

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Briefing Session Minutes  
Thursday, January 9, 2025

President Crawley  
Commissioner O'Grady  
Commissioner Boyce

The purpose of the meeting was to review resolutions submitted for the January 14, 2025, 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 9:02 A.M.

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ENGINEER

William "Fritz" Crosier, P.E., Chief Deputy of Engineering, Engineer's Office, offered a resolution establishing, altering, and widening of the Groveport Road Shared-Use Path Improvement project, Madison Township, Franklin County, Ohio, declared necessary (Engineer).

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

William "Fritz" Crosier offered a resolution for Report (2nd) of the Franklin County Engineer, establishing sums of compensation for a portion of the owners of property abutting Walnut Street, County Road No. 19, at New Albany-Condit Road, SR605, Plain Township, Franklin County, Ohio (\$200,000.00) (Engineer).

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

William "Fritz" Crosier offered a resolution requesting the Ohio Department of Transportation to reduce the speed limit on Leppert Road, County Road No. 37, Norwich Township, Franklin County, Ohio (Engineer).

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

William “Fritz” Crosier offered a resolution for Headley Farms 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 the proposed resolution.

### FRANKLIN COUNTY DATA CENTER

Julie Lust, Chief Financial Officer, Franklin County Data Center, offered a resolution authorizing a contract with Intellinetics, Inc. to migrate to the IntelliCloud document management system and archive historical data and applications (\$130,299.00) (Franklin County Data Center).

Ms. Lust 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 ICE Mentors on behalf of OASIS STEM for the advancement of the SPARK program (\$135,000.00) (Office of Diversity Equity & Inclusion).

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

Damika Withers offered a resolution authorizing a consultant agreement with Pioneered Engagement for project management services, focusing primarily on coordinating and strategizing for the Men’s Empowerment Network Unit Men’s Summit (\$58,800.00) (Office of Diversity Equity & Inclusion).

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

*Commissioner Boyce remarked on the recent Soul Talk he hosted that set the stage for conversations around mental health in Franklin County with over 500 people in attendance. Commissioner Boyce noted that it is the start of a series of Soul Talks leading up to an Empowerment Summit with the next talk to be in a podcast format, discussing caregivers and seniors. The Empowerment Summit will look to provide a mental health Yellow Pages as a resource book to access a network of providers and out of these*

*conversations, it is the goal that advocacy will be strengthened from the county to the state level, as well.*

*Joy Bivens, Deputy County Administrator, noted that it was an opportunity for Franklin County to provide resources beyond the Soul Talk to those who attended, highlighting the data gathered and focusing on how many residents obtained mental health resources, job opportunities, amongst other resources.*

### COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Curtis Brown, Community Partnerships Administrator, Community Partnerships, offered a resolution authorizing a Community Partnership Grant Agreement with Columbus Humane for calendar year 2025 in the amount of \$35,000 (\$35,000.00) (Community Partnerships).

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

Curtis Brown offered a resolution authorizing a Community Partnership Grant Agreement with The Ohio State University Extension on behalf of its Cooperative Extension for calendar year 2025 in the amount of \$225,000 (\$225,000.00) (Community Partnerships).

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

### JUSTICE POLICY AND PROGRAMS

Courtney Moats, Grants Specialist, Justice Policy and Programs, offered a resolution authorizing a professional service contract agreement with Rona Moore for peer support and case management services for justice-involved residents served through the Franklin County Rapid Resource Center (\$46,500.00) (Justice Policy and Programs).

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

### PURCHASING

Megan Perry-Balonier, Director, Purchasing, offered a resolution authorizing Contract Modification #3 with Monterey Consultants, Inc. to extend staff augmentation support, to add optional period 4 staff augmentation to Project 3, and to extend the timeline for Project 2 at an increase in the amount of the contract not to exceed \$247,680.00 (\$1,264,334.00) (Purchasing).

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

## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Jeanine Hummer, First Assistant Prosecuting Attorney and Chief Counsel, Prosecuting Attorney's Office, offered a resolution authorizing an application to the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas for employment of Alvin E. Matthews Jr. of UB Greensfelder to serve as special counsel (Board of Commissioners).

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

*Commissioner Crawley inquired about the application process for special counsel and what is being done to ensure diversity. Ms. Hummer advised that one key aspect of the Tyack administration was diversifying the appointment process, and there is continued resolve to find candidates who represent Franklin County's diverse population.*

Jeanine Hummer offered a resolution authorizing an application to the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas for employment of Janica Pierce Tucker of Taft Law to serve as special counsel (Board of Commissioners).

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

*Kenneth N. Wilson, County Administrator, noted that he and Ms. Hummer met with Jeffrey Sopp, Chairperson, Franklin County Parks & Recreation, Columbus Clippers Board of Directors, and Janica Pierce Tucker, stating that there would be an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.*

Kevin Pangrace, Director, Government Affairs, offered a resolution supporting the Ohio Commission for the United States Semiquincentennial, America 250-Ohio (Board of Commissioners).

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

*Commissioner Crawley asked if the Governor was involved based on a call to her office. Mr. Pangrace advised that this celebration is statewide.*

*Commissioner O'Grady asked who would represent Franklin County.*

*Kris Long, Deputy County Administrator, responded that the recommendation to attend the planning meetings would be Robin Ross, Public Information Officer, but also put together a small team with representatives from Government Affairs, County Administration, and the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ODEI) to ensure Franklin County specific items were presented and to amplify what the State of Ohio is doing.*

*Commissioner Boyce remarked on the importance of ODEI's involvement, especially given the country's sensitive state, and asked about the plan for connecting with the Franklin County delegation and the majority caucus. Mr. Pangrace responded that communication is being prepared for each commissioner's office to connect on delegation luncheons, constituent outreach events, and agenda items.*

*Commissioner Crawley remarked that it would be proactive to schedule a meeting with the delegation to start off the new year by putting the commissioners' priorities forward.*

*Kenneth N. Wilson, County Administrator, offered that this year, a continual effort of large urban counties collectively coming together is anticipated. Mr. Wilson noted that there have been conversations about a pilot project for a caucus of metro counties.*

*Commissioner Boyce added that a regional delegation of neighboring counties needs to be engaged together.*

*A robust conversation ensued.*

Zachary Talarek, Director, Office of Management & Budget, offered a resolution authorizing a consulting services contract with Franklin Hirsch to support the County Hospital Commission of Franklin County, Ohio (Board of Commissioners).

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

*Commissioner Crawley asked if this was a contract for legal counsel.*

*Jeanine Hummer, First Assistant Prosecuting Attorney and Chief Counsel, noted that Mr. Hirsch does not provide legal counsel but acts as the board's parliamentarian.*

*Joy Bivens, Deputy County Administrator, inquired if the Hospital Commission could be leveraged in different ways to support other ongoing initiatives within the county.*

*Commissioner Boyce echoed Ms. Bivens sentiments, recommending that President Crawley connect with the Hospital Commission.*

*Kenneth N. Wilson, County Administrator, remarked that the Hospital Commission had invited County Administration and the commissioners to meet.*

*Commissioner Crawley noted that she would take no issue re-engaging with the Hospital Commission.*

Zachary Talarek offered a resolution authorizing an agreement with Engineer Adam W. Fowler to serve as Franklin County Drainage Engineer (Board of Commissioners).

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

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*The Deputy Clerk noted that no journalizations are expected at General Session on Tuesday, January 14, 2025.*

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### COUNTY ADMINISTRATION UPDATE

*Kris Long, Deputy County Administrator, noted that the proposed resolution containing the commissioners 2025 Boards and Commissions designees and potentially a correction from the Sanitary Engineer's Office is forthcoming on Tuesday, January 14, 2025, at General Session.*

*Kenneth N. Wilson, County Administrator, made the following statements:*

- *The first batch of Purchase Orders for January 2025 have been submitted and signed.*
- *The forthcoming 2024 financial review by the Office of Management & Budget.*
- *Acknowledgement and gratitude to Public Facilities Management, Deputy County Administrator Kris Long, et al., who assisted with communication and snow removal to keep the county running smoothly after the recent storm.*
- *In honor of the life and service of former State Senator Ben Espy, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine has ordered that the flags of the United States and the state of Ohio be flown at half-staff upon all public buildings and grounds throughout Franklin County and at the Ohio Statehouse, Vern Riffe Center, and Rhodes Tower from sunrise to sunset on the day of his funeral, January 13, 2025.*
- *National Day of Mourning for late former President Jimmy Carter.*
- *Announced that Damika Withers, Chief Economic Equity and Inclusion Officer, Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, has been identified by Columbus Business First as a 2025 Diversity Champion.*
- *County Administrator Wilson will be sending a letter on behalf of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission to the U.S. Department of Transportation in support of their application for the Regional Infrastructure Accelerator Program.*

*Joy Bivens, Deputy County Administrator, remarked that the One Door open house is today, January 9, 2025, between 3:00 P.M. and 4:00 P.M., with a walk-through for elected officials, and that the Grand Opening will be Tuesday, January 21, 2025. Franklin County One Door will serve as a one-touch, all access point with supportive services available through Franklin County. Ms. Bivens also provided an update on Primary One and the potential collaboration with One Door, noting there would be a status update soon.*

*Commissioner Crawley asked how residents can access the Franklin County Mobile Units.*

*Arion Owens, Administrative Officer, Family Stabilization Unit, spoke about the Franklin County Board of Commissioners' Mobile Unit, advising that these units served 2,000 residents in 2024. Visits can be requested online, and standing appointments are available for the units at the shelters and warming centers throughout Central Ohio.*

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There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 A.M.

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**(Signature Page Follows)**

These minutes are a general summary of the Commissioners' Briefing Session for Thursday, January 9, 2025.



2/14/2025

**ERICA C. CRAWLEY, PRESIDENT**

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**JOHN O'GRADY**



2/6/2025

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

Submitted by:



1/31/2025

**Michael E. Ruehrmund  
Deputy Clerk to the Board of Commissioners**