Budget Hearing - Juvenile/Probate Court

The Commissioners met at 8:30 a.m. to discuss the Juvenile/Probate Court 2018 budget. Commissioner Davis called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Mike Kiger and Dave Levacy. Also present were Carri Brown, Rachel Elsea, Judge Terre Vandervoort, and Jennifer Sitterly-Baum.

Judge Vandervoort distributed a brief synopsis of her request for 2018 along with a table of organization. DYS placements are down for the year. DYS placements are used for juveniles convicted of a felony. MCJDC can only hold a juvenile for 90 days per charge and not much programming is offered. For high risk youth, the judge prefers to use DYS to get the juveniles the treatment and programs they need. Further, MCJDC bed usage is down due to judicial philosophy.

Mr. Davis mentioned that the Commissioners have been raising concerns at MCJDC meetings regarding the number of beds they "lease" - 20 beds. The comparison of what they are paying for per bed to be available compared to what they are paying for usage (\$550/day) is astounding. Fairfield County is using 5 beds a day on average.

The Commissioners and Judge Vandervoort discussed the usage of bed space and options for sub-letting or using the physical space in a different way (e.g. therapeutic programing).

Mr. Davis suggested a workgroup be formed to discuss a three to five-year plan for the bed space at MCJDC.

Judge Vandervoort reviewed the decline of IV-E funding over the years. The formula is projecting \$100,000 - \$150,000 for 2018. Not all youth that are placed are found eligible. IV-E is not a sustainable option for the court. She suggested an office/administrative line item be moved or renamed for placement for the court.

Ms. Brown stated it would be helpful to ask the County Auditor's office what classification to use for placement, and she believed contract services was an acceptable object code, but the County Auditor might prefer a separate or new object code.

The judge went on to say the lines outside of parameters would be salaries as two employees are shifted out of IV-E (Becky Edwards and Maureen Beck).

Mr. Davis asked if this was going from grant (or special revenue funding) to funding by the general fund.

Judge Vandervoort replied that was correct. At this point they are not asking for more placement money, they have zeroed that out from IV-E, and are using another line items for that.

The Judge also indicated that she hopes to have three clerks instead of four if possible with Probate Court to use that funding elsewhere. There is a request for some additional salaries to accommodate the transition plan in Probate Court.

Commissioner Davis reviewed the loss of revenue stream due to the MCO Sales Tax issue, and he stated there was no need for an additional hearing. The hearing closed at 9:08 a.m.

Review

The Commissioners met at 9:08 a.m. to review legal issues and pending or future action items and correspondence. Commissioner Davis called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Dave Levacy, and Mike Kiger. Also present were Carri Brown, Rachel Elsea, and Jennifer Sitterly-Baum.

- Administration and Budget Update/Carri's List
 - a. Highlights of Resolutions

Ms. Brown reported on the highlights of resolutions proposed.

The Sheriff proposed the purchase of a gun by a retiring employee as has been tradition.

The Engineer proposed approval of a change order.

RPC proposed a resolution to approve a Re-Plat of Lots 2 and 2 of the Pheasant Ridge Phase 1 Subdivision.

JFS proposed the approval of a contract for court services relating to child support.

HR proposed the approval of the Careworks contract for a three-year period for FMLA services.

There were financial resolutions proposed, such as:

- Account to account transfers of appropriations to properly classify expenditures for the FCFACF Council (two resolutions) and Juvenile and Probate Court; and
- Appropriations from unappropriated funds for the Sheriff, Treasurer, and Engineer (who also had a memo expense proposed).

b. Additional Review

Ms. Brown shared letters of support provided for the Refugee Road project.

c. Executive Session at 2:30 p.m.

An executive session for imminent litigation was scheduled for 2:30 p.m., arranged by the Prosecutor. This is in addition to the executive session previously scheduled for pending litigation.

Commissioners' Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, November 9, 2017 beginning at 9:10 a.m., with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Dave Levacy, and Mike Kiger. Also present were Carri Brown and Rachel Elsea.

Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Davis asked everyone to rise as able, and he led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements

Commissioner Davis asked if there were any announcements.

There were no announcements.

Public Comment

Commissioner Davis asked if anyone from the public who would like to speak or offer comments.

There were no comments.

Approval of the Engineer's Office Resolutions

On the motion of Dave Levacy and the second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following Engineer's Office resolutions:

A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure

object category County Engineer 2024-Motor Vehicle for snow plow

blade kits [Engineer]

2017-11.09.b A resolution to request for appropriations for additional unanticipated

receipts of memo receipts and memo expenses for fund 3434 GRE-38

Bridge Replacement Project [Engineer]

2017-11.09.c A resolution to approve a Change Order for the 2017 Pavement Markings

Project. [Engineer]

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Dave Levacy, Mike Kiger, and Steve Davis

Approval of the Family, Adult, and Children First Council Resolutions

On the motion of Dave Levacy and the second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following Family, Adult, and Children First Council resolutions:

2017-11.09.d A resolution approving an account to account transfer Fund 7521 Family

Adult Children First Council. [Family, Adult and Children First Council]

2017-11.09.e A resolution approving an account to account transfer Fund 7521 Family

Adult Children First Council. [Family, Adult and Children First Council]

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Dave Levacy, Mike Kiger, and Steve Davis

Approval of Human Resources Resolution

On the motion of Dave Levacy and the second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Human Resources resolution authorizing the approve of a contract with CareWorks Absence Management for professional service and administration of Family Medical Leave; see resolution 2017-11.09.f.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Dave Levacy, Mike Kiger, and Steve Davis

Approval of Juvenile/Probate Court Resolution

On the motion of Dave Levacy and the second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Juvenile/Probate Court resolution approving an account to account transfer; see resolution 2017-11.09.h.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Dave Levacy, Mike Kiger, and Steve Davis

Approval of Human Resources Resolution

On the motion of Dave Levacy and the second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Human Resources resolution authorizing the approve of a contract with CareWorks Absence Management for professional service and administration of Family Medical Leave; see resolution 2017-11.09.f.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Dave Levacy, Mike Kiger, and Steve Davis

Approval of the JFS Resolutions

On the motion of Dave Levacy and the second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the JFS resolutions regarding a Purchase of Title IV-D Contract between

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Fairfield County Job & Family Services, Child Support Enforcement Agency and Fairfield County Domestic Relations Court; see resolution 2017-11.09.g

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Dave Levacy, Mike Kiger, and Steve Davis

Approval of the Regional Planning Commission Resolution

On the motion of Dave Levacy and the second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Regional Planning Commission resolution to approve a Re-plat of Lots 2 and 2 of the Peasant Ridge Phase 1 Subdivision; see resolution 2017-09.i.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Dave Levacy, Mike Kiger, and Steve Davis

Approval of the Sheriff's Office Resolution

On the motion of Dave Levacy and the second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following Sheriff's Office resolutions:

2017-11.09.j A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure

object category Sheriff's Office Fund 2442 Commissary [Sheriff]

2017-11.09.k A resolution to approve the purchasing of a gun by a retiring officer

Sheriff's Office [Sheriff]

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Dave Levacy, Mike Kiger, and Steve Davis

Approval of the Treasurer's Office Resolutions

On the motion of Dave Levacy and the second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Treasurer's Office resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure object category Treasurer's Office Fund 2804 DTAC; see resolution 2017-11.09.1.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Dave Levacy, Mike Kiger, and Steve Davis

Executive Session - Pending Litigation

On the motion of Steve Davis and second of Dave Levacy, the Board voted to enter Executive Session to discuss pending litigation at 9:14 a.m.

Discussion: Commissioner Levacy stated that the following people be included in the executive session: Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Levacy, Commissioner Kiger, Carri Brown, Jeff Porter, outside legal counsel, representatives from the Sheriff's Office, Kyle Witt, Rachel Elsea, Joshua Horacek, and Amy Brown-Thompson.

Roll call on the motion as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Steve Davis, Dave Levacy, and Mike Kiger.

On the motion of Dave Levacy and second of Mike Kiger, the Board voted to exit Executive Session at 9:43 a.m.

Roll call on the motion as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Dave Levacy, Mike Kiger, and Steve Davis

Budget Hearing - Dog Shelter

The Commissioners met at 9:45 a.m. to discuss the Dog Shelter 2018 budget. Commissioner Davis called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Mike Kiger and Dave Levacy. Also present were Carri Brown, Rachel Elsea, and Todd McCullough.

Mr. Davis thanked Mr. McCullough for attending and asked him to present upon his budget.

Mr. McCullough reviewed the information distributed including the most recent 2018 budget. Changes included changes to the dog licensing system. In the past, this has been budgeted high, now they are being much more conservative. The office is complying with all 2018 parameters. Mr. McCullough reviewed the 2018 estimated carryover, \$299,568. He also reviewed the proposed revenues and expenditures for next year.

The department mission and table of organization was also included. The goals, objectives, and challenged were reviewed. All goals and objectives have been achieved for this year. 2018 goals and objectives include completing internalizing the process for medical care; completing the renovation and opening of the new Medical Intake Facility; and identifying additional opportunities to improve revenues and funding streams to improve sustainability.

Ms. Brown stated that the County Auditor had previously commented upon the complexity of changing the dollar amounts for dog licensing and asked if this was because software was outdated.

Mr. McCullough replied that he thought that was the issue as many counties already use that same system and did not have issues.

The challenges for 2018 include closely monitoring the impacts of the 2018 license changes; continuing to build and enhance stakeholder relationship, carefully managing spending to ensure proper account balances during improvements; and continuing to manage the demands of increasing service requests.

Mr. Levacy asked if notices were sent to renew licenses as he did not receive one.

Mr. McCullough replied that one should have been sent and he would research that. Ms. Brown wondered if the addresses included post office boxes, as that could be an issue in this case.

Mr. McCullough wrapped up the presentation with an overview of statistics for the year.

Mr. Kiger asked if veterinarians were still donating their time.

Mr. McCullough replied that most still were.

Mr. Davis commended Mr. McCullough on his turnaround of the Dog Shelter.

With no need for an additional hearing, the hearing was closed at 10:05 a.m.

Budget Hearing - Veterans Service Commission

The Commissioners met at 10:05 a.m. to discuss the Veterans Service Commission 2018 budget. Commissioner Davis called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Mike Kiger and Dave Levacy. Also present were Carri Brown, Rachel Elsea, Park Russell, Al Moller, and Kenneth Gregg.

Mr. Davis thanked everyone for attending and asked them to review their proposed budget.

Mr. Russell replied there were not any major things coming up for 2018. All vehicles, equipment, and furniture have been purchased. The biggest change will be the salaries (at 2%) and rent. Salaries were increased last year for drivers to have more hours to help get more veterans to the clinic. They are focusing on advertising (will be running an add every week) and outreach to veterans.

The transportation of veterans was also discussed and options are being explored.

Mr. Moller stated that they expect the budget to go up in future years for outreach.

With no need for an additional hearing, the hearing was closed at 10:26 a.m.

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Budget Hearing - Board of Elections

The Commissioners met at 10:40 a.m. to discuss the Board of Elections 2018 budget. Commissioner Davis called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Mike Kiger and Dave Levacy. Also present were Carri Brown, Rachel Elsea, Jeff Porter, Jennifer Sitterly-Baum.

The Board of Elections Budget Hearing was rescheduled for Tuesday, November 14th at 9:15 a.m.

Commissioner Davis stated at 10:55 a.m. that the Commission would be in recess until the County Engineer arrived for his Budget Hearing.

Budget Hearing - Engineer

The Commissioners met at 11: a.m. to discuss the Engineer's 2018 budget. Commissioner Davis called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Mike Kiger and Dave Levacy. Also present were Carri Brown, Rachel Elsea, and Jeremiah Upp.

Mr. Davis thanked Mr. Upp for attending and arriving early. He asked him to provide an overview for his budget.

Mr. Upp stated that everything is balanced for the year. The only issue is that things are getting more expensive, but they are getting creative to bridge gaps. They are experiencing turnover in the mechanic position due to demand elsewhere.

Mr. Davis asked if the salary line item was within the 2% parameter.

Mr. Upp replied that was the case except for his two deputies at 4% and superintendent and fiscal officer at 3%. The union contract is up in 2018 for 2019-2021. Those negotiations will take place later summer to early fall.

Mr. Davis asked if Mr. Upp thought the increases for the upper management would be of discussion later in the summer or early fall. Mr. Upp stated that was a possibility and that he was structuring staff to best serve the needs of the office.

Mr. Davis asked what the projected carryover including 2017 was.

Mr. Upp replied it was over \$2,000,000. The biggest reason for having this amount of a carryover is looking at the trend for where they are when bidding projects as they must encumber money at that time.

Mr. Upp mentioned legislation has made the opportunity for another \$5 motor vehicle licensing increase. He would like to sit down to discuss that at some point. The last increase resulted in an extra \$450,000 a year for paving projects which are hard to fund. He believes this new fee would need to be acted on by July 18, 2018. Mr. Upp will send more information to the Commissioners.

Mr. Davis stated the Commission would take the suggestion for the fee increase under advisement.

Mr. Levacy asked if the health insurance rates staying the same this year helped employees.

Mr. Upp replied that his employees know they have a good plan but he hasn't heard anything specific about the lack of a rate increase. He will deal with the health insurance when they negotiate with the union in the fall. He thought that it was a good thing right now that there was no negative news.

Ms. Brown indicated she noticed a sign issue with the revenue reported on the hard copies of the MUNIS reports, and she will follow up on that item.

With no need for an additional hearing, the budget hearing was closed at 11:30 a.m.

Commissioner Davis stated at 11:31 a.m. that the Commission would be in recess until the 1:00 p.m. Clerk of Courts Budget Hearing.

Budget Hearing – Clerk of Courts

The Commissioners met at 1:03 p.m. to discuss the Clerk of Courts' 2018 budget. Commissioner Davis called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Mike Kiger and Dave Levacy. Also present were Carri Brown, Rachel Elsea, Branden Meyer.

Mr. Davis thanked Mr. Meyer for attending and asked him to review his budget.

Mr. Meyer reviewed court filing and title statistics. Court filings are up, especially criminal cases. Title statistics are down for the year, but this seems to be a trend for the state as last year was an all-time high in terms of volume for most of the dealers in the Columbus area.

Mr. Meyer also reviewed accomplishments for the year. The ability to take online or over the phone credit cards has greatly helped with customer service. Staff training has been increased through CORSA and the Clerk of Courts Association. Customer service comment cards have also been implemented. All felony cases are now filed with the Common Pleas Court instead of Municipal Court.

The office has factored in a 2% increase for employees. They are not planning on increasing staffing and allocations to special revenue fund and other expenditure areas were adjusted to meet 2018 goals.

Mr. Meyer reviewed the 2017 challenges and results, some of which continue into 2018. He also reviewed the status of historical records.

Goals and objectives for 2018 include continuing to enhance current archiving capabilities and preservations of court records; remaining vigilant to technological advancements; increasing money/collections; continuing participation with outside organization; continuing to improve employees' knowledge, skills, and abilities; purchasing a specific camera for the ability to take passport photos in the Pickerington Title Office; and replacing the use of certified mail with Fed-Ex to eliminate the cost of expensive WALZ mailers.

The Certificate of Title fund transferred surplus amounts in both 2016 and 2017.

Ms. Brown requested that the special revenue fund be adjusted to include the appropriations as estimates for the surplus transfer discussed for 2018 for the Records and Assets projects. She also asked if any additional security cameras were needed at the Pickerington Office.

Mr. Meyer believes they have what they need, they just may not be installed yet.

Ms. Brown stated there could be some cameras from the old jail that could be repurposed if needed.

Commissioner Davis reported minor adjustments, such as for insurance, could be managed administratively. With no need for an additional hearing, the budget hearing was closed at 1:33 p.m.

Commissioner Davis stated at 1:34 p.m. at the Commission would be recess for 15 minutes.

Review

The Commissioners met at 1:49 p.m. to review legal issues and pending or future action items and correspondence. Commissioner Davis called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Dave Levacy, and Mike Kiger. Also present was Carri Brown.

Ms. Brown reported the County Engineer's budget within MUNIS had been corrected for the sign issue for the revenues.

Further, she reported that she was aware of the Common Pleas Court support for the grant recently drafted by Municipal Court probation officials for a jail diversion program. If this program is not funded by the grant, it is reasonable to proceed in thinking that the Common Pleas Court would be supportive of the local funds being available for such a program. We had previously discussed this item during the Municipal Court budget hearing, and she wanted to add this thought today.

Budget Hearing – Domestic Relations Court

The Commissioners met at 1:50 pm to discuss the Domestic Relations Court 2018 budget. Commissioner Davis called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Mike Kiger and Dave Levacy. Also present were Carri Brown, Judge Laura Smith, and Lori Lovas.

Judge Smith reviewed the Domestic Relations Court 2018 budget proposal, which was within the guidance of parameters. She explained the anomaly of how there were budget revisions in 2017 to accommodate an unexpected issue which required a transfer of appropriations.

Commissioner Davis stated how much he and the Commission appreciated the court's adherence to the parameters and guidelines. The MCO issue remains a concern, and he explained that the earlier envisioned plan to rent available jail space was not a viable plan as the Sheriff provided guidance during that office's budget hearing that the Commission should no longer pursue that option as the Sheriff's Office could not manage leasing available jail space.

Judge Smith provided an overview of the Justice for Families grant. This is a three-year grant for \$550,000 (with no local match) to expand visitation services and training relating to domestic violence. She spoke with Judge Landefeld and Judge Fields during the application process of the grant, and Municipal Court is in favor of the training that will be afforded through the grant. The training will be provided to multiple stakeholders. In addition, the expansion of visitation services will allow for the waiting list to be address and for underserviced areas, such as Hocking and Perry counties, to receive services.

Commissioner Davis inquired if the Amstutz building was sufficient for the expanded services. Judge Smith indicated that Dennis Keller was going to review the space again and options were being explored. The Amstutz building is working well now.

Commissioner Levacy indicated that the old jail will be demolished, and the visitation center will need to keep this in mind. Judge Smith reported this was discussed at the Visitation Advisory Council Meeting held yesterday.

Commissioners Davis reported that while there was not a lot of interest in attending the farewell tour of the old jail, that event informed the Commission of the lack of interest in preserving the old jail which was built in 1967. Staff is proceeding with the proper steps to demolish the old jail. He asked if there were any other issues Judge Smith wished to discuss.

Judge Smith thanked the Commission for the upgrades to the flooring at the Hall of Justice, and she noted that while it was good to replace the carpet the new flooring has resulted in an unexpected increase in background noise, and we might need to think of strategies to address sound insulation.

With no need for an additional hearing, the budget hearing was closed at 2:08 p.m.

Commissioner Davis stated at 2:09 p.m. at the Commission would be recess until 2:30 p.m.

Executive Session – Imminent Litigation

On the motion of Steve Davis and second of Dave Levacy, the Board voted to enter Executive Session to discuss imminent litigation at 2:35 p.m.

Discussion: Commissioner Levacy stated that the following people be included in the executive session: Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Levacy, Commissioner Kiger, Carri Brown, Jeff Porter, Kyle Witt, Rachel Elsea, Joshua Horacek, Amy Brown-Thompson, Dale Seif, Rusty Miller, and David Butler.

Roll call on the motion as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Steve Davis, Dave Levacy, and Mike Kiger.

On the motion of Mike Kiger and second of Dave Levacy, the Board voted to exit Executive Session at 3:55 p.m.

Roll call on the motion as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Mike Kiger, Dave Levacy, and Steve Davis

Review (continued)

The Commissioners met at 3:51 p.m. to review legal issues and pending or future action items and correspondence. Commissioner Davis called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Dave Levacy, and Mike Kiger. Also present were Carri Brown, Joshua Horacek, and Prosecutor Kyle Witt.

Approval of Motion to Pursue the Application of the Board of County Commissioners to retain Greene, Ketchum, Farrel, Bailey & Tweel, LLP, to provide legal services as special counsel to the Board of County Commissioners as related to Section 305.14 of the Ohio Revised Code and in connection with the investigation and pursuit of civil litigation relating to the opioid epidemic.

On the motion of Steve Davis and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Motion to Pursue the Application of the Board of County Commissioners to retain Greene, Ketchum, Farrel, Bailey & Tweel, LLP, to provide legal services as special counsel to the Board of County Commissioners as related to Section 305.14 of the Ohio Revised Code and in connection with the investigation and pursuit of civil litigation relating to the opioid epidemic.

Discussion: Commissioner Davis stated that motion allows for the application to be pursued prior to a separate resolution (and decision for authority for representation) to be presented to the Board of Commissioners to review in the future.

Roll call on the motion as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Mike Kiger, Dave Levacy, and Steve Davis

Review (continued)

The Commissioners met at 3:53 p.m. to review legal issues and pending or future action items and correspondence. Commissioner Davis called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Dave Levacy, and Mike Kiger. Also present were Carri Brown, Joshua Horacek, and Prosecutor Kyle Witt.

Ms. Brown reported that the Dog Warden verified that the post office box was missing on the dog licensing notification for Commissioner Levacy, and Commissioner Levacy commented he thought that was the case and he appreciated everyone looking into this as others might be missing their notifications if a post office box was missing from the address.

Ms. Brown reported that the Common Pleas Court was in the process of recommending specific duties for the second deputy recently authorized at the Hall of Justice. She asked for support of the court liaison duties which might take away from originally envisioned roving security details. The Commissioners agreed and were supportive of the Common Pleas Court needs. Ms. Brown indicated she had advised court personnel to present their ideas to Chief Lape.

Adjournment

With no further business, on the motion of Dave Levacy and a second of Mike Kiger the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn at 3:59 p.m.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Dave Levacy, Mike Kiger, and Steve Davis

The next regular meeting for the Board of Commissioners is scheduled for Tuesday, November 14, 2017, at 10:00 a.m.

Motion by:

Seconded by:

that the November 9, 2017, minutes were approved by the following vote:

YEAS:

ABSTENTIONS: None

*Approved on November 14, 2017

Steven A. Davis

Commissioner

Dave Levacy

NAYS: None

Commissioner

Mike Kiger

Commissioner