

FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Briefing Minutes  
June 27, 2019

Commissioner O'Grady  
Commissioner Boyce

The purpose of the meeting was to review resolutions submitted for the July 02, 2019 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 9:13 A.M.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

Susan Bedsole, Deputy Court Director, Court of Common Pleas offered a resolution authorizing a contract with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction for the Community Corrections / Prison Diversion (407) Program (\$4,480,408.00).

Ms. Bedsole reviewed information found in documents submitted with this proposed resolution.

Ms. Bedsole offered a resolution authorizing a contract with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction for the Community Corrections / Jail Diversion (408) Program (\$727,408.00).

Ms. Bedsole reviewed information found in documents submitted with this proposed resolution.

Commissioner Boyce: With the state budget having not passed yet, are we just anticipating that there are going to be no changes, because I believe it's in Conference Committee now. What happens if in Conference Committee and there's a change. I think from Conference Committee, you can only change the things that have been changed from one chamber to the next, so if this was already in and stayed in, and both chambers, then you can't change.

Ms. Bedsole: You can't change.

Commissioner Boyce: Ok, that makes sense. I'm curious, because it's a state grant and so it's on the biennial fiscal year, is it reimbursement then for most of the dollars or we just operate in their cycle, so we really don't need to reimburse?

Ms. Bedsole: Correct.

## CLERK OF COURTS

Shawn Rieder, Fiscal Officer, Clerk of Courts, offered a resolution authorizing an agreement with the security firm Whitestone Group, Inc. to provide armed guard services for the Franklin County Clerk of Courts Auto Title division (\$1,331,039.00).

Mr. Rieder reviewed information found in documents submitted with this proposed resolution.

Commissioner Boyce: And that appropriation is the annual appropriation?

Mr. Rieder: The 332?

Commissioner Boyce: So the number we are looking at is the annual?

Mr. Rieder: No, that's the four year contract.

Commissioner Boyce: So we can adopt the resolution and appropriate for the whole four years?

Mr. Rieder: No, we only are asking for \$162,000 for the second half of the year. The annual is going to average around \$300,000.

Commission Boyce: Ok.

## DOMESTIC RELATIONS

Barb Reeves, Deputy Director, Domestic Relations, offered a resolution authorizing a contract extension with Action for Children for Parenting Seminars (\$39,672.60).

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

## ENGINEER

Fritz Crosier, Chief Deputy Engineer, Engineer, offered a resolution awarding contract and approving contract bond to Shelly & Sands, Inc., for the Reynoldsburg-New Albany Road Improvement Project, Franklin County, Ohio (\$769,945.30).

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

Carla Marable, Director of Communication, Engineer, offered a resolution authorizing settlements for disputed property damage claims involving Franklin County Engineer's Office employees (\$7,954.52).

Ms. Marable reviewed information found in documents submitted with this proposed resolution.

## AUDITOR

Adam Seeley, Staff Counsel, Auditor, offered a resolution authorizing a one-year contract with Woolpert, Inc. for orthographic aerial CAUV photography utilizing non-general funds (\$69,088.00).

Mr. Seeley reviewed information found in documents submitted with this proposed resolution.

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Jeff Young, Director, Emergency Management Agency offered a resolution authorizing the approval of the renewal agreement for the Everbridge Mass Notification System (\$261,706.06).

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

Commissioner Boyce: At our last county-wide elected officials meeting, we talked about Everbridge and ensuring that everyone was in the database. Has all of that been tested and worked out with the elected officials?

Mr. Young: I believe so. We worked hard over the summer. We had several conversations about how each entity, each agency keeps track of employees that come and go and make sure employees are added, or staff that leaves is out of the system. At the leadership roundtable, we discussed that again, that this is the time for agencies to go back and make sure they know who their point of contact is from an Everbridge standpoint, as well as to go through and make sure their databases are up to date.

Commissioner Boyce: You answered the question, but you started off by saying you “think”, and kind of answered the question. On something like this, and I’m not trying to be a smart-aleck about it, but something like this, I want a yes or no answer. I think about the day the power went out. We had people stuck in the elevators; we couldn’t get into our offices and we were stuck up here on the 26<sup>th</sup> floor and there could have been all kinds of things going on, and from what I recall, there really wasn’t a lot of hard communication. We made the call to release folks and even that communication was spotty. My point is that I don’t want to see us hit another emergency and not know whether or not for sure, that system is up. So if you don’t mind, I’m going to ask you again at our meeting on Tuesday and I hope you can tell me a more definitive answer with confidence that the system works well.

Mr. Young: I am confident in its usage and its availability and its function, it’s the people element that has me a little hesitant that is the basis for my answer because every agency

has staff changes and turnovers, and it's up to each one of the individual agencies to manage their employee contact information.

Commissioner Boyce: That's a great point, and it was my impression that's what we were going to be working on in the meantime. I just don't want to see us hit an emergency and not have the capacity we need to share information and communicate.

### FRANKLIN COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES

Jessie Hemphill, Levy Review Committee, offered a resolution declaring it necessary to levy a renewal tax in excess of the ten-mill limitation and requesting the Auditor to certify the total current tax valuation of the County and the dollar amount of revenue generated by the tax levy.

Mr. Hemphill reviewed information found in documents submitted with this proposed resolution.

### JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES

Bart Logan, Senior Management Analyst, Job and Family Services, offered a resolution approving two contract extensions for on-site case management services between the Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services and OhioHealth's Riverside Methodist Hospital and Grant Medical Center (\$174,188.82).

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

### ANIMAL CONTROL

April Ricciardo, Assistant Director, Animal Control, offered a resolution authorizing the acceptance of an estate donation from Connie R. Bridges to Franklin County Dog Shelter and Adoption Center (\$17,760.69).

Ms. Ricciardo reviewed information found in documents submitted with this proposed resolution.

Commissioner Boyce: Where does that money go?

Ms. Ricciardo: It goes into 2138, which is our donation fund.

Commissioner Boyce: What do you do with the donation fund, how do we spend that?

Ms. Ricciardo: We spend it with the free spayed and neutered program.

Commissioner Boyce: You said the program was called SNYP-IT?

Mr. Kenneth Wilson, County Administrator: Yes, that's the name of the program. (laughter). We also use the funds for major capital purchases.

## BOARD OF ELECTIONS

David Payne, Deputy Director, Board of Elections and Adam Frumkin, CIO, Data Center offered a resolution authorizing a transfer of General Fund appropriations in order to provide the budgetary allotment for meeting July payroll.

Mr. Payne reviewed information found in documents submitted with this proposed resolution.

Mr. Payne and Mr. Frumkin offered a resolution authorizing appropriation adjustments and a transfer of funds for the implementation of a new voter registration and election management software solution.

Mr. Payne reviewed information found in documents submitted with this proposed resolution.

Commissioner Boyce: The big issue is cyber-security these days. Tell me about what we are getting from a cyber- security standpoint.

Mr. Payne: We had a conference last week with the Ohio Secretary of State. It was a three day conference all about cyber-security. This system has been certified by the Ohio Secretary of State.

Commissioner Boyce: What does it mean to be certified by the Secretary of State?

Mr. Payne: They have to look at all of our voting systems, and all our software systems to make sure that they are confident that the system will work. That it passes cyber-security and Homeland Security issues. There are a lot of things that the Secretary of State looks at to make sure, before they give certification.

Mr. Frumkin: Part of that is the Ohio Secretary of State is going through protect2020 campaign right now. Not only the Board of Elections, but also from a data center perspective, we have to follow and look at that directive. We are very well suited and as part of the discussion at the conference, Nikki Milburn, who is my Security Chief for the Data Center, was at the conference. Based on some comments at the conference, we are best suited in the state and the most advanced county in the state as far as cyber-security is concerned and what they are looking at from protect2020. We are in a very good position in the direction we are going. We are doing more and more in looking at the directive, making sure that we are set before the end of the calendar year based on a few of the items that are in that directive that we need to update or move along. As a whole, we look at some of the other counties in Ohio, they are just starting the process of what the Secretary is asking for everybody to be at by the end of the calendar year, and the directive is, by the end of the calendar year. I feel confident. We've looked at Tenex, but looked at different ones that were available and one of the first things we talked about

was where do we sit from their cyber-security perspective, what they do, how it connects to the internet, how's it secured, where is the data stored, etc. We feel very confident with this and the direction. We are also looking at this as a SaaS product, which means it is not actually on the servers, it's actually a SaaS perspective, which means it's maintained on a regular basis, maintained by the company, which means, when they maintain it, they have to maintain and validate the certification of the system. So every time they want to do new upgrades, it has to be re-certified before they can put it out to the public.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

Jenny Snapp, Assistant Director, Economic Development and Planning offered a resolution for review of petition to annex 0.6 +/- acres from Madison Township to the City of Columbus Case #ANX-11-19.

Ms. Snapp reviewed information found in documents submitted with this proposed resolution.

Ms. Snapp offered a resolution for review of petition to annex 1.033 +/- acres from Perry Township to the City of Columbus Case #ANX-12-19.

Ms. Snapp reviewed information found in documents submitted with this proposed resolution.

Ms. Snapp offered a resolution for review of petition to annex 0.905 +/- acres from Jackson Township to the City of Grove City Case #ANX-13-19.

Ms. Snapp reviewed information found in documents submitted with this proposed resolution.

## HUMAN RESOURCES

Rob Young, Director, Human Resources, offered a resolution authorizing implementation of a \$15.00 an hour minimum wage for Board of Commissioner agency employees and associated adjustments.

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

Commissioner Boyce: I know that historically there has been a lot of work done around appropriate wage considerations. I know that you have done studies over time and so when I got here, you had an existing study that was a couple of years old. However, are there any concerns in terms of wage compression? My experience has been when you do this sort of minimum wage, there's a domino effect in order for it not to affect a twenty year employee that is in a certain category and making a certain amount. The wage is still compressed because they got the twenty year span in and then somebody new comes in

and starts at \$15 an hour, it's not the same as the person that came in twenty years ago. How do we address that?

Mr. Young: It's the same conversation we've been having with the unions. This is the second time we've done adjustments. The last time resulted in the bottom four classifications all being \$13.69, which isn't ideas, but now there are five starting classifications, like A1 through A5, they're all \$15 an hour, so that is something we do need to address.

Commissioner Boyce: I'm glad you said that we need to address it. It's almost like starting a little fire. You put out a bigger fire, but then you have little fires around that could become an issue. I'm curious as to what our game plan is in addressing that, because we've got to be fair. Raising our hourly wage is important, I'm extremely supportive of it, but you've got to make sure you're fair in that you don't compress wages for longtime employees, whether they're bargaining or not. If you can keep me in the loop of that conversation, timeline, and what we need to do to insure that everyone's considered fairly, I would appreciate it.

Mr. Young: I understand.

Mr. Wilson: We are working on it. We've been talking about it all this week. We realize that the .50 cent compression adjustment is not the ultimate solution, but it was a step that we needed to take, versus just going up to just \$15.00. When you talk about the employees with ten years or more, we gave them a verbal commitment to try and work in the contract with our unions to do something to recognize them.

Mr. Young offered a resolution approving the Volunteer Initiative Plan (VIP) as a permanent program.

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

Commissioner O'Grady: Did we calculate the total number of hours that our folks volunteer?

Mr. Young: It's in the year-end report.

## PURCHASING

Megan Perry-Balonier, Director, Purchasing, offered a resolution approving purchases for various Franklin County agencies (\$595,973.76).

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

## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Zak Talarek, Director, Board of Commissioners, offered a resolution authorizing a Development Agreement with the City of Columbus and Crew SC Stadium Company, LLC for the support of Confluence Village and a Community Sports Park.

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

Commissioner Boyce: Why do we need a resolution for this? I felt like we already did this.

Mr. Talarek: Back in December, The Board authorized the Memorandum of Understanding initiating the initial framework. This is the actual development agreement between the partners for the different commitments.

Mr. Wilson: The MOU was not binding. The MOU was a statement of intension that the new ownership group needed to present to major league soccer, in order to show the intent of the parties to do XYZ.

Commissioner Boyce: Got it.

Mr. Wilson: The Economic Development agreement will be an expression of the actual legal commitment between the parties.

Commissioner Boyce: So this resolution will appropriate the initial \$2.5 million dollar commitment and makes no reference to the full commitment?

Mr. Talarek: The full commitment is in the development agreement.

Commissioner Boyce: Is that stated in this resolution?

Commissioner O'Grady: It's in the agreement we sign. This is just the \$2.5 million from this year.

Erik Janas, Deputy County Administrator: It's both.

Tyler Lowery, Director, Public Affairs: This is both, Commissioner, both the agreement and the appropriation.

Commissioner O'Grady: Oh, the agreement is in here, too.

Mr. Lowery: The previous one was just the MOU, this is the binding agreement.

Commissioner O'Grady: Got it.

Commissioner Boyce: It's my understanding that there will be a financing element related to our commitment. Will the \$2.5 million be linked to that financing agreement? Because if it is, I get concerned about our non-binding language subject to appropriations.



Mr. Wilson: We will be subject. The county's annual economic development agreement as outlined in this document will always live with a "subject to appropriations" clause attached to it, because a Board can't obligate another Board to do something. Once the new Community Development Authority is established, and has a Board of Trustees and is stood up, the new Community Development Authority is planning to issue two series of bonds: One series of bonds based on market conditions at the time of issuance to have net proceeds of \$45 million dollars and then there's another series of bonds tied to TIF revenues. The county's annual economic development contribution of \$2.5 million dollars will be when we go through that process and is a resource that will feed into the new Community Authority to support development activities of the new Community Authority in Confluence Village.

Commissioner Boyce: But the \$2.5 million would be for the debt service.

Mr. Wilson: It goes in for development activities. When the new Community Authority goes through the rating process, they are going to clearly explain that's a significant part. But there's a development charge the new Community Authority has distinct powers, even outside of the economic development.

Commissioner Boyce: They're responsible for the debt services, essentially.

Mr. Wilson: Yes.

Commissioner Boyce: That's very helpful. The TIF, what's our goal in the TIF agreement that comes before the Authority?

Mr. Wilson: The City of Columbus, we don't have any power.

Commissioner Boyce: When is the Authority going to be set up? What's the timeline on the Authority, and how many appointments is the Authority?

Mr. Wilson: Two essentially.

Mr. Janas: Technically, because I asked this question, Commissioner. The City of Columbus makes all five public appointments by agreement; City of Columbus will make two of those. They will take your recommendation for two more, and then there will be a fifth appointment that's jointly agreed upon. Those are the five public sector appointments, and then the balance of Board of nine will be made up of by four developer appointments.

Mr. Wilson: The new Community Authority will own all the public assets, including the stadium.

Guest: The County and the City will always be involved in those conversations.

Commissioner Boyce: You are telling me that the Authority is going to own the stadium?

Guest: Yes.

Mr. Janas: And then lease it to the owner of the club.

Commissioner Boyce: I only asked that question because that's a little different than what I understood. That means effectively that the County and the City will own that soccer stadium, because we made those appointments to the Authority. Right?

Mr. Lowry: We won't technically own it.

Commissioner Boyce: The Authority will technically own it.

Mr. Lowry: They'll have a lease agreement and an operational management agreement with the ownership.


Mr. Wilson: The Authority is going to be a governmental entity, the City and the County will have initially created it and have made appointments to it, on an ongoing basis, but as an entity, it will stand on its own. When you peel it back, the City and the County are mother and father (laughter).

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:57 A.M.

**(Signature page follows.)**

These minutes are a summary of the Commissioners' Briefing Session for June 27, 2019.

  
MARILYN BROWN, PRESIDENT

  
JOHN O'GRADY

  
KEVIN L. BOYCE  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO

Submitted by: Victoria Caldwell