

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Briefing Session Minutes
Thursday, November 2, 2023

President O'Grady
Commissioner Boyce

The purpose of the meeting was to review resolutions submitted for the November 7, 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 9:08 A.M.

ENGINEER

William "Fritz" Crosier, Chief Deputy of Engineering, Engineer's Office, offered a resolution for report (1st) of the Franklin County Engineer, establishing sums of compensation for a portion of the owners of property abutting the Cleveland Avenue from Huy Road to Cooke Road Improvement project, Clinton Township, Franklin County, Ohio (\$1,583.00) (Engineer).

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

William "Fritz" Crosier offered a resolution for report (15th) of the Franklin County Engineer, establishing sums of compensation for a portion of the owners of property abutting the Elliott Road and Hayden Run Road Drainage Improvement project, Brown Township and Washington Township, Franklin County, Ohio (\$20,999.00) (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 Contracts for Canned, Dry, Frozen and Dairy Food Products for the Franklin County Correctional Facilities (\$1,200,000.00) (Sheriff).

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

Albert J. Smith III offered a resolution authorizing a consultant contract with Paul Werth Associates, Inc. for employment recruiting advertisement services (\$300,000.00) (Sheriff).

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

Commissioner Boyce asked if this included purchasing the media or just the design. Mr. Smith stated that the \$300,000.00 includes everything. Commissioner Boyce requested to see the plan for these services and emphasized the importance of using minority outlets. Mr. Smith agreed to provide that information to the Commissioners. Deputy County Administrator Bivens noted that Damika Withers, Chief Economic Equity and Inclusion Officer, Office of Diversity Equity and Inclusion, has a list of minority contractors in this space that she can share with the Sheriff's Office

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Antone White, Director, Board of Elections, offered a resolution authorizing supplemental appropriations related to the reconciliation of election related expenses from the August special election (Board of Elections).

Mr. White 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 transfer of funds for the procurement of equipment (Emergency Management Agency).

Mr. Young 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 Kingdom Image Arts for support of the Kingdom Image Awards and Entrepreneur Development Program (\$248,905.00) (Office of Diversity Equity & Inclusion).

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

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

Brian Estabrook, Food Systems Planner, Economic Development and Planning, offered a resolution authorizing a COVID-19 Recovery Grant to Mid-Ohio Food Collective to develop the Mid-Ohio Farm at NBC4 in support of the local food system and in alignment with the Columbus & Franklin County Local Food Action Plan (\$181,270.00) (Economic Development and Planning).

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

Brian Estabrook offered a resolution authorizing a COVID-19 Recovery Grant to Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District to develop an urban agriculture critical infrastructure grant in support of the local food system and in alignment with the Columbus & Franklin County Local Food Action Plan (\$166,667.00) (Economic Development and Planning).

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

Matt Brown, Planning Administrator, Economic Development and Planning, offered a resolution for review of petition to annex 59.743 +/- acres from Jackson Township to the City of Grove City Case #ANX-40-23 (Economic Development and Planning).

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

Matt Brown offered a resolution for review of petition to annex 0.47 +/- acres from Franklin Township to the City of Columbus Case #ANX-41-23 (Economic Development and Planning).

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

Matt Brown offered a resolution for review of petition to annex 5.633 +/- acres from Washington Township to the City of Columbus Case #ANX-42-23 (Economic Development and Planning).

Mr. Brown 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 Derrick L. Owens Group, LLC for adult court diversion alternative services (\$459,000.00) (Job and Family Services).

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

Bart Logan offered a resolution authorizing Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services Director to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding and related amendments and extensions with Columbus State Community College for case management services (Job and Family Services).

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

Bart Logan offered a resolution approving and certifying the Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services' Prevention, Retention, and Contingency Plan for the 2024-2025 Biennial period (Job and Family Services).

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

Commissioner Boyce asked if these are all federal funds. Mr. Logan noted that the \$3.5 million is from the TANF allocation. Commissioner Boyce asked if JFS had considered supplementing those funds with General Fund dollars. Administrator Wilson noted that PRC funds have not been supplemented with General Fund dollars, but the County has addressed similar issues through Community Partnerships and COVID-19 recovery grants. Additionally, Emergency Rental Assistance funds were used to create a PRC Rental program, which parallels the regular PRC program. The funds for this program were in high demand and were used quickly, so Commissioner Boyce asked for the plan going forward to prepare for 2024 needs. Administrator Wilson noted that approximately \$5 million will need to be moved to the PRC/ERA programs. JFS proposes increasing the emergency benefit cap to \$2,500.00 due to the increased costs families are experiencing due to inflation. County Administration agreed that this issue needs to be tackled from several fronts.

PURCHASING

Megan Perry-Balonier, Director, Purchasing, and Tameca Bumper, Economic Equity Administrator, Office of Diversity Equity and Inclusion, offered a resolution approving purchases for various Franklin County agencies (\$4,104,267.73) (Purchasing).

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

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Patty Huddle, President, Columbus-Franklin County Finance Authority, offered a resolution approving, solely for the purpose of Section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, the issuance by the Columbus-Franklin County Finance Authority of lease revenue bonds in one or more series in a total aggregate amount not to exceed \$35,000,000 for The Cornerstone Academy Community School Project (Board of Commissioners).

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

Commissioner Boyce asked if the Finance Authority has done financing for charter schools before. Ms. Huddle replied in the affirmative and noted that they have specifically done it for Cornerstone in the past. Commissioner Boyce asked what the security is on the debt service. Ben Kitto, Partner, Ice Miller Legal Counsel, stated Cornerstone will be paying the debt service primarily from revenues. Commissioner Boyce asked what the previous bonds were rated, and what the current bonds will be rated. Mr. Kitto stated that the previous bonds were not rated, and the current bonds are not expected to be rated either. Commissioner Boyce asked for a breakdown of the composition of the \$35 million. Mr. Kitto stated that approximately \$10-12 million is refi, and approximately \$20 million is new money. There is an equity contribution, as well, so it is not all debt financing, and it is not capped at \$30 million. The bonds will not exceed \$30 million, and the school will contribute approximately \$4 million. Commissioner Boyce asked if underwriters had been selected, and Mr. Kitto replied that the underwriter was Piper Sandler, the same underwriter used for the previous bonds. Commissioner Boyce noted that in the future, he encourages the use of multiple underwriters and minority underwriters.

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Administrator Wilson, Adam Frumkin, Chief Information Officer, Data Center, and Juan Torres, Chief Information Officer, Board of Commissioners, provided the Commissioners with an update on the Franklin County Digital Equity Coalition. A robust discussion ensued.

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RESOLUTIONS TO BE PASSED AT BRIEFING SESSION

Resolution No. 0846-23, authorizing the Community Partnership Grant Agreement with Ohio Women Alliance and correcting Resolution No. 0828-23 (\$259,700.00) (Community Partnerships), presented by Jeanine Hummer, First Assistant Prosecuting Attorney and Chief Counsel, Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

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

Commissioner Boyce asked for clarification. Ms. Hummer stated Resolution No. 0846-23 will do two things. First, it will remove Ohio Women's Alliance from the original resolution, Resolution No. 0828-23. This means Ohio Women's Alliance will no longer be a part of that Resolution, which was adopted on October 31, 2023. Second, Resolution No. 0846-23 will allow the Board of Commissioners to vote on the agreement with Ohio Women's Alliance as a separate matter. Ms. Hummer explained that this agreement should have been separated from the original resolution due to a conflict. Administrator Wilson asked that a brief summary of the Ohio Women's Alliance be provided to the Commissioners and Brittany Sticklen-Hillyard, Community Partnerships Coordinator, Community Partnerships, provided that overview.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0846-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0847-23, authorizing a grant agreement with All American Entertainment for a keynote speaker for the first Franklin County Office of Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Conference (\$22,500.00) (Office of Diversity Equity & Inclusion), presented by Damika Withers, Chief Economic Equity and Inclusion Officer, Office of Diversity Equity and Inclusion.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0847-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0848-23, approving a contract amendment with Greater Columbus Sports Commission to support economic equity in Franklin County to encourage economic development and tourism through attraction, retention, and promotion of sporting events on behalf of Franklin County Board of Commissioners (Office of Diversity Equity & Inclusion), presented by Damika Withers, Chief Economic Equity and Inclusion Officer, Office of Diversity Equity and Inclusion.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0848-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

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The Clerk noted that there will be no journalizations expected at General Session on Tuesday, November 7, 2023.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 A.M.

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(Signature Page Follows)

These minutes are a general summary of the Commissioners' Briefing Session for Thursday, November 2, 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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