

## FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Briefing Session Minutes  
Thursday, September 22, 2022

President Crawley  
Commissioner Boyce

The purpose of the meeting was to review resolutions submitted for the September 27, 2022, 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 Crawley convened the meeting at 9:03 A.M.

### ENGINEER

Terri J. Pritchard, Executive Assistant, Engineer's Office, offered a resolution for establishing, altering, and widening of Alkire Road, County Road No. 11, between Darby Creek Drive and Johnson Road, Prairie Township and Pleasant Township, Franklin County, Ohio, viewed – Engineer to file plans as necessary (Engineer).

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

Terri J. Pritchard offered a resolution for establishing, altering, and widening of Gardner Road, County Road No. 281, between the Madison County line and Riebel Road, Pleasant Township, Franklin County, Ohio, viewed – Engineer to file plans as necessary (Engineer).

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

Terri J. Pritchard offered a resolution for preliminary allocation and final encumbrance of County Motor Vehicle License Fee (\$5) Funds for the City of New Albany (\$500,000.00) (Engineer).

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

### PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

Robin Moorhead, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Prosecuting Attorney's Office, offered a resolution authorizing an agreement with Axon Enterprise, Inc., for the purchase of the Axon Evidence digital evidence storage and management system (\$1,550,000.00) (Prosecuting Attorney).

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

### ANIMAL CONTROL

April Ricciardo, Assistant Director, Animal Control, offered a resolution authorizing supplemental appropriations for the operation of the animal shelter (Animal Control).

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

### CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT

Susan Brown, Director, Child Support Enforcement, offered a resolution authorizing Franklin County Child Support Enforcement Agency to enter into a contract with the Urban Family Development Center for the provision of professional services related to the implementation of the Charting a Course for Economic Mobility and Responsible Parenting (EMRP) - Cohort 2, grant project (\$97,170.00) (Child Support Enforcement).

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

### COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Curtis Brown, Community Partnerships Coordinator, Community Partnerships, offered a resolution authorizing a COVID-19 Recovery Grant to the Rise Together Innovation Center for the establishment of the Community Information Exchange (\$2,000,000.00) (Community Partnerships).

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

*Danielle Sydnor, Chief Executive Officer, Rise Together Innovation Center, and Jordan Davis, Executive Director, Smart Columbus, shared brief remarks.*

Commissioner Boyce: We are making a down payment on \$18 million? Data is at the crux of every decision we make, and it is how we figure out how to prepare for the future. How we pay for it is also important. You mentioned that the City of Columbus and Columbus Partnership are endorsing this effort, and I hope they are also part of the funding. Tell me about where the rest of the \$18 million is coming from. What is the ongoing cost after it has been implemented? After the initial \$18 million, are there annual costs, and who is responsible for those costs and maintaining this effort?

Ms. Davis: The \$18 million is the upfront development cost over the four years, and that is based on benchmarks from other communities. Over the course of the year, we will have a better understanding of what it will cost to build it out fully. Once the systems are in place, the operational costs will be dramatically lower. Smart Columbus' commitment is to catalyze, design, and develop this alongside the Rise Together Innovation Center and other social service partners and residents. Then, it will transition to the long-term owner in year four of the process. In year one, we scoped out a thorough build-out of a business plan. We have three strong business models that we want to test based on the features and functions that the community prioritizes. We believe that all three models are viable and they have been used by other communities across the country, so we need to determine which is best for us in this first year. There will be added investment by other local partners in year one, as well.

Commissioner Boyce: I would like a breakdown of what that looks like. As we are stewards of the public dollars, we need to understand in detail where the funds are coming from. I do not want the County to be on the hook for all of those funds because we cannot carry this by ourselves. We need the support and engagement of the City of Columbus, of Columbus Partnership, and of the region. While this data may be Central Ohio- and Franklin County-focused, it is my understanding that the data only works when it is regionally collected and understood. I would like to see a robust fundraising effort here and going forward, that will be how I base my support because for this to work, you must have multiple partners to cover the costs. If it costs \$18 million to build this, it will cost some fraction of that to maintain it, and before we get deep into this investment, we need to understand that in detail.

Ms. Sydnor: Your concerns are very well stated, and I agree that there needs to be recognition by multiple partners in the community that this is valuable. During our briefings with many of the social service agencies that we have held over the past couple of weeks, one of the things that I have been upfront in sharing is that, as a group, the County is committing to an initial first year of investment. My expectation is that we have the same rigor in showing proof of concept and developing the business plan in this first year, which would warrant us being able to come back and ask for additional dollars because we would be able to demonstrate that this will not fully be the County's burden going forward. When we are talking about something that is going to provide a community good, there is always going to be a need for government to have some kind of involvement and support, but the business community, healthcare institutions, and some of our large non-profit organizations stand to benefit to the most from the efficiencies that result from this work.

Ms. Sydnor (cont.): Those efficiencies can lead to savings that will help to support and sustain this project long-term.

Commissioner Boyce: I would encourage you to use these funds as leverage to engage OSU, Children's Hospital, and Nationwide Insurance. All of them have something at stake when it comes to a robust data system that could be utilized in their decision-making. Maybe even consider challenge funds. Say "the County is in, can the City match?" We cannot cover that bill alone, and going forward, we will need to have the partners and their commitments laid out.

Commissioner Crawley: We already have an ask in right now from one of our partners to help build up their infrastructure. To Commissioner Boyce's point, we cannot carry the cost alone, not just for the Community Information Exchange (CIE), but for the rest of our stakeholders, as well. As you are working with your stakeholders or other community groups who would benefit from a CIE, ask what their infrastructures are like. How can they be a part of this and support it long-term? Because the County cannot be on the hook for that, as well.

Ms. Sydnor: I just had a conversation with my Board yesterday regarding how we can support some of the smaller non-profit organizations that are still tracking people with pen and paper. The progress of the technology infrastructure of many organizations was impacted by COVID. There were some organizations that could not make it anymore because they did not have a technology infrastructure. We are trying to identify additional resources that can support some of these smaller organizations to get them access to technology. We can also tap into the private sector, which is often looking for ways in which they can support organizations. Having large institutions that have access to internal IT departments and that could assist with some of this is another opportunity for us to leverage additional support.

Kenneth N. Wilson, County Administrator: With where we are in our collaboration with the Innovation Center and Smart Columbus, to take this first step makes sense. With that being said, I completely agree with the Commissioners. It has to be a collaborative approach over the four-year cycle. We also have to think about inclusion when we talk about the sustainable model for it. We have to look at the non-profit partners, the hospital partners, and the corporate community, who will be interested in how this is built. We need to be strategic and ensure we take advantage of the Federal investment in this. We are going to use Federal COVID relief dollars today, but there are infrastructure dollars that are also on the table that we have to push for as a community collaboratively. We would be most effective in securing those funds if we approach the effort as a region. This funding alone is not all that we need. The community will need to cover the price tag to bring us to where we need to be from a digital equity and inclusion standpoint so that all of our residents can leverage technology opportunities. There are significant gaps in our community right now. For example, even where broadband exists, ten percent of residents in Franklin County do not have an internet subscription due to the digital cost burden associated with accessing this technology.

Commissioner Crawley: To be clear, the additional Federal funding that you are referring to is funding that is available through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, correct?

Mr. Wilson: Yes. There are some funds that we can go after directly as a County and other funds that we must work with our State government to obtain.

Commissioner Crawley: I fear that since Federal dollars are being used for this, our private partners will be even slower to come to the table. Just because we have COVID dollars and there will be Bipartisan Infrastructure dollars does not mean that they can be slow to come to the table. This truly has to be a collaborative effort in order to have sustainability because the Federal funding will run out.

Mr. Wilson: We have had one meeting with regional partners already, which was organized by One Columbus. We discussed how we could collectively go after these dollars, including what The Ohio State University is doing from a science and research standpoint and what the Columbus Metropolitan Airport is going to seek out for its new terminal.

Commissioner Boyce: I would like to caution you that all the entities you named often get those funds and then operate in a silo and do what they need to do. For this project, it is really important that everyone brings what they have to the table. We can use these funds as leverage to show we will take the initial step to get the fire going, but everyone has to put their own log of wood in so the fire can be sustained and fuel us all. Everyone has to participate, or we will stop because we cannot afford \$18 million, along with whatever it costs to maintain this after the initial payout.

Joy Bivens, Deputy County Administrator: We need to make sure that we are being very inclusive in our language to ensure that the mom-and-pop non-profits have a voice in this, as well. I do not think we should wait until it is built to have these conversations; rather, we should do it on the front end. The Human Service agencies just completed all of their dashboards, and we can track down to the zip code which is receiving which resources and how much they are receiving, broken down by demographic. Hopefully, when this project is approved, we will be able to present that aggregate data to you to assist in this process. This information could help you make decisions regarding where you dispatch resources.

Commissioner Crawley: On Tuesday, could you tell us where the City of Columbus is in this \$18 million investment? Do they have a soft commitment?

Ms. Davis: There is definitely a soft commitment from the City. They have been deferential to the County to lead this investment, as you are the primary funders in the social services ecosystem. They have been respectful of this process, and then we will begin the more formal process with the City after this.

Commissioner Boyce: Data is not just about human services. Data drives corporate decisions, as well. It may drive how housing is built, where COTA makes decisions, or where corporations move certain divisions of their company, to give a few examples.

Commissioner Boyce (cont.): I do not want this to be thought of as solely a social services database. At its heart, this database will help us with social services, but it is also there as a resource to be used in decision-making. This has to be all hands on deck if it is going to be done right. I would be happy to engage those partners on behalf of this effort to help them understand it and the value of this collaboration.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

Julissa Tiruchelvam, Executive Assistant, Economic Development and Planning, offered a resolution authorizing the Board of Franklin County Commissioners to sign the attached “Discharge of MORTGAGE” instrument for Jonathan Benner and Margaret Benner at 1000 Hunt Valley Drive, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068 (Economic Development and Planning).

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

Julissa Tiruchelvam offered a resolution authorizing the Board of Franklin County Commissioners to sign the attached “Discharge of MORTGAGE” instrument for Mary Larson and Richard Larson at 3727 Walford Street, Columbus, OH 43224 (Economic Development and Planning).

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

Julissa Tiruchelvam offered a resolution authorizing the Board of Franklin County Commissioners to sign the attached “Discharge of MORTGAGE” instrument for Charles E. Daugherty and Betty A. Daugherty at 6520 Bartlett Court, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068 (Economic Development and Planning).

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

## JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES

Bart Logan, Deputy Director, Communications, Job and Family Services, offered a resolution approving a subaward agreement with the Research Institute at Nationwide Children's Hospital dba Abigail Wexner Research Institute for the South Side Thrive family support services initiative (\$32,848.60) (Job and Family Services).

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

Bart Logan offered a resolution approving subaward agreements with Community Refugee and Immigration Services, Ethiopian Tewahedo Social Services, Jewish Family Services, and US Together, Inc. for refugee employability services (\$2,292,173.63) (Job and Family Services).

Mr. Logan 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 contract renewal with Impact Community Action for peer support and case management services through the FY 2020 Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program (\$85,000.00) (Justice Policy and Programs).

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

Caitlin Looney offered a resolution authorizing the President of the Franklin County Board of Commissioners to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the cities of Columbus, Reynoldsburg, and Whitehall confirming an agreed-upon funding plan for the FY 2022 Justice Assistance Grant application and to sign all certification and assurance documents related to the grant application (Justice Policy and Programs).

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

Caitlin Looney offered a resolution authorizing the County Administrator to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Columbus Public Health for the implementation of the Prevention Vending Pilot Program at the Office of Justice Policy and Program's Rapid Resource Center and SAFER Station (Justice Policy and Programs).

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

### HUMAN RESOURCES

Laura Repasky, Director, Human Resources, offered a resolution authorizing an agreement with The Ohio State University for the purchase of Management Advancement for the Public Service (MAPS) training units for agencies of the Board of Commissioners (\$69,525.00) (Human Resources).

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

Commissioner Crawley: Do we have data on how many employees are taking advantage of the training modules and which ones are used most frequently or least frequently? What has sustained us for ten years?

Ms. Repasky: We do use almost all of the credits every year. I can provide you with a breakdown of what courses are offered and which are the most popular.

Laura Repasky offered a resolution approving and authorizing the County Administrator to execute a consultant agreement with S4 Consulting, Inc. and authorizing the County Administrator to take additional actions necessary to effectuate the agreement not inconsistent with this Resolution (Human Resources).

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

Jodi Leis, Assistant Director, Benefits and Wellness, Human Resources, offered a resolution authorizing a Contract Extension and Modification with United Healthcare Services, Inc. (UHC) for medical plan administration services for the Franklin County Cooperative Health Improvement Program (Cooperative) (\$4,000,000.00) (Human Resources).

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

#### PURCHASING

Megan Perry-Balonier, Director, Purchasing, 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 (\$1,144,711.24) (Purchasing).

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

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*The Clerk noted that there will be no journalizations expected at General Session on Tuesday, September 27, 2022.*

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:53 A.M.

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**(Signature Page Follows)**



These minutes are a general summary of the Commissioners' Briefing Session for Thursday, September 22, 2022.



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**ERICA C. CRAWLEY, PRESIDENT**

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**JOHN O'GRADY**



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

Submitted by:



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Lauren M. Graessle

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