

**Regular Meeting #49 - 2022  
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office  
November 15, 2022**

**Review Meeting**

The Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. 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: Steve Davis, Dave Levacy, Jeff Fix. Also present: Aundrea Cordle, Jeff Porter, Bennett Niceswanger, Bart Hampson, Tiffany Nash, Tony Vogel, Corey Clark, Steven Darnell, Marty Norris, Dan Neeley, Marcey Shafer, Dr. Carri Brown, Steve Feeney, Christina Foster, Rick Szabrak, Dennis Keller, Judy Stemen and Ray Stemen.

Attending virtually: Tony Vogel, Jeremy Grant, Jeff Barron, Jessica Murphy, Shelby Hunt, Audrey, Becky, Stacy Hicks, Ashley Arter, Branden Meyer, Jeremiah Upp, Michael Kaper, Shannon Carter, Tony Howard and Lori Hawk.

**Welcome**

Commissioner Fix opened the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance and stated his appreciation for being reelected as Commissioner, and congratulated Dr. Carri Brown on being elected as Auditor.

**Listen & Learn – Parks District**

Marcey Shafer, Director of the Fairfield County Parks District, provided an update on the Parks District. She began by introducing the members of the Park Board and the staff of the department. The purpose of the Park District is to protect and conserve natural and historical sites in Fairfield County. Marcey explained some of the structural issues Rock Mill is facing which has caused it to be closed to the public. Marcey also provided updates on several other parks located around Fairfield County, and the features, programs, and services that they have.

Commissioner Levacy asked about the Rookery located in Baltimore.

Marcey explained in the coming weeks there will be a removal of buildings. It is called the Rookery because it is one of the largest heron rookeries south of Lake Erie. Once the buildings are gone, they will do a trail system.

Commissioner Davis asked Marcey about the fiscal horizon of the Park District.

Marcey stated the department successfully passed its second levy last May. She thinks they are in a good position to maintain the parks that are currently open.

Commissioner Davis asked if there was a metric on visitation.

Marcey stated they track visitation, and reported a 40% increase during the pandemic, and have maintained a 20% increase compared to pre-pandemic levels.

Commissioner Davis asked if the Park District had any event centers.

Marcey stated they have three covered bridges that can be rented for weddings, as well as other rooms and barns that can be rented.

**Public Comments**

Ray Stemen from Lancaster spoke about being displeased with the election results from the previous week.

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

Steve Feeney voiced his opposition to solar installations in Fairfield County.

**Legal Update**

No legal update.

**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, \$19.4M has been appropriated, \$9.8M expended, \$5.0M encumbered or obligated.

Commissioner Davis asked if 9.8 expended means \$9.8 million dollars that was in the county treasury has now left the county treasury.

County Administrator, Aunie Cordle, confirmed this was the case.

**NatureWorks Grant Program**

Ohio Governor Mike DeWine and Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Director Mary Mertz awarded \$1.7 million in grants to support dozens of new outdoor recreation projects in local communities across the state including a project in Fairfield County at the Hunter Barber Campus Park in Thurston for accessible playground equipment and rubber mulch.

NatureWorks grants provide up to 75% reimbursement assistance to local government subdivisions for the acquisition, development, and rehabilitation of recreational areas. Projects are funded through the Ohio Parks and Natural Resources Bond Issue, which was approved by Ohioans in November 1993. Additional legislation authorized the creation of the NatureWorks Grant Program.

Director of Economic Development, Rick Szabrak, stated Hicks Partners will be meeting with the county as a whole to talk about how they can be helpful to all departments next year.

**Highlights of Resolutions**

**Administrative Approvals**

The review packet contains a list of administrative approvals.

**Resolution Review**

There are 23 resolutions for the voting meeting.

**Resolutions of note:**

- A resolution approving the appointment of Ms. Jodie Phayer Prince to the Fairfield County Foundation Board.
- A resolution to revise prima facie speed limit for Coonpath Road beginning at SR 158 and ending at 0.37 miles west of Stringtown Road from 55 mph to 45 mph.
- A resolution to approve the purchase of Cisco Duo Security licensing and implementation services between CDW-Government under state of Ohio term

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schedule and the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners for the purposes of enhanced security for county operations.

- A resolution to approve an E-Payment Services Agreement between Point and Pay, LLC and Fairfield County for the processing of electronic payments.

IT Director, Dan Neeley, spoke about the Duo Security system and stated it is important for county staff to know it is something that will help give better customer service to citizens due to increased cybersecurity.

#### **Budget Review**

- Level 4 Budget Entry ends November 21

#### **Recognition**

- County Auditor, Dr. Brown, shared appreciation from a constituent with a complex property boundary issue, in part: "Thank you for your help! All the folks in the Auditor's Office are super to work with!"
- County Auditor, Dr. Brown, shared appreciation from LuAnn Davidson: "I wanted to reach out to express my appreciation for the incredible helpfulness of the County Auditor's Payroll Department. Over the past two months I've had to reach out to all of them on multiple occasions, and I am always met with a very cheerful, encouraging response. This makes my job so much smoother and is very much appreciated. Please know how much I appreciate their willingness to assist no matter how minute or expansive the need."
- County Auditor, Dr. Brown, shared appreciation for Juvenile Court's Resource Center: Thanks for the innovative (and ongoing) Wheel of Fortune activities that help promote positive life lessons. The 212-The Extra Degree book to support extraordinary results that is part of the County Auditor's book club was shared on November 10th.
- County Auditor, Dr. Brown, shared that the tax abstract for the ensuing year was approved by the state of Ohio (as of 11.8.2022) much earlier than it has been approved in the past!
- Thanks to all of the County employees that participated in the United Way run/walk this past weekend.
- Thank you to Lori Hawk for her work on the County's United Way campaign.
- Thank you to Dennis Keller and others for their work on the Board of Elections drive-thru drop box. It received a lot of use this year.
- Thank you to the facilities team for their work in preparing the Fairfield Center for today's roundtable and for putting some holiday touches on the courthouses.

#### **Calendar Review/Invitations Received**

- Investment Advisory Committee Meeting, Tuesday, November 15, 2022, at 10:45 a.m. in the Commissioners' Hearing Room (Fix, Davis, Levacy)
- Roundtable meeting, Tuesday, November 15, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. at the Fairfield Center, 12941 Stonecreek Dr., Pickerington, OH (Davis)(Levacy)

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- Developmental Disabilities Meeting, Tuesday, November 15, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. at the DD Admin Building, 795 College Ave., Lancaster, OH (Fix)
- FACFC Annual Meeting, Thursday, November 17, 2022, at 8:30 a.m. at the Life Church Vineyard, 5550 Lancaster-Newark Rd. NE, Pleasantville, OH (Fix)(Levacy)
- Lancaster Fairfield Community Action Agency Meeting, Thursday, November 17, 2022, at 11:30 a.m., online via Zoom (Levacy)
- 2022 Red Kettle Campaign Kick-off Luncheon, Thursday, November 17, 2022, at 11:30 a.m. at The Mill Event Center, 431 S. Columbus St., Lancaster, OH (Fix)
- MCJDC Board of Trustees Meeting, Friday, November 18, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. at the Multi-County Juvenile Detention Center, 923 Liberty Dr., Lancaster, OH (Davis)
- MCJDC Joint Board of Commissioners Meeting, Friday, November 18, 2022, at 10:30 a.m. at the Multi-County Juvenile Detention Center, 923 Liberty Dr., Lancaster, OH (Davis, Levacy)
- Invitation for the South Licking Watershed Conservancy District Annual Meeting, Friday, December 16, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. at the Licking County Courthouse in Judge Marcelain's court room, 20 S. 2nd St., Newark, OH

### **Correspondence**

#### ***Items Requiring Response***

#### ***Informational Items***

- Letter from the Fairfield County Auditor, subject: Update on Special Projects, Tax Increment Financing Resource, & New Construction Summary
- Press Release from Fairfield County ADAMH, titled "Fairfield County ADAMH welcomes new service provider", dated Wednesday, November 9, 2022

#### ***Jail Population***

- November 8 was 280 with 40 of those being contracted placements
- November 15 is 285 with 39 of those being contracted placements

### **Old Business**

Commissioner Fix spoke about attending the Ohio ESC Awards event where he and Commissioner Levacy accepted the Torch Award on behalf on the Commission. He also had the chance to present at the Rotary meeting yesterday and share what is happening with county government. Finally, Commissioner Fix mentioned recent conversations he has had with the townships to increase awareness of development efforts in Fairfield County.

County Auditor, Dr. Carri Brown, spoke about the drop-in meetings that payroll is offering.

### **New Business**

Dr. Carri Brown spoke about the increase in new construction. She anticipates more TIF work in the future.

Facilities Director, Dennis Keller, stated the courthouse parking lot has reopened. He also spoke about the cooling tower upgrades on the courthouse which had to be postponed due to weather.

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Emergency Management Specialist, Tiffany Nash, added she hopes to have a hazard mitigation plan prepared to present for next week.

**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, Bennett Niceswanger, Bart Hampson, Tiffany Nash, Tony Vogel, Corey Clark, Steven Darnell, Marty Norris, Dan Neeley, Marcy Shaffer, Dr. Carri Brown, Steve Feeney, Christina Foster, Rick Szabrak, Dennis Keller, Judy Stemen, Ray Stemen, Amy Brown-Thompson and Kyle Witt.

Attending virtually: Tony Vogel, Jeremy Grant, Jeff Barron, Jessica Murphy, Shelby Hunt, Audrey, Becky, Stacy Hicks, Ashley Arter, Branden Meyer, Jeremiah Upp, Michael Kaper, Shannon Carter, Tony Howard and Lori Hawk.

**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 November 8, 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, November 8, 2022 meeting.

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 Board of Commissioners**

On the motion of Steve Davis and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from the Board of Commissioners:

2022-11.15.a      A resolution approving the appointment of Ms. Jodie Phayer Prince to the Fairfield County Foundation Board

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 Auditor - Payroll**

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 Auditor - Payroll:

2022-11.15.b      A resolution authorizing a memo expense memo receipt for the General Fund 2% administration fee for managing the county self-insurance program, Fund# 5376 TO GENERAL #1001 – Fairfield County Auditor



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- 2022-11.15.c      A resolution authorizing a memo expense memo receipt for the General Fund 2% administration fee for managing the county self-insurance program, Fund# 5376 TO GENERAL #1001 – Fairfield County Auditor

Commissioner Davis spoke about signing up for Virgin Pulse and enjoys the benefits of the app.

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:

- 2022-11.15.d      A resolution to revise prima facie speed limit for Coonpath Road (CR31)
- 2022-11.15.e      A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure object category County Engineer 2024-Motor Vehicle for repairs

County Engineer, Jeremiah Upp, stated ODOT conducted a study and concluded the speed limit of Coonpath Road should be reduced.

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 Facilities**

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 Facilities:

- 2022-11.15.f      A Resolution for Approval of Change Order No. 3 to the Contract between Veregy-Dynamix Energy Services and the Fairfield County Commissioners

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:

- 2022-11.15.g      A resolution to approve the purchase of Cisco Duo Security licensing and implementation services between CDW-Government under state of Ohio term schedule 534605 and the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners for the purposes of enhanced security for county operations.

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 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

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| 2022-11.15.h | A resolution authorizing the approval to extend the repayment date of an advance of funds – Fund (2072) Public Children Services, sub-fund (8182) EPIC Grant |
| 2022-11.15.i | A resolution regarding Network Placement and Related Services Agreement between Reflections Group Home II and Child Protective Services Department           |
| 2022-11.15.j | A resolution regarding Network Placement and Related Services Agreement between Gulf Coast Treatment Center and Child Protective Services Department         |
| 2022-11.15.k | A resolution regarding Network Placement and Related Services Agreement between Belmont Pines Hospital & RTC and Child Protective Services Department        |
| 2022-11.15.l | A resolution regarding Network Placement and Related Services Agreement between Acts 1:8 Housing and Child Protective Services Department                    |
| 2022-11.15.m | A resolution to approve a memo receipt and expenditure for Fairfield County Job & Family Services, Fund 2758 reimbursing Fund 2018                           |
| 2022-11.15.n | A resolution to approve a memo receipt and expenditure for Fairfield County Job & Family Services, Fund 2072 reimbursing Fund 2018                           |
| 2022-11.15.o | A resolution to approve a memo receipt and expenditure for Fairfield County Job & Family Services, Fund 2015 reimbursing Fund 2018                           |
| 2022-11.15.p | 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 Regional Planning Commission**

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 Regional Planning Commission:

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| 2022-11.15.q | A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure object category – Juvenile Court Fund #2036 Department of Youth Services (reclaim) |
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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 Recorder**

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 Recorder:

2022-11.15.r      Resolution approving account to account transfer to allow proper classification of major expenditure object categories.

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 Regional Planning Commission**

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 Regional Planning Commission:

2022-11.15.s      A resolution to approve Final Acceptance of the Meadowmoore Section 2, Phase 2 Subdivision

2022-11.15.t      A resolution to approve Final Acceptance of the Meadowmoore Section 4 Subdivision

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 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:

2022-11.15.u      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 the Fairfield County Treasurer**

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 Treasurer:

2022-11.15.v      A resolution to approve an E-Payment Services Agreement between Point and Pay, LLC and Fairfield County for the processing of electronic payments

Commissioner Davis asked what the service fee would be in this situation

Administrator Cordle provided the service fees associated with each type of payment.

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 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:

2022-11.15.w      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

Executive Session

On the motion of Steve Davis and a second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to move to Executive Session to discuss pending litigation at 10:12 a.m.

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

On the motion of Steve Davis and a second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to leave Executive Session at 10:45 a.m.

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

Adjournment

With no further business, on the motion of Steve Davis and a second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn at 10:46 a.m.

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

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Motion by: Steve Davis      Seconded by: Dave Levacy  
that the November 15, 2022, Review Session and Regular minutes were approved by the following vote:

YEAS: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, Dave Levacy      NAYS: None  
ABSTENTIONS: None

\*Approved on November 22, 2022.

Jeff Fix  
Commissioner

Dave Levacy  
Commissioner

Steven A. Davis  
Commissioner

Bennett Niceswanger, Asst. Clerk