

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Briefing Session Minutes  
Thursday, April 6, 2023

Commissioner Crawley

The purpose of the meeting was to review resolutions submitted for the April 11, 2023, General Session, and to discuss other matters pertaining to the programs of the agencies.

The meeting was convened in the Commissioners Briefing Room, while also hosting guests via Zoom conference call, by dialing (929) 436-2866; Meeting ID: 978 8790 2896; Passcode: 628826, or by visiting: <https://franklincountyohio.zoom.us/j/97887902896>

Commissioner Crawley convened the meeting at 9:11 A.M.

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

James Schimmer, Director, Economic Development and Planning, offered a resolution authorizing an Affordable Housing Development agreement with Woda Cooper Companies, Inc., to receive funding through the Magnet Fund Program to assist the development of an affordable housing project (\$1,350,000.00) (Economic Development and Planning).

Mr. Schimmer reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Commissioner Crawley: The last time we approved a resolution for Woda Cooper to receive money through the Magnet Fund, there was a question about minority participation. We had a whole conversation in General Session about this. What is the aspirational goal for minority participation in this project?

Mr. Schimmer: We met with Woda Cooper and their staff last week, including President Watson from the NAACP. We reviewed Woda Cooper's commitment, and I think we ended up in a good place regarding understanding what will be needed in the future. Mr. McKay, would you like to talk about how that meeting went from your perspective as a developer?

Jonathan McKay, Vice President, Development, Woda Cooper Companies, Inc.: I think the meeting went well. Under current guidelines, there are no designated participation goals. With that being said, as we move forward and as the guidelines are revised, we are going to work with the County to establish goals for future projects that will be funded through the Magnet Fund. It is my understanding that a participation goal will be included in the next version of the guidelines.

Mr. Schimmer: We will be bringing forward some recommendations to the Commissioners, and then it will ultimately be their decision which direction they would like to go. Another important part of the meeting that we had was meeting Bruce Watts, who is the Chief Diversity Officer at Woda Cooper. We learned a lot about his experience in Virginia, where Woda has done some projects, as well as his general experience with DEI. It is good to know that we have someone within the company that we can contact directly with these matters.

Commissioner Crawley: You said there are currently no designated participation goals in the guidelines. What guidelines are you talking about?

Mr. Schimmer: That is in reference to the Magnet Fund guidelines.

Commissioner Crawley: Regardless of whether the Magnet Fund has guidelines, which it should, there was no consideration for minority participation in this project that is before me right now?

Mr. Schimmer: There wasn't one when we were looking at the 2021 application round. I will turn it to Mr. McKay to discuss what they will be doing as this project progresses. I think they have heard loud and clear where we want to go, and they have agreed to look into these issues.

Mr. McKay: Behind all of our projects is a public bidding process, which means that everyone is open to bidding on the project whether the entity is union or non-union. With this project, there is no established goal for minority participation. After our meeting with the NAACP, I have discussed with my team that we need to really dive deeper into this to make sure that we have that participation going forward. We will be having community meetings and reaching out to minority businesses so that we can be more engaged and involved.

Mr. Schimmer: Going forward, on contracts that we have that are currently in place, we will sit down with every developer that was a successful applicant and have this discussion with them. We will change the application for the 2023 round, and we will bring our ideas before the Commissioners for approval. We are also seriously looking at this with the developers we already funded.

Kenneth N. Wilson, County Administrator: So, you are saying that when they submitted their proposal to the Magnet Fund via the competitive proposal process, the Magnet Fund did not have aspirational goals for minority participation and women participation?

Mr. Wilson (cont.): What I am hearing from Woda Cooper is that they had no policy over and above that of the Magnet Fund. This project will go through a normal process with enhanced minority outreach. Will there be a coordinated effort for minority outreach?

Mr. Schimmer: Absolutely. That is exactly what we were talking about, and that is where we are today. I feel positive that we are headed in the right direction on this.

Mr. Wilson: How many bid packages are normally associated with a project of this size?

Mr. McKay: This is a little bit bigger than what we typically do because it is 97 units. It is not within the normal 40-60 range. I will touch base with our construction team to get you exact figures.

Commissioner Crawley: I appreciate that and look forward to hearing what recommendations Economic Development and Planning brings forward. I do want to be responsive to the community. I went to a panel discussion with women in the trades, including construction and labor fields. These women expressed that they feel excluded from projects that come forward. People see cranes and buildings going up, and I want to make sure that folks all across the county know that I heard them, especially the women in the trades. I want them to know that we are doing our best to ensure they are included intentionally, as we support projects with funding.

Erik Janas, Deputy County Administrator: To the Woda Cooper representatives on the call, despite the fact that it was not a requirement to provide that information during this round, you did commit to reaching out to different constituencies within the community to ensure that there was ample opportunity to participate. Would you report back to us regarding what the participation rate of minority and female-owned businesses ends up being for this particular project?

Mr. McKay: Yes, of course. We can do that. We can keep you updated regarding our efforts, as well.

Joy Bivens, Deputy County Administrator: There is a list of community development corporations within the community that are kind of in the dark about what is available to them. We can provide you with that list so that we are bringing new names to the table instead of just the ones we typically go to.

Mr. Janas: We committed to providing that information when we met with them last week.

James Schimmer offered a resolution for review of petition to annex 98.7 +/- acres from Jackson Township to the City of Grove City Case #ANX-07-23 (Economic Development and Planning).

Mr. Schimmer reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

James Schimmer offered a resolution for review of petition to annex 0.847 +/- acres from Perry Township to the City of Columbus Case #ANX-13-23 (Economic Development and Planning).

Mr. Schimmer reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

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### DOMESTIC RELATIONS

Barb Reeves, Deputy Director, Court of Common Pleas, Domestic Relations Division, offered a resolution authorizing a contract with Ohio Guidestone (\$23,000.00) (Domestic Relations).

Ms. Reeves reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Barb Reeves offered a resolution authorizing a contract with Capital University Law School (\$48,000.00) (Domestic Relations).

Ms. Reeves reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Commissioner Crawley: Is this a new partnership, or have you had this with Capital before?

Ms. Reeves: We have partnered with Capital University Law School since 2012.

Barb Reeves offered a resolution authorizing a first amendment to the 2023 grant agreement with the Ohio Department of Youth Services (\$117,960.00) (Domestic Relations).

Ms. Reeves reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

### CORONER

Amanda Alvarez Wright, Director of Operations, Coroner's Office, offered a resolution, postponed during General Session on March 28, 2023, authorizing an agreement with Paul Werth Associates, Inc. to provide public relations consulting (\$25,000.00) (Coroner).

Ms. Alvarez Wright reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

William “Fritz” Crosier, Chief Deputy of Engineering, Engineer’s Office, offered a resolution reappointing members to the Franklin County Transportation Improvement District (TID) Board of Trustees, Franklin County, Ohio (Board of Commissioners).

Mr. Crosier reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

## DRAINAGE ENGINEER

William “Fritz” Crosier, Chief Deputy of Engineering, Engineer’s Office, offered a resolution approving a ditch maintenance petition for Jefferson Manor, Jefferson Township, Franklin County, Ohio (Drainage Engineer).

Mr. Crosier reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

## ENGINEER

William “Fritz” Crosier, Chief Deputy of Engineering, Engineer’s Office, offered a resolution for authorization for the Franklin County Engineer to enter into a modification of the intergovernmental agreement with the City of Westerville for bridge repairs to Schrock Road over Alum Creek and the resurfacing of a portion of Dempsey Road, City of Westerville, Blendon Township, Franklin County, Ohio (\$37,847.35) (Engineer).

Mr. Crosier reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

William “Fritz” Crosier offered a resolution for approval of the Jefferson Manor Phase 1, subdivision plat, Jefferson Township, Franklin County, Ohio (Engineer).

Mr. Crosier reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

William “Fritz” Crosier offered a resolution for Farlington Drive and Fieldwin Drive, in The Farms at Jefferson Phase 9 subdivision, accepted for public maintenance and shall become part of the Jefferson Township Road System, Jefferson Township, Franklin County, Ohio (Engineer).

Mr. Crosier reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

## SHERIFF

Albert J. Smith III, Assistant Finance Director, Sheriff's Office, offered a resolution authorizing a non-general fund supplemental appropriation for the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (Sheriff).

Mr. Smith reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

## TREASURER

Jaclyn Treadwell, Budget and Purchasing Coordinator, Treasurer's Office, offered a resolution authorizing a Second Amendment to the Agreement for Investment Advisory services with Meeder Public Funds, Inc. (\$82,500.00) (Treasurer).

Ms. Treadwell reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

## FRANKLIN COUNTY DATA CENTER

Julie Lust, Chief Financial Officer, Data Center, offered a resolution authorizing two pricing schedules for service with AT&T associated with the Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) telecommunication upgrade (\$300,975.00) (Franklin County Data Center).

Ms. Lust reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

## VETERANS SERVICES

Matthew Zelnik, Assistant Director, Services, Veterans Service Commission, and Chanda Wingo, Director, Office on Aging, offered a resolution authorizing an agreement between the Franklin County Board of Commissioners on behalf of Franklin County Office on Aging and the Franklin County Veterans Service Commission Safe Housing and Emergency Response System Programs (\$125,000.00) (Veterans Services).

Mr. Zelnik and Ms. Wingo reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

## OFFICE ON AGING

Chanda Wingo, Director, Office on Aging, offered a resolution authorizing the Franklin County Office on Aging to enter into an agreement with Levy Premium Food Service LP for food and non-alcoholic beverage services (\$6,800.00) (Office on Aging).

Ms. Wingo reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Chanda Wingo offered a resolution authorizing a partnership with Spencer 4Higher Media LLC in sponsoring the 4th Annual Caring for the Caregiver Expo at The Boat House Venue (\$25,000.00) (Office on Aging).

Ms. Wingo reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Chanda Wingo offered a resolution authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Whitehall for case management services (Office on Aging).

Ms. Wingo reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Chanda Wingo offered a resolution authorizing an agreement with The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center Department of Emergency Medicine for case management services (Office on Aging).

Ms. Wingo reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

## CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT

Susan Brown, Director, Child Support Enforcement, offered a resolution authorizing a IV-D contract with the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas Division of Domestic Relations and Juvenile Branch (\$1,419,792.17) (Child Support Enforcement).

Ms. Brown reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

## JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES

Bart Logan, Deputy Director, Communications, Job and Family Services, offered a resolution approving a contract between the Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services and LexisNexis, a division of RELX Inc. (\$10,524.00) (Job and Family Services).

Mr. Logan reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Bart Logan offered a resolution approving a COVID-19 Recovery Grant subaward agreement with the Columbus Urban League for the Building and Driving Futures Workforce Training Program (\$1,786,592.99) (Job and Family Services).

Mr. Logan reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Bart Logan offered a resolution approving a subaward agreement with Jewish Family Services for workforce employment services (\$150,000.00) (Job and Family Services).

Mr. Logan reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Bart Logan offered a resolution approving a Document Management Agreement between the Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services and ComDoc, a Xerox Company, for the provision of equipment and maintenance services (\$550,000.00) (Job and Family Services).

Mr. Logan reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

## JUSTICE POLICY AND PROGRAMS

Caitlin Looney, Grants Coordinator, Justice Policy and Programs, offered a resolution authorizing a contract with Alvis Inc. for the implementation of the Pathways program for justice involved males at risk for recidivism and unintentional drug overdose (\$239,917.70) (Justice Policy and Programs).

Ms. Looney reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Caitlin Looney offered a resolution authorizing a grant-funded contract for service with Hope Dealer Community to provide case management, linkages to care, and drop-in center services to individuals at high risk for overdose and death due to substance use (\$142,461.00) (Justice Policy and Programs).

Ms. Looney reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.



PURCHASING

Megan Perry-Balonier, Director, Purchasing, and Tameca Bumper, Economic Equity Administrator, Office of Diversity Equity and Inclusion, offered a resolution approving purchases for various Franklin County Agencies (\$2,568,185.92) (Purchasing).

Ms. Perry-Balonier and Ms. Bumper reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Lauren M. Graessle, Assistant Director of Community Appointments, Board of Commissioners, offered a resolution appointing Heather Brilliant to the Columbus Downtown Development Corporation Board of Directors (Board of Commissioners).

Ms. Graessle reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

Lauren M. Graessle offered a resolution reappointing Craig Treneff to the Central Ohio Transit Authority Board of Trustees (Board of Commissioners).

Ms. Graessle reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

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*The Clerk noted that there will be no journalizations expected at General Session on Tuesday, April 11, 2023.*

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:49 A.M.

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**(Signature Page Follows)**

These minutes are a general summary of the Commissioners' Briefing Session for Thursday, April 6, 2023.

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**JOHN O'GRADY, PRESIDENT**



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**KEVIN L. BOYCE**



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**ERICA C. CRAWLEY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

Submitted by:



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Lauren M. Graessle

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