

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF GENERAL SESSION

July 18, 2017

The Franklin County Board of Commissioners convened in the Commissioners Hearing Room at 9:00 A.M. on Tuesday, July 18, 2017.

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

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

Commissioner Brown called the meeting to order at 9:06 A.M.

On the agenda was the approval of the minutes of the June 1, and June 8, 2017 Briefing Session. Commissioner Boyce moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The minutes were approved by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 506-17, resolution authorizing a contract renewal with Relias Learning, LLC for online training services for the Franklin County Sheriff's Office Corrections and Law Enforcement personnel (Sheriff) (\$49,500), presented by Dave Masterson, Director of Administrative Services, Sheriff's Office.

Mr. Masterson: Good morning Commissioners, Dave Masterson, Director of Administrative Services for Sheriff Baldwin. This resolution is a one year contract renewal with Relias Learning, which will allow us to supplement training throughout the office for subjects such as minimum jail standards, gang associations and many other corrections and law enforcement related courses.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve of Resolution 506-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 507-17, resolution approving the purchase of Cybersecurity Insurance (Human Resources) (\$200,000), presented by Rob Young, Director, Human Resources and Adam Luckhaupt, CIO, Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Young: Good morning Commissioners, Rob Young, Human Resources.

Mr. Luckhaupt: Good Morning Commissioners, Adam Luckhaupt of behalf of Human Resources and Benefits and Risk Management. This resolution will approve the purchase of Cybersecurity Insurance for Franklin County. This coverage is based on a competitive selection process by Willis Towers Watson on behalf of Franklin County. This will align the county with best practices and will cover all Franklin County agencies, boards, and courts under the Board of Commissioners' budgetary authority.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 507-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 508-17, resolution approving Personnel Actions (Human Resources), presented by Rob Young, Director, Human Resources.

Mr. Young reviewed the list of personnel actions in the Resolution and requested the Commissioners' approval.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 508-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 509-17, resolution approving purchases for various Franklin County agencies (Purchasing) (\$1,124,242.38), presented by Karl Kuespert, Director, Purchasing.

Mr. Kuespert: Good morning Commissioners, Karl Kuespert representing the Purchasing Department. The Resolution before you requests your approval of 80 Purchase Orders. These Purchase Orders have been pre-certified as to availability of funds by the County Auditor.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 509-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 510-17, resolution establishing the Franklin County Corrections Center Construction Inclusion Plan (Board of Commissioners), presented by Kris Long, Deputy Administrator, and Keena Smith, Deputy Administrator.

Ms. Long: Good morning Commissioners, Kris Long, Deputy Administrator.

Ms. Smith: Keena Smith, Deputy Administrator.

Ms. Long: We are in the process of constructing a new correctional facility. Through prior resolutions, the Board has expressed its commitment to equal access in both the supplier and construction process. This resolution contains a construction inclusion plan that

establishes a construction inclusion team to provide the Commissioners with facilitated tracking and monitoring of various efforts. Ms. Smith will discuss in further detail about the inclusion plan.

Ms. Smith: The construction inclusion plan sets forth a framework for creating opportunities and jobs for all of our residents in building the new corrections center. It is an accountability plan that frames our intent of performing extensive outreach, acquiring and supporting labor participation and pipeline development and utilizing local small and emerging businesses. It expresses our intent to reach out to diverse community organizations to assist us in achieving our goals. The plan also describes how we will work with our partners/owners, Pizzuti Solutions, our contract management firm, Gilbane/Smoot, the construction trades that have already signed a workforce MOU and others in our community to track, monitor and report our progress and participation and utilization for the duration of the project through the construction inclusion team. This inclusion team will be supported in the purchase of new software to help us track labor participation. We would like to thank those who helped us develop this strategic document including Pizzuti Solutions, Gilbane/Smoot, Franklin County Public Facilities Management, Purchasing Department and Small and Emerging Businesses and Ms. Long.

Commissioner Boyce: Ms. Smith, can you talk about who was part of developing this inclusion plan? I know there were some meetings with some external partners. Can you talk about the process, the conversations, the feedback and how we were able to utilize the feedback and implement into this inclusion plan? It is one thing to have feedback, but another thing to implement into the plan.

Ms. Smith: It is important to understand that the document is a framework for our intention. It is not very prescriptive because we are working on gathering more community input on how we will operationalize it. We had many conversations with external individuals, who indicated that there are many groups and organizations who are training underrepresented residents and preparing them for work in the trades. We want to make sure we are inclusive of them and how we actually reach out, process apprenticeships, make our opportunity available. In a couple of weeks, we will be having a large meeting with community stakeholders. We had a conversation with Union and NAACP and got some feedback and used it in our plan to make sure we are doing extensive outreach and inclusion that we are being held accountable. We will have the data that we can see if we are falling short of our goals and remedy any shortcomings to the best of our ability.

Commissioner Boyce: Thank you. That is helpful in understanding the process. You said “evaluate” and “collect data” a number of times. I think that is the most important part of this conversation. As we collect data and evaluate, who is evaluating it and who on our administrative staff is overseeing this work so we can ensure that the Commissioners get to see it and improve it in the future?

Ms. Smith: Based on the conversations we had, we thought it was important to purchase software that will help us in tracking. We included in our plan a process for that monitoring.

The construction team will receive the data on a monthly basis. Contractors will input their data on a monthly basis. The Construction Team of Franklin County would include the County Administrator, the Deputy Administrators, Pizzuti Solutions, Gilbane/Smoot, representative from the construction trades and community members. Once we receive that information, we will reporting to the Commissioners on a monthly basis. This is our first time in engaging in this way.

Commissioner Brown: As this is our first time formally tracking this information, is there room during the process of building this project to make changes in how we are doing the outreach, if we see that we are not meeting our goals? I hope we make the changes that are necessary throughout the process so we can end up where we would like to be.

Ms. Smith: Absolutely. That is why we did not want to be prescriptive in this document because we want to hear from the community and understand strategies. We will have an early warning system to see where we are falling short and be able to remedy that and share that with the community. We all want this project to be successful.

Ms. Long: One other thing I would like to add is that the document is attempting to be as creative as possible. As you know, at the County and unlike the City, we are precluded from having a goal. We need to be as creative as we possibly can, to have as much engaged outreach as we can to track those numbers, up to the line we are able to do so.

Commissioner Brown: That is important to note. This document does do what we intend it to do. I like the tracking and accountability and the ability to make changes along the way.

President O'Grady: One of the reasons that we wanted to do this was because we are limited. We created quality contracting standards years ago and were not allowed to put our goals in there. These standards are regarded as the best standards in the state of Ohio. This is the result of us not being able to put goals in those documents. We can always do more.

Commissioner Boyce: We have also taken additional steps outside of this process. We have hired a person full time to help us think through and manage what we are doing in this area. We are working on the establishment of a committee called Small and Emerging Business Advisory Council that is going to be charged with taking the deeper dive. I believe these two things are examples of our commitment to this conversation. My colleagues are very much committed to this process and conversation before I got here. I feel good about the direction we are headed. This is a strong start. It is not a simple solution because of the constraints on us.

Kenneth Wilson, County Administrator: I think in the very beginning, Ms. Smith provided an important point, that this provides a framework. You always start a process somewhere. In following your guidance, we will be able to, for the first time, take this effort to collect data. With data, breeds accountability and the ability to react as we see the project proceed forward. This administration, through the actions that Commissioner Boyce has outlined,

we are committed to doing better than prior projects. That is demonstrated through your actions today by having this inclusion plan up for consideration. It is a plan, but if the intent is not there, it sits on the shelf. We, as an administration, have to intent to move forward today to do better and living within the guidelines for counties in the Ohio Revised Code. We realize in this community that the bar is at different levels. We talk about income disparities within this community. Documents such as this gives us tools to be able to look at policies and increase opportunities within the community. This gives us something to build upon and to go out into the community to receive feedback. The intent is clear that as we build the Forensic Center and Corrections Center, that we make every effort to do better, and to be a trailblazer to increase economic opportunities for underrepresented groups within Franklin County.

Commissioner Brown: Thank you for saying that Mr. Wilson.

President O'Grady: We have some witnesses here that are willing to speak. We first have Tarrell Mock, Executive Director, Mica Workforce Development.

Mr. Mock: Mica Workforce Development trains underutilized and hard to serve people in the urban community. Thank you for bringing this plan. The framework is great. I understand that you are working with good faith. I would have liked to have more conversation at our level or been at the table to understand the plan. I am not for it or against it, I just wanted to know if there could be more time for us to have more understanding with the other people who were at the table from our level because I did not hear anyone say we are going to do it after the fact. I would like to know what is going on before the fact, with thirty years of doing this. I have an 80% success rate with people getting jobs. I know the intent is for our residents to get work, but it doesn't always happen. I need more information before this inclusion plan moves forward.

President O'Grady: We have Nana Watson, President, NAACP.

Ms. Watson: Good morning Commissioners. The NAACP is requesting that you do not vote on this resolution today. It is our opinion that when you begin to address community issues and how we are going to engage, the community needs to have input prior to, not afterwards. I am asking that you do not vote on this until you have had conversations with community people that are going to be a part of this. I am disappointed that we did not see this inclusion plan prior to today. We have had numerous meetings with administration and were saddened that this was on the agenda before any discussion was had with the NAACP. We have met about the MOU and do not endorse that either. We welcome the opportunity to meet with you and go further into this plan.

President O'Grady: Last we have Al Washington, COCO.

Mr. Washington: I am with an organization called Coalition of Community Organizations. I have done a lot of EEO work. I have been the state EEO Coordinator. I know a lot about the affirmative action process. I do not think that this inclusion plan comports with what I

consider sound. Something is missing right now. I am concerned when the affected population is engaged after the process. They should be the lead. They need to tell you what their pain is, so you can react in an appropriate fashion. I am always troubled by the language “inclusion”, but you don’t get included until after other people define inclusion. If I had to make a recommendation, I would recommend that you table this until you engage the proper parties and look at the process.

Ms. Smith: I think that the process, that Mr. Washington talked about, there is an opportunity moving forward to have those conversations. We have already planned having these conversations. This document is a framework and it is holding us accountable to do exactly what was mentioned in the comments. We intend to have a stakeholder meeting in a couple of weeks to talk about activities around labor participation. This is something that was always mentioned in all of the conversations that we had. We needed to ensure that we were tracking and monitoring and this plan does that. I believe that what we have today before you that everyone would be satisfied with our process. I appreciate the speakers coming today. Their comments in the past have informed this plan. We feel that we are on the right track in the way we are proceeding.

Mr. Wilson: I have some sincere concerns about what a tabling and delay would mean. This is a framework, as have been noted a number of times. This is not the end of the story, but the beginning. A tabling would mean an inaction towards moving toward the goals of ensuring that this project is inclusive. This project has been moving forward every day. I always believe in an open process. I have not seen anything that has been pointed out that there has been harm to the community in moving forward with a plan that provides the legal framework of expressing our intent. At the end of this month, we have a meeting in which we are going to talk about the mechanics and receiving feedback from the experts in the community as to what needs to be done on the ground to ensure that this project is inclusive of underrepresented individuals and how we go about ensuring that we reach new heights of individuals employed that live in Franklin County and the city of Columbus. I have complete confidence that my staff has done everything they can to bring forward to you today a plan that meets your policy goals and within the legal framework that counties are allowed to operate. I would be more open to a tabling if this was a plan that was very prescriptive in nature. I want this community to have confidence in this administration and give us the opportunity to move forward. This plan is a framework. I know that the Board is dedicated to both of these projects reaching new heights.

Commissioner Brown: I do not think that there is any doubt that this Board is dedicated to the goals of inclusion. I do have a concern what would it hurt to table for a week. I am concerned about the comments that were raised by the speakers. That people did not get a chance to see this before today. Would it hurt us to table it for one week and let us have the conversations that we need to have to get more comfortable?

Commissioner Boyce: We have had three very well respected members of the community come speak today. This topic is one that they are very well versed in. It would be difficult for us not to listen to that as part of our process. I have the confidence in our administrative

staff and we are headed in the right direction. I would like their input. Whether we agree is another issue, but I think a week is not a deal breaker.

President O'Grady: We are going to be busy this week because of NACo. We need to hear from you guys. If we can bring this back next Tuesday morning.

Mr. Wilson: I think tabling this for one week would not cause harm, but I must say that there must be a dedication to providing constructive feedback. If there is a way to improve this plan in one week, we need both sides to communicate in good faith. To not move on this, in my opinion, would have grave consequences on the community at large and I do not want this administration to be known for gridlock.

President O'Grady: I am committed to moving this next Tuesday. I just want to hear what the community has to say.

Commissioner Brown: I was prepared to vote on this today until I heard the compelling words from the speakers.

Commissioner Brown moved to Table Resolution 510-17, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously tabled by roll call vote.

Antwan Booker, Clerk to the Board, read one (1) Journalization into the record:

This letter constitutes notice to the Board of County Commissioners of Franklin County, Ohio of the intent of the City of New Albany, Ohio to adopt an ordinance creating four residential tax increment financing incentive districts. The estimate of the true value in money of the improvements is \$90,000,000. The percentage of the improvement to be exempt is one hundred percent. The New Albany City Council intends to adopt the proposed TIF Ordinance on September 19, 2017, subject to earlier adoption as may be permitted under the Revised Code.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:52 A.M.

(Signature Page Follows)

These minutes are a summary of the Commissioners' meeting of July 18, 2017.



JOHN O'GRADY, PRESIDENT



MARILYN BROWN



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

Submitted by:



Antwan Booker, Clerk