321, & #7308. |
| 2026-09.29.c | A RESOLUTION TO ENTER INTO THE COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT (“CEDA”) WITH THE CITY OF LANCASTER AND GREENFIELD TOWNSHIP |

Commissioner Fix thanked those involved in the success of the CEDA.

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 ADAMH Board

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 ADAMH Board:

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| 2026-09.29.d | A RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE FROM UNAPPROPRIATED IN A MAJOR EXPENDITURE OBJECT CATEGORY FOR 5000 ADAMH; FUND 2066, ADAMH |
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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 Clerk of Courts – Legal Division

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 Clerk of Courts – Legal Division:

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2026-09.29.e A RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE FROM UNAPPROPRIATED IN A MAJOR EXPENDITURE OBJECT CATEGORY FOR CLERK OF COURT COMPUTER FUND; 11231800, COMPUTER FUND

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:

2026-09.29.f A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF AN ADVANCE FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO 7831, WIOA 20/21

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

Approval of Resolutions from Fairfield County Engineer

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 Engineer:

2026-09.29.g A RESOLUTION TO REQUEST FOR APPROPRIATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL UNANTICIPATED RECEIPTS OF MEMO RECEIPTS AND MEMO EXPENSES FOR FUND 3445 HAMBURG ROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

2026-09.29.h A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AN LPA FEDERAL PROJECT AGREEMENT WITH ODOT FOR THE LIB-19 BASIL ROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT (PID #124067).

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:

2026-09.29.i A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A MEMO EXP./ MEMO RECEIPT FOR THE COSTS OF BIRTH CERTIFICATES PAID TO FAIRFIELD COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENTS AS A MEMO EXPENDITURE FOR FUND# 2072 PUBLIC CHILDREN'S SERVICES

2026-09.29.j A RESOLUTION TO ASSIGN AUTHORITY TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE FAIRFIELD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES TO SERVE AS THE DESIGNEE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE INTERCOUNTY ADJUSTMENT AGREEMENTS RELATING TO THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDS ISSUED BY THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES FOR SPECIFIC PERIOD OF TIME.

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- 2026-09.29.k A RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE FROM UNAPPROPRIATED IN A MAJOR EXPENDITURE OBJECT CATEGORY FOR FAIRFIELD COUNTY JFS; FUND # 2015, CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT AGENCY
- 2026-09.29.l A RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE FROM UNAPPROPRIATED IN A MAJOR EXPENDITURE OBJECT CATEGORY FOR FAIRFIELD COUNTY JFS; FUND # 2072, CHILDREN SERVICES FUND
- 2026-09.29.m A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A MEMO RECEIPT AND MEMO EXPENDITURE FOR FAIRFIELD COUNTY JOB & FAMILY SERVICES' CHILDREN SERVICES FUND AND PROTECTIVE SERVICE LEVY FUND, RESPECTIVELY.
- 2026-09.29.n A RESOLUTION FOR THE PURCHASE OF SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN FAIRFIELD COUNTY JOB & FAMILY SERVICES, CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND OHIOGUIDESTONE.
- 2026-09.29.o A RESOLUTION REGARDING AN ADDENDUM TO A PREVIOUSLY APPROVED NETWORK PLACEMENT AND RELATED SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN SILVER LININGS AGENCY AND CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

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 Juvenile and Probate Court

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 Juvenile and Probate Court:

- 2026-09.22.p A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN ACCOUNT-TO-ACCOUNT TRANSFER INTO A MAJOR EXPENDITURE OBJECT CATEGORY – 20100100, PROBATE GENERAL FUND

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:

- 2026-09.29.p A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2027 CFLP LITTER LAW ENFORCEMENT GRANT APPLICATION TO CFLP

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:

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- 2026-09.29.q A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RENEWAL OF A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE SOUTH CENTRAL MAJOR CRIMES UNIT AND CLEARVIEW AI.
- 2026-09.29.r A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN ACCOUNT-TO-ACCOUNT TRANSFER INTO A MAJOR EXPENDITURE OBJECT CATEGORY – 7830, (SUB FUND 8370), DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT FY24 GRANT.

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

Approval of Resolutions from the Fairfield County Soil & Water Conservation District

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 Soil and Water Conservation District:

- 2026-09.29.s 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.
- 2026-09.29.t A RESOLUTION TO SIGN THE TITLE SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR THE HARDEN FARM THROUGH THE CLEAN OHIO LOCAL AGRICULTURAL EASEMENT PURCHASE PROGRAM WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

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 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:

- 2026-09.29.u A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT BUDGET REVISION TO THE 2026 CFLP SOLID WASTE DISTRICT GRANT

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:

- 2026-09.29.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: Jeff Fix, David Levacy, and Steve Davis

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Adjournment

The Commissioners spoke fondly of Jerry Stabelton who recently was admitted to hospice care.

With no further business, On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of David Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn at 9:38 a.m.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

The State of the County Address is scheduled for September 29, 2026 at 11:00 a.m.

The next Review and Regular Meeting of the Board is scheduled for October 6, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

Motion by: Jeff Fix

Seconded by: David Levacy

To approve the September 29, 2026, minutes by the following vote:

YEAS: Jeff Fix, David Levacy, and Steve Davis

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

*Approved on October 6, 2026



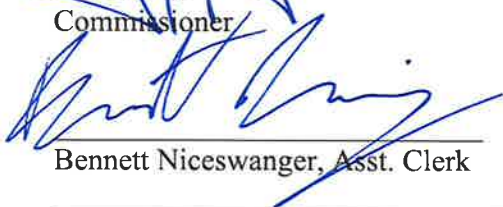
Jeff Fix
Commissioner



Steve Davis
Commissioner



David Levacy
Commissioner



Bennett Niceswanger, Asst. Clerk

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