

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF GENERAL SESSION

January 16, 2018

The Franklin County Board of Commissioners convened in the Commissioners Hearing Room at 9:00 A.M. on Tuesday, January 16, 2018.

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

Also present on the dais were Nick Soulas 1st Assistant, Prosecutor's Office; Kenneth Wilson, County Administrator; Zachary Talarek, Director, Office of Management and Budget; and Victoria Caldwell, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners.

President Boyce called the meeting to order at 9:04 A.M.

Approval of the minutes of the November 28, 2017 Budget Hearings and Public Hearing on the Sales and Use Tax. Commissioner Brown moved to approve the minutes, seconded by President Boyce. The minutes were approved by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 17-18, resolution authorizing an amendment to the 2018 Grant Agreement with the Ohio Department of Youth Services (Domestic Relations) (\$9,950), presented by Barb Reeves, Deputy Director, Domestic Relations.

Ms. Reeves: This resolution is requesting an amendment to three (3) programs funded by the Ohio Department of Youth Services. Within the Juvenile Detention program, the budget needs to be increased by \$5,200 to add a new Health and Wellness Program for the girls. The truancy intervention program needs to be increased by \$4,750 for various office supplies and publication and last the realignment of funds within the assessment program.

President Boyce: Tell me more about the Health and Wellness Program.

Ms. Reeves: The Health and Wellness Program are getting the girls more engaged in some of the physical activities so we are bringing in someone that does yoga for the girls. We have a current population between seven (7) and eight (8) girls.

President Boyce: How many girls?

Ms. Reeves: Seven (7) to eight (8) girls. A lot of the other activities, basketball, are more for the boys so we are trying to engage the girls more into some of the other types of activities, so we are trying out yoga.

President Boyce: Thank you.

Commissioner Brown: That's great.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 17-18, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 18-18, resolution authorizing the Franklin County Engineer to enter into a contract modification with Kokosing Construction Company, Inc. for the 2017 Franklin County Resurfacing Program (an increase of \$27,549.99) for a revised contract amount of (Engineer) (\$2,524,330.85), presented by Cornell Robertson, Franklin County Engineer and Carla Marable Director of Communications, Engineer's Office.

Mr. Robertson: Commissioners, this first resolution is for contract modification for the 2017 County Resurfacing Program. Our contractor encountered unforeseen conditions and needed to do additional excavation and paving and this resolution will allow that work to be completed and the contract to be closed.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 18-18, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 19-18, resolution authorizing a contract with Burgess & Niple, Inc., consulting engineers appointed to assist the Franklin County Engineer by providing on call engineering services, Franklin County, Ohio (Engineer) (\$100,000), presented by Mr. Robertson.

Mr. Robertson: Commissioners, this resolution is for what we've commonly called in the past a general engineering services contract. We utilized the qualifications based selection process. Burgess & Niple is a local company and we've worked with them in the past.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 19-18, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 20-18, resolution authorizing contracts with Follow the River Environmental and Stone Environmental Engineering & Science, Inc., to provide consulting services (Engineer) (\$68,968), presented by Mr. Robertson.

Mr. Robertson: Commissioners, these companies will help us with our upcoming constructions projects, looking at water quality for runoff from those projects as well as on call services for any environmental issues that may arise.

Commissioner Brown: What great names.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 20-18, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 21-18, resolution authorizing a settlement for disputed property damage claims due to auto accidents involving Franklin County Engineer's Office employees (Engineer) (\$66.88), presented by Mr. Robertson.

Mr. Robertson: Commissioners, this resolution involved one of our employees, one of our vehicles and a constituent's mailbox loss. We worked with the Prosecutor's Office and this resolution will resolve this claim.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 21-18, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 22-18, resolution authorizing settlements for disputed property damage claims due to auto accidents involving Franklin County Engineer's Office employees (Engineer) (\$1,149.32), presented by Ms. Marable.

Ms. Marable: Commissioners, this resolution seeks authorization to settle two (2) vehicle damage claims. While out performing routine services, two (2) Franklin County employees struck two (2) vehicles. There were damages to the vehicles, however there were no injuries. We've worked closely with the Prosecutor's Office and they recommend the settlements, totalling \$1,149.32.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 22-18, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 23-18, resolution for the Report (1st) of the Franklin County Engineer, establishing sums of compensation for a portion of the owners of property abutting the Morse Road at Kitzmiller Road improvement, Franklin County, Ohio (Engineer) (\$14,219), presented by Ms. Marable.

Ms. Marable: Commissioners, this next resolution seeks compensation damages for property owners along the Morse Road at Kitzmiller Road improvement project. That project is located in Jefferson and Plain Townships. The property was appraised by licensed appraisers and compensation was based on fair market value.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 23-18, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 24-18, resolution for the Report (1st) of the Franklin County Engineer, establishing sums of compensation for a portion of the owners of property abutting the Smothers

Road at Schott Road and Red Bank Road improvement, Franklin County, Ohio (Engineer) (\$58,912), presented by Ms. Marable.

Ms. Marable: Commissioners, this resolution is very similar to the last that seeks compensation and damages for property owners along Smothers at Schott Road and Red Bank Road improvement project and that is in Blendon and Plain Townships. The property was again appraised by licensed appraisers and compensations were based on fair market value.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 24-18, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

(Charles Noble, Chief Strategy Officer, Job and Family Services, read Resolutions No. 25-18 and 26-18. Commissioner Boyce had some concerns about a possible conflict of interest on a number of Job and Family Services' Resolutions and decided to move all of Job and Family Services Resolutions to the end of the agenda in order to give Commissioner O'Grady time to arrive to General Session and vote.)

Resolution No. 32-18, resolution authorizing acceptance of a no-cost extension of the FY 2016 S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women Act Block grant through March 31, 2018 (Homeland Security and Justice Programs), presented by Melissa Pierson, Grants Administrator, Homeland Security and Justice Programs.

Ms. Pierson: This no cost extension for the FY 2016 Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Block Grant was requested due to some unforeseen personal issues experienced by several of our VAWA sub recipients. This extension will allow those agencies to complete the programs as written and commit to those deliverables that they committed to during application period.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 32-18, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 33-18, resolution approving purchases for various Franklin County agencies (Purchasing) (\$7,873,467.13), presented by Megan Balonier, Assistant Director, Purchasing.

Ms. Balonier: The resolution before you requests your approval of 289 purchase orders. These purchase orders have been pre-certified as to the availability of funds by the County Auditor. Pending any questions, I recommend their approval.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 33-18, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 34-18, resolution appointing the Franklin County Apiary Inspector for 2018 (Board of Commissioners), presented by Zak Talarek, Director, Office of Management and Budget.

Mr. Talarek: This resolution would appoint Brad McClincy again as Franklin County Apiary Inspector. In 2017 there were 330 Apiaries in Franklin County. Mr. McClincy was able to inspect 260 of those Apiaries which consisted of a total of 696 colonies.

Commissioner Brown: I know that we discussed in Briefing, Mr. McClincy has been our Apiary Inspector for many years and so we need to start planning for succession.

Mr. Talarek: Yes, we'll work with Mr. McClincy as well as the Ohio Department of Agriculture.

Commissioner Brown: Perfect.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 34-18, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 35-18, resolution authorizing an application to the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas for employment of Bricker & Eckler to perform services associated with arbitrage, rebate, and yield restriction compliance during 2018 (Board of Commissioners), presented by Mr. Talarek.

Mr. Talarek: Commissioners, this is the first of a two (2) step process that would authorize a court order so that we would be able to contract with the Law Firm of Bricker & Eckler. Bricker & Eckler has been the agent who calculates the arbitrage requirements that is required by IRS guidelines for our tax exempt debt.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 35-18, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 36-18, resolution authorizing an application to the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas for employment of Frost, Brown and Todd to serve as bond counsel and provide advice in public finance matters during 2018 (Board of Commissioners), presented by Mr. Talarek.

Mr. Talarek: Commissioners, this would allow the court orders that we could proceed in a couple of weeks with the contract with Frost, Brown and Todd to continue as the County's bond counsel.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 36-18, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 37-18, resolution authorizing an application to the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas for employment of Ice Miller to serve as legal counsel regarding labor relations matters during calendar year 2018 (Board of Commissioners), presented by Mr. Talarek.

Mr. Talarek: Commissioners, this would allow for the Law Firm of Ice Miller to continue to assist the County in collective bargaining in negotiations as well in Worker's Compensation cases.

President Boyce: Director, how long has this contract been in place?

Mr. Talarek: It's been ever since I've been here.

Nick Soulas 1st Assistant, Prosecutor's Office: It's been before me in 1997, probably in year 1993. My best guess is 1993-1994 timeframe I believe is when Robert Weisman started representing the County in Collective Bargaining negotiations.

President Boyce: So we don't re-up this sort of RFP or make it available to other firms to have an opportunity to bid on it?

Mr. Soulas: This one typically has not been subject. Attorney services are not subject to the ITB process. I don't know because it pre-dates me, I do not know how his firm was selected, but to my knowledge it has not been subject to a RFP.

President Boyce: Sure. I would say to Administrator Wilson, I would like us to exam and evaluate relationships like these that have existed for a long time. Ice Miller is a tremendous outstanding firm; however, as a County we need to make sure that we're getting the best bang for our buck every time we are entering into an agreement. I'm okay with the renewal. I want to have us evaluate these kinds of long-term relationships going forward.

Commissioner Brown: I would agree.

Kenneth Wilson, County Administrator: President Boyce and Commissioner Brown, for the 2019 cycle I will work with the Prosecutors' Office and look at this process.

Commissioner Brown: I think it's always good to take a look to see who else is out there doing similar kinds of work and see how we best can be getting what we need. I know we've gotten great service from all of our law firms that we've worked with and they've worked well with our teams. Sometimes it's time to look at others too and I don't think there's anything wrong with looking at others out there in the community as well. We've talked about doing that over the time that I've been here and I think it is time.

President Boyce: I would just add to that probably holds true for the previous resolution as well as regards to bond counsel. Administrator Wilson and I have talked about evaluating that whole pool of teams that we use and so I think it's no better time than the present to begin to evaluate those long-term relationships and make sure that we're getting the biggest bang for our buck and the best that we can get in terms of services.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 37-18, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 38-18, resolution authorizing appropriation adjustments for providing salary and wage increases to non-bargaining employees (Board of Commissioners), presented by Mr. Talarek.

Mr. Talarek: Commissioners, this resolution would authorize appropriation adjustments

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 16-18, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 25-18, resolution approving a contract with Advocacy & Communication Solutions (Job and Family Services) (\$755,000), presented by Charles Noble, Chief Strategy Officer, Job and Family Services.

Mr. Noble: Last year we released a request for proposals to manage a short-term multimedia campaign to raise awareness about the importance of quality early learning and the state's Step Up to Quality requirements, which go into effect in 2020. ACS was awarded the contract after a competitive procurement process and implemented a research-based, two-pronged approach to outreach. The initial or Phase 1 campaign included a series of focus groups and surveys with both parents and providers to gauge understanding of the Step Up to Quality Star rating requirements and inform targeted communications strategies. They also produced a series of TV and radio commercials that aired around the Labor Day holiday. Later in the fall, we released a RFP to lead Phase II of this campaign. Two vendors submitted proposals and ACS received the highest score from the review team and was awarded the contract. The Phase II campaign will include more targeted research into the specific ZIP codes and neighborhoods that face the greatest challenges to meet the Star rating requirements. Today only about 16% of home providers and 24% of centers have a Star rating, so in addition to research and media buys, ACS will also lead a series of child care provider training modules. Their goal is to engage approximately 55% of unrated home and center providers which is about 280 of the 509 in the Franklin County and ensure they have either completed or begun the Star rating process by the end of the year.

President Boyce: What portion of this contract will go towards the campaign and what goes toward the consultants that put the campaign together?

Joy Bivens, Director, Job and Family Services: Once we look at the scope of work, we are going to look at the concentrated area of where the highest number of children who receive publicly funded child care centers live and where the highest concentrated number of publicly funded child care centers are placed throughout the county, we will be able to develop a plan. Our plan next week is to meet with the vendors going forward and then I will be able to give you that information.

President Boyce: Are some of these funds going to go to the execution of the public as well? So we're not talking about \$800,000 to a consultant. We are talking about most of it programmatic and out of that, a portion of this goes to the consultant to help us craft the plan.

Ms. Bivens: Absolutely. A portion will go to the consultant; however the lion's share will go towards trying to educate families and centers in Step Up to Quality because this was a non-funded legislative act. It is on the counties to get out in the communities to educate families and learning on what is happening in 2020. So we will utilize these funds getting into those neighborhoods, and centers pulling families and centers and even our own Opportunity Center in hosting One Star seminars so they can go through the process themselves.

Commissioner Brown: Can you talk for a moment about what will happen if they don't get a star by 2020?

Ms. Bivens: Currently right now in Franklin County, we have about 33,000 publicly funded children receiving publicly funded childcare dollars. If today was 2020, 28,000 would lose their publicly funded childcare slot. Meaning if I were a mom and I go to take my child, I would not be able to drop my child off at that center. We do not have enough star rated centers in Franklin County and that's why we are doing this campaign and going throughout the county to educate families and centers on getting engaged and going through this process. What you'll find, Commissioners, is this; a lot of centers will tell you that it's a very overwhelming process. For some, it increases their expenses. So it is up to us as a County to get out there and educate the centers, as many as we possibly can, in engaging in this process.

Mr. Noble: To build on to what Director Bivens has just mentioned, we are looking to engage about 25% of unrated home providers which is about 128 specific providers. We are looking to engage around 30% unrated center providers which is approximately 152, so I'm looking at a total of approximately of 280 of these centers are basically going to go through the trainings and workshops to help them move along towards the star rating.

Commissioner Brown: And without that star rating people lose their jobs in learning centers. Those jobs are lost and children don't get the quality care that's needed which affects their parents not being able to work.

Ms. Bivens: Absolutely.

Commissioner Brown: So it's a domino effect and an unfunded mandate that we have.

Ms. Bivens: Right. This will affect about 10,000 employees throughout Franklin County.

Commissioner Brown: This is essential.

Commissioner O'Grady: 10,000 employees who can't afford it because they're not exactly the highest paid employees in the workforce.

Commissioner Brown: Right.

Ms. Bivens: Absolutely.

Commissioner O'Grady: These are folks that are making \$8-12 an hour, predominately.

Ms. Bivens: Once the center becomes star rated, it increases their reimbursement, but it requires them to become star rated and they have to adopt their curriculum and staff will have to go through training to get more certification. There's some cost that is incurred on the center right now, but we're trying as a County, if you approve this resolution, to lessen some of the burden.

Mr. Wilson: I just want to make one comment for the record. The series of Job and Family resolutions speak from a procurement standpoint. The purchase order is reference to one specific contract and that contract is a contract upon which the Board is being asked to vote. To be technical for example, the contract before you now is referencing Advocacy and Communications Solutions for \$755,000 explicitly and that is tied to a purchase order in purchase order proof list. It lists more than one purchase order today that's before the Board, but is referencing that specific PO number starting with this first one will be purchase order 8100044062-00 and so on as we go through these resolutions. So Mr. Noble, the resolutions you are presenting are specific to one particular purchase order, although your fiscal staff included multiple purchase orders that are being considered.

President Boyce: Administrator Wilson, I really appreciate you explaining that because that was the conflict issue for me. Because the one conflict was showing up in every resolution, so thank you.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 25-18, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 26-18, resolution approving a subaward agreement with The Columbus Kappa Foundation (Job and Family Services) (\$114,597.38), presented by Mr. Noble.

Mr. Noble: We all know about the challenge our community faces with regards to infant mortality. We've seen the statistics, the faces and the news coverage. Many of our efforts to combat this epidemic have been focused on engaging women and mothers, and rightfully so. However, as the CelebrateOne community initiative enters its fourth year and continues to broaden its efforts, our agency is taking a more holistic approach as well. The Columbus Kappa Foundation's Fatherhood Matters Program seeks to bring fathers, grandfathers, uncles and brothers into the fold through a pair of community initiatives. Kappa's Nurturing Fathers initiative is an evidence-based 13 week group program aimed at fostering male nurturing skills and attitudes. Topics range from parenting skills to alternative discipline and enriching playtime activities. Participants can also access additional assistance and family support services through Kappa's network or programs and partners. The Kappa Safe Sleep Fatherhood Initiative will consist of a series of community forums to educate men and provide them with the resources to create a safe sleep environment for infants. Together, the Kappa Foundation plans to engage and educate 192 men across Franklin County. I really appreciate this initiative. I think that infant mortality in total is an indicator of community health and tells us a lot about what neighborhoods need. As we move forward through this initiative, being able to engage fathers, brothers, husbands, and uncles as part of this infant mortality abatement effort, I believe is really going to help. In some ways start to stem some of the infant mortality rate.

Commissioner Brown: I'm glad we're focusing this one on fathers and other members of the male community as it relates to infant mortality. We spend a lot of time and money on moms which is appropriate, but to also focus on the men in the families is also important. This is great.

President Boyce: We were at an event yesterday, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner O'Grady and I, where the Mayor talked already a 20% reduction in infant mortality in Central Ohio. You've got to look at that as lives being saved that will now be productive citizens hopefully for Central Ohio. This is really good investment, important investment and so it's good to see the Kappa Foundation involved with fathers.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 26-18, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 27-18, resolution approving a subaward agreement with I Know I Can, to provide high school youth with career and college readiness programming (Job and Family Services) (\$871,833.39), presented by Mr. Noble.

Mr. Noble: Before I read this resolution, I would just like to note that the Executive Director, of I Know I Can, Katina is in the audience if you have any questions. Now in its third year, I Know I Can's College and Career Advising Expansion model has placed full-time college and career experts in each Columbus City High School with the goal of

ensuring every district student is prepared and has the ability to enroll in college or enter a career after graduating. The pilot will expand these College and Career Advising services outside of Columbus City Schools, starting with Whitehall and South-Western City School districts. I Know I Can's advisors and coaches will provide approximately 2,100 high school ages 14-19 across these districts, with college readiness and career planning services in addition to intervention services to help them successfully transition through each grade. This also includes access to an array of planning activities such as asset mapping, as well as the opportunity to access Naviance Succeed, an online academic college and career planning data services.

Commissioner Brown: I'm really happy that we're able to expand into the other schools. I think it's essential and important work.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 27-18, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote with President Boyce abstaining.

Resolution No. 28-18, resolution approving an amendment to the Subaward Agreement to Ohio Hispanic Coalition (an increase of \$6,250) (Job and Family Services) (\$416,527.37), presented by Mr. Noble.

Mr. Noble: This resolution I think is the conclusion of a concern brought to you, Commissioner Boyce, around facilities for one of our program partners. Last fall we contracted with the Ohio Hispanic Coalition to provide enriching after-school programming for approximately 120 elementary school students. The additional funding will support relocating the program from their Main Street location to a new site at North Johnstown road, which will allow them to continue to serve these youth in a safe and nurturing environment. This resolution basically speaks to the cost of relocating the program from the site on Main Street to the site on North Johnstown Road.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 28-18, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 29-18, resolution approving an amendment to four (4) subaward agreements with Community Refugee and Immigration Services, Ethiopian Tewahedo Social Services, Jewish Family Services, and US Together, Inc. for Employability Programs under the Refugee Social Services Program (an increase of \$254,968.75) (Job and Family Services) (\$984,753.75), presented by Mr. Noble.

Mr. Noble: Franklin County is the only county Job and Family Services agency to receive state refugee and social service funding. In 2016, our Franklin County Collaborative was awarded a 2-year grant to help eligible, newly arrived refugees from across the Central Ohio Region, address challenges and barriers to employment, such as language, education and work skills. The ultimate goal is to move them into employment as soon as

possible. Over the last funding period, our Collaborative has served more than 300 refugees through the Refugee Social Services Program. Those who have obtained jobs already, most of which are full-time jobs with benefits receiving an average wage of \$11.55 an hour well eclipsing the statewide goal of \$10 an hour. At the end of 2017, we received the final installment for the RSSP funding and this resolution would allow us to amend our existing subawards. That will allow partners to continue providing employability training, job placement and retention services as well as intensive wraparound services for families impacted by trauma and violence through June of this year.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 29-18, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 30-18, resolution approving a subaward agreement with the United Way of Central Ohio for the Franklin County Youth Council (Job and Family Services) (\$75,000), presented by Mr. Noble.

Mr. Noble: The Franklin County Youth Council was created as a response to then President Obama's 2013 challenge for communities to engage young people in conversations addressing mental health and wellness. The framework was developed over a series of community conversations with high school-age youth held throughout Franklin County. Its mission is to provide council members with leadership training and development opportunities and enlist their support in designing and managing the new website FCyouth.org, along with social media initiatives that address teen issues; and give them a voice at the table when it comes to creating and implementing public programs and policies that impact their lives. The Youth Council is made up of 40 high school students who represent Franklin County's diverse communities and constituencies, including those from immigrant communities, LGBTQ and TANF eligible youth, as well as those involved in children services or the juvenile justice system. Council members are expected to serve for at least one (1) year and meet twice a month at the United Way, in addition to volunteering at various community service activities, meeting with local officials, planning youth dialogues and more. I can say from experience that I have with programs that provide exposure to young people around this county, sometimes the ability to be able to get perspective for colleges, for different neighborhoods, for different jobs, and different types of professions can go really far in helping young people understand what's possible to them in the this big wide world and so I really appreciate this resolution.

Commissioner Brown: I agree with you. I think it makes a difference when young people see others in the community that look like them and that are doing things, it gives to them hope that they can do things that they might not have otherwise seen that would be possible. So I'm happy that we do this youth council.

Commissioner O’Grady moved to approve Resolution 30-18, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 31-18, resolution approving a subaward agreement with City of Whitehall to provide academic support, parenting education, employment services and financial literacy programming to Whitehall youth and their families (Job and Family Services) (\$736,783.34), presented by Mr. Noble.

Mr. Noble: Commissioners, before I read this resolution, I would like to ask Zach Woodruff, Director of Economic Development for the City of Whitehall to come up and give some remarks.

Mr. Woodruff: Thank you Commissioners on behalf of Mayor Maggard, thank you for your consideration of this resolution. This grant will allow the city and our partner Restore Whitehall to provide workforce development programming that really provides wraparound services in the hopes of reducing dependency and strengthening self-sufficiency. As you are probably aware in Whitehall we have the highest percentage of households living in poverty with the fourth lowest hourly wage. In fact, 27.6 percent of households in Whitehall are on some sort of public assistance. These funds will go a long way in our efforts to improve the lives of our residents. Our development department over the two (2) years has conducted approximately 250 business retention visits and a constant theme that we hear from our businesses is their desire to hire more individuals but having a hard time locating qualified applicants inside the city. As I mentioned, these funds will allow the city and our partner to really help our residents achieve more jobs and higher paying jobs.

Mr. Noble: The City of Whitehall is a “hidden jewel” in Central Ohio, but community assessments indicate a high level of needs in the areas of, employment and occupations preparedness, educational attainment and life skills. RESTORE (Equipping Communities to Thrive) is a collaborative community engagement pilot that seeks to bring together stakeholders to support educational systems, promote economic empowerment, create partnerships and foster individual and family success. The RESTORE program model is based on three (3) tiers, each of which provides different programs or services as needed. Tier 1 focuses on underperforming middle and high school students, helping to connect them with mentoring and develop individual opportunity plans to help them achieve graduation and career goals. Tier 2 targets families of students, helping assess their needs and connecting them with supportive services to mitigate their barriers. Tier 3 is focused on individuals and non-wed couples, offering a variety of life skills services and workshops, financial literacy, computer and technology training and much more. This pilot program will tentatively target 125 Whitehall residents. This pilot looks at a two (2) generational approach, understanding that working with kids and parents simultaneously is going to help make gains more intractable. Understanding that working from a place based perspective while we’re in the neighborhood, we’re programming, we’re helping to build from there. Then a collective impact approach where you have these wraparound

services that are all aligned towards helping a set of families, our cohort reach specific and specified goals. In total, this program is part of our wraparound Franklin County initiative, where we're looking to get out into Columbus proper, and then also some of the outlying suburbs and local jurisdictions so we that we can really make sure as we're programming, as we're coming up with innovative pilot programs, we're making sure we are looking at the County as a whole.

Commissioner Brown: As you're doing this program, will you be collecting data and making sure that we have long term data so that we can see what's working and what's maybe needing to be tweaked along the way to make it more effective?

Mr. Noble: Yes, we are certainly going to be collecting data. From the ties that I mentioned, looking at individual children, family unification and also looking at employability services. We are definitely going to be collecting data in all of the fields that I mentioned today. The fun thing about this pilot is that we're really going to be able to be flexible about how we design this and things that are working, we are going to be able to adjust if there are things that are not working. As this pilot moves forward we'll definitely keep the Board abreast of the data.

Commissioner Brown: That's great, because I could see this then being used and tweaked and used for other areas of the County depending on their needs, taking pieces and parts of it to be used elsewhere in the city and throughout the community in a larger way as we go out and about. Thank you.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 31-18, 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 9:54 A.M.

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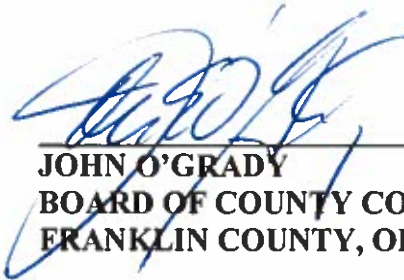
These minutes are a summary of the Commissioners' meeting of January 16, 2018.



KEVIN L. BOYCE, PRESIDENT



MARLYN BROWN



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

Submitted by:



Victoria Caldwell, Acting Clerk