

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF GENERAL SESSION

November 14, 2023

The Franklin County Board of Commissioners convened in the Commissioners Hearing Room, at 9:00 A.M. on Tuesday, November 14, 2023.

Present were: John O'Grady, President  
Kevin L. Boyce, Commissioner

Also present on the dais were Kenneth N. Wilson, County Administrator; Kris Long, Deputy County Administrator; Joy Bivens, Deputy County Administrator; Zachary Talarek, Director, Office of Management and Budget; Jeanine Hummer, First Assistant Prosecuting Attorney and Chief Counsel, Prosecuting Attorney's Office; and Brittany A. Razek, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners.

*Using hybrid meeting technology, participants were also able to access General Session via Zoom conferencing, by dialing (929) 436-2866, Meeting ID:978 8790 2896; Passcode:628826, or by joining at: <https://franklincountyohio.zoom.us/j/97887902896>*

Commissioner O'Grady called the meeting to order at 9:01 A.M.

Commissioner O'Grady: Before we get to our regular agenda this morning, we have several ceremonial guests with us. First of all, this is Transgender Awareness Week, which is celebrated annually from November 13th through the 19th. We have Dr. Leo Taylor from the Ohio State University Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion here with us to talk a little about the recognition and the importance of uplifting the voices and experiences of members of the transgender, non-binary, and gender non-conforming community. This week also leads up to the annual Transgender Day of Remembrance on November 20th for those who have lost their lives due to acts of transphobic violence and systematic oppression, especially Black and Latinx transwomen. At Franklin County, we are committed to not only celebrating our transgender, gender non-conforming, and non-binary residents, but also to making sure that our policies are equitable, and that our community is safe for them. Welcome, Dr. Taylor. Thank you for being here this morning.

Dr. Leo Taylor, Program Manager for Faculty and Staff Affairs, CFAES Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, The Ohio State University: Thank you for having me this morning. It is my honor to be here today to provide a voice for a community experiencing an unprecedented attack on their basic human rights. We know that transgender people have existed for as long as humans have been recording history.

Dr. Taylor (cont.): There is a deep and rich history of the cultural significance of trans people in various societies, especially in indigenous communities. Yet today, we find ourselves living in a country that is so toxically fearful of people who challenge the dominant narrative about gender that 41% of trans people attempt suicide at some point in their lives. Compare that to 1% of the general population. Does this mean that something is inherently wrong with transgender people? I would argue that depression and anxiety are normal responses to living in a society that is actively trying to destroy you. Politicians are literally saying that they want to wipe trans people from the face of the planet. Stress and dysfunction are logical responses to a death threat. This year, for the first time in the organization's 43-year history, the Human Rights Campaign declared a state of emergency for LGBTQ+ Americans because of the 586 bills that have been introduced across 49 states in 2023, alone. Eighty-five of these bills have passed. These bills seek to deny trans people basic healthcare, education, legal recognition, and the right to publicly exist. As a result, we are seeing a surge in suicidality among trans youth. It might seem that the anti-trans politicians are winning, but I do not see it that way. Although 85 hate- and fear-based bills have passed, 125 have failed. Although we are seeing a surge in mental health crises, we are also seeing communities and families come together like never before to rally behind and support their trans loved ones. Aspiring allies are stepping up in droves and asking what they can do to help. I believe that oppression can strengthen communities and foster resilience. Sadly, many trans people do not survive this world. That is why every year on November 20<sup>th</sup>, we honor the thousands of trans people we have lost to anti-trans violence, mostly transwomen of color. We stop to remember every year so that we do not forget. We reflect on the role that each of us can play in transforming environments so that people are not punished for their differences. November is Transgender Awareness Month. It is also a special month for me, personally. Not only is my birthday on November 9<sup>th</sup>, but November is also the month in which I began my own gender transition. This year, I celebrated a very special milestone. On November 14, 1999, 24 years ago, at the age of 24, I began my transition from female to man. This unusual midpoint seemed impossible to me when I was a child living in Muncie, IN, and desperately trying to follow the rules imposed upon me by my parents. I was raised as a Pentecostal girl, forced to wear dresses or skirts every day, not permitted to cut my hair, and not permitted to engage in self-expression that defied strict gender norms set by the church. I knew by the age of 8 that I was not a girl, despite what everyone told me. When my breasts started to grow, I beat them with my fists and other objects, hoping I would cause cancer so that they would have to be removed. My child brain could not make sense of what was happening; it just felt wrong. I identify as transexual, not transgender, because I have never been unsure about my gender. I always felt like a boy, but it was my body that betrayed me because it dictated what I was allowed to do and who I could be. My pain was exacerbated by a religion that convinced me that my feelings were not just wrong, but they were evil. After my church community found out about my identity, the entire congregation of 50 people laid their hands on me and attempted to exercise the demon of homosexuality. I was 16 years old. I had been in the church my entire life, and I did not even know Pentecostals did exorcisms. I was explicitly told that I had intentionally invited the devil into my life, and that was why I felt different. I was desperate to be relieved of my burden because I believed what they told me. And why wouldn't I? I was raised, like most people, to believe that what my parents and authority figures told me was the unbiased truth. Soon, it became clear that the exorcism had no effect, so I gave up. At the age of 16, still a child, I attempted suicide and became part of that 41% statistic. But I was lucky.

Dr. Taylor (cont.): Despite my father's protests that all I needed was prayer, I was made a ward of the court and got the psychiatric help that saved my life and put me on a path toward self-love and radical self-acceptance. That court saved my life. I will forever be grateful to the sane adults who made that decision. After 24 very challenging but fulfilling years, I now find myself in a place of power and service. Over the past five years, I have pivoted away from my entomological background and into the world of diversity, equity, and inclusion, specializing in allyship development and empowerment coaching. I have successfully unlearned self-loathing, and shame is no longer welcome in my life. That is what I want for everyone, which is why my work centers on empathy, compassion, joy, and helping people find their own source of power to live a rich, authentic life free of shame and fear. I believe we all deserve that, and everyone deserves not only to be accepted but to be celebrated. It took me more than 45 years to get to a place where I loved myself enough to even celebrate my birthday. Why? Because I live in a world that perpetuates myths and stereotypes that hold no basis in reality, but still cause trans people like me to self-loathe. These myths and stereotypes are the basis of harmful legislation. These absurd beliefs can only be challenged by uplifting and centering the voices of those being targeted, which is what Transgender Awareness Week is all about. That is why this work matters – debunking myths saves lives. Learning about people who are different from you is how you cultivate empathy. Empathy is necessary to foster connection, and connection strengthens our communities. Anniversaries like these remind us of our values, and they remind us that we still have something worth fighting for. Transgender Awareness Week reminds me that although we have come far enough for me and many others to succeed and, in some cases, truly thrive, we still have much work yet to do. It provides an opportunity for self-reflection, and for us to ask ourselves what we are doing to make our community a safer place for people who are not allowed to be themselves. The corollary to this question is equally as important, and it is something I constantly ask myself. What beliefs and biases do I still hold that perpetuate inequity? I, too, still have much work to do to unlearn the damaging lessons of my socialization. Intentional reflection through the lens of cultural humility is an essential part of social justice. It inspires and empowers us to keep working toward a better world because difference is not a crime and should not be illegal. Remembering is an opportunity for us to honor and celebrate the millions of people just like me who deserve the same dignity and right to exist as anyone else. If you look closely enough, you will see that anti-trans bias is rooted in the assumption that there is a correct way to do gender. This binary right versus wrong way of thinking harms trans and non-trans people alike. Strict rules about gender affect any person who doesn't follow them. People who defy gender norms, especially men, are punished, sometimes quite severely. You do not have to be transgender to be harmed by gender norms. Just ask any man who has ever been called effeminate or a woman who has been called a tomboy. The good news is that what we call gender is dynamic, fun, and constantly evolving. Just think about how gender was experienced here 100 years ago. While sex is biological, gender, although closely related, has many social aspects that change over time. This means that each of us can play a role in creating safer and more welcoming environments of gender diversity. Each of you can play a role at work, at home, and in the community to generate awareness and greater acceptance of difference in all forms. Because difference itself is not inherently bad. It is our response to difference that reveals our values, biases, and opportunities for growth. I am excited to partner with the Franklin County Board of Commissioners in 2024 to provide a year-long series of educational and dialogic opportunities to strengthen our community.

Dr. Taylor (cont.): That way, anyone, regardless of their gender, race, ethnicity, sex, or any other social identity, can live a life that they feel is worth celebrating.

Commissioner Boyce: Thank you, Dr. Taylor. Do you have a PhD, or are you a medical doctor?

Dr. Taylor: I have a PhD in entomology.

Commissioner Boyce: Interesting! First, let me begin by saying thank you on behalf of Central Ohio for your courage, your advocacy, and for sharing with us and educating us about the importance of intentional reflection, that being different is not a crime, and that all people should be honored. You asked the broader public what they are doing to make the community safer, and I like that question. Since I have been a County Commissioner, these have been the values and principles of this Franklin County. A few years ago, and even before Commissioner Crawley was a Commissioner and Commissioner Brown was still on the Board, we set off on a mission to reset the value set for Franklin County as an institution. I can assure you that we took that conversation very seriously, and when we say “every resident, every day,” we mean it. This is a county that embraces everyone. Everything that we do aligns with what you have said. Still, we have to do better. This is not the same Central Ohio that we grew up in, and I believe that 20 years from now, it won’t be the same Central Ohio that it is today. I challenge you to keep pushing us and advocating. You represent all of us. Keep being public and vocal about the fight and the need for everybody to stand up and say something. I believe that if you do that, 20 years from now, you will have contributed to moving the needle on a better and greater Franklin County and Central Ohio. We look forward to working with you, and thank you so much for your advocacy.

Commissioner O’Grady: Thank you for being here today. We believe in our motto, “Every resident, every day.” This issue hits home for me for a couple of reasons. I have taken some grief over these issues in my personal life over the years. I also have a member of my family who identifies as nonbinary. So, this is a personal issue for me and my family. I think of Tom whenever I think of these issues. I appreciate what you have been through and what your struggle has been over the years. I understand what families deal with. I appreciate that Tom has not had to go through what you went through and what a lot of families have to go through. Tom has had nothing but love and support, even from an uncle who doesn’t always use the right pronouns. It has been great to have you here today to continue educating folks, including those who already think of themselves as educated. It is a great learning experience for all of us, and we look forward to continuing to partner with you.

Dr. Taylor: Never underestimate the power of that support. We see a 56% reduction in suicide attempts when a youth can use a preferred name. Why is that so powerful? Because names are often associated with gender – they are a proxy for gender. So, we see a significant reduction in suicide attempts in young people just by being able to use a name that feels affirming. To have even one family member, no matter what their relation is, and to be able to love and support them no matter who they are is a gift that is priceless. I would have given anything for that. Give yourself massive amounts of grace because we are so programmed to believe that there is a right and a wrong way to do gender from the moment we are born. We have to go through decades of unlearning; it is not going to happen overnight.

Dr. Taylor (cont.): Nonbinary and trans people know that, and if we see that your heart is in the right place and it is coming from a place of love, we are going to extend all of that grace and love back to you.

Commissioner Boyce: I appreciate your comments. What I think we are seeing is growth. To be able to have the conversation that we are having in a public setting shows growth. I really appreciate working and living in an environment where we can have these conversations publicly. We can deal with how it makes us feel, we can exchange perspectives, and we can learn and grow from the experiences. Sometimes, people think of political figures as machines, but we are people, too. The same challenges that you bring to us also exist in our families and within our households. There is not a week that goes by that I do not get a call from a constituent who needs the same services as some of my family members. I appreciate Commissioner O'Grady sharing about his family because it is important to have these types of conversations in a public setting. It was not too long ago that we would not even call out racism. It was not too long ago that the first African American Commissioner in the history of Franklin County was elected. That is growth. This is a journey and a learning process for all of us, and I hope we do that as a family within this county. It is a daily grind, and we are rewriting history every single day. Thank you, Dr. Taylor, for what you represent.

Joy Bivens, Deputy County Administrator: Our Health and Human Services team has been on a journey of making sure that we are using the correct terminology when we are interacting with our residents. We want to build relationships, and sometimes, I think people feel that terminology acts as a barrier to building those relationships. How can we have these honest conversations to understand basic things and terminology? Because to us, the relationship is so important, and we want to get it right. We want to understand and educate others.

Dr. Taylor: I am all about relationships and connections, and empathy is where we will find the most power. That comes with sharing stories. That is why I get up here and share my personal experience and talk about things you might not expect to be said at a hearing. You need to have that human element. White-dominant culture teaches us we cannot bring our personal lives to work, but how many of us are able to do that? It is impossible to separate that. Our personal lives are with us at all times. Our trauma sits on our shoulders like a little demon, speaking into our ears and providing a lens which we see the world through. Everything is personal. Making that connection with an individual, whether they are nonbinary, transsexual, or transgender, is actually quite easy because those folks are typically desperate for connection because they have been largely shunned. You can tell someone you care enough about them to use the right words. You can ask them what words they use to describe themselves and their bodies. Trans people will tell you the words to use, and they will be grateful that you actually asked rather than making assumptions. All you have to do is ask us.

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Commissioner O'Grady: Next, we have Sonya Thesing, Executive Director of Huckleberry House, to speak about National Runaway Prevention Month. Welcome, Ms. Thesing.

Sonya Thesing, Executive Director, Huckleberry House: Huckleberry House is a Central Ohio, nonprofit organization with the following mission: With hope, we shelter, support, and guide youth navigating challenges. During November, we join other youth-serving organizations across the country for National Runaway Prevention Month. For decades, green has been the color we use to raise awareness of runaway and homeless youth. At Huck House, our teen shelter is lit up with green lights this month, and tomorrow, we will celebrate Wear Green Day. Thank you very much to the Franklin County Board of Commissioners for inviting me to be here today to speak about National Runaway Prevention Month and for your efforts to shine a light on the experiences of runaway and homeless youth in our community. Approximately 4.2 million young people between the ages of 13 and 25 experience a form of homelessness each year in the United States. In Ohio, more than 30,000 unaccompanied youth under the age of 25 experienced homelessness in 2022, with 9%, or 2,700, of these young people being under the age of 18. In February of this year, it was reported that the number of homeless students in Franklin County jumped by nearly 20% from 2021 to 2022, which translates to 2,694 homeless students right here in our community. One in seven children between the ages of 10 and 18 will run away at some point. There are many reasons youth leave home. They may be living in an unsafe environment or experiencing poverty. At greater risk are young people of color, those who identify as LGBTQIA+, those who are aging out of foster care, or those who are pregnant and parenting. When a young person reaches that breaking point, where the street is better than their home environment, it is a race against the clock. Just one night on the street is an indicator of future homelessness, even once housing is secured. Huckleberry House was founded in 1970, as a safe shelter for runaway youth on The Ohio State University campus. Today, we continue that work in our Teen Crisis Center in Weinland Park. This past year, we provided 2,384 nights of safe shelter to more than 350 teenagers. That means we prevented more than 350 young people from spending a night in an unsafe place where they would have been vulnerable to unthinkable outcomes, including being trafficked. Many organizations like Huckleberry House help young people once they become homeless, but if young people have a safe place to go when they leave home at that first moment of crisis, we can reduce the chance that they will become homeless in the future. The work we do is life-changing, and we cannot do it alone. We are deeply thankful for the support of our community, and especially for the support of Franklin County.

Commissioner Boyce: As a young person growing up in the 80s, I knew many friends who ended up at Huckleberry House. I knew of the work long before I ever got into public service, and it is the kind of thing that we uplift and support here in Franklin County. It is unfortunate that young people face those challenges and have to make those choices, but when they do, there is a safety net, and that is the Huckleberry House. So, thank you for what you represent and what you do.

Commissioner O'Grady: The work that you do is critical for our community. We really appreciate all that you do for the kids in our community. Thank you for your continued work. We will also light up the courthouse in green next week in recognition of Runaway Prevention Month.

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Commissioner O'Grady: Next, we would like to invite Susan Brown, Director of our Child Support Enforcement Agency, to the podium to say a few words about one of her amazing team members. Kimberly Collins is celebrating an incredible 45 years of service to the residents of Franklin County. Welcome, Susan and Kimberly.

Susan Brown, Director, Child Support Enforcement Agency: Thank you for taking time today to celebrate CSEA's Deputy Director of Programming, Kim Collins, as she reaches an impressive milestone in her career. As of October 31, 2023, Kim has served a remarkable 45 years in public service. Kim began her career as an intern for the Franklin County Prosecutor's Office in 1978. She was in the Welfare Fraud and Juvenile Units, before Child Support was, by law, consolidated into one agency under the Board of Commissioners. Kim earned her current position as Deputy Director by being promoted through the ranks, first as a Legal Secretary in 1979, then to an Administrative Supervisor and Office Manager in 1981, then to a Fiscal Assistant in 1989, then a Client Information Supervisor in 1998, to the Establishment Department Manager in 2004, and finally, the Deputy Director of Programming in 2019. The road to her current position was not always smooth. She navigated a lot through her career, including stereotypes, biases, inequities, and sometimes even hostile work environments. However, not once did her spirit falter or her perseverance wane. She is a fierce advocate, not only for herself, but for others, and she will succeed despite it all. Kim earned her Associate's Degree in Secretarial Science, Bachelor's in Business Administration and Management, and Master's in Business Administration and Organizational Management. Her last two degrees were earned while managing one of our largest departments and raising four children. Beyond her educational and work experience, Kim is a coach, counselor, loyal friend, and trusted colleague to me and many others in the agency. Every time Kim has been challenged with a goal to reach, she has met or exceeded that goal. The proof is in the number of State Awards that are on the wall within the Establishment Department. One reason Kim has stayed with the agency for so long is that every time she meets a goal, the bar is raised again, and she is challenged to meet her next goal. She is so conscientious about her work and the forward progress of the agency that she will stay until that goal is achieved. I want to thank Kim for being one of the original pioneers of our program, as well as for her creativity, perseverance, advocacy, and contributions towards making the Franklin County Child Support Enforcement Agency the national trendsetter that it is.

Commissioner Boyce: You have been working for the County almost as long as I have been alive, and that is absolutely amazing! I am astonished by all of the positions that you have had and all of the things that you have done in Franklin County. You have so much knowledge and information, and it would be interesting to hear about what your journey has been like through the evolution of the county.

Commissioner O'Grady: As Director Brown was talking about all of the things you have done for 45 years, I was thinking to myself, "I haven't done anything for 45 years." That is just amazing!

Kimberly Collins, Deputy Director, Programming, Child Support Enforcement Agency: Thank you! I am honored and humbled by this recognition. Forty-five years is surreal to me, as well. I like to say that I came from the cradle to the County.

Joy Bivens, Deputy County Administrator: For all of our new and younger employees starting in the agency, I always make sure they spend time with Kim and listen to what she has to say because she sets the pace. I instruct them to do and say whatever she does. It has been an honor to work with you, Kim. Your representation matters. I am thankful for you, and our Health and Human Services team is thankful for you.

Kenneth N. Wilson, County Administrator: Forty-five years is a great accomplishment, and your humility is one of the things I treasure most about you. From the first day that I met you, you had the same expression and the same amount of gratitude towards the work that you did every day. You are an institution and a true public servant. You have shown perseverance and patience, and to do 45 years of service for Franklin County, you have to be a selfless individual. When you got your last promotion, it was so well-deserved. I appreciate you.

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Approval of the minutes for the August 22, 2023, General Session; the September 18, 2023, Voting Session; and the September 21, 2023, Briefing Session. Commissioner Boyce moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The minutes were approved by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0868-23**, authorizing non-general fund appropriation adjustments for the Adult Probation Department (Court of Common Pleas), presented by Kimberly Canada, Director of Finance, Court of Common Pleas, General Division.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0868-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0869-23**, authorizing a first amendment with Netcare Corporation for various psychological services (\$120,000.00) (Domestic Relations), presented by Barb Reeves, Deputy Director, Court of Common Pleas, Domestic Relations Division.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0869-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.



**PUBLIC HEARING:** Establishing, altering, and widening of Brown Road, Township Road No. 142, at Dyer Road, Township Road No. 260, Jackson Township, Franklin County, Ohio, viewed – Engineer to file plans as necessary.

*Commissioner O’Grady opened the Public Hearing and asked if anyone would like to speak. Seeing and hearing none, Commissioner O’Grady closed the public hearing, and the resolution was read into the record.*

**Resolution No. 0870-23**, establishing, altering, and widening of Brown Road, Township Road No. 142, at Dyer Road, Township Road No. 260, Jackson Township, Franklin County, Ohio, viewed – Engineer to file plans as necessary (Engineer), presented by Brad Foster, Chief Deputy Engineer of Operations, Engineer’s Office.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0870-23, seconded by Commissioner O’Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Establishing, altering, and widening of Johnstown Road, County Road No. 377, at 17th Avenue, Township Road No. 374, and I-670E Off-Ramp, Mifflin Township, City of Columbus, Franklin County, Ohio, viewed – Engineer to file plans as necessary.

*Commissioner O’Grady opened the Public Hearing and asked if anyone would like to speak. Seeing and hearing none, Commissioner O’Grady closed the public hearing, and the resolution was read into the record.*

**Resolution No. 0871-23**, establishing, altering, and widening of Johnstown Road, County Road No. 377, at 17th Avenue, Township Road No. 374, and I-670E Off-Ramp, Mifflin Township, City of Columbus, Franklin County, Ohio, viewed – Engineer to file plans as necessary (Engineer), presented by Brad Foster, Chief Deputy Engineer of Operations, Engineer’s Office.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0871-23, seconded by Commissioner O’Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Prayer of petition to vacate an unnamed alley located in the Rome Manor Subdivision, Prairie Township, Franklin County, Ohio, granted.

*Commissioner O’Grady opened the Public Hearing and asked if anyone would like to speak. Seeing and hearing none, Commissioner O’Grady closed the public hearing, and the resolution was read into the record.*

**Resolution No. 0872-23**, prayer of petition to vacate an unnamed alley located in the Rome Manor Subdivision, Prairie Township, Franklin County, Ohio, granted (Engineer), presented by Brad Foster, Chief Deputy Engineer of Operations, Engineer's Office.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0872-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0873-23**, approving a contract modification with Shelly & Sands, Inc. for the 2022 Franklin County Township Resurfacing Program, an increase of \$220,544.88, for a revised contract amount of \$3,769,855.23 (\$220,544.88) (Engineer), presented by Brad Foster, Chief Deputy Engineer of Operations, Engineer's Office.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0873-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0874-23**, GPD Group, consulting engineers, appointed to assist the Franklin County Engineer by providing detailed engineering services for the Dublin Road Shared-Use Path project, Norwich Township, Washington Township, City of Columbus, City of Hilliard, City of Dublin, Franklin County, Ohio (\$1,901,898.00) (Engineer), presented by Brad Foster, Chief Deputy Engineer of Operations, Engineer's Office.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0874-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0875-23**, preliminary allocation and final encumbrance of County Motor Vehicle License Fee (\$5) Funds for the City of Columbus (\$1,000,000.00) (Engineer), presented by Brad Foster, Chief Deputy Engineer of Operations, Engineer's Office.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0875-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0876-23**, preliminary allocation and final encumbrance of County Motor Vehicle License Fee (\$5) Funds for the City of Columbus (\$2,000,000.00) (Engineer), presented by Brad Foster, Chief Deputy Engineer of Operations, Engineer's Office.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0876-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0877-23**, authorizing the Franklin County Engineer to enter into agreements with farmers to leave cornstalks in the ground as snow fence barriers (\$20,000.00) (Engineer), presented by Brad Foster, Chief Deputy Engineer of Operations, Engineer's Office.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0877-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0878-23**, requesting the Ohio Department of Transportation to reduce the speed limit on Havens Corners Road, County Road No. 16, Jefferson Township, Franklin County, Ohio (Engineer), presented by Brad Foster, Chief Deputy Engineer of Operations, Engineer's Office.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0878-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0879-23**, authorizing the settlement of a disputed legal claim arising from the provision of professional evaluations and mental health assessments to the Franklin County Office on Aging, and authorizing the County Administrator to execute documents necessary to effectuate the settlement (Prosecuting Attorney), presented by Robin Moorhead, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0879-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0880-23**, authorizing a contract with MAPSYS, Inc. to provide requested support and maintenance to the Franklin County Treasurer System (FCTS) (\$110,000.00) (Treasurer), presented by Jaclyn Treadwell, Budget and Purchasing Coordinator, Treasurer's Office.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0880-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0881-23**, authorizing a five-year contract between the Franklin County Board of Commissioners and Franklin County Public Health for a rabies control program (\$10,440.00) (Animal Control), presented by Lionel Hamilton II, Fiscal Officer, Animal Control.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0881-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0882-23**, authorizing a consultant contract with Herzog & Associates, LLC for information technology services (\$18,700.00) (Child Support Enforcement), presented by Susan Brown, Director, Child Support Enforcement.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0882-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0883-23**, authorizing Franklin County Child Support Enforcement Agency to enter into a contract with The Ronald Group, LLC 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, in the form of professional coaching services (\$2,548.00) (Child Support Enforcement), presented by Susan Brown, Director, Child Support Enforcement.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0883-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0884-23**, to Accept Cooperative Agreements from County Jurisdictions Reaffirming their Participation in the County's Housing & Urban Development Entitlement Program as Set Forth in Resolution No. 0193-18 (Economic Development and Planning), presented by Carolyn Thurman, Assistant Director, Economic Development and Planning.

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

*Commissioner Boyce noted that there have been several conversations about HUD's requirements and Franklin County's ability to meet them. He asked where Franklin County stands with HUD as it is today. Deputy County Administrator (DCA) Bivens introduced Ruchelle Pride, Interim Director of Economic Development and Planning, to answer some questions. DCA Bivens noted that Director Pride sat with the leadership team at Economic Development and Planning yesterday to go through the catalog of requirements to be in compliance with HUD. Some documents are being resubmitted to HUD for review. County Administrator Wilson confirmed DCA Bivens' statements, and added that Franklin County is working with a consultant to do a review of the operating procedures for complying with HUD programs, and to determine best practice steps for moving forward. Mr. Wilson would like to bring an accounting firm in to review internal procedures as they relate to the collection of revenues for the billing department. County Administration is working with the Prosecuting Attorney's Office, the Purchasing Department, and the Office of Management and Budget to work on all of these issues across the board. Commissioner Boyce noted that the relationship with HUD is important to Franklin County because the resources that come from HUD to Franklin County are used for those residents who have the most need. Ms. Pride stated that the documents that needed to be submitted to move forward with the corrective action so that Franklin County could comply with HUD standards were submitted yesterday. Jeanine Hummer, First Assistant Prosecuting Attorney and Chief Counsel, Prosecuting Attorney's Office, noted that this resolution is a step forward in taking the appropriate legislative action to rectify a problem. Commissioner Boyce encouraged Director Pride to communicate with the Congressional Delegation and update them on the County's relationship and status with HUD.*

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0884-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0885-23**, responding to the October 25, 2023, notice received concerning the proposed creation of a Tax Increment Financing Incentive District in the City of Whitehall (Economic Development and Planning), presented by Emanuel Torres, Assistant Director, Economic Development and Planning.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0885-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0897-23**, authorizing a Memorandum of Agreement with the State Historic Preservation Office, Invited Signatories the Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority and The Community Builders, and the Concurring Parties The Ohio History Connection, The City of Bexley, The Columbus Landmarks foundation, and O.R. Woodyard Co. Funeral & Cremation Services, to mitigate adverse effects on historic properties in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) 54 U.S.C. 306108 (Economic Development and Planning), presented by Carolyn Thurman, Assistant Director, Economic Development and Planning.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0897-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0886-23**, authorizing the Board of Franklin County Commissioners to sign the attached "Discharge of MORTGAGE" instrument for Miriam E. Casto at 189 Lawrence Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43228 (Economic Development and Planning), presented by Carolyn Thurman, Assistant Director, Economic Development and Planning.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0886-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0887-23**, authorizing the Board of Franklin County Commissioners to sign the attached "Discharge of MORTGAGE" instrument for Braxton Herrick and April Herrick at 1096 N. Hague Avenue, Township of Franklin, OH 43204 (Economic Development and Planning), presented by Carolyn Thurman, Assistant Director, Economic Development and Planning.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0887-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0888-23**, authorizing the Board of Franklin County Commissioners to sign the attached "Discharge of MORTGAGE" instrument for Jeffrey E. Jenkins at 1228 Tedco Drive, Township of Franklin, OH, 43223 (Economic Development and Planning), presented by Carolyn Thurman, Assistant Director, Economic Development and Planning.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0888-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0889-23**, authorizing the Board of Franklin County Commissioners to sign the attached "Discharge of MORTGAGE" instrument for Russell Price at 6624 Darby Boulevard, Pleasant Township, Ohio 43123 (Economic Development and Planning), presented by Carolyn Thurman, Assistant Director, Economic Development and Planning.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0889-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0890-23**, approving a subaward agreement with the Godman Guild Association for the management of work activities as required by the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training program (\$900,000.00) (Job and Family Services), presented by Vivian Turner, Chief Administrator, Job and Family Services.

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

*DCA Bivens highlighted the wonderful services that residents will receive that will put them on a path of economic mobility.*

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0890-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0891-23**, authorizing a Contract Agreement with Moody Nolan to provide professional services associated with developing a space plan for the Franklin County Forensic Science Center (\$14,750.00) (Public Facilities Management), presented by Darla Reardon, Director, Public Facilities Management.

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

*Commissioner Boyce requested to see the study results when they are available.*

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0891-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0892-23**, authorizing Contract Extension #1 and Modification #1 with R & S Halley and Company, Inc. DBA Darby Creek Nursery & Landscaping to provide snow removal services at designated Franklin County Facilities (\$500,000.00) (Public Facilities Management), presented by Darla Reardon, Director, Public Facilities Management.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0892-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0893-23**, approving purchases for various Franklin County agencies (\$6,087,971.37) (Purchasing), presented by Megan Perry-Balonier, Director, Purchasing, and Tameca Bumper, Economic Equity Administrator, Office of Diversity Equity and Inclusion.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0893-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0894-23**, authorizing the sale of real property owned by the Board of Commissioners and commonly known as 909 Taylor Station Road, Gahanna, Ohio to The H.T. Hackney Co.; authorizing and approving a real estate purchase contract for the sale of the property; and authorizing the County Administrator to take additional actions necessary to effectuate the sale and transfer of the property (\$2,200,000.00) (Board of Commissioners), presented by Jed Morison, Superintendent and Chief Executive Officer, Board of Developmental Disabilities.

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

*Commissioner Boyce congratulated Mr. Morison on his 54 years of service and praised his leadership. Mr. Morison noted that the Commissioners' support of people with developmental disabilities has been very important and is appreciated. Commissioner Boyce highlighted the amazing and life-changing work the Board of Developmental Disabilities does. Commissioner O'Grady congratulated Mr. Morison on his career and his retirement.*

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0894-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0895-23**, authorizing the sale of real property owned by the Board of Commissioners and commonly known as 4395 Marketing Place, Groveport, Ohio to Acquire Gen



3, LLC; authorizing and approving a real estate purchase contract for the sale of the property; and authorizing the County Administrator to take additional actions necessary to effectuate the sale and transfer of the property (\$1,750,000.00) (Board of Commissioners), presented by Jed Morison, Superintendent and Chief Executive Officer, Board of Developmental Disabilities.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0895-23, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0896-23**, authorizing a transfer of funds for the payment of debt service (Board of Commissioners), presented by Zachary Talarek, Director, Office of Management and Budget.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0896-23, 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 10:46 A.M.

**(Signature Page Follows)**

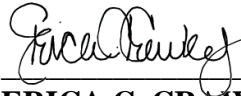
These minutes are a general summary of the Commissioners' General Session meeting on Tuesday, November 14, 2023.



**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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