

FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Briefing Minutes
July 27, 2017

Commissioner Brown
Commissioner Boyce

The purpose of the meeting was to review resolutions submitted for the August 1, 2017 General Session and to discuss other matters pertaining to the programs of the agencies. These notes are a synopsis of the meeting.

Commissioner Brown convened the meeting at 9:05 A.M.

SHERIFF

Dave Masterson, Director of Administrative Services, Sheriff's Office, offered a resolution authorizing a publications subscription and access agreement with the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (\$900).

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

Commissioner Brown: Do you know what this certification will do for us?

Mr. Masterson: It is a nationally recognized certification. It is law enforcement based and serves all of the law enforcement. It will allow us to have access to experts, if we get sued or the like. This has been talked about in our office for years, and now we are beginning the process.

Mr. Masterson offered a resolution authorizing the acceptance of an Ohio Drug Law Enforcement Fund Grant for the Franklin County Drug Task Force (\$250,000).

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

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

Michael Salvadore, Workforce Navigator, Economic Development and Planning, offered a resolution authorizing a Grant agreement with the Workforce Development Board of Central Ohio to administer a job readiness pilot program in the Milo Grogan Neighborhood within the City of Columbus (\$50,000).

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

Commissioner Brown: Do you know what kind of jobs these will be? Are they good paying jobs that will move people off of benefits?

Mr. Salvadore: Yes they are. That in the intention of the project. From our discussions, it is clear of what type of jobs we want.

Commissioner Brown: Will the provider be tracking the retention of these jobs?

Mr. Salvadore: Yes, for at least two years and beyond.

Kenneth Wilson, County Administrator: Can you help me find the reporting requirements? Where the Workforce Board will report to us the actual number of jobs retained?

Mr. Salvadore: It should be in Exhibit A. The goal is to get 10% of the neighborhood engaged in the process. There will be some specific numbers in the contract that the Workforce Board is drafting. I will circle back to you with hard numbers.

Jenny Snapp, Assistant Director, Economic Development and Planning, offered a resolution authorizing review of Petition to Annex 7.29 +/- acres from Madison Township to the City of Columbus Case #ANX-10-17.

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

Josh Roth, Senior Program Coordinator, Economic Development and Planning, offered a resolution authorizing a loan from the Franklin County Infrastructure Bank to Grove City for their Municipal Fiber Network Project (\$2,000,000).

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

Commissioner Boyce: Will this all be underground? Is it linked to other projects they are already doing?

Mr. Roth: It is a mix. They will be doing fiber swaps with some of the other municipalities.

Jim Schimmer, Director, Economic Development and Planning: Once we get the fiber optics into the ground, there is an opportunity for other economic development activities.

Commissioner Boyce: What is the duration and the interest of the loan?

Michael DiPerna, President of DiPerna Advisors: The term is ten years. The repayment stream is the income tax of Grove City. We patterned the InfrastructureWorks Program after the state's program. The interest rate is based on the MMD.

Commissioner Boyce: Is the interest over MMD or under?

Mr. Roth: It is 25 points under for a 10 year term.

Mr. Roth offered a resolution authorizing a loan from the Franklin County Infrastructure Bank to Grove City for their Stringtown Road Improvements Project (\$1,000,000).

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

Commissioner Brown: Is OhioHealth bringing a hospital or outpatient facility?

Mr. Schimmer: I believe it is an outpatient facility.

Mr. Wilson: It is outpatient and emergency facility.

Commissioner Boyce: I recently toured Grove City with Mayor Stage. What we focused on are the ways that the County is partnering with Grove City to support their needs. I love this program. It is a small enough amount that it would be hard to get anywhere else. This is a good model.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Dayna McCrary, Community Partnership Coordinator, offered a resolution authorizing a one-year agreement with the Ohio State University Extension, Franklin County to provide educational activities and other programming (\$175,000).

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

HOMELAND SECURITY AND JUSTICE PROGRAMS

Greg Plantz, Fiscal Officer, Homeland Security and Justice Programs, offered a resolution authorizing a non-general fund supplemental appropriation for the purchase of a copier (\$12,000).

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

PURCHASING

Chris Johnston, Purchasing Supervisor, Purchasing, offered a resolution approving purchases for various Franklin County agencies (\$1,394,144.62)

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

Mr. Johnston asked the Commissioners to add one purchase order on the agenda for Juvenile Detention Center.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Erik Janas, Deputy Administrator, offered a resolution submitting names to the State Emergency Planning Commission for final approval and appointment to the local emergency planning committee, known in Franklin County as the Chemical Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council (CEPAC).

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

Ed Leonard, Director, Board of Elections, asked the Commissioners to add a resolution on the agenda for authorizing a supplemental appropriation related to the upgrades for the automated ballot processing and tracking system. The Commissioners approved to put on the agenda.

Commissioner Brown: Will this system be working in this coming election?

Mr. Leonard: Yes.

Public Speaker

Connie Horne, Angels for Animals: I am a board member of Angels for Animals. We are an advocate group that has 7,000 members and promote getting rescue dogs out of the Dog Shelter. We have raised over \$100,000 in pledges to save 600 dogs. We work directly with the rescue community. One of my main concerns is the public spay and neuter program. I wanted to know the status of this.

Mr. Janas: There is a positive update. We got verbal confirmation from the Prosecutor's office that we do have statutory authority for such a program. We are working with the Dog Shelter to make sure the program conforms with the requirements of the particular statute. We intend to move forward on it in a couple of weeks.

Ms. Horne: The communication between the Dog Shelter and the rescue community has been tense. We are trying to work with a better communication system with them so we can get the dogs out quickly and everyone is happy.

Commissioner Boyce: Can you give an example of the communication breakdown?

Ms. Horne: There were three dogs on the rescue list Friday. Three separate rescue organizations called into the Dog Shelter for those three dogs. The Director told them that they were not going to hold the dogs until Saturday. One of the volunteers began the paperwork for the dog when I arrived. We then drove to Ashland, OH to get the dog to the foster. I Have a Dream Rescue called into the Shelter on Sunday and needed a cat test. One of the volunteers for Angels for Animals took her cat there and the Shelter said they did not have time for the cat test. Then I Have a Dream Rescue called and they were told that the foster could bring their cat. It didn't make sense because

if you did not have time for the volunteer's cat, they would not have time for the foster's cat. There is some tension there. We do not want that.

Mr. Janas: For context, we know that it has been an adjustment for the holding period for rescues, in order to work with the department to get dogs out. However, our experience has always been that whether the hold period beyond the statutorily required period is three, five or seven days, quite often the rescue organizations come the day before. Also, the staff always work when there is a viable rescue opportunity for a dog. If it is imminent, they will consider extending the period of time in order to get a dog in a rescue. We have been running high numbers the last few weeks. We are oversubscribed right now. I have extended a sale through this coming weekend so we can encourage the public to continue to adopt. I am happy to look into the particular issue you raised.

Commissioner Boyce: I would also like an answer to them not always extending the time for dogs that are going to be rescued.

Mr. Janas: I do not want to say we always extend. I say we make every effort to extend if an adoption opportunity is imminent or a rescue opportunity. The problem arises when the three day hold is up on a Saturday and the rescues approach the day before. Often times there is a lot associated with making sure we do all the things we are required to legally hand over a dog.

Commissioner Brown: Just so you understand, our staff do not like euthanizing. It is a very hard thing to do.

Ms. Horne: We have 100% save rate off the list of rescues for the last three plus months. We had a place for those dogs Saturday and the Shelter refused. I want to discuss the in-house foster program. I know we had it before and do not know why it went away. It seems like the Shelter are pulling a lot of dogs off the adoption floor because of kennel stress. If you have an in-house foster program for the adoption dogs, when we identify that problem, we get them into a foster program. The foster program through the County is different because the County has more visibility. It would be nice to get the in-house foster program back.

Mr. Janas: You would be happy to hear that the Director has asked me if we would reconsider the in-house foster program. I suggested that it was an ok idea to do, but I had some fundamental questions that needed to be answered before we institute such a program. For example, are we talking about a day trip or overnight? How long of a period of time? How are you vetting the people that are applying for a rescue program? What is the liability issue from the Prosecutor's point of view? The Department is working on these questions now. If we can get answers to those questions, we will be looking at reinstating it on a limited sense.

Mr. Horne: Do you think that because it was in existence before, that it would help accelerate it being reinstated?

Mr. Janas: I think it was done more informally and I am uncomfortable with that. I would like a structured program with a clear delineation on who can foster dogs, what's the period of time, what resources are we responsible for if we are going to allow someone to foster a dog, what is the liability? These are the questions I want answered.

Commissioner Boyce: I think those are the right questions. It is for everyone's sake that these questions get answered beforehand.

Ms. Horne: I was a foster during the initial program.

Commissioner Brown: Do you recall when that was?

Ms. Horne: 2014. I have one last issue that I would like to discuss. The marketing is an issue. Per the stats, the intakes are down and adoption is down. We are thinking if there could be more innovative ways to market. Possibly a mobile unit that could be used for educational and adoption purposes. It would bring attention to the Shelter like the Columbus Zoo. This could help improve the image of the Shelter.

Mr. Janas: This is an ongoing discussion that I have with the Shelter. I am open to suggestions and I am happy to talk about that.

Ms. Horne: There is nothing wrong with the \$18 sale, but I feel like that should be used only in an emergency and not on an ongoing basis. There are a lot of returns.

Mr. Janas: As you know Commissioners, County Administration approves sales. That is associated with trying to control the population.

Mr. Wilson: The Director is conscious of this. In authorizing a sale, he does not want to cheapen the value.

Mr. Janas: We are looking into this closely because of the returns. We are trying to figure out how to address this. We have seen the evidence that when we do these sales, we are able to move more healthy dogs into the community. The vast majority of dogs go to a good home.

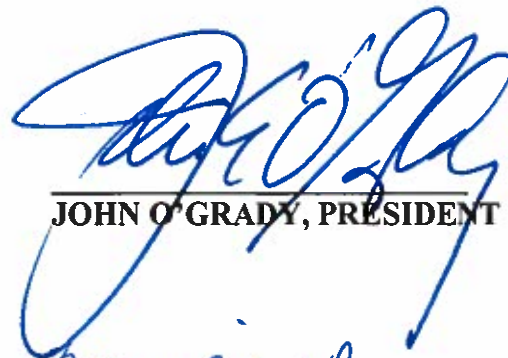
Ms. Horne: If you have a sale on a regular basis, you will have people wait until the sale comes. I would like to invite anyone to join us in a freedom transport ride.

Keena Smith, Deputy Administrator: August is Child Support Awareness Month. In Franklin County, over 80,000 children are impacted by our programs. Receiving child support is important to many families. It could be up to 40% of a low-income family's income. This makes child support a community issue. During the month of August, County Administration will be recognizing some of the folks who are making a difference in this arena at General Session. Green is the child support awareness color and we encourage everyone to wear green on Tuesday.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 A.M.

(Signature page follows.)

These minutes are a summary of the Commissioners' Briefing Session for July 27, 2017.



JOHN O'GRADY, PRESIDENT



MARILYN BROWN



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

Submitted by: Antwan Booker, Clerk