

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF GENERAL SESSION

April 17, 2018

The Franklin County Board of Commissioners convened in the Commissioners Hearing Room at 9:00 A.M. on Tuesday, April 17, 2018.

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

Also present on the dais were Nick Soulas, 1st Assistant, Prosecuting Attorney Office; Kenneth Wilson, County Administrator; Zachary Talarek, Director, Office of Management and Budget; and Antwan Booker, Clerk.

President Boyce called the meeting to order at 9:12 A.M.

PUBLIC HEARING

An additional five dollar (\$5.00) Motor Vehicle License Fee for Franklin County, Ohio, pursuant to 4504.24 of the Ohio Revised Code.

President Boyce: I would like to open the Public Hearing and we have a number of speaker's slips. First is John Fleshman, Franklin Township Trustee.

Mr. Fleshman: Good morning Commissioners. As a Trustee for Franklin Township, I have seen firsthand what neglect from past administrations have done to our Township by putting off road repairs due to lack of funds. We are now hard at work trying to play catch up. Just last year, with the help of the County Engineer's Office, we were able to replace a bridge on Big Run Road. At that time, we found more work that needed immediate attention or it could potentially cost the Township substantially more if attention were not given soon. We did move forward with the County Engineer's recommendation and are happy with the end result. I am here to ask for your passing of the \$5.00 permissive tax. This will ensure the residents of Franklin County a safe and secure roadway and bridges into the future. Permissible fees have already been enacted by five other counties. We need to be competitive in today's world when it comes to attracting new businesses and seeing residential development. It is crucial to be more pertinent, than replacement after failure. The conditions of our roads and infrastructure will be a determining factor for the success made when competing. I'd much rather pay a \$5.00 a year permissible fee than see gasoline taxes go up on every gallon of fuel. If the gas tax did go up, it would be divided up between 88 counties. All of the \$5.00 permissible tax would stay in Franklin County. The passing of this fee will provide approximately \$5,600,000 annually for Franklin County

roadways. This will ensure a safe and smooth ride for years to come. \$5.00 is such a minimal price to ask.

Joe Mazzola, Health Commissioner, Franklin County Public Health: Good morning Commissioners. Adequate resources are necessary to keep up the maintenance schedules and replacement costs for our roadway infrastructure. Maintaining this critical infrastructure is not only important to attract commercial and residential development, it is also a way to improve public health. Currently Franklin County Public Health works closely with our Engineer's Office in many ways. We do that through our Franklin County Stormwater partnership initiated in 2003. The partnership coordinates programs related to drainage management, water quality management, and stormwater regulation compliance. As part of that effort, we appreciate the funding from the Board of Commissioners and the Engineer's Office to meet the NPDES requirements. Our most recent community health assessment, completed last year, identified the lead causes of death in Franklin County is cancer, heart disease, stroke and unintentional injuries. In addition to sanitation and water quality, research indicates an opportunity to work more closely with the Engineer's Office to address the disease burden in our community. We can promote physical activity by locating and designing public facilities that encourage safe pedestrian access, adequate sidewalks, bike paths and street scaping. This type of active transportation and other strategies are found in our sweep street toolkit, which we will be including in our community health improvement plan. Our ability to maintain and transform our infrastructure can have a significant impact to improve public health. These additional funds provide the opportunity to increase our commitment to create and promote a healthier and safer built environment and we look forward to our continued partnership with the Engineer's Office.

Andy Warnock, Franklin County resident: Good morning, I am a resident of Hilliard, OH. In 2015, we built a home in Hilliard and have had some significant issues with water damage to our basement. I reached out to the Engineer's Office, under the assumption that there were some draining tiles that were not capped appropriately and causing flooding in my basement. What I appreciated from my interaction with the Engineer's Office was that they were an office of action. They listened and used our tax dollars appropriately. They held the builder accountable and made changes. It is important to know that we appreciate the Engineer's Office. I am supportive of this resolution.

Skip Weiler, The Robert Weiler Company: Good morning Commissioners. Columbus is a great city for multiple reasons. One of them is our infrastructure. It is critical to keep it strong and in order. In my industry, which is real estate, we have to keep the road network in shape. Charging the \$5.00 permissible fee is an easy way to keep our city great.

Dwight Beougher, Franklin County Farm Bureau: Good morning Commissioners. I am an elected trustee for the Franklin County Farm Bureau. Farm Bureau is a member organization representing over 15,000 members in Franklin County. Upon learning of the County Engineer's proposal, our board discussed the urgent need and decided to endorse this \$5.00 permissive fee. Most importantly, this proposal is critical to maintaining our roadway infrastructure, which improves safety and quality of life for all residents. Additionally, this fee will ensure that Franklin County remains an active destination for businesses and families looking to move into

the County. From an agricultural standpoint, maintaining and improving infrastructure is a vital component to our industry. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, there are over 60,000 acres in Franklin County producing over \$48,000,000 worth of marketable value. Agriculture depends on a reliable infrastructure to transport these commodities to market, as well as move large equipment from farm to farm. We believe the County Engineer's Office does an outstanding job in providing timely services to the residents of Franklin County. This fee will ensure that they will continue to have the resources they need to effectively negotiate further challenges both for agriculture and the communities they serve. Revenue streams to maintain roadways are flat. More vehicles are using less fuel, which means they generate less funds for this purpose. Franklin County maintain 357 bridges. Nine are rated Poor. Thirty-eight are rated fair. Forty-eight are over 100 years old. 109 are over 75 years old. With the weather we had over the last couple of winters, our roads are in a horrible condition. Flat tires and accidents caused by poor roads need immediate attention. Ditch and drainage conditions need immediate attention. The \$5.00 permissive fee can be enacted today. Thank you for your time.

President Boyce: Seeing no other speakers, I will now close the Public Hearing. Is there a motion to remove Tabled Resolution No. 273-18 from the table?

Commissioner Brown moved to remove Resolution No. 273-18 from the table, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously removed from the table by roll call vote.

Tabled Resolution No. 273-18, resolution authorizing an additional five dollar (\$5.00) Motor Vehicle License Fee for Franklin County, Ohio, pursuant to 4504.24 of the Ohio Revised Code (Engineer), presented by Cornell Robertson, County Engineer, Engineer's Office.

Mr. Robertson: Good morning Commissioners. We spoke about this resolution last week and gave a presentation about it. I have a shorter version of the presentation if you would like for me to go through it or however you would like to proceed.

President Boyce: I am comfortable with moving forward. I think we have had a number of hearings both in this chamber and publicly. I feel confident that we presented the opportunity for the public to weigh in and to hear more about this fee. I am open to hearing an overview if my colleagues feel the need for that.

Commissioner Brown: I am ok with that. Mr. Robertson, have you had anyone come forward in other avenues that have not been in favor of this resolution? If so, what was their reasoning for their opposition?

Mr. Robertson: We have had a total of six public meetings, including two we held at our west outpost and east outpost. We did not have any in opposition hosted by my office.

Commissioner O'Grady: This has been in the newspaper, on the radio and television.

Commissioner Brown: Correct, and you have not received any calls or emails?

Mr. Robertson: We have not.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Tabled Resolution 273-18, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Tabled Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Commissioner Brown: This resolution goes to safety and health. I appreciate Mr. Mazzola talking about the health perspective.

President Boyce: You never take raising a fee lightly. I believe that your office has done a good job to provide the opportunity to take input and being prepared for the input.

Resolution No. 293-18, resolution authorizing various contracts for attendance services with Columbus and Whitehall City Schools (Domestic Relations) (\$56,416.00), presented by Barbara Reeves, Deputy Director of Finance, Domestic Relations Court and Julie Troth, Deputy Director of Programs, Domestic Relations Court.

Ms. Reeves: Good morning Commissioners. This resolution is requesting the approval of a contract with Columbus and Whitehall City Schools to provide truancy services to youth and families to reduce school trancies. The districts will reimburse the court for 50% of the salaries for the individuals. Columbus will pay for three truancy officers and Whitehall will pay for one. Ms. Troth will tell you more about the program.

Ms. Troth: The truancy intervention prevention program reduces formal filings related to truancy by partnering with local school districts to address attendance barriers by providing resources and services to youth and families in Franklin County. We have served 1,131 youths and families since we started this program in November 2017.

Commissioner Brown: Do you have plans to expand to other school districts?

Ms. Troth: Yes we do Commissioner.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 293-18, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 294-18, resolution authorizing an amendment to various contracts for attendance services in local school districts (a decrease of \$84,636) (Domestic Relations) (\$84,624.00), presented by Ms. Reeves.

Ms. Reeves: This resolution is requesting an amendment to five contracts that we have with local school districts that were approved back in February. Due to a clerical error, the dollar amount on the contracts was incorrect.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 294-18, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 295-18, resolution authorizing a non-general fund supplemental appropriation related to the Addiction Treatment Program grant award (Domestic Relations), presented by Ms. Reeves.

Ms. Reeves: This resolution is requesting a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$7,282 to spend funds the court received from the ADAMH for the addiction treatment program grant award. The court will utilize these funds for the recovery court program to purchase incentives and bus passes for participants. Additionally, the funds will be used for staff to attend a drug treatment conference in Texas.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 295-18, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 296-18, resolution for the review of petition to annex 1.00 +/- acres from Jackson Township to the City of Grove City Case #ANX-07-18 (Economic Development and Planning), presented by Jenny Snapp, Assistant Director, Economic Development and Planning.

Ms. Snapp: This resolution is to consider an expedited type 2 annexation petition of 1.00 acres from Jackson Township to the City of Grove City. The area to be annexed includes property located at 4175 Casa Boulevard, which is south of Casa Boulevard, east of Harrisburg Pike, west of Haughn Road and north of Orders Road. The petition was filed by Agent/Attorney Kacie Waugh on behalf of the property owners Christopher A. Graham and Susanna E. Graham. 28% of the site's perimeter is contiguous to the City of Grove City and the City passed resolution no. CR-15-18 on March 20, 2018, indicating the services that will be provided once the annexation is approved and a statement regarding possible incompatible land uses and zoning buffer. The petition meets all statutory requirements outlined in Section 709.021 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 296-18, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 297-18, resolution authorizing a collaboration agreement with Homeport to support the analysis and identification of unmet health care and social service needs in order to improve the affordable housing options offered to their tenants (Community Partnerships)

(\$50,000.00), presented by Dayna McCrary, Community Partnerships Coordinator, Office of Management and Budget.

Ms. McCrary: Good morning Commissioners. This resolution is with Homeport. They seek funding to do research and identify the unmet health and social service needs of their residents. They are particularly focusing on new Americans, low-income seniors and youth.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 297-18, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 298-18, resolution authorizing a one-year contract with the Lincoln Theater Association to promote increased access to arts experiences for Franklin County residents (Community Partnerships) (\$50,000.00), presented by Ms. McCrary.

Ms. McCrary: This resolution will promote increased access to the arts through the Lincoln Theater. These efforts will include special training and development for emerging artists. In addition, they will have summer camp experiences for children to learn what goes on behind the curtains and various community discussions.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 298-18, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 299-18, resolution authorizing a one-year contract with Nationwide Children's Hospital to provide mental health and suicide prevention services in select Franklin County public schools and clinics (Community Partnerships) (\$450,000.00), presented by Ms. McCrary.

Ms. McCrary: This resolution supports the critical work that Nationwide Children's Hospital is doing regarding meeting the needs of youth who are struggling with mental health diagnoses. Many of the youth that are suffering with depression and various mental illnesses have not had a diagnosis. They do not seek care unless there is some type of crisis. This resolution would strengthen their efforts to provide customized services in various public schools. The school district will determine what best works for them. They are looking into their clinics mental health counseling and diagnostic services.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 299-18, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 300-18, resolution authorizing a one-year contract with the Ohio Alliance for Arts Education to provide high-quality arts education to at-risk children in various Franklin County school and community locations (Community Partnerships) (\$300,000.00), presented by Ms. McCrary.

Ms. McCrary: This resolution provides access to high poverty schools for increased access experiences. We have been fortunate to work with the Ohio Alliance for Arts Education for a number of years. I am pleased that we have Tim Katz, Executive Director, Ohio Alliance for Arts Education with us to share why the arts are critical for children everywhere.

Mr. Katz: Good morning Commissioners. This resolution supports our out of school and in school time arts programs and helps our Transit Arts program. It is our mission to ensure the arts are integral to the education of all Ohioans and providing education services to school age students throughout the County, especially focusing on the neighborhoods of Columbus that face the biggest economic and social challenges. Research studies describe how arts education effects people's learning in four critical areas: cognitive, creativity, communication, and culture. According to research, education in the arts can reach kids who are disengaged with school and provide a reason for students to stay in school. Arts education reaches people who have different learning styles. It can transform school and other community environments in ways that encourage learning. It challenges students who are bored and complacent and connects students with the real world of work. Arts learning provides multi-disciplinary project based opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate what business leaders call key attributes. The essential 21st century skills include collaboration and cooperation, problem solving, design thinking, articulation and communication, and leadership skills. People who participate in the arts are 20% more likely to vote. Students from low-income families are five times more likely to graduate from high school when they receive arts instruction. Participating in the arts as a hobby is a better predictor for career success in any field than IQ, standardized test scores or grades. 90% of American adults believe that arts education is an essential part of a well-rounded education. 45% of those same adults believe that not everyone in their community has equal access to arts education. This partnership results in significantly increased access to creative learning opportunities, meaningful relation building and practical workforce development. We hire a lot of people to be apprentices. Thank you for your support.

Commissioner Brown: You are right about how arts education teaches critical thinking and the other attributes. Kids who are lost in the system of education, relate to the arts. Thank you.

Commissioner O'Grady: We have been supportive of the arts since I have been on the Board. We try to be as supportive as we can. Being able to support kids at this age is a great way to support the arts. My wife has been a member of the Greater Columbus Arts Council for a number of years and has been a proponent of teaching our children to have a love for the arts.

Commissioner Brown: One of the things that this program does is to bring in a diverse array of artists so kids can see artists that look like them in a variety of ways. If you do

not see people that look like you, you will not think you can do it. This is critical in this respect.

Mr. Katz: Thank you for bringing that up. We have been lucky because we have had some fantastic people that have stuck with us for a long time. That long term relationship building with the kids is so important. This has been a priority for us.

Commissioner O'Grady: Three times a year we bring the state champions of the various high school sports in the County. Years back, we thought it was important that we also recognize the students that are artists and scholars. Too often, we recognize the athletes and forget about the artists and scholars. We wanted to make sure we were recognizing both.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 300-18, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 301-18, resolution authorizing the use of a portion of the proceeds of bonds or bond anticipation notes of the County, in the estimated principal amount of not to exceed \$3,000,000, to be issued for the purpose of replacing the roofing systems at the Board of Elections and Job and Family Services East Opportunity Center; and to reimburse the County's General Fund for moneys advanced for such purpose (Board of Commissioners), presented by Zak Talarek, Director, Office of Management and Budget.

Mr. Talarek: Good morning Commissioners. This resolution would allow the County to reimburse itself for any expenditures from the upcoming issuance of bonds for facility improvements for the two roofing projects. It is similar to the resolution that was approved last year for the elevator modernization project.

President Boyce: Are we issuing bands or bonds?

Mr. Talarek: The intent is to issue bonds. In working with bond counsel, they usually give us the flexibility on how we need to issue the upcoming debt. It is usually broad.

President Boyce: Will this be a part of our general obligation bonds?

Mr. Talarek: It will be included in the upcoming transaction. In the end of March, we gave ourselves the flexibility to issue sales tax backed bonds or general obligation based on market conditions.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 301-18, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 302-18, resolution authorizing the creation of the Facility Renovation Bond Fund and a supplemental appropriation for roofing system replacements (Public Facilities Management), presented by Darla Reardon, Director, Public Facilities Management.

Ms. Reardon: Good morning. This request is a companion resolution to the previous resolution. This resolution authorizes the creation of the Facility Renovation Bond Fund to be used to finance the County's facility renovations. This resolution also provides a supplemental appropriation to replace the roofing systems this year at the Board of Elections and the Job and Family Services East Opportunity Center. The roofs have reached their recommended life expectancy and need replaced to protect building assets and insure continued safe operations.

Commissioner Brown: The ongoing maintenance of our facilities is critically important.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 302-18, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 303-18, resolution authorizing the County Administrator to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Franklin County Board of Elections for human resources services (Human Resources), presented by Rob Young, Director, Human Resources.

Mr. Young: Good morning Commissioners. The Board of Elections desire to have a part-time employee to enhance internal human resources support. The Board of Commissioners will share a human resources employee with the Board of Elections. They will fund up to sixteen hours per week. This is a two year agreement and could be extended up to two additional two year periods at the request of the Board of Elections. This resolution will allow the County Administrator to sign the MOU.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 303-18, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 304-18, resolution approving purchases for various Franklin County agencies (Purchasing) (\$1,562,306.89), presented by Karl Kuespert, Director, Purchasing.

Mr. Kuespert: Good morning Commissioners, Karl Kuespert representing the Purchasing Department. The resolution before you requests approval of 100 Purchase Orders. Of the 100 Purchase Orders, there are 10 Purchase Orders for the SEBE, which equals 10% of the Purchase Order volume. The total amount of PO dollars for SEBEs is \$186,248, which is 11.9% of the PO dollar volume. These Purchase Orders have been pre-certified as to availability of funds by the County Auditor.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 304-18, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 305-18, resolution authorizing a consulting services contract with Franklin Hirsch to support the County Hospital Commission of Franklin County, Ohio (Board of Commissioners) (\$16,000.00), presented by Mr. Talarek.

Mr. Talarek: This is the annual contract for Frank Hirsch to serve as administrative counsel for the County Hospital Commission. The contract amount is the same as last year.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 305-18, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 306-18, resolution appointing and reappointing members to The New Americans Advisory Council for the Franklin County Board of Commissioners (Board of Commissioners), presented by Erik Janas, Deputy Administrator.

Mr. Janas: Good morning Commissioners. This resolution will make eight reappointments and add two new appointments.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 306-18, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 A.M.

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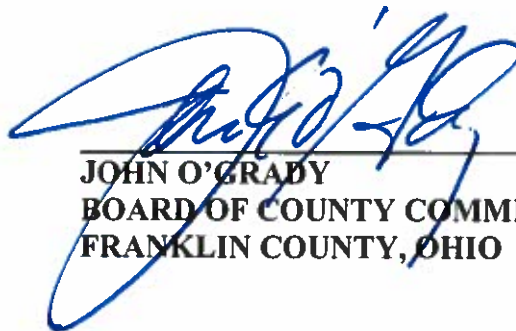
These minutes are a summary of the Commissioners' meeting of April 17, 2018.



KEVIN L. BOYCE, PRESIDENT



MARILYN BROWN



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

Submitted by:



Antwan Booker, Clerk