

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Briefing Session Minutes  
Thursday, April 11, 2024

Commissioner O’Grady  
Commissioner Crawley

The purpose of the meeting was to review resolutions submitted for the April 16, 2024, 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 O’Grady convened the meeting at 9:02 A.M.

CORONER

Dan Baker, Chief Toxicologist, Coroner’s Office, offered a resolution authorizing submission and approval of the Pre-Award Condition Forms in order to submit for the 2023 Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants Program by the Franklin County Forensic Science Center, Office of the Coroner (Coroner).

Mr. Baker 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 Plans approved for the improvement of Clouse Road, Township Road No. 347, Plain Township, Franklin County, Ohio (Engineer).

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

William “Fritz” Crosier offered a resolution for preliminary allocation and final encumbrance of County Motor Vehicle License Fee (\$5) Funds for the City of Bexley (\$50,000.00) (Engineer).

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

William “Fritz” Crosier offered a resolution for preliminary allocation and final encumbrance of County Motor Vehicle License Fee (\$5) Funds for the City of Whitehall (\$517,000.00) (Engineer).

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

William “Fritz” Crosier offered a resolution approving a second contract modification with J & J Schlaegel, Inc. for the Elliott Road and Hayden Run Road Drainage Improvement project, an increase of \$50,728.49, for a revised contract amount of \$3,231,403.67 (\$3,231,403.67) (Engineer).

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

William “Fritz” Crosier offered a resolution awarding the contract and approving the contract bond to The Shelly Company for the 2024 Franklin County Resurfacing Program (\$1,935,036.70) (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 contract with ComProduct:s, Inc. dba B&C Communications for the provision of maintenance and repair of fixed, mobile, and portable radio equipment (\$258,480.00) (Sheriff).

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

Albert J. Smith III offered a resolution authorizing the execution of the Pre-Award Conditions and future acceptance of a 2023 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant to reduce gang violence (\$149,825.53) (Sheriff).

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

*Joy Bivens, Deputy County Administrator, requested Ruchelle Pride, Director, Justice Policy & Programs, be briefed on this grant to see if it aligns with work currently in progress with Justice Policy & Programs’ initiatives. Mr. Smith agreed.*

## OFFICE ON AGING

Chanda Wingo, Assistant Director of Operations, Office on Aging, offered a resolution authorizing a contract modification and extension agreement with Netcare Corporation for various expert forensic evaluation services (\$15,000.00) (Office on Aging).

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

## COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Brittany Stricklen-Hillyard, Coordinator, Community Partnerships, offered a resolution authorizing a COVID-19 Recovery Grant with Jewish Family Services to support an HVAC replacement project (\$75,000.00) (Community Partnerships).

Ms. Stricklen-Hillyard reviewed information found in documents submitted with the proposed resolution.

*Joy Bivens, Deputy County Administrator, requested an annual report outlining the programs being offered, for the commissioners' review. Ms. Stricklen-Hillyard agreed.*

## OFFICE OF DIVERSITY EQUITY & INCLUSION

Perla Martinez, DEI Administrator, Office of Diversity Equity & Inclusion, offered a resolution authorizing a grant agreement with Stonewall Columbus to help fund their annual Pride March, Festival & Resource Fair in Franklin County (\$50,000.00) (Office of Diversity Equity & Inclusion).

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

Tameca Bumper, Economic Equity Administrator, Office of Diversity Equity & Inclusion, offered a resolution authorizing the County Administrator to execute an agreement with I Know I Can for support of the Columbus City Schools 2024 Senior Fest (\$135,100.00) (Office of Diversity Equity & Inclusion).

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

*Joy Bivens, Deputy County Administrator, requested that the General Session guest be prepared to discuss the number of seniors who graduate and the number of students who come back and need support for those services, related to the program. Ms. Bumper agreed.*

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

Emanuel Torres, Assistant Director, Economic Development and Planning, offered a resolution authorizing an Economic Development Agreement with One Columbus to conduct economic development activities on behalf of the Franklin County Board of Commissioners (\$1,000,000.00) (Economic Development and Planning).

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

Emanuel Torres offered a resolution authorizing an Economic Development Agreement with the Greater Columbus Sports Commission to encourage economic development and tourism through the attraction, retention, and promotion of sporting events on behalf of the Franklin County Board of Commissioners (\$200,000.00) (Economic Development and Planning).

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

Emanuel Torres offered a resolution authorizing a Grant Agreement with Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens to administer and run Growing to Green, Community Garden Grant, Teen Corps, and Farmers Market for the benefit of Franklin County residents and in alignment with the Columbus & Franklin County Local Food Action Plan (\$164,812.00) (Economic Development and Planning).

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

Emanuel Torres offered a resolution authorizing the execution of the attached “Discharge of MORTGAGE” instrument for Ada C. Wallace at 3743 Aberdeen Avenue, Mifflin Township, Ohio 43219 (Economic Development and Planning).

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

## JUSTICE POLICY AND PROGRAMS

Melissa Pierson, Deputy Director of Justice Services, Justice Policy and Programs, offered a resolution authorizing receipt of an FY 2022 Residential Substance Abuse Treatment grant program from the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services and granting authority to the County Administrator to sign all acceptance documents and waivers related to the grant program (\$200,466.67) (Justice Policy and Programs).

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

Melissa Pierson offered a resolution authorizing seven subgrant awards for juvenile justice and delinquency prevention programming under the FY 2022 Title II Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Formula Block Grant (\$235,000.00) (Justice Policy and Programs).

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

## HUMAN RESOURCES

Jodi Leis, Assistant Director, Human Resources, offered a resolution authorizing a contract modification with United Healthcare Services, Inc. (UHC) to add additional services to the existing contract for the Franklin County Cooperative Health Improvement Program in the amount of \$450,000.00, for a revised contract amount of \$11,250,000.00 (\$11,250,000.00) (Human Resources).

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

*Commissioner Crawley commended the Administration and staff for continuing to be progressive in the healthcare space, and for giving employees options in family planning and reproductive rights. She noted that doula reimbursement was important to her and that she would continue to champion that in the Ohio legislature. She reminded staff that today is the beginning of Black Maternal Health Week, and when people have access to doulas, the infant mortality rate decreases by 50%.*

*Kenneth Wilson, County Administrator, echoed Commissioner Crawley's comments and noted that the office is one of the best because it is innovative but conservative and well-managed from a price standpoint. The doula benefit is just one example of being innovative and finding a way to figure things out and the county is ahead of the curve.*

*Joy Bivens, Deputy County Administrator, noted that not all individuals are educated on the expertise of a doula and that more information and education on the great organizations within Franklin County should be addressed through communication.*

*Kenneth Wilson, County Administrator, also mentioned that genetic testing is valuable from a preventative health standpoint.*

*Commissioner Crawley added that genetic testing saves lives; can test risk factors for cancer; and can assist in developing a plan with a doctor.*

## PURCHASING

Megan Perry-Balonier, Director, Purchasing Department, and Tameca Bumper, Economic Equity Administrator, Office of Diversity Equity and Inclusion, offered a resolution approving purchases for various Franklin County agencies (\$1,294,225.42) (Purchasing).

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

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Zachary T. Talarek, Director, Office of Management and Budget, offered a resolution authorizing an application to the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas for the employment of Teetor Westfall and a contract to serve as special counsel relating to litigation matters (Board of Commissioners).

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

Zachary T. Talarek offered a resolution authorizing amendments to the contract with Eastman & Smith LTD to serve as special counsel relating to litigation matters (Board of Commissioners).

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

Zachary T. Talarek offered a resolution authorizing an application to the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas for the employment of Freeman Mathis & Gary LLP and a contract to serve as special counsel relating to litigation matters (Board of Commissioners).

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

*Jeanine Hummer, First Assistant Prosecuting Attorney and Chief Counsel, Prosecutor's Office, noted that these three resolutions are all related to the conflict matter previously discussed.*

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*The Clerk noted that there were no journalizations expected at General Session on Tuesday, April 16, 2024.*

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**RESOLUTION TO BE PASSED AT BRIEFING SESSION**

**Resolution No. 0301-24**, appointing Zachary Talarek to the Creating Central Ohio Futures Board (Board of Commissioners), presented by Lauren M. Graessle, Assistant Director of Community Appointments, Board of Commissioners.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0301-24, seconded by Commissioner O’Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

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There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:31 A.M.

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**(Signature Page Follows)**

These minutes are a general summary of the Commissioners' Briefing Session for Thursday, April 11, 2024.

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**KEVIN L. BOYCE, PRESIDENT**



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**JOHN O'GRADY**



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

Submitted by:



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**Brittany A. Razek,  
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners**

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