

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF GENERAL SESSION

November 12, 2024

The Franklin County Board of Commissioners convened in the Commissioners Hearing Room at 9:00 A.M. on Tuesday, November 12, 2024.

Present were: Kevin L. Boyce, President
John O'Grady, Commissioner
Erica C. Crawley, 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 Michael Ruehrmund, Deputy 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 Boyce called the meeting to order at 9:10 A.M.

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Commissioner Boyce: Before we begin our regular agenda, I want to take a moment to acknowledge Veterans Day, which we observed yesterday. This important occasion gives us a chance to honor the service and sacrifice of our veterans, expressing our gratitude for the brave men and women who have safeguarded our freedoms. It also serves as a time to reflect on the challenges veterans face when transitioning back to civilian life and recognize the vital support services available. In support of our veterans, Franklin County recently participated in Operation Green Light, illuminating our buildings in green from November 4 to 11, 2024. Through this gesture, we showed our veterans that they are seen, appreciated, and supported by our community.

To provide more information about the resources available to veterans and the Green Light Initiative, I'm pleased to introduce our Director of Veterans Services, Buck Bramlish, and Joshua Bellamy, Military and Veterans Liaison for the Family Stabilization Unit.

Joshua Bellamy, Military and Veterans Liaison, Family Stabilization Unit, thanked the commissioners for participating in Operation Green Light and the importance of showing how Franklin County is home to those who have served and continue to serve.

Buck Bramlish, Director, Veterans Services, thanked the commissioners and mentioned that for the past nine years in his work with Veteran's Services, the words and deeds of Franklin County have been aligned. Mr. Bramlish noted that last year over \$4.1 million dollars were spent on providing financial assistance and services to the veterans in Franklin County.

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Approval of the minutes for the October 31, 2024, Briefing Session; and the October 29, and November 5, 2024, General Sessions. Commissioner Crawley moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The minutes were unanimously approved by roll call vote.

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Resolution No. 0853-24, authorizing the acceptance of an Ohio Attorney General's Bureau of Criminal Investigation Grant for Recovery of Case Disposition Information (\$87,609.00) (Clerk of Courts), presented by William (Bill) Sieloff, Legal Director, Administrative Magistrate, Clerk of Courts.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0853-24, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0854-24, authorization for the Franklin County Engineer to issue Special Hauling Permits on behalf of the City of Obetz for highways within the City's jurisdiction (Engineer), presented by Brad Foster, P.E., P.S., Engineer, Engineer's Office.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0854-24, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0855-24, requesting the Ohio Department of Transportation to reduce the speed limit on Hayes Road, County Road No. 2, Madison Township, Franklin County, Ohio (Engineer), presented by Brad Foster, P.E., P.S., Engineer, Engineer's Office.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0855-24, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0856-24, requesting the Ohio Department of Transportation to reduce the speed limit on Richardson Road, County Road No. 119, Madison Township, Franklin County, Ohio (Engineer), presented by Brad Foster, P.E., P.S., Engineer, Engineer's Office.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0856-24, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0857-24, authorizing the County Administrator to accept and execute the FY 2024-2025 Victim of Crimes Act grant from the Ohio Attorney General's Office (\$130,000.53) (Prosecuting Attorney), presented by Jeanine Hummer, First Assistant Prosecuting Attorney and Chief Counsel, Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

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

Commissioner Crawley asked if all the victim assistants are employed through the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant or if some are general employees. Ms. Hummer noted that many are already general employees and that there is a contract with the City of Columbus, allowing victim assistants to assist the Franklin County Prosecutor's Office during the 4D Arraignment stage for specialized strangulation cases.

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0857-24, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0858-24, authorizing the commitment to purchase new dispatch site consoles and communication equipment from Motorola Solutions, Inc. (Sheriff), presented by Albert J. Smith III, Chief Financial Officer, Sheriff's Office.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0858-24, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0859-24, authorizing the County Administrator to execute a three-year contract with Meeder Public Funds, Inc. for investment management and advisory services (\$594,000.00) (Treasurer), presented by Niomie Galindez, Budget and Purchasing Coordinator, Treasurer's Office.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0859-24, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote, with Commissioner Boyce abstaining.

Resolution No. 0860-24, authorizing non-general fund supplemental appropriations to support mental health, alcohol, and other drug treatment and prevention services (Alcohol, Drug & Mental Health Board), presented by Anthony Perry, Chief Financial Officer, Alcohol, Drug & Mental Health Board.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0860-24, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0861-24, approving a contract amendment with Greater Columbus Sports Commission to support economic equity in Franklin County through the attraction, retention, and promotion of sporting events on behalf of Franklin County Board of Commissioners (\$182,500.00) (Office of Diversity Equity & Inclusion), presented by Damika Withers, Chief Economic Equity and Inclusion Officer, Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0861-24, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0862-24, case #ANX-17-24 - Review of petition to annex 6.0 +/- acres from Norwich Township to the City of Hilliard (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 Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0862-24, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0863-24, authorizing the application to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency for a Source Reduction Grant related to promoting reuse practices and to authorize the County Administrator to accept the grant award (\$10,000.00) (Job and Family Services), presented by Carmen Barnes, Assistant Director, Job and Family Services.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0863-24, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0864-24, approving a subaward agreement with Columbus Urban League for Franklin County Out-of-School Time Youth Programming (\$252,000.00) (Job and Family Services), presented by Carmen Barnes, Assistant Director, Job and Family Services.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0864-24, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote, with Commissioner Boyce abstaining.

Resolution No. 0865-24, approving subaward agreements with multiple community agencies for Franklin County Out-of-School Time Youth Programs (\$5,829,877.63) (Job and Family Services), presented by Carmen Barnes, Assistant Director, Job and Family Services.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0865-24, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0866-24, authorizing the Franklin County Administrator to sign an Award and Acceptance Form in receipt of an FY 2025 Victims of Crimes Act (VOCA) grant from the Ohio Attorney General's Office (\$107,264.62) (Justice Policy and Programs), presented by Ruchelle Pride, Director, Justice Policy and Programs.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0866-24, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0867-24, authorizing four professional service contract agreements for peer support and case management services for justice involved residents served through the Franklin County Rapid Resource Center (\$157,392.00) (Justice Policy and Programs), presented by Ruchelle Pride, Director, Justice Policy and Programs.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0867-24, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0868-24, authorizing the Franklin County Administrator to accept receipt on behalf of Franklin County an FY 2024 Second Chance Act Addressing the Needs of Incarcerated Parents and Their Minor Children award from the Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention (\$691,814.00) (Justice Policy and Programs), presented by Ruchelle Pride, Director, Justice Policy and Programs.

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

Commissioner Crawley asked why this is based at the Franklin County Community Based Correctional Facility (CBCF) and focuses primarily on men. Ms. Pride noted that this is a continuation of services that started a few years ago and involved services for men at the jail facilities. Ms. Pride explained that this grant was written for fathers and would share the information with the commissioner on the continuing efforts made with other partners to service mothers and women.

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0868-24, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0869-24, approving purchases for various Franklin County agencies (\$1,462,243.37) (Purchasing), presented by Megan Perry-Balonier, Director, Purchasing, and Andrena Austin, Economic Equity Administrator, Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0869-24, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0870-24, approving purchases for various Franklin County agencies (\$9,159.00) (Purchasing), presented by Megan Perry-Balonier, Director, Purchasing.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0870-24, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote, with Commissioner Boyce abstaining.

Resolution No. 0871-24, authorizing a transfer of funds for the payment of debt service (Board of Commissioners), presented by Zak Talarek, Director, Office of Management & Budget.

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

Commissioner Boyce advised that Franklin County's ratings from independent bond rating agencies be published to promote public transparency regarding debt service payments and highlight Franklin County's financial prudence and soundness as quantified by multiple independent rating agencies.

Kenneth N. Wilson, County Administrator, stated that we do not take the county's AAA bond rating from S&P Global Ratings and Moody's for granted, as Franklin County has maintained this top rating even during difficult financial periods and was the first local government body to receive that rating from Moody's in 2018.

Commissioner Crawley noted that it is important that Franklin County help influence other counties throughout Ohio and the rest of the country, so others are able to replicate Franklin County's best practices.

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0871-24, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0872-24, removing Franklin County Board of Commissioners' appointees from the Creating Central Ohio Futures Board due to amended bylaws (Board of Commissioners), presented by Jeanine Hummer, First Assistant Prosecuting Attorney and Chief Counsel, Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0872-24, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

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Michael E. Ruehrmund, Deputy Clerk to the Board of Commissioners, read one (1) journalization into the record:

1. Case #ANX-18-24 - An Expedited Type 1 annexation petition, ANX-18-24, was filed with the Franklin County Economic Development and Planning Department on October 8, 2024. The petition is requesting to annex 0.5 acres from Blendon Township to the City of Columbus. The petition will be considered by the Board of Commissioners on November 19, 2024. The previous journalization is hereby replaced with this journalization.

Site: Minerva Avenue (PID No.:110-002735 / 110-002734)

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Commissioner Boyce asked those in attendance and the public to join him at 3:15 P.M. for a special announcement regarding an upcoming summit via the Zoom link on the county's website.

Commissioner O'Grady spoke about Bill Dawson, a great partner and friend of Franklin County who helped grow local food programs. He went on to say that Mr. Dawson, who recently passed away, will be remembered for his great work in the community and will be greatly missed.

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There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:16 A.M.

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(Signature Page Follows)

These minutes are a general summary of the Commissioners' General Session for Tuesday, November 12, 2024.



KEVIN L. BOYCE, PRESIDENT



JOHN O'GRADY



**ERICA C. CRAWLEY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

Submitted by:



Michael E. Ruehrmund
Deputy Clerk to the Board of Commissioners