

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF GENERAL SESSION

April 3, 2018

The Franklin County Board of Commissioners convened in the Commissioners Hearing Room at 9:00 A.M. on Tuesday, April 3, 2018.

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

Also present on the dais were Harold Anderson, Director of Business, Contracts and Zoning Unit, Prosecuting Attorney Office; Kenneth Wilson, County Administrator; Zachary Talarek, Director, Office of Management and Budget; and Victoria Caldwell, Assistant Clerk.

President Boyce called the meeting to order at 9:20 A.M.

President Boyce: I would like to recognize Commissioner Brown because she has an announcement to make.

Commissioner Brown: It came to my attention last week that we had a star among our Commissioners here from long ago. I would like to present Commissioner O'Grady with this picture for his birthday, which is today. I have a picture of him on the Benz Bengals team from elementary school.

President Boyce: Happy birthday. I am starting to be reflective on birthdays.

(singing happy birthday)

President Boyce: We have Mike Hartley with Autism Speaks.

Mr. Hartley: This is the fifth year I have had the opportunity to come before you and talk about Autism Awareness Day, which was yesterday, and the support from the Commissioners. Over the last five years, the Columbus Autism Walk, which is October 7th, has continued to grow and over \$4,500,000 has been raised for autism research. Columbus and Franklin County has one of the best autism communities in support. When my wife and I got the diagnosis of our son, the need for the community was great. The way the community embraces the new parents and children has been truly amazing. The Commissioners' support has always been there. We are

currently putting together teams and raising money for our Autism Walk. The Panera cookies will be available from April 9-15th to promote autism awareness. The support now in the schools was not there ten years ago. Thank you for all your support.

Commissioner Brown: Thank you for being one of the biggest advocates on this issue and what we can do in the community to support those with autism and their families. There was a story on the national news about the employment rising for those with autism. In the tech and science space, there is a large ongoing effort that some of the largest companies are trying to attract and retain those with autism. To see that, it was incredible.

Mr. Hartley: I am glad you mentioned that because one of the things with autism is that it is a social disorder versus a mental disorder. Their ability to focus is strong. Ten years ago, this was not an opportunity, but now the value is being seen and recognized. The corporate community has been very supportive financially and changing the way they operate and hire.

President Boyce: I think now we are more advanced in our diagnosis of autism. I have a family member who was not diagnosed until he was an adult. He struggled throughout life growing up and the resources now available to him has made him a functional adult. It is an important thing to know. We still have a ways to go in many of our low income communities where they may not have the resources to get diagnosed or the things they should be aware of that they should ask the doctor about. Awareness does make a difference for someone's quality of life.

Mr. Hartley: With firsthand knowledge, the burden is real. You can see it. It took us five years to get the state of Ohio to pass mandated insurance coverage for autism therapy.

Commissioner O'Grady: Thank you for your tirelessly advocacy over the years in this area. This is an area where awareness has increased thanks to people like you.

(group picture)

President Boyce: I wanted to talk about our voting machine research and updates. I want to make sure the public is aware that Franklin County is considering purchasing new voting machines and why. This past year, the Board of Elections (BOE) have been evaluating various voting systems certified for use in Ohio. To be certified in Ohio, each voting system must pass through a rigorous testing process at both the federal and state levels. Currently, there are five companies with voting systems that have met or exceeded federal or state standards to be certified for use in Ohio. Many factors that have gone into the evaluations include: The ease of use for our voters and poll workers. How systems work for our seniors and disabled voters who may have conditions that create difficulties in casting their ballot. Security is a significant consideration. Evaluators have looked into security measures built into various voting machines to ensure that machines cannot be tampered with. They also look closely at the security of the election software to ensure that it has the necessary security measures in place for ballot creation process and ballot tabulation process. The BOE has looked at how efficiently the system allows for voting machines to be programmed and tested for logic and accuracy before an election and how each

system handles the vote counting, recount and election auditing function after the election. As more and more voters take advantage of the 28 days before election, or vote by mail, the BOE has had to consider how each system would function for voters who vote early and absentee mail. There are a few factors that the BOE has taken into consideration in the evaluation process over the last twelve months. The Board shares the BOE desire to gather input from actual voters that use the system. Last month, the BOE received feedback from over 150 voters at two public demonstrations. At our suggestion, the BOE has created videos of each system so that voters that were not able to attend the public demonstration can see how the systems work and provide feedback. Beginning today, these videos are on the BOE's website. Please review and provide feedback. There is a video of the Hart Intercivic Voting System and the Elections System and Software. There is also a link to provide your feedback to the BOE. Go to the BOE website at vote.franklincountyohio.gov and click on the voters tab. Please provide feedback because they will be in place for a while. The Board will be working with the BOE as we finalize the selection of a new voting system for Franklin County.

Commissioner Brown: Early vote starts on April 10, 2018 and you have to register by April 9, 2018. It is important that we get people out to vote. Voting is important.

Commissioner O'Grady: For high school kids, you can be seventeen years old, as long as you are going to be eighteen by the November election. This is going to be your first gubernatorial election. Get out and vote.

President Boyce: In today's world of technology, we have seen how elections can be tampered with. Security is of the utmost importance. We want to promote confidence in the electoral process. This is a very important investment. It is an investment of your tax dollars for you. Your feedback is critical. Please visit the website to learn more about the voting machines we are considering.

Commissioner Brown: Getting this input will help us assess what system makes sense to move forward with in Franklin County. If you want to register to vote in the primary, you can go to myvoteohio.com and get registered. There is no off year election. Your local elections effect you on a daily life.

Commissioner O'Grady: Local elections have more direct impact on your life than the presidency does. Voter turnouts should be higher in local elections, but they are not.

Resolution No. 264-18, resolution authorizing a one-year contract with Heart of Ohio Family Health Center to provide under and uninsured Franklin County residents with increased access to quality healthcare (Community Partnerships) (\$95,000.00), presented by Dayna McCrary, Community Partnerships Coordinator, Office of Management and Budget.

Ms. McCrary: This resolution is unique that our funding will help support their efforts to increase the access to healthcare for limited English proficiency, adults who are hard of hearing and deaf individuals. As a Federally Qualified Health Center, they are required to serve whomever come through their doors. Because Columbus is an open and welcoming

community to many new Americans, they are seeing an uptick in the number of patients they are seeing every day who have limited English skills. They need to tap into additional resources, such as the language line and different interpreting services.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 264-18, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 265-18, resolution authorizing a subordination agreement with Karyn Jones to allow for a home mortgage refinance on her property at 6865 Manor Crest Lane, Canal Winchester, Ohio 43110 (Economic Development and Planning), presented by Jamie Edwards, Business Service Officer, Economic Development and Planning.

Ms. Edwards: Karyn Jones received the down payment assistance grant in the amount of \$6,000 in June of 2014. She is requesting subordination to refinance her home mortgage with Wells Fargo. The refinance will lower the monthly interest rate from 4.5% to 4.25%, decreasing the monthly mortgage payment by \$99.86. The taxes are paid and current.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 265-18, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 266-18, resolution authorizing four sub grant awards and contracts for services for the provision of legal advocacy, direct victim services and supervised visitation under the FY 2017 S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women Act Block Grant (Homeland Security and Justice Programs) (\$134,931.83), presented by Hope Foster, Fiscal Administrator, Justice Policy and Programs.

Ms. Foster: The resolution is a continuation and the last of the contracts received for the FY 2017 S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women Act Grant. The four recipients are: Franklin County Court of Common Pleas with a subgrant of \$29,076.01 to support funding of victim witness assistance through the Prosecutor's Office. The victim witness assistance conducts interviews with victims for prosecution to gather relevant documentation and provides emotional support, court advocacy and referral services. During the calendar year 2017, the victim witness assistant provided direct advocacy services to 108 victims and trained an additional 143 professionals on the dynamics of domestic and dating violence. The second recipient is the City of Columbus Attorney's Office in the amount of \$45,906.47. This is to support their Anti-Stalking Advocate responsibilities and assist victims with evidence collection, safety planning, filing of protection order and support through their legal process. During calendar year 2017, the advocate provided direct services to 78 victims of stalking and assisted with training of 126 justice professionals on stalking dynamic. The third recipient is CHOICES in the amount of \$41,624.00. They will be responsible for hiring two legal advocates that will be co-located at the City Attorney's Office. During calendar 2017, the advocates provided services to 444 victims. The last recipient is the Buckeye Ranch. They will receive \$18,325.35 to support the

continuation of supervised visitation and safe exchange services for families with a history of domestic violence and court ordered shared parenting. It is anticipated that up to 15 families will be served per week with the additional support. It is a possibility to reach almost 585 families.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 266-18, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 267-18, resolution authorizing renewal of the 800 MHz Radio Communications Users Agreement for Central Ohio Transit Authority (Homeland Security and Justice Programs), presented by Kathy Crandall, Director, Homeland Security.

Ms. Crandall: This resolution requests your approval for the renewal of the Franklin County 800 MHz User Agreement with the Central Ohio Transit Authority. This is a three year agreement that ends in 2021 and has been in place since 2015.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 267-18, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 268-18, resolution authorizing service contract with Motorola Solutions for the 800 MHz Radio Communications System (Homeland Security and Justice Programs) (\$13,636.00), presented by Ms. Crandall.

Ms. Crandall: This resolution secures the service contract with Motorola Solutions. Our system is proprietary to Motorola. We need this contract to provide the maintenance for the radio system. This will provide digital communication for public safety and public safety personnel across the County.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 268-18, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 269-18, resolution authorizing an Addendum to the Substitution Agreement with Oak Hills Mobile Home Park LLC (Sanitary Engineers), presented by Stephen Renner, Director, Sanitary Engineer.

Mr. Renner: This resolution is in relation to a resolution passed last July that entered into an agreement with Oak Hills Mobile Home Park. That agreement entails where they would build a pump station and connect to our sewer collections at Darbydale. They have made progress and have built everything and we are ready for them to connect, however they have a cash flow problem. They cannot pay the capacity fee to us in the amount of \$55,811.00. With the help from the Prosecutor's Office, we created an addendum to the substitution agreement as a mechanism for them to be able to pay in three payments of

\$18,604.00 and provide them a temporary sewer permit until they fully pay the capacity fee. Then we will be able to issue a permanent sewer permit.

Commissioner Brown: Are they ok with this arrangement?

Mr. Renner: Yes, Commissioner Brown. They have signed and are ready to move forward.

Harold Anderson: Commissioners, in addition to the addendum to the substitution agreement they also executed a promissory note in favor of Franklin County, both of which I intend to file with the court this afternoon.

Commissioner Brown: Once we are done with our meeting, you would like to get this signed right away?

Mr. Renner: That is correct.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 269-18, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 270-18, resolution approving purchases for various Franklin County agencies (Purchasing) (\$1,305,649.11), presented by Megan Balonier, Assistant Director, Purchasing.

Ms. Balonier: Good morning Commissioners, Megan Balonier representing the Purchasing Department. The resolution before you requests approval of 83 Purchase Orders. Eight of these Purchase Orders have been awarded to SEBEs, which equal 9.6% of the overall PO volume. Their total amount is \$137,309.00, which is 10.9% of the overall PO dollar value. These Purchase Orders have been pre-certified as to availability of funds by the County Auditor.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 270-18, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 271-18, resolution authorizing a contract with the Capital Crossroads Special Improvement District for the Downtown C-Pass Program to provide transit services for eligible Franklin County employees (Board of Commissioners), presented by Zak Talarek, Director, Office of Management and Budget.

Mr. Talarek: This resolution would authorize the County Administrator to enter into a contract with the Capital Crossroads Special Improvement District for participation in the Downtown C-Pass Program. The Downtown C-Pass Program will provide access to all of COTA's transit services for each employee within the Board of Commissioners' agencies, as well as those appointing authority selecting to participate in this program.

Based on the approval so far, approximately 3,000 employees will be covered by the program that is scheduled to last from June 1, 2018 through December 31, 2020. This will replace the current public transportation benefit program originally established by the Board in 2008 for the County to subsidize the purchase of monthly bus passes from COTA. We have Cleve Ricksecker, Executive Director, Capital Crossroads Special Improvement District here to say a few words.

Commissioner Brown: Mr. Talarek, before you move on, how will our employees learn about the change and what will they see in a change?

Mr. Talarek: We are working with our Public Affairs Office to reach out to each individual agency participating. We will be confirming what type of employee ID they have to see if they have a magnetic strip or not, then working with Public Facilities Management to either replace IDs without a magnetic strip or pre-load IDs with a magnetic strip with the code required by COTA to swipe their ID to ride the bus.

Mr. Ricksecker: We have talked about this for three years now and it is finally going to happen. It is a great collaboration with the City, County, private sector and property owners who are purchasing unlimited access for 45,000 employees in downtown Columbus. The program would not have happened without COTA in its flexibility in allowing bulk purchases at the same rate that OSU student's purchase, which is \$40.50 per year or MORPC. MORPC has been working with us since 2015. This is the first of its kind in the country. There is one program like it in Belgium.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 271-18, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 272-18, resolution approving an updated Debt Management Policy for Franklin County (Board of Commissioners), presented by Mr. Talarek.

Mr. Talarek: This resolution would authorize an update to the County's Debt Management policy that was originally approved in 2005. The purpose of the policy is to guide decisions related to financing capital improvements in order to ensure the County's long term financial strength and maintaining the County's credit rating. The updated policy added sections on the goals and objectives of the policy, as well as specifying factors to consider when evaluating whether to fund capital improvements with long term debt versus a pay as you go basis. Within the section on policy standards, the revisions align policy with current County practices. This includes the addition of standards noting that the County strategically selected a team of underwriters that is high performing and diverse on negotiated transactions, as well as working annually with bond counsel to update the County's post issuance compliance policy. In addition to working with County Administration and the various offices, the updated policy has been reviewed by the County's bond counsel, Frost Brown Todd, the municipal advisor, Umbaugh and

Associates, and the senior underwriter on the upcoming debt issuance, Bank of America and Merrill Lynch.

Commissioner Brown: Updating this policy now makes a great deal of sense. The Board is totally different than it was in 2005.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 272-18, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:07 A.M.

(Signature Page Follows)

These minutes are a summary of the Commissioners' meeting of April 3, 2018.



KEVIN L. BOYCE, PRESIDENT



MARILYN BROWN



JOHN O'GRADY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO

Submitted by:



Antwan Booker, Clerk