

**Regular Meeting #56 - 2020**  
**Fairfield County Commissioners' Office**  
**November 24, 2020**

**Review**

The Commissioners met at 9:00 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, Jeff Fix, and Dave Levacy. Also present were Carri Brown, Rachel Elsea, Amy Brown-Thompson, Thomas Lininger, Tony Vogel, Dennis Keller, and Lauren Strope. Attending virtually were Jim Bahnsen, Chris Wagner, CJ Roberts, Dave Burgei, Diana Steckman, Donna Fox-Moore, Stephanie Fyffe, Jeff Porter, Jon Kochis, Jon Slater, Joshua Horacek, Larry Hanna, Lisa McKenzie, Mark Conrad, David Miller, Dave Burgei, Jeff Barron, Joshua Horacek, Chief Lape, Aunie Cordle, Stacy Hicks, Rick Szabrak, Nikki Drake, Tammy Smith, and Tony Howard.

- Welcome

Commissioner Davis welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Commissioners welcomed Lauren Strope, who will be replacing Shar Bails' position when Shar Bails is promoted at the Regional Planning Commission.

- COVID-19 Update

Jon Kochis, EMA Director, and others provided an update on the COVID-19 responses. Fairfield County cases continue to be increasing. Franklin County is now designated as "purple" in the state's advisory system.

Mr. Kochis shared a link to hospital admissions. [https://ohiohospitals.org/News-Publications/COVID-19-Dashboard?\\_cldee=amtlbGxlckBjZW50cmFsb2hpb3RyYXVtYXN5c3RlbS5vcmc%3d&recipientid=contact-541854b8af67ea11a2db005056a0e71c-8f9651b171ac47f08a197d0f30e8f029&esid=26045eba-732b-eb11-a2ee-005056a0e71c](https://ohiohospitals.org/News-Publications/COVID-19-Dashboard?_cldee=amtlbGxlckBjZW50cmFsb2hpb3RyYXVtYXN5c3RlbS5vcmc%3d&recipientid=contact-541854b8af67ea11a2db005056a0e71c-8f9651b171ac47f08a197d0f30e8f029&esid=26045eba-732b-eb11-a2ee-005056a0e71c)

He also reviewed the current inpatient census numbers for Fairfield Medical Center.

Ms. Fyffe reported the total number of cases for Monday (Friday through Sunday) was 336. The computer system the state has used for many years was having issues pulling reports due to the large number of cases and large number of individuals trying to access the system. The system seems to be working fine this morning.

Ms. Fyffe reminded everyone who plans on spending Thanksgiving outside of the home to wear masks and social distance.

Mr. Hanna mentioned the statement issued by the Health Department regarding discouraging all activities that take place indoors and are not in the household. This statement was in the review packet.

There will be a COVID test site on December 8<sup>th</sup> from 10 am – 2 pm at the Ed Sands building at the Fairgrounds. The National Guard will do the testing. They are anticipating 400-500 people.

Dr. Brown reported the Health Department had sought financial support from the county for this event, and the county will pay for the costs of the building and special deputy coverage on behalf of the Health Department.

We received a statement from Dr. Aebi about the importance of wearing masks. It was also the review packet.

We have made even more progress on our communication plan. Commissioner Davis commended Dr. Brown for how she has shared information to help the state overall. Dr. Brown was asked to participate in a series of meetings with the Governor and his staff (on Monday, November 23) to help share information about how to conduct a local communications plan. The audience will be comprised of other county officials.

**Regular Meeting #56 - 2020**  
**Fairfield County Commissioners' Office**  
**November 24, 2020**

We have a dashboard of activities from Krile Communications which show some metrics that are helpful in demonstrating how we are reaching others. PSAs and radio spots are ready to go. We have tax bill inserts, Utility bill inserts, and other mailings ready. We have posted multiple things in social media. Billboards continue to be used. We have sent materials to stakeholders.

Senator Schaffer requested a copy of our communication plan, and it was provided.

Also, Ellen Short with Senator Brown's Office called to see how Fairfield County was faring. She also has a copy of the communications plan and graphics from our billboards, too.

Dr. Brown urged everyone to support the Governor and Lt. Governor during what must be a difficult time for them. She stated she appreciated the leadership they are showing and noted it was a source of inspiration for many.

Mr. Davis believes Governor DeWine is listening to the Commissioners' request to let them handle the situation so he does not have to.

Mr. Levacy stated that Governor DeWine is doing all that he can, and Mr. Levacy believes Fairfield County must do all they can.

Mr. Fix agreed with the concept of trying to keep businesses open. He has said to the Governor and everyone else that the Governor has been put in an impossible situation and is doing the best he can. He is sure there are things the Governor wishes he can do differently, but he has done a great job. It makes Mr. Fix crazy that people are trying to take advantage of the situation for their own political wellbeing.

- Legal Update

HB 404 passed, and there is now ability to continue remote options for public meetings until July 1, 2021.

- CARES Act Funds

We continue to gather information about eligible expenses. The redistribution of funds will occur November 25. The County Auditor will be managing that process. Based on the responses received, the amount Fairfield County is eligible to receive with the redistribution is \$155,744.17, and we will be able to expend that amount.

The County Auditor will have details about entities that did and did not use the funding.

- Administration and Budget Update/Carri's List

- a. Announcements & Date Reminders

- Announcements

Anyone can email or text a question anytime:

Carri.Brown@FairfieldCountyOhio.gov  
 (740) 777-8552

- Date Reminders

The 2021 dates are firming up very well.

The State of the County Address was changed to May 11 to accommodate the May 4 MCJDC Annual Meeting.

There were several "lunch n learn" sessions added.

**Regular Meeting #56 - 2020**  
**Fairfield County Commissioners' Office**  
**November 24, 2020**

The proclamation and budget hearing dates are set.

**Thursday & Friday, November 26, 27 – Thanksgiving Holiday – Happy Thanksgiving!**

**The review packet contained a Happy Thanksgiving message!**

Thursday, December 3 – Viewing Day – with the County Engineer  
Tuesday, December 8 – Target Date to Pass the County Budget  
Thursday, December 24, Christmas Eve – Courthouse Closes at Noon  
Friday, December 25, Christmas – Offices are Closed

Friday, January 1 – New Year's Day, Offices are Closed  
Monday, January 11 – Reorganizational Meeting  
Tuesday, January 12- First Regular Meeting of 2021

Mr. Davis stated he is hopeful that everyone finds a little opportunity to remind themselves of the things they do have to be thankful for.

Mr. Levacy echoed Mr. Davis' comments and added that we have a lot to be thankful for.

b. Highlights of Resolutions

There were 27 resolutions for the voting meeting. Dr. Brown highlighted the items.

JFS proposed a contract for transportation services. This is their normal process following requests for proposals. (There are four additional contracts in queue.)

We proposed a resolution to vacate Lockville Alley, following the viewing and hearing from last week.

We proposed reappointment of Vic Christopher and Mary Snider to the Revolving Loan Fund Committee along with adjustment to allow for three terms of service for the RLF Committee, as approved by the RLF Committee last week.

We proposed the purchase of a crane truck for Utilities as competitively bid through the Department of Administrative Services.

RPC proposed development agreements for Herron Crossing West, Sections 2 and 3, as previously approved by the RPC (two resolutions).

The Sheriff's Office proposed the purchase of a gun by a retiring officer (Sheriff Phalen). This is an option that has been provided as a matter of course for many years.

There were 20 *financial and grant related resolutions* to approve:

- Approval of the amended EDA loan and CARES Act RLF programs;
- Appropriations from unappropriated for unexpected marketing expenses and vacation payout expenses (for the general fund);
- Repayment of an advance from Juvenile Court and the request for two extensions for Juvenile Court and one extension from JFS (four resolutions);
- Account to account transfers for the Sheriff, Prosecutor, Juvenile/Probate Court, JFS, and Economic and Workforce Development to properly classify expenditures (seven resolutions);
- A grant adjustment for CFLP from Community Action, like account to account transfers;
- Appropriations for the County Engineer, Sheriff, and DD (five resolutions); and

Regular Meeting #56 - 2020  
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office  
November 24, 2020

- The payment of bills over \$100,000 (for a Land Bank transfer of funds).

In queue, there were financial and contracting resolutions at various stages of progress.

For example, two fund to fund transfers were already in queue (for the Engineer and EMA). In addition, we are exploring the opportunity to potentially waive lodging tax administrative fees for 2020 and 2021 to promote tourism promotions as a time when the pandemic subsides. That resolution might not be available until December 8, as we are gathering information.

c. Administrative Approvals, Program, & Budget Update

Administrative Approvals and Update

Administrative Approvals

The review packet contained a list of *administrative approvals*. There were no questions.

Idea Box Update

Congratulations to the 2020 idea box honorees:

Christy Noland (2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row!) – for her idea to help improve communication about ACH deposits.

Lori Kidder – for her idea to adjust all employee access cards for the Records Center for ease in access to the exercise equipment.

Jodi Smith – for her idea to improve electronic and other communication about HR and health benefits.

Each will be honored with a \$100 bronze level incentive based on policy established on April 2, 2019. GREAT JOB!

We have addressed 39 of 41 ideas submitted.

These ideas are under review with IT and have been presented to the Data Board. They are for reviewing the password process and for adding a distress button icon on computers. We will also research the distress button idea with HR and the Security Committee.

Budget Update

The target date for the 2021 budget to be passed is December 8. Level 4 budget entry ended on November 23.

Sales tax receipts will end about 3% above the previous year in total. The auto sales for September dropped from the previous month and previous year (for September) totaling \$375,604, about an 11% drop over last year in this subcategory. Actual receipts for the year will be just short of \$23 M, above \$22.3 M from the previous year.

Here is the total by fund for the first reimbursement of Stafford Act funds; there is \$30,000 more reserved for Fairfield County.

General Fund	38,727.18
DD	2,563.85

**Regular Meeting #56 - 2020  
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office  
November 24, 2020**

JFS

104.61

41,395.64

d. BRAVOS

Thanks to Christy Noland for her work with the Stafford Act submissions.

BRAVO to HR for helping with on-boarding so quickly. Recently, we congratulated Shar Bails with the County Commission on her promotion with the Regional Planning Commission. Congratulations, again, to Shar on this exciting step for her, for RPC, and for Fairfield County. Shar will begin her new position on January 18, and we know there will be a time of training and transition. We will work closely with RPC to make sure things run smoothly with the transition.

We also report that Lauren Strobe has been hired as an Account Clerk 2 with the County Commission. Lauren served as an intern in Fairfield County while she was working on her Master of Arts degree in Political Science and Policy Analysis. Lauren also holds a Bachelor of Arts in Public Administration and is in the process of obtaining a "mini MBA" from Miami University.

Initially, Lauren will be responsible for processing financial activity (such as accounts payable, reporting, and procurement) for the Commissioners and multiple Commissioners' departments. She will also begin to job shadow others on several administrative functions, including the work with the Fairfield County Airport.

We could not be more excited to wish Shar all the best in her new position and to welcome Lauren to Fairfield County.

We are so blessed to have such a strong team in Fairfield County! Donna Fox-Moore said thank you to the FCFACF Council "Firefly" Award Winners (Minute Man Press, Kim Devitt, Sgt. Cassell, and Chris Varnell) and to JFS Youth Partner of the Year, Cindy West, an employee of FCFACF. Thank you to Donna Fox-Moore and Aunie Cordle for hosting such a well-organized and thoughtful annual meeting for FCFACF.

Ms. Fox-Moore provided an update on the annual report and Firefly Award winners.

We congratulate Walnut Township on earning a FEMA grant. On November 18, 2020, FEMA approved a grant award for the Walnut Township Community Safe Room Project funded under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. This project is the construction of concrete dome type community tornado shelter in Fairfield Beach, Ohio. Federal funding in the amount of \$800,000 has been obligated.

The local cost share for this grant award is \$200,000 and is being met with \$100,000 in state funds and \$100,000 in local funds. Bravo to Walnut Township for its continued commitment to hazard mitigation projects.

We previously advised Walnut Township that we would be helpful in loaning money for the project if they needed that type of support.

Thank you to the Facilities and Utilities Team for their collaboration to conserve general fund resources.

- Old Business

- a. Commissioner Communications

- 1. CCAO Board of Directors Meeting

**Regular Meeting #56 - 2020  
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office  
November 24, 2020**

Mr. Fix provided an update on the CCAO BOD meeting. The topics included policy agenda items for 2021 and planning for the 2020 Virtual Winter Conference.

- New Business
- General Correspondence Received
- Calendar Review/Invitations Received
  - a. Economic Development 411 – December 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. via Zoom – Carri and Rick will attend – Registration is required – Commissioner Fix indicated he would like to attend.
- FYI
  - a. Jail Population – 258
  - b. JFS Holiday Donation Drive
  - c. VCB Update - <https://www.forbes.com/sites/rogersands/2020/11/19/how-does-this-unlikely-state-produce-such-outstanding-wines/?sh=6a6940b72921>
  - d. DACO SWOT Completed & DACO will be closed temporarily due to the pandemic.
  - e. Thank you letter from South Licking Watershed Conservancy District
  - f. Thank you from the Fairfield County Fair Board
  - g. More than 75,000 are part of the three libraries in Fairfield County.
  - h. Public records requests can be made to [Rachel.Elsea@fairfieldcountyohio.gov](mailto:Rachel.Elsea@fairfieldcountyohio.gov) or [Carri.Brown@fairfieldcountyohio.gov](mailto:Carri.Brown@fairfieldcountyohio.gov)
- Open Items (none)

Commissioner Davis stated at 9:50 a.m. that the Commission would be in recess until the 10:00 a.m. voting meeting.

**Update from Facilities and Utilities**

The Commissioners met at 9:46 a.m. for an update from Facilities and Utilities. Commissioner Davis called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Jeff Fix, and Dave Levacy. Also present were Carri Brown, Rachel Elsea, Amy Brown-Thompson, Thomas Lininger, Tony Vogel, Dennis Keller, Lauren Strobe, and Tammy Smith. Attending virtually were Jim Bahnsen, Chris Wagner, CJ Roberts, Aunie Cordle, Dave Burgei, David Miller, Diana Steckman, Donna Fox-Moore, Jeff Barron, Jeff Porter, Jon Kochis, Jon Slater, Joshua Horacek, Chief Lape, Lisa McKenzie, Mark Conrad, Nikki Drake, Rick Szabrak, Stacey Hicks, and Tony Howard.

Mr. Keller and Mr. Vogel reviewed the attached information highlighting the goals from June to have the Facilities department work part time as Utilities employees to help conserve general fund resources during the pandemic. The Utilities Department received the benefit of help and did not have to fill some vacant positions or hire summer help. The Facilities team learned more about county operations.

Mr. Vogel reviewed the projects and thanked Ms. Tammy Smith and Mr. Josh Anders for coordinating efforts. Mr. Keller indicated the project was perfect for the situation.

The Commissioners complimented both departments on the work and collaboration.

**Regular Meeting #56 - 2020  
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office  
November 24, 2020**

**Commissioners' Regular Meeting**

A regular meeting of the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, November 24, 2020, beginning at 10:00 a.m., with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Jeff Fix, and Dave Levacy. Also present were Carri Brown, Rachel Elsea, Amy Brown-Thompson, Thomas Lininger, Lauren Strobe, Tony Vogel, Dennis Keller, and Tammy Smith. Joining via teleconference were Jim Bahnsen, Chris Wagner, CJ Roberts, Dave Burgei, David Miller, Donna Fox-Moore, Jeff Barron, Jeff Porter, Jon Kochis, Jon Slater, Joshua Horacek, Chief Lape, Nikki Drake, Rick Szabrak, and Stacy Hicks.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Commissioner Davis led everyone in the pledge of allegiance.

**Announcements**

Commissioner Davis asked if there were any announcements.

**Public Comment**

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

**Approval of Minutes for Tuesday, November 17, 2020**

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 17, 2020 Regular Meeting.

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

**Approval of the Commissioners' Resolutions**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following Commissioners' Office resolutions:

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| 2020-11.24.a | A resolution approving a vacation request to vacate a part of a public road, Lockville Alley in Violet Township. [Commissioners]  |
| 2020-11.24.b | A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated funds in a major expense object category – Fairfield County Commissioners [Commissioners]   |
| 2020-11.24.c | A resolution for approval and a signature needed by Fairfield County Commissioner David Levacy, on the CFLP Solid Waste District Recycling Services contract 4th Quarter 2020 budget revision request. [Community Action] |

Discussion: Mr. Davis stated there was no concern with the vacation of the alley and noted that both sides of the alley had already been vacated.

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

**Approval of the Board of Developmental Disabilities Resolution**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Board of Developmental Disabilities resolution to approve additional appropriations by appropriating from unappropriated into a major expense object category – Fund #2060; see resolution 2020-11.24.d.

**Regular Meeting #56 - 2020  
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office  
November 24, 2020**

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

**Approval of the Economic and Workforce Development Resolutions**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following Economic and Workforce Development resolutions:

- 2020-11.24.e            A resolution approving an account to account transfer in a major object expense category [Economic & Workforce Development]
- 2020-11.24.f            A resolution to approve an amendment to both the Fairfield County EDA RLF Plan and the Fairfield County CARESACT Recovery Assistance RLF and Addendum [Economic & Workforce Development]
- 2020-11.24.g            A resolution approving the reappointments of Mr. Vic Christopher and Ms. Mary Snider to the Fairfield County Revolving Loan Fund. [Economic & Workforce Development]

Discussion: Dr. Brown thanked Mr. Christopher and Ms. Snider for their ongoing service to the RLF. Mr. Davis added they provided a great deal of experience to the board.

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

**Approval of the Engineer's Office Resolutions**

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

- 2020-11.24.h            A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure object category County Engineer 2580-Subdivisions for Spring Creek S3 P1, Views at Pin Hills P2, Heron West S1, Violet Meadows S5 P2 [Engineer]
- 2020-11.24.i            A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure object category County Engineer 2024-Motor Vehicle for safety boots [Engineer]
- 2020-11.24.j            A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure object category County Engineer 2024-Motor Vehicle for signposts [Engineer]

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

**Approval of the JFS Resolutions**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following JFS resolutions:

- 2020-11.24.k            A resolution approving an account to account transfer Fund 2843 Ohio Start [JFS]
- 2020-11.24.l            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 [JFS]
- 2020-11.24.m            A resolution regarding approval of a Purchase of Service Contract by and between Fairfield County Job & Family Services, and Fairfield Center for disabilities and Cerebral Palsy, Inc. [JFS]

**Regular Meeting #56 - 2020  
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office  
November 24, 2020**

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

**Approval of the Juvenile/Probate Court Resolutions**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following Juvenile/Probate Court resolutions:

- |              |  |
|--------------|--|
| 2020-11.24.n | A resolution approving an account to account transfer [Juvenile Court]<br>[Juvenile/Probate Court]   |
| 2020-11.24.o | A resolution approving an account to account transfer [Juvenile Court]<br>[Juvenile/Probate Court]   |
| 2020-11.24.p | A resolution authorizing the approval of repayment of an advance to the<br>General Fund from Fund #2856 Child Abuse & Neglect Discretionary<br>Fund (QIC) [JUVENILE COURT] [Juvenile/Probate Court]  |
| 2020-11.24.q | A resolution requesting to extend the repayment due date of an advance<br>from the General Fund for Fund #2856 Child Abuse & Neglect<br>Discretionary Fund [Juvenile Court] [Juvenile/Probate Court] |
| 2020-11.24.r | A resolution approving an account to account transfer [Juvenile Court]<br>[Juvenile/Probate Court]   |
| 2020-11.24.s | A resolution requesting to extend the repayment due date of an advance<br>from the General Fund for Fund #2856 Child Abuse & Neglect<br>Discretionary Fund [Juvenile Court] [Juvenile/Probate Court] |

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

**Approval of the Prosecutor's Resolution**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Prosecutor's resolution approving an account to account transfer 2120 – Prosecutor Victim Witness; see resolution 2020-11.24.t.

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

**Approval of the Regional Planning Commission Resolutions**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following Regional Planning Commission resolutions:

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| 2020-11.24.u | A resolution to approve a Development Agreement for the Heron Crossing<br>West Section 2 Subdivision [Regional Planning Commission] |
| 2020-11.24.v | A resolution to approve a Development Agreement for the Heron Crossing<br>West Section 3 Subdivision [Regional Planning Commission] |

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

**Approval of the Sheriff's Office Resolutions**

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

**Regular Meeting #56 - 2020  
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office  
November 24, 2020**

- 2020-11.24.w      A resolution to approve the purchasing of a gun by a retiring officer [Sheriff]
- 2020-11.24.x      A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure object category Sheriff's Office Fund 2027 Weights (Rd&Brdg) [Sheriff]
- 2020-11.24.y      A resolution approving an account to account transfer Fund 1001 [Sheriff]

Discussion: Mr. Davis expressed the Commission's thankfulness and appreciation for Sheriff Phalen's service.

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

**Approval of the Utilities Resolutions**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Utilities resolution authorizing the purchase of a crane truck; see resolution 2020-11.24z.

Discussion: Mr. Vogel explained that the current truck was 21 years old and this kind of vehicle is one of the most important vehicles they have. They are purchasing a new one this year as they have the funds to do so and are planning for the future.

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

**Approval of the Payment of Bills**

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Payment of Bills resolution authorizing the approval of payment of invoices for departments that need Board of Commissioners' approval; see resolution 2020-11.24.aa.

Discussion: Dr. Brown stated that this was for a transfer of funds to the Land Bank.

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

**Open Items**

Mr. Davis thanked Ms. Elsea for her expertise and organization in taking minutes and maintaining the calendar of events.

Commissioner Davis stated at 10:08 a.m. that the Commission would take a short recess.

**Reentry Update**

The Commissioners met at 10:16 a.m. for an update from Reentry. Commissioner Davis called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Jeff Fix, and Dave Levacy. Also present were Carri Brown, Rachel Elsea, Val Carpico, Dennis Keller, and Lauren Strobe. Attending virtually were Jim Bahnsen, Chris Wagner, Chief Lape, and Rick Szabrak.

Ms. Carpico reviewed the attached spread sheets, yearly comparisons, and jail services.

Val Carpico once was the Reentry Coordinator with JFS, based on grant funding the agency obtained. However, when the grant funding ended, the program was converted to a program within the Sheriff's Office, and the Commissioners approved additional funding for the Sheriff's Office to continue the Reentry efforts. The program has continued to evolve.

To address needs and reduce recidivism, the County Commissioners, Common Pleas Court, and Sheriff developed an approach to advance reentry and outreach. The three departments connect with the Targeting Community Alternatives to Prison program, of which Reentry is a part.

**Regular Meeting #56 - 2020**  
**Fairfield County Commissioners' Office**  
**November 24, 2020**

The aim is to reduce county costs and assist people as they are released from jail. The assistance includes help finding a job, obtaining housing, or even getting photo identification. The design of the program is unique in its connection of jail administration with social services providers. Val Carpico's office is located at the Jail.

Also, Val Carpico reminded everyone that the County Commissioners passed a resolution for the "Stepping Up" effort. With "Stepping Up" a broad interdisciplinary group identified four areas of need with sequential intercept mapping: 1.) Housing with supportive services, 2.) Validated screening at booking, 3.) Crisis-stabilization, and 4.) Case management for reentry efforts. Val Carpico leads the Stepping Up effort.

Also, there is a strong connection with state partners. Prior to prison, some inmates lived in the county. Further, when they come home to the county, if they recidivate, they often are incarcerated at the county jail. Program officials maintain coordination with the state to learn more about evidence-based best practices. Community health providers have joined networking meetings with state officials, as well. These connections have further improved referrals and case management processes. For example, now, community health providers have an ability to schedule appointments upon release from prison so there is no gap in service.

Reentry and volunteer group treatments do receive a lot of positive feedback from the community and multiple social service and faith-based groups.

Mr. Davis asked who makes the determination that treatment would be beneficial for the inmates.

Ms. Carpico replied it can be the court or she may notice the inmate is ready for inpatient treatment. She also expressed concerns should there be changes to national health insurance or accessibility of Medicaid.

Mr. Davis asked if there was a short list of items Ms. Carpico would like to have at her disposal.

Ms. Carpio replied the two top needs were sober supportive housing, which is lacking and an extreme barrier. There is a waiting list for sober living options. Another help would be a case management position who could have their boots on the ground while allowing Ms. Carpico to focus on other issues.

The Commissioners, Dr. Brown, and Ms. Carpico discussed additional services offered, and everyone thanked the Sheriff and Chief Lape for their strong connections with Reentry. Additional updates will be scheduled for the program.

### **Open Items**

Commissioner Davis commented on how fortunate everyone is and to remember that during this Thanksgiving season.

### **Adjournment**

With no further business, on the motion of Jeff Fix and a second of Dave Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn at 11:18 a.m.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

**Regular Meeting #56 - 2020  
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office  
November 24, 2020**

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 24, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

Motion by: \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by: \_\_\_\_\_  
that the November 17, 2020 minutes were approved by the following vote:

YEAS: NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

\*Approved on November 24, 2020

  
Steven A. Davis  
Commissioner

  
Dave Levaey  
Commissioner

Jeff Fix  
Commissioner

  
Rachel A Elsea, Clerk