

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Briefing Session Minutes
January 9, 2020

President O'Grady
Commissioner Brown
Commissioner Boyce

The purpose of the meeting was to review resolutions submitted for the January 14, 2020 General Session, and to discuss other matters pertaining to the programs of the agencies. These notes are a general synopsis of the meeting.

Commissioner Brown convened the meeting at 9:04 A.M.

ENGINEER

William "Fritz" Crosier, Chief Deputy of Engineering, Engineer's Office, offered a resolution reviewing plans for the improvement of Reynoldsburg-New Albany Road, County Road 6 at Clark State Road, County Road 95, Jefferson Township, Franklin County, Ohio (Engineer).

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

Fritz Crosier offered a resolution reviewing plans for the improvement of Alum Creek Drive, County Road 122, from London-Groveport Road, SR317 to I-270, Village of Obetz, Hamilton Township and Madison Township, Franklin County, Ohio (Engineer).

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

Fritz Crosier offered a resolution reviewing plans approved for the replacement of the structure on Dublin-Granville Road 12.90 over Rocky Fork Creek (PLA-CR546-12.90), Plain Township, Franklin County, Ohio (Engineer).

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

Fritz Crosier offered a resolution for CT Consultants, consulting engineers appointed to assist the Franklin County Engineer in preparing right-of-way and construction plans for Simplified Bridge projects, Franklin County, Ohio (\$162,242.00) (Engineer).

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

Fritz Crosier offered a resolution for The Farms at Jefferson Phase 1 & 2 accepted for public maintenance and shall become part of the Jefferson Township Road System, Franklin County, Ohio (Engineer).

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

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Dayna McCrary, Administrator, Community Partnerships, offered a resolution authorizing the County Administrator to enter into Community Partnership Contracts during calendar year 2020 (Community Partnerships).

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

Commissioner Brown: I am really glad that we are doing the resolutions, to get our partners the financial support this early in the year. I think it makes a lot of sense. My hope is that throughout the year, we can bring some of the partners in, so that we can highlight their work. This is great.

Ms. McCrary: Unlike the Catalyst Grants, it's really important that with these grants we are able to get the funding out quickly, so that we can get results this year.

Commissioner Brown: The agencies that we fund really need to get their budgets in place, so it's really helpful to get this financial support in early in the year, so it helps their budgeting.

Commissioner Boyce: I couldn't agree more; timing is everything. My question though is, have we normally done these as a block? I expressed yesterday, when we were notified that we were doing these together, that I was not a fan of this way of doing it. My reasoning is two-fold. One, if you have one conflict on one [community partner] you cannot vote on the whole group. For me, I need to look through these very carefully and that can take quite a bit of time. And, even if I didn't have a conflict, I may have one down the road. I am just not a fan of doing it this way. I know it would take longer, but maybe we could do them one-by-one.

Commissioner Brown: Would it be easier for you, Commissioner [Boyce], if we did separate resolutions for each one? Would you prefer that?

Commissioner Boyce: I know it would be a lot more work and more paperwork, but that would make me more comfortable. That would be my preference.

Commissioner Brown: We've never done it like this, so I would be okay if we did separate resolutions, but I would be uncomfortable delaying for too long. I would like to get this done Tuesday.

Commissioner Boyce: Maybe we can think about some kind of compromise. I do not want this to be burdensome to staff, but I want to ensure I have done my due diligence. I am just not comfortable with all of these being lumped into one resolution.

Kenneth N. Wilson, County Administrator: We would not be able to have each of these individual contracts ready for your signature by Tuesday.

Mr. Talarek, Director, Office of Management & Budget, Board of Commissioners: I think there is also a capacity issue with the Prosecuting Attorney's Office, to review 27 contracts in that timeframe.

Commissioner Boyce: Wouldn't they still have to review each contract?

Mr. Talarek: But this would give us flexibility in asking Harold [Anderson] or Nick [Soulas] to review all 27 contracts within a few weeks' timeframe.

Commissioner Brown: Wouldn't they have done that already?

Mr. Talarek: No, we are still in the process of drafting those contracts, as Dayna works with the agencies to get the Exhibit A's, to finalize the exact services that are going to be funded. This was done to notify our partners that we want to award so they can get their budgets prepared for the calendar year.

Commissioner Boyce: They can be awarded, via a letter, and they can begin to plan.

Mr. Wilson: Commissioners, we've always notified them of the intent, subject to entering into a contract. What we were trying to improve upon from an efficiency standpoint, was that if we had Board support for a funding amount to an organization, based upon the application that they submitted, which outlined the deliverables, we could take several weeks off of the process, by you delegating the authority to me to actually sign the contracts, after our Community Partnership's Administrator, and OMB, had worked with the Prosecutor's Office. In a perfect world, if the Prosecutor's Office was delivering contracts to us, every other day, it would still add two weeks to the process, just because of the way we do business. It has to be published, then Briefed, then General Session. Even if we are as efficient as possible, we are going to go into April or May.

Commissioner Brown: So, what's the compromise to get these approved, while addressing the concern of Commissioner Boyce, which I share?

Mr. Wilson: There could be a dual layer of authority, where you, as the Board, grant me the authority to sign the contracts, and before I sign the contracts I could supply you with a memorandum that would outline the contracts that I am about to sign, on such and such a day.

Commissioner Boyce: I am just not comfortable in giving up that level of authority. I feel like I am giving up a level of responsibility in this process. I am very sensitive to getting dollars out and making an impact, but, I cannot lose my own diligence in the name of expedience.

Kris Long, Deputy County Administrator, Board of Commissioners: I have one additional suggestion that may address some of the concerns expressed. If we were to take each agency and create a separate resolution, with the attached scope of work, so that each resolution could have the authority to grant the County Administrator the authority to enter into the details of the contract, but we would cap the amount with the scope of work, which would allow for each Commissioner to identify any issues or conflicts that may exist.

Erik Janas, Deputy County Administrator, Board of Commissioners: I was going to make a similar suggestion, but perhaps with a different approach to consider. If we were to have further discussion with the offices about this list, and identifying and pulling out, either because they are larger contracts, because they are policy priorities, or because of potential conflicts, pulling out those that you'd like to have individual discussion on, but identifying some of the smaller ones where there isn't going to be a potential conflict, to which getting those dollars to smaller entities is important, as soon as possible.

Commissioner Boyce: I like that idea the most.

President O'Grady: As some of you may recall, this process would take a very long time, and we'd be sitting on this money, forever. The sooner we can get the vast majority of our partners the money, the better. The sooner we can get to a compromise, however we get there, the better.

Commissioner Boyce: I am willing to compromise, and I would feel most comfortable with Deputy Janas's suggestion. I did send notice, yesterday, that I had some concerns with how this had been structured.

Mr. Wilson: The goal is to get the money out into the community as quickly as possible.

Ms. McCrary: I am happy to meet with each office and go through each packet, and offer any information or explanations that offer more insight into these community partners.

Kenneth N. Wilson, County Administrator, requested that this resolution be deferred until a later date.

PURCHASING

Megan Perry-Balonier, Director, Purchasing, offered a resolution approving purchases for various Franklin County agencies (\$79,450,757.70) (Purchasing).

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

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Zak Talarek, Director, Office of Management & Budget offered a resolution appointing the Franklin County Apiary Inspector for 2020 (Board of Commissioners).

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

Zak Talarek offered a resolution authorizing appropriation adjustments for providing salary and wage increases to non-bargaining employees (Board of Commissioners).

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

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:34 A.M.

(Signature page follows.)

These minutes are a summary of the Commissioners' Briefing Session for January 9, 2020.

JOHN O'GRADY, PRESIDENT



MARILYN BROWN



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

Submitted by:
Dean M. Hindenlang,
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners