

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Briefing Session Minutes
Thursday, May 25, 2023

President O'Grady
Commissioner Boyce

The purpose of the meeting was to review resolutions submitted for the May 30, 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 Boyce convened the meeting at 9:03 A.M.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

Kimberly Canada, Director of Finance, Court of Common Pleas, General Division, offered a resolution authorizing the County Administrator on behalf of the Franklin County Board of Commissioners to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas and Franklin County Sheriff's Office related to the FY 24/25 Targeted Community Alternatives to Prison grant program (\$4,500,000.00) (Court of Common Pleas).

Ms. Canada 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 for Arcadis U.S., Inc., consulting engineers, appointed to assist the Franklin County Drainage Engineer by providing detailed engineering services and construction plans for the Cosgray Road and Faust Ditch Drainage Improvement project, Washington Township, Franklin County, Ohio (\$321,300.00) (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 Michael Baker International, consulting engineers, appointed to assist the Franklin County Engineer by providing preliminary engineering services for the Gender Road 5.39 over Pickering Creek bridge project, Madison Township, Franklin County, Ohio (\$116,056.00) (Engineer).

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

William “Fritz” Crosier offered a resolution requesting the Ohio Department of Transportation to reduce the speed limit on Harrisburg & London Road, County Road No. 288, Pleasant Township, Franklin County, Ohio (Engineer).

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

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Jeffrey J. Young, Director, Emergency Management Agency, offered a resolution authorizing a non-general fund supplemental appropriation related to Homeland Security and Regional Communications (Emergency Management Agency).

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

OFFICE ON AGING

Laurice Cohens, Assistant Director and Chief Financial Officer, Office on Aging, offered a resolution authorizing a contract with Lorraine Surgical Supply Company, Inc. dba Shield Healthcare OH, Inc. for Nutritional Supplements (\$1,888,447.35) (Office on Aging).

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

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Curtis Brown, Community Partnerships Administrator, Community Partnerships, offered a resolution authorizing a COVID-19 Recovery Grant with The Center of Science and Industry to provide Learning Lunchboxes to Franklin County youth (\$650,000.00) (Community Partnerships).

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

CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT

Susan Brown, Director, Child Support Enforcement, offered a resolution authorizing an extension of the Participation Agreement to obtain location information through West Publishing Corporation, through the Consolidated Lead Evaluation and Reporting database (CLEAR) (\$24,390.92) (Child Support Enforcement).

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

OFFICE OF DIVERSITY EQUITY & INCLUSION

Damika Withers, Chief Economic Equity and Inclusion Officer, Office of Diversity Equity and Inclusion, offered a resolution authorizing a grant agreement with Stonewall Columbus to help fund their annual PRIDE Festival, March & Resource Fair which supports their community programs and annual operations that further their mission and vision to increase visibility, inclusion, and connection for the LGBTQIA+ community in Franklin County (\$20,000.00) (Office of Diversity Equity & Inclusion).

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

Damika Withers offered a resolution authorizing a grant agreement with the National African American Male Wellness Agency to support the African American Male Wellness Walk and the Uplift Her Wellness Day (\$250,000.00) (Office of Diversity Equity & Inclusion).

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

Commissioner Boyce: What is the total amount we contribute to the African American Male Wellness Walk? I know we sponsor the walk itself in different amounts.

Ms. Withers: The total request was \$700,000.00. We wanted to put forward the sponsorship for the two events first due to the timeliness of Uplift Her Wellness Day. In addition, we currently have a contract that ends on July 31, 2023, with the programming of the African American Male Wellness Agency, so we will bring you the additional proposal request, which will support the rest of the program beginning August 1, 2023.

Commissioner Boyce: Is \$700,000.00 what we fund them at, then?

Ms. Withers: Yes.

Commissioner Boyce: I am obviously a huge advocate of the work that they do. I think it is great wellness work for a population that is disproportionately affected in a number of areas of health and wellness. I want to do a better job of tracking the data regarding the participation and impact of the Wellness Walk. It would be great if you could give us a more detailed report on all of the statistical implications and improvements that have happened since the Wellness Walk started. It would also be great to capture the history of Uplift Her Wellness Day, which is a very important, newer component. I want to be sure to take a moment on Tuesday to highlight this investment and show the return on investment in a larger sense if you could help me with that.

Ms. Withers: I certainly will. Thank you, Commissioner.

Commissioner O'Grady: I appreciate that we are in 2023, and we are far from when we used to debate whether we were even allowed to fund wellness. There was once a question as to whether wellness was even a worthwhile investment, and I am glad we are past that.

Commissioner Boyce: You deserve a lot of credit for that, Commissioner O'Grady. With your health background and advocacy, you have been a part of that conversation for as long as I can remember. That is really a credit to your leadership and character.

Commissioner O'Grady: I appreciate that, but you are the one who has been the big advocate for the wellness things we have done over the years. I have been the one reminding people to take their medications and listen to their doctors. I probably would not be here if I had not been taking my medications and listening to my doctors. We know wellness works, and in the past, we had County and State government people telling us we should not fund it.

Commissioner Boyce: This is serious work, and that is why I wanted to highlight some of the statistical impacts of our investments. Every year at these events, when they do the wellness checks, a group of people are immediately sent to the hospital based on their results. That is a serious thing because without having access to that free healthcare and wellness check, we don't know what could have happened to them. I get frustrated when people treat wellness like it is not a serious healthcare investment. We save more money by funding prevention in healthcare than treatment after the fact. We have escalated our investment in this since I got here. This has become a community event of which we are an anchor sponsor, and that is something to be proud of. But now, we have to focus on the data. I want to make sure that we are never questioned about why wellness is important.

Damika Withers offered a resolution authorizing a grant agreement with Hyatt Regency Columbus for the use of their facilities to host the first Franklin County Board of Commissioners Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Conference (\$45,085.00) (Office of Diversity Equity & Inclusion).

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

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

Genee' Cosby, Community Development Administrator, Economic Development and Planning, offered a resolution awarding a Service Agreement between the Board of Commissioners and the Community Shelter Board to develop and implement strategies that decrease homelessness in Franklin County (\$5,489,390.00) (Economic Development and Planning).

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

James Schimmer, Director, Economic Development and Planning, offered a resolution authorizing a contract with DiPerna & Company, LLC. to provide financial consultant services for the Franklin County Infrastructure Bank program (Economic Development and Planning).

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

James Schimmer offered a resolution to adjust the boundaries between the City of Columbus and the City of Worthington Case #ANX-23-23 (Economic Development and Planning).

Mr. Schimmer 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 non-general fund supplemental appropriation for the Justice Assistance Grant Fund (Justice Policy and Programs).

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

PURCHASING

Megan Perry-Balonier, Director, Purchasing, offered a resolution authorizing contracts with forty (40) Temporary Staffing providers for use by any Franklin County agency, court, Board or Commission (\$5,000,000.00) (Purchasing).

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

Megan Perry-Balonier and Damika Withers, Chief Economic Equity and Inclusion Officer, Office of Diversity Equity and Inclusion, offered a resolution approving purchases for various Franklin County agencies (\$3,057,549.01) (Purchasing).

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

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Kris J. Long, Deputy County Administrator, Board of Commissioners, offered a resolution approving a lease with Lee Smith Family Investments LLC dba Lee Smith Properties for the lease of office space at 55-57 East Main Street (\$19,007,820.00) (Board of Commissioners).

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

Commissioner Boyce: Does that include moving costs, furniture, and fixtures?

Ms. Long: It includes all the furniture and construction monies for the evidence room.

Commissioner Boyce: But not the moving?

Ms. Long: Not the moving, although we will largely be able to do the moving in-house.

Jeanine Hummer, First Assistant Prosecuting Attorney and Chief Counsel, Prosecuting Attorney's Office: The reason the moving costs are normally not included is due to the specialized nature of what is being moved into that location. You may not only have in-house movers, but a specialized contract for that purpose.

Commissioner O'Grady: When will the lease start?

Ms. Long: The lease will begin June 1, 2023, and then we can start the phased move-in as soon as possible. Eventually, the masterplan perspective is for those elements of the Sheriff's Office to move into the current Municipal Court building, but it will take some time for the City to build its courthouse and for the people in the existing Municipal Court building to move into their space.

Commissioner Boyce: Because this is for ten years, we do not pay them that money right now, correct? This just encumbers it so we can make regular payments?

Ms. Long: Correct. We state the entirety for the sake of transparency.

Commissioner Boyce: So this will be roughly \$2,000,000.00 per year?

Ms. Long: Yes, roughly. I will get the specific details to you. That includes all owner-directed allowance but includes dollars that would be the County's responsibility on some of the construction costs, such as for the evidence room at the Sheriff's Office.

Lauren M. Graessle, Assistant Director of Community Appointments, Board of Commissioners, offered a resolution appointing Joy Bivens to the Creating Central Ohio Futures Board (Board of Commissioners).

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

Lauren M. Graessle offered a resolution appointing Charles Straley to the Creating Central Ohio Futures Board (Board of Commissioners).

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

Lauren M. Graessle offered a resolution appointing Lauren Rummel to the Columbus Sister Cities International Board of Trustees, Franklin County, Ohio (Board of Commissioners).

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

Lauren M. Graessle offered a resolution appointing members to the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium Board (Board of Commissioners).

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

Commissioner Boyce: Which members are we appointing to this board?

Kris J. Long, Deputy County Administrator, Board of Commissioners: Pastor Davis, Lark Mallory, Sean Mentel, and Zachary Talarek.

Jeanine Hummer, First Assistant Prosecuting Attorney and Chief Counsel, Prosecuting Attorney's Office: If you recall, there were two documents that went forward. One was the new Code of Regulations that the Zoo Board approved. In that, they set forth the new board's structure. The Commissioners also entered a three-way agreement that marries the two pieces together. In that, the board has a set period of time to reduce its membership to nineteen. That is by January 2024. This resolution takes care of all of those aspects. It addresses the appointment to this new board structure and allows everyone currently on the board to be reappointed.

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The Clerk noted that there will be no journalizations expected at General Session on Tuesday, May 30, 2023.

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RESOLUTION TO BE PASSED AT BRIEFING SESSION

Resolution No. 0428-23, authorizing the County Administrator to execute agreements for the settlement of claims related to personnel matters for less than \$50,000 for the period of May 25 to June 26, 2023 (Board of Commissioners), Theresa Dean, Deputy Director Labor and Employment, Civil Division, Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0428-23, 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 9:39 A.M.

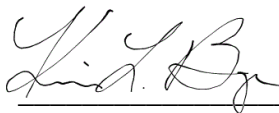
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These minutes are a general summary of the Commissioners' Briefing Session for Thursday, May 25, 2023.



JOHN O'GRADY, PRESIDENT



KEVIN L. BOYCE



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

Submitted by:



Lauren M. Graessle

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