

FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Briefing Minutes
March 22, 2018

President Boyce
Commissioner Brown

The purpose of the meeting was to review resolutions submitted for the March 27, 2018 General Session, and to discuss other matters pertaining to the programs of the agencies. These notes are a synopsis of the meeting.

Commissioner Boyce convened the meeting at 9:00 A.M.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

Kimberly Canada, Director of Finance and Purchasing, Common Pleas General Division, offered a resolution authorizing an addendum to the existing contract with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction for the Community Corrections/ Prison Diversion (407).

Ms. Canada: We have two resolutions on today. We are coming back for the remaining of those funds that were reduced from the grants initially. The first grant 407, we are requesting that the addendum be restored. The funding was reduced initially to state fiscal year 18 and 19. It provides funding for about 16.8 full-time equivalents and we are estimating that we will divert about 1,487 offenders from prison.

Commissioner Brown: This isn't the TCAP funding is it? This is a different grant that had been reduced?

Ms. Canada: Yes, this is our annual grant that we receive each year for 407 and 408 funding sources for our probation department.

Commissioner Brown: Got it.

Ms. Bedsole: CCA Grants.

Ms. Canada: Yes.

Kimberly Canada, Director of Finance and Purchasing, Common Pleas General Division, offered an addendum to the existing contract with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction for the Community Corrections/Jail Diversion (408) Program of the Common Pleas Court.

Ms. Canada: The second grant is similar in nature. We are restoring the funding for it as well. It is also for state fiscal year 18 and 19 and it also estimating that we will divert about 1,487 offenders from jail as well.

Commissioner Brown: That will be nice. Thank you.

Ms. Canada: Thank you.

Commissioner Boyce: Thank you.

SHERIFF

Dave Masterson, Director of Administrative Services, Sheriff's Office, offered a resolution authorizing the removal of waste materials from the Sheriff's Office Training Academy.

Mr. Masterson offered a resolution authorizing a settlement to Cynthia Forsythe for a disputed vehicle damage claim due to an auto accident involving Franklin County Sheriff's Deputy.

Mr. Masterson: Our next three resolutions are accidents. The first one is involving a deputy responding with her horse to a scene back in October to help find a lost hunter. A deer ran in front of her car and struck the vehicle. This is to pay to the deductible.

Mr. Masterson offered a resolution authorizing a settlement to Nicholas Flynn for a disputed vehicle damage claim due to an accident involving a Franklin County Sheriff's Deputy.

Mr. Masterson: This second resolution involves our store room truck. They were moving it at CC2 and struck an employee's vehicle and this pays for the damage to the employee's vehicle in the amount \$385.52.

Mr. Masterson offered resolution authorizing a settlement to Muskingum County for a disputed vehicle claim due to an auto accident involving Franklin County Sheriff's Deputy.

Mr. Masterson: The last vehicle happened this month March 6th. One of the vehicles at CC1 backed into a Muskingum County vehicle that was here picking up a prisoner. This is another mishap and this is to pay the damage to the Muskingum County vehicle.

DRAINAGE ENGINEER

William Crosier, Chief Deputy of Engineering, offered a resolution approving a ditch maintenance petition for Weldon Phase 1 and Phase 2, Jefferson Township, Franklin County, Ohio.

Mr. Crosier: Commissioners this first resolution seeks approval for the ditch maintenance petition for drainage improvements within phase 1 and phase 2 of the Weldon subdivision located in Jefferson Township in eastern Franklin County. This petition ensures that these improvements will be properly maintained.

Commissioner Brown: Is this the new development in Jefferson Township?

Mr. Crosier: Yes.

Commissioner Brown: Okay

ENGINEER

William Crosier, Chief Deputy of Engineering, offered a resolution for establishing, altering and widening of Havens Corners Road, County Rd No. 1, at Morrison Farms East Drive, Jefferson Township, Franklin County, Ohio, declared necessary.

Mr. Crosier: This next resolution declares necessary the improvements of Havens Corners Road. This project is a collaborative roadway improvement between Franklin County, a private developer and Jefferson Township. The project will construct a west bound turn lane from Havens Corners Road to Morrison Farms East Drive.

Mr. Crosier offered a resolution with Michael Baker International, Inc. consulting engineers appointed to assist the Franklin County Engineer in performing a preliminary engineering study for Winchester Pike between Hamilton Road and Gender road, Franklin County, Ohio.

Mr. Crosier: This next resolution requests authorization to enter into an agreement with Michael Baker International, Inc. to perform a preliminary engineering study for the Winchester Pike from Hamilton Road to Gender Road improvement project. Michael Baker International, Inc. was selected via the qualifications based selection process.

Ms. Carla Marable, Engineer, offered a resolution for the approval of the Weldon Phase 1 subdivision plat, Jefferson Township, Franklin County, Ohio.

Ms. Marable: Commissioners this next resolution seeks approval for the plat of the phase 1 of the Weldon Subdivision. As previously noted this is in Jefferson Township west of Reynoldsburg New-Albany Road.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Ms. Carla Marable, Engineer, offered a resolution authorizing the execution of an Easement to Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. for land owned by the Franklin County Commissioners, Franklin, County, Ohio.

Ms. Marable: Our next resolution is under the commissioners' category and that is authorization to grant an easement to Columbus Gas of Ohio. You may remember sometime last year Columbia Gas of Ohio has a line of utility upgrade project in the area of Rager Road in the southeast part of the county. Their update project affects one of our commissioner owned properties. It's vacant land on Simms Road. They have requested an easement to install distribution lines. This easement will accommodate the line realignment and temporary work zones. Columbia Gas of Ohio will compensate Franklin County in the amount of \$1,551 for those easements.

Ms. Carla Marable, Engineer, offered a resolution authorizing the conveyance of real property located on Riggins Road for the purpose of transferring excess land from right of way.

Ms. Marable: Our next resolution seeks authorization to transfer property on Riggins Road. We previously had a project to improve Riggins Road. That is within the City of Hilliard. That was a collaborative project with the City of Hilliard and a private developer. The City of Hilliard purchased the right of way with the request that once the project is completed

we would transfer that right of way to them. They will maintain that portion of roadway and this will allow them to maintain control.

Ms. Marable: Thank you.

Commissioner Brown: Thank you.

FLEET MANAGMENT

Ms. Charlotte Ashcraft, Director, Fleet Management offered a resolution authorizing a contract extension to Byers Ford, LLC, for the provision of supply and delivery of Fleet Automobiles for the Franklin County Fleet Management Department.

Ms. Ashcraft: My resolution is to extend our new vehicle purchase contract for another year. We had a contract for two years and this is the first of three extensions.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

Jim Schimmer, Director, Economic Development and Planning offered a resolution authorizing an agreement with Columbus 2020 to conduct economic development activities on behalf of the Franklin County Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Schimmer: Good Morning Commissioners, we have a number of resolutions this morning. The first one is with Columbus 2020. It is our annual contract for approximately a million dollars even. Columbus 2020 provides national and international marketing and promotion of Franklin County and the Columbus region throughout the United States, but also the world. They are proactively involved in existing industry outreach through business contacts to help coordinate existing business efforts and expansion and attraction throughout the region. They have been very strong in being able to promote and facilitate entrepreneurship with Ohio State, Battelle, Rev 1, small business centers, Columbus State. They continue to market the region as a public innovation and a center for entrepreneurship. Finally they are involved heavily in the improvement of civic infrastructure basically to look at the physical assets that we have and need in the way of infrastructure. They convene economic development groups from the region and work to promote the area. It has been going very, very well. The 2017 annual results for Franklin County. There were 54 projects announced, 4,851 new jobs created. A capital investment total of over 560 million dollars. 221 million dollars in new created payroll. 24,424 jobs retained and an average wage of those jobs is \$52,748. They continue to make a difference.

Commissioner Brown: Jim, could you email us that information on Franklin County specifically?

Mr. Schimmer: Absolutely.

Commissioner Brown: That would be good for us to have.

Mr. Schimmer: Kenny McDonald will be here on Tuesday, so if you have any specific questions you will be able to ask him. We are getting closer to 2020 as the year comes up obviously.

Commissioner Brown: I know.

Mr. Schimmer: We have been very pleased with the work they have done on Franklin County's behalf.

President Boyce: Jim, there have been a lot of conversations about these opportunity zones and some of the regional strategic planning that goes into it. It's economic and it's residential, it's all the things above. How much of that do they connect to with this work? Or is it really just effort? Or are they just really focusing in on jobs, people and companies that are interested in central Ohio and they really don't get into this sort of regional strategy?

Mr. Schimmer: An initiative they launched themselves two years ago was an idea and concept of "prepared communities win." They looked at infrastructure and they thought about it and understood there needed to be a process put in place by which all of the 11 counties took a look at what our infrastructure needs and prioritize those. I think the idea of "prepared communities win" is going to actually lead us this year into our undertaking of economic development plan for the county. I think they do a real nice job on a lot of levels that way and I think the key is going to be as we move forward how we reflect community development. That is where the difference is. I'd say commissioner Boyce, Mr. McDonald has been very clear about the fact that they have mission, they have a priority and that priority is job creation, retention and attraction. They break off at community development. Community development in our case would be looking at the poverty issue or opioid issue or something like that. Stuff they don't necessarily get into. You know this better than anybody, community development and economic development, the lines are blurred.

President Boyce: Do they get into this sort of strategic conversation of trying to prevent job poaching? We have 11 counties and we have Company A thinking about moving and they play County A against County B or City A against City B. Do they get into that kind of work too, where we can be more regional and strategic about it?

Mr. Schimmer: They have in the past. Although I will tell you they are sort of hands off. They let the local communities decide what their policies and programs are going to be.

Commissioner Brown: But they get the leads nationally and internationally and send them out to the members of the economic development teams in every community and they tend to not want to get involved in the mediating.

President Boyce: The competition.

Commissioner Brown: It's whoever fits with a particular lead business.

Mr. Schimmer: Commissioner Boyce the way that has been handled over time has been through the MidOhio Development Exchange. That is basically an economic development commission organization. There is an agreement that is in place. It is a gentleman's agreement where we all recognize the fact that we don't want to wake up one morning and find out we lost our largest business on the front page of the new paper. The idea is if you have a lead or contact from another community there a tacit agreement among the professionals to let your colleague know so that the home community can at least say they had a chance at trying to retain them. There are situations where a company needs to expand because they have growth issues and they can do it in the home community. They are looking at other places. That competition is still important in our community and in our region but I think we have found a nice solution to it. It has worked out well. We haven't had those disagreements that you saw in the in the mid to late 90's.

Deputy County Administrator Erik Janas: Jim, if I may add to that. Commissioner, also to the beginning of your question about opportunity zones specifically, I think that is an example of everybody's willingness to work together. We sat down, your team sat down and Josh did great work in working with Columbus 2020 and the partnership to identify the community's priorities as it relates to opportunity zones. As a result of that, I think you (Josh) sent an email out last night and the governor designated 46 of the top 50 is that correct? Josh: 43. Erik Janas: 43 or our top 50 were identified and I think that is a testament to the idea of working together. In addition to staying agnostic on the poaching and allowing the jurisdictions to sort that out they do play a convening and collaborative role when they can in terms of what is best for the region and that is perfect example.

President Boyce: Josh, do you want to add something? You look like you have something to say.

Josh: No, just in case there were any questions. One thing that I would add to what Director Schimmer was saying is a lot of the incentive programs that we engage in that are provided to the county through the state ORC has anti-poaching from the state level. We are actually beholden to the law in that. When we hold companies to the new investment or new job creation it's actually net new and we do our best to make them document that.

Commissioner Boyce: Great. Thank you.

Jim Schimmer, Director, Economic Development and Planning offered a Resolution authorizing a New Employee Training Grant agreement with the Fortuity Calling, LLC to provide employee training for low income Franklin County residents as part of the company's commitment to begin operations within Franklin County.

Mr. Schimmer: The second resolution that we have relates to a project that Michael Salvadore has been working on for a couple of years. We are pleased to bring it to you this morning.

Mr. Salvadore: This will be our 6th PeopleWorks grant over the total course of the program. As you know we launched PeopleWorks about 3 and ½ years ago to provide capital to employers that are willing to hire individuals off of public assistance and train

them in the essential job skills required for the positions that they have. We have two different buckets of funding available under People Works. One for training organizations and we have given contracts to Prischolas, Digital Works and i.c.stars. We have another bucket of funding available for employers for them to hire and train these individuals and hire them-themselves.

Now we have Fortuity which will be our largest People Works project to date. In 2015 we were approached by Fred Bothers and Katie Robinson with Fortuity. They are technically venture capitalists but in reality they are two people who have extensive experience in the corporate world and had a dream to provide employment opportunities to low income individuals primarily in the Franklinton neighborhood but also all over Franklin County to provide them a pathway out of poverty through work. The both have run call centers in the past. They are very familiar with the business, especially third party in bound call center model. They wanted to start a call center, hire a bunch of people, put supportive services around these individuals to make sure once they hired them they would stay employed and that they get the essential services that they need like childcare and transportation assistance, food assistance to be able to not only keep the job but also move up in their career.

Over the course of the past 2 to 3 years they have been hunting around for a building, they have been talking to everyone they need to talk to in the economic development space. They have come to agreement with the State of Ohio for a couple different financial incentives which are laid out in the memo I provided. The City of Columbus is providing a job creation tax credit and our part will be this PeopleWorks program. We are going to hopefully provide them with training dollars so they can use those dollars to train the individuals they hire off of public assistance and provide them with this meaningful employment opportunity. The way the contract is structured is different than the ones we have had in the past. We are going to tier it by wages to basically lock you in. An incentive for this company is to do what they say they are going to do, which is not only hire these folks but also move them up a pay scale so that over time they will make more money as they gain more skills. We have three different reimbursement tiers. As you know for People Works in general we don't reimburse any company or any grantee any funds from People Works until they have achieved their performance objectives. There is no upfront money. While there is a clause in this contract it is not really necessary. We are never going to find ourselves in a situation where we are going to pay a grantee for something they didn't do. They are only going to get paid once their employees reach those wage thresholds set out in the contract.

(at this point during briefing the power went out)

President Boyce: Why don't we suspend briefing for now. We can just plan on a Tuesday meeting that serves as both briefing and session. We should prepare for questions that would normally come out in briefing. People should just be prepared to give a little bit more detail.

Deputy County Administrator Ken Wilson: I concur with that. We should suspend briefing and continue this agenda in general session.

President Boyce: Is there any urgent that we need to look at right now that we don't want to overlook?

Deputy County Administrator Kris Long: One resolution to add for Tuesday is that we have an ongoing lease agreement with Ohio State. This is where our Forensic Science Center/Morgue is. We just need to ask for an extension. They know it is coming. We are working well with them for additional time. This is the only resolution currently not on the agenda. I am not aware of anything else.

Commissioner Brown: Got it.

President Boyce: Are we doing the bond resolutions?

Deputy County Administrator Ken Wilson: yes

Commissioner Brown: We have bond counsel here.

President Boyce: The one thing I wanted to enquire about is the amount. Zak and I talked yesterday, making sure all the capital projects we have projected out over the next couple of years if we are going to include them in the bond packets this time we should increase the amount in the bond resolution. We don't have to do that amount for the transaction but we should in the resolution so that we have the capacity if we decide to add in. I know that is was original number 210.

Deputy County Administrator Ken Wilson: Yes, 210

President Boyce: We might think about a higher number.

Commissioner Brown: Does it make sense trying to go a little higher?

Deputy County Administrator Ken Wilson: Zak talked with me yesterday and I have been evaluating that. We have been talking with our financial advisor. We have been looking out our debt coverages. This is going to be an inaugural credit so I want to make sure that increasing the par amount won't have any material effect on the rating that we are trying to achieve which of course is a triple A rating. Also I need to work with Public Facilities Management to see if we can nail down that number in absence of having our Master Plan updated.

President Boyce: Just remember that the amount that is in the resolution does not have to be amount that we actually state.

Commissioner Brown: It can be an up to amount. Not to exceed.

Deputy County Administrator Ken Wilson: We have done that before.

Commissioner Brown: We have done that before.

President Boyce: Okay.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 09:28 A.M.

(Signature page follows.)

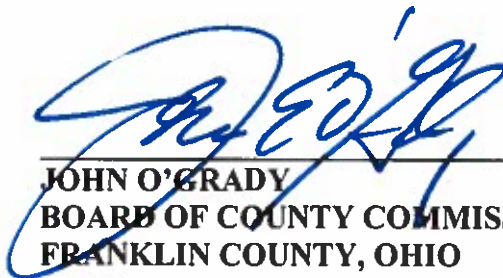
These minutes are a summary of the Commissioners' Briefing Session for March 22, 2018



KEVIN L. BOYCE, PRESIDENT



MARILYN BROWN



**JOHN O'GRADY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

Submitted by: Toya A Williams, Administrative Assistant

