

Regular Meeting #47 - 2022
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
November 1, 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, Jason Grubb, Corey Clark, Tony Vogel, Alex Lape, Samantha Green, Gary Hummel, Audrey Stoffel, Dennis Keller, Dr. Carri Brown, Judy Stemen, Lisa McKenzie, Jon Kochis, Stephanie Hall, Dan Neeley, Ray Stemen, Stephanie Taylor, Steven Darnell, Josh Horacek, Amy Brown-Thompson, Raz Sabaiduc and Rick Szabrak.

Attending virtually: Vince Carpico, Brian Wolfe, James Bahnsen, Shelby Hunt, Stacy Hicks, Becky, Lynette Barnhart, Shannon Carter, CD Collins and Tiffany Wilson.

Welcome

Commissioner Fix opened the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance.

Listen and Learn – Sheriff

Fairfield County Sheriff, Alex Lape, provided an update on the reentry program at the Fairfield County Jail. He introduced Samantha Green from the Sheriff's Office to present on the program.

Samantha began by speaking about a newly introduced Domestic Violence and Healthy Relationships Series. The jail also offers other programs for inmates such as yoga and have upgraded technology to provide new programming. Samantha shared some of the jail reentry highlights which includes partnerships with other agencies, classes, donation collections, clothing and other goods. She stated that the relationships with community partners continue to grow and increase the effectiveness of the reentry program. The purpose of the reentry program is to prepare inmates for their release from the jail and to reacclimate back into society.

Commissioner Fix thanked Samantha for her work with the jail.

Commissioner Levacy believes Samantha's type of work to be very rewarding.

Sheriff Lape asked Samantha to explain the statistics from 2021-2022.

Benefit Bridge Update

Krista Humphries spoke about the Benefits Bridge, which is a pilot program funded by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (JFS). The program supports vulnerable populations in Fairfield County in obtaining long-term self-sufficiency and independence. Fairfield County JFS offers participants a benefits coach, peer mentor, financial literacy, education and employment incentives, and supportive services.

Suzanne Lynch spoke further about incentives and the funding available to those in the program. As of today, there are 11 people currently enrolled in the program. So far, they have been able to serve 26 participants. Referrals come from eligibility workers.

Program Peer Mentor, Chad Householder, shared his personal experiences with the assistance programs of JFS.

Program Case Manager, Tina Hall, shared some of the success stories that have been the product of the Benefits Bridge program.

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Commissioner Levacy asked how closely JFS partners with the Workforce Center.

Krista stated they share many programs with the Workforce Center.

Commissioner Fix asked how JFS measures success of the Benefits Bridge program.

Krista stated it is largely measured by self-sufficiency and those enrolled no longer requiring assistance.

Commissioner Fix asked how many people the program could maintain.

Krista thinks the program could serve 30 people.

Commissioner Fix thanked the team at JFS for their work with the Benefits Bridge program.

Stop Loss Update

Director of Human Resources, Jeff Porter, provided an update on self-insuring a portion of our Stop Loss Insurance. There will be an initial reserve deposit of \$2,000,000, and a deposit for PEPM between \$200K and \$300K. The actuary will adjust the final cost in February of 2023 after the final claims for 2022. We are evaluating which level of coverage would be appropriate.

Commissioner Fix asked what action the county needs to take to begin the process.

Jeff stated the county must make its deposit by February of 2023, but in the meantime the prices are locked in.

Public Comments

Ray Stemen from Lancaster spoke about current events in the state of Iowa.

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

Steve Feeney gave his concerns for solar energy.

Chad Belville, Superintendent of Fairfield Union schools, thanked Fairfield County for its continued partnership with the local schools and the dedication to training the incoming workforce.

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, \$8.9M expended, \$5.3M encumbered or obligated.

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Fairfield County Foundation Board Vacancy

The Fairfield County Commissioners have been designated to approve the appointment of one member of the Fairfield County Foundation's Board of Trustees. Mr. Woodson (Woody) Winfree is the current appointee and his term on the Board expires on December 31, 2022.

The Executive Committee of the Foundation would like to respectfully request that Jodie Phayer Prince be appointed to fill the Commissioners appointment.

Fairfield County Receives Court Backlog Reduction Funding

The state awarded \$10.2 million to 51 courts across 36 counties as part of the Ohio Court Backlog Reduction Program. The program was created with the goal to help courts reduce time-to-disposition of pending cases, remove barriers to case resolution, and to apply creative solutions to improve case flow. The Fairfield County Common Pleas Court will receive \$147,426.47 to hire a probation support specialist, to implement electronic notifications, and to perform mental health and substance use disorder assessments for in lieu of conviction cases. The Fairfield County Domestic Relations Court will receive \$46,800 to increase the use of contract mediators.

Commissioners Receive Torch Award

Marie Ward, on behalf of the Fairfield County Board of Education, notified the Commissioners' office that Commissioners Fix, Davis, and Levacy have been selected to receive the Torch Award from the Ohio Educational Service Center Association. The Torch Award recognizes individuals or organizations who have rendered outstanding service or made significant contributions to OESCA and ESCs as a whole.

The Commissioners are invited to join Ms. Ward to receive this award during the 2022 OESCA Recognition Brunch on Monday, November 14, 2022.

Board of Elections Needs Truck Drivers for Election Day

The Board of Elections is in desperate need of 2 truck drivers who are a registered voter in Fairfield County with either a democratic party affiliation or no party affiliation for the November 8, 2022, general election.

- On November 5 there is a 1-hour training class you will receive \$10.00 for.
- On the morning of November 8 at 4:30 a.m. you will report to your assigned truck to meet your partner. You will deliver the equipment to the polling locations (approximately 1 hour).
- In the evening of November 8 between 7:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. you meet-up with your partner at your truck and return to pick-up the equipment to return to the Board of Elections office (approximately 2 hours). Pay for election day is \$100.00.
- One route is in Lancaster and one at Berne Union Township.

If you cannot help but you know someone who might please provide this information to them. Please contact Jessee Aurant at jesse.aurant@fairfieldcountyohio.gov , 740/652-7013 or Mike Shumway at mike.shumway@fairfieldcountyohio.gov , 740/652-7004.

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Benefits Open Enrollment

Thank you to all Fairfield County employees who completed the open enrollment process for benefits.

Highlights of Resolutions

Administrative Approvals

The review packet contains a list of administrative approvals.

Resolution Review

There are 19 resolutions for the voting meeting.

Resolutions of note:

- A resolution authorizing the approval of a proclamation.
- A resolution renewing a contract with the City of Lancaster and the Board of Commissioners, for Criminal Prosecution Services
- A resolution to approve the Holiday Schedule 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, #2876, for assistance to the Salvation Army, a non-entity, anticipating a payment as a beneficiary to allow for support of the adult day care program which was negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- A resolution authorizing Jeremiah D. Upp, Fairfield County Engineer, to prepare and submit an application to participate in the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement Program and to execute contracts as required for the Refugee Road (CR7) Intersection Safety Improvement Project

Budget Review

- Level 4 Budget Entry ends November 21

Recognition

- Auditor, Dr. Brown, thanked Chris Wagner and Randy Carter for participating in the county program to serve as precinct officials for the Board of Elections. There are likely many others to participate in this program which was established in 2014. We thank them all.
- Auditor, Dr. Brown, thanked everyone for their patience as we make progress with the SaaS conversion for enterprise resource planning. Thanks to the Board of Commissioners for their support in this effort. (Staff placed a leaf on the Thanksgiving gratitude tree for their support of this effort.)
- Auditor, Dr. Brown, thanked the Real Estate Assessment team for the filing of the real estate abstract with the state of Ohio, a few days ahead of the deadline!
- Auditor, Dr. Brown, thanked Dave Burgei for updating the ASAP plan for 108 N. High Street and for conducting training with all staff.

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- Auditor, Dr. Brown, extended a super job to the County Auditor's Office for already gathering and planning holiday donations for Meals on Wheels, Protective Services, Charity Newsies, and Salvation Army.
- Thank you to Abby Watson and Ashley Lynch for their outstanding work on open enrollment.

Calendar Review/Invitations Received

- Regional Planning Commission Meeting, November 1, 2022, 5:30 p.m., Fairfield County Records Center, 138 W. Chestnut St., Lancaster (Fix, Levacy)
- Fran Miller Way Dedication, November 2, 2022, 10:00 a.m., Broad and Main St. Intersection, Lancaster (Levacy, Davis)
- Fairfield Medical Center Foundation Charity Auction, November 4, 2022, 6:00 p.m., Ohio University Lancaster, 1570 Granville Pk., Lancaster (Levacy)
- Freedoms never Free Closing Ceremony, November 5, 2022, 3:00 p.m., Fairfield County Fairgrounds, Ed Sands Building, 157 E. Fair Ave., Lancaster
- Ohio University Community Reception to Meet the Vice Provost for Regional Higher Education and Partnerships, Dr. Lewatis McNeal, November 1, 2022, 3:30-5:00 p.m., Ohio University Lancaster, Brasee Hall, 1570 Granville Pk., Lancaster
- 2022 OESCA Recognition Brunch, Torch Award Recognition, November 14, 2022, 8:15 a.m. Registration, 9:00 a.m. Brunch, Hilton Columbus Downtown, Kojo BC Ballroom, 401 N. High St., Columbus

Correspondence

Items Requiring Response

Informational Items

- Letter from the Fairfield County Foundation regarding appointment to their Board of Trustees
- Memo from Auditor Brown, Subject: 2022 General Fund Revenue Budget, 2022 in Review, Weights & Measures, the November Map of the Month, & National Ohio Day, Dated October 28, 2022,
- Press Release, Office of the County Auditor, Dated October 27, 2022, Titled: Fairfield County Auditor Releases 2022 Year in Review Report
- Fairfield County Auditor's Strategic Plan and "By the Numbers" Flyer
- Press Release, ADAMH, Dated October 28, 2022, Titled: Fairfield County ADAMH Teaches Local Police Crisis Intervention
- Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) Correspondence Regarding Agency's Return on Investment, Including: 2022 MORPC Accomplishments, MORPC Events & Conferences, and MORPC 2022 Benefits by Program Area
- Ohio Department of Development News Release, Dated October 21, 2022, Titled: heating Assistance Available through HEAP Winter Crisis Program
- Introduction Email from Melissa Clark, the New AEP Ohio Customer & External Affairs Manager for the Athens and Chillicothe Districts
- Fairfield Land Preservation Association Letter Regarding Allocation of CAUV Recoupment Funds

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- Letter from the City of Lancaster Regarding Establishment of Zoning for Bower's Memorial Park
- Letter Regarding Fairfield County Heritage Association Membership Renewal and Membership Meeting Information

Jail Population

- October 25 was 270 with 45 of those being contracted placements
- November 1 is 274 with 39 of those being contracted placements

Old Business

Commissioner Davis stated he has been in communication with different judiciary's regarding indigent defense. Commissioner Davis also spoke about his eagerness for a meeting he is to have with members of the public transit community.

Commissioner Levacy thanked everyone for their support of the recognition event for his sister Fran Miller. He also encouraged everyone to go vote next week.

Dr. Carri Brown spoke about the press release for the Auditor's strategic plan and thanked the Commissioners for their part in the plan. Dr. Brown shared that revenues are currently at 92.3% of the current estimate and investment income is tracking a bit behind but will likely catch up.

New Business

Commissioner Davis stated the updates provided this morning were content rich and appreciates the work of all those involved.

Dr. Brown added there would be 5 businesses receiving excellence rewards for weights and measures accuracy.

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, Jason Grubb, Corey Clark, Tony Vogel, Alex Lape, Samantha Green, Gary Hummel, Audrey Stoffel, Dennis Keller, Dr. Carri Brown, Judy Stemen, Lisa McKenzie, Jon Kochis, Stephanie Hall, Dan Neeley, Ray Stemen, Stephanie Taylor, Steven Darnell, Josh Horacek, Amy Brown-Thompson, Raz Sabaiduc and Rick Szabrak.

Attending virtually: Vince Carpico, Brian Wolfe, James Bahnsen, Shelby Hunt, Stacy Hicks, Becky, Lynette Barnhart, Shannon Carter, CD Collins and Tiffany Wilson.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Announcements

There were no announcements.

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Approval of Review and Regular Meeting Minutes and Budget Hearing Minutes for October 25, 2022

On the motion of Steve Davis and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Review and Regular Meeting Minutes and the Budget Hearing Minutes for the Tuesday, October 25, 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:

- 2022-11.01.a A resolution authorizing the approval of a proclamation.
- 2022-11.01.b A resolution renewing a contract with the City of Lancaster and the Board of Commissioners, for Criminal Prosecution Services
- 2022-11.01.c A resolution to approve the Holiday Schedule for 2023.
- 2022-11.01.d A resolution authorizing to Appropriate from Unappropriated into a major expenditure category to the General Fund# 1001 and fund to fund transfer to the Capital Improvement Fund# 3435 -Fairfield County Commissioners
- 2022-11.01.e A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated funds in a major expenditure object category for fund# 2675 CDBG Program Income - Fairfield County Commissioners
- 2022-11.01.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, for assistance to the Salvation Army, a non-entity, anticipating a payment as a beneficiary to allow for support of the adult day care program which was negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 2022-11.01.g 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

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:

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- 2022-11.01.h A resolution authorizing the approval to extend the repayment date of advance of fund #2881 EV Charging Station fund – Economic & Workforce Development
- 2022-11.01.i A resolution authorizing the approval of repayment of an advance to the General Fund – Fund #2718 EDA CARES Act Fund

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:

- 2022-11.01.j A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure object category County Engineer 2024-Motor Vehicle for fuel expenses
- 2022-11.01.k A resolution to request for appropriations for additional unanticipated receipts of memo receipts and memo expenses for fund 3434 PLE-29 Bridge Replacement Project
- 2022-11.01.l A resolution to request for appropriations for additional unanticipated receipts of memo receipts and memo expenses for fund 3445 BER-26 bridge replacement
- 2022-11.01.m A resolution to request for appropriations for additional unanticipated receipts of memo receipts and memo expenses for fund 3445 Refugee Rd CR7-1.94
- 2022-11.01.n A resolution authorizing Jeremiah D. Upp, Fairfield County Engineer, to prepare and submit an application to participate in the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement Program and to execute contracts as required.
- 2022-11.01.o A resolution to approve a Change Order for the MAD-13 Rich Hollow Road Bridge Replacement Project.

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 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 resolution from Fairfield County Family, Adult and Children First Council:

- 2022-11.01.p A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated funds in a major category expense for the Fund# 7521, subfund# 8280 – Family Adult Children First (FACF)

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:

2022-11.01.q A resolution authorizing the approval of repayment of an advance to the General Fund (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 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:

2022-11.01.r A resolution authorizing the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners to enter into a purchase agreement with John Donely to purchase property located in Violet Township, Fairfield County and part of Parcel 0360085200

Utilities Director, Tony Vogel, explained the location of the property.

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:

2022-11.01.s 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 Fix stated his appreciation for the opportunity to hear about the great work happening in Fairfield County.
With no further business, on the motion of Steve Davis and a second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn at 10:50 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, November 8, 2022.

