

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF GENERAL SESSION

July 25, 2017

The Franklin County Board of Commissioners convened in the Commissioners Hearing Room at 9:00 A.M. on Tuesday, July 25, 2017.

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

Also present on the dais were Ron O'Brien, Prosecuting Attorney; Kenneth Wilson, County Administrator; Zachary Talarek, Director, Office of Management and Budget; and Antwan Booker, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners.

President O'Grady called the meeting to order at 9:04 A.M.

On the agenda was the approval of the minutes of the June 13, 2017 General Session. Commissioner Brown moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The minutes were unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Commissioner Boyce: I want to take a minute to congratulate President O'Grady and Commissioner Brown for a job well done with NACo. I cannot explain to you what goes into putting this kind of conference together. President O'Grady deserves a lot of recognition. We had thousands of Commissioners from across the country here. There was a lot of work for the host to do. I want to publicly acknowledge the work that you did and it was an outstanding conference. I heard nothing but good things about the conference.

(round of applause)

Commissioner Brown: I would echo that acknowledgement, but also want to thank our team that worked on this so hard. Kudos for all the volunteers. Especially Robin Dever, who headed up our team.

President O'Grady: I appreciate those comments, but the team really stepped up. It was not just our staff. It was Experience Columbus and the whole community. It was the business community that stepped up and contributed the money. The goal was to show the rest of the country what we know about Franklin County. They saw it. Some came with no expectations and left being blown away. To top it off, the Columbus Zoo brought some baby animals. Franklin County has a lot to be proud of.

Kenneth Wilson, County Administrator: I have never been told by colleagues that you should brag more about what we have to offer. The County Administrators from all over the country were amazed at some of the things we have been able to do from an economic development standpoint, the cleanliness of the city and our diversity. It made me feel good to have so many people congratulate me on the things we are doing here. We also got a number of compliments on our staff's effort. I think I have the best administrative assistant, Carla Wallace, who was responsible for the volunteers. We had over 200 volunteer slots to fill. As I walked through the Convention Center, I saw members of our team smiling. There are too many volunteers to name. Every County agency was represented. I am proud of our teams at the awards. We received five awards. Our volunteers in public service program were awarded, our SmartWorks program, our COMPASS program, and our Pathways program. I know from this conference that we have a lot to be proud of. I want to say thanks to the entire Franklin County team.

President O'Grady: The Convention Facilities got an award from the Arts and Culture Commission for all of the artwork in the Convention Center. Thank you everyone for all of your efforts. It was a great celebration of Columbus and Franklin County.

Commissioner Boyce: I was on a panel for credit analysis for municipalities. We were up there with Austin, TX. The southwestern part of the country is a growth mecca. It makes the Midwest look like we are going backwards. Franklin County was compared to Travis County. It was amazing to see us hanging with one of the growth corridors of the country.

President O'Grady: All of our friends from California were saying they would live here, if it wasn't for January and February.

Resolution No. 511-17, resolution authorizing a contract lease renewal of office space for the Clerk of Courts East Auto Title Branch (Clerk Of Courts) (\$1), presented by Shawn Rieder, Fiscal Officer, Clerk of Courts.

Mr. Rieder: Good morning Commissioners. The resolution before you today is a lease renewal through the Ohio Department of Public Safety. The renewal is for 2,860 sq. ft. of office space at the state's BMV facility located at 1583 Alum Creek Dr. The lease is a two year term.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 511-17, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 512-17, resolution authorizing a contract with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction for the Community Corrections/ Prison Diversion (407) Program (Court of Common Pleas) (\$3,584,324), presented by Jennifer Goodman, Executive Director, Court of Common Pleas.

Ms. Goodman: Good morning Commissioners. This resolution approves a grant agreement renewal for the periods of state fiscal year 2018-2019. It provides intensive supervision services for offenders and allows us to divert, over the two year period, approximately 1,400 offenders from prison. I would note that this grant agreement is 20% less than our state fiscal year 2017 levels. However, the state has committed to fully funding it. We will be back in the first quarter for an addendum.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 512-17, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 513-17, resolution authorizing a contract with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction for the Community Corrections / Jail Diversion (408) Program (Court of Common Pleas) (\$581,924), presented by Ms. Goodman.

Ms. Goodman: This resolution is also for state fiscal year 2018-2019. It provides pre-trial services for us to divert offenders from jail. We estimate to divert approximately 1,500 offenders during this cycle. Similar to the last resolution, this is reduced by 20%, but the state intends to fully fund.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 513-17, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 514-17, resolution authorizing a contract addendum with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction for the Justice Reinvestment - Probation Improvement and Incentive Grant Program (Court of Common Pleas) (\$413,267), presented by Ms. Goodman.

Ms. Goodman: This resolution approves a grant addendum to our state fiscal year 2016-2017 contract. They are allowing us to use our unspent dollars from that grant period in 2018-2019 as an incentive for meeting our performance goals.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 514-17, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

PUBLIC HEARING

Regarding the final hearing for establishing, altering and widening of Alton & Darby Creek Road and Davis Road, Norwich Township, Franklin County, Ohio.

Cornell Robertson, County Engineer: Good morning Commissioners. This project is in the northwest part of the county in Norwich Township at the intersection of Alton & Darby Creek Road and Davis Road. It is a cooperative project including Franklin County, City of Hilliard and a developer. This project will include an installation of a new traffic signal.

President O'Grady: Is there anyone here that would like to speak on this public hearing? Being that there are none, we will close the public hearing

Resolution No. 515-17, resolution for the final hearing for establishing, altering and widening of Alton & Darby Creek Road and Davis Road, Norwich Township, Franklin County, Ohio (Engineer), presented by Mr. Robertson.

Mr. Robertson: I would add that this resolution would allow us to move forward with the project, hire appraisers and acquire right of ways as needed.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 515-17, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 516-17, resolution approving a contract with H.R. Gray & Associates, Inc., consulting engineers appointed to assist the Franklin County Engineer in providing inspection services for the Bridge Epoxy Striping project, Franklin County, Ohio (Engineer) (\$82,200), presented by Mr. Robertson.

Mr. Robertson: This project would include the replacement of striping on fourteen bridges spread across Franklin County. We utilized a qualifications based selection process and chose H.R. Gray as the consultant to help us with the inspection of this project.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 516-17, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 517-17, resolution authorizing a contract with Resource International, Inc., consultants, to provide engineering services (Engineer) (\$45,000), presented by Ms. Marable.

Ms. Marable: This resolution recommends approval of a professional services contract with Resource International to provide on call subsurface utility engineering services. Resource International is a local consultant and a female business enterprise. We have worked with them in the past and funding would come from the County Engineer's auto and gas tax fund.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 517-17, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 518-17, resolution for the report 1st of the Franklin County Engineer, establishing sums of compensation for a portion of the owners of property abutting the Melrose Avenue and Lamont Avenue drainage improvement, Franklin County, Ohio (Engineer) (\$4,945), presented by Ms. Marable.

Ms. Marable: This is a CIP project in the northeast part of the county in Clinton Township along Melrose Avenue and Lamont Avenue. This is a drainage improvement project. This resolution is the first compensation for damages for residents along that project. This is for three of the four property owners. The compensation was based on fair market value.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 518-17, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 519-17, resolution authorizing a contract with AMK Services, LLC. for the provision of the delivery and supply of single band and dual band MARCS Capable Portable Radios for Homeland Security Region 4 (Emergency Management Agency) (\$165,116), presented by Jeff Young, Director, Emergency Management Agency.

Mr. Young: Good morning Commissioners. This resolution is part of the state homeland security grant process fully funding the purchase of 98 radios to be distributed among the fourteen counties within Homeland Security Region 4. It fills out an interoperable communication gap in the rural counties.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 519-17, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 520-17, resolution authorizing a contract with Integrated Solutions Consulting, LLC to provide services for updating and improving the Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan (Emergency Management Agency) (\$74,280.42), presented by Mr. Young.

Mr. Young: Commissioners, at this time we are requesting that this resolution be tabled, pending final contract language approval with the vendor.

Commissioner Brown moved to table Resolution 520-17, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously tabled indefinitely by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 521-17, resolution authorizing a contract with TSG Partners, Ltd. for staff augmentation services (Franklin County Data Center) (\$119,600), presented by Julie Lust, Director of Financial Services, Data Center.

Ms. Lust: Good morning Commissioners. This resolution would approve a contract with TSG Partners for information technology engineer services. It is for staff augmentation of our infrastructure services, including our active directory, which is the backbone of our security and who can access what applications within the data network.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 521-17, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 522-17, resolution declaring intent to proceed with the question of a renewal tax levy for the purpose of serving children and adults who have developmental disabilities to the electors of Franklin County at the November 7, 2017 general election (Developmental Disabilities), presented by Jesse Hemphill, Chair, Human Services Levy Review Committee, and Jed Morison, Superintendent, Developmental Disabilities.

Mr. Hemphill: Good morning Commissioners. I have Jed Morison, Superintendent, Developmental Disabilities with me this morning. We are here to let you know that the Levy Committee has reviewed the request of the Board of Developmental Disabilities (DD) to request the County to place a levy on the November 7, 2017 ballot. After our review, we recommend to the Commissioners that the 3.5 mill levy be placed on the November 7, 2017 ballot for ten years for tax collection beginning in January 2019. The approval of the levy would allow DD to continue its services to the residents of the county that have developmental disabilities for the next ten years. This is a renewal levy and not a tax increase.

Mr. Morison: I want to thank the Committee and the Commissioners' staff for their work on this. This is a renewal and no new taxes.

President O'Grady: It speaks volumes to your staff at DD that you are able to project over the next ten years and know that you will be able to provide your services with no increase in taxes. Your work is amazing.

Commissioner Brown: We appreciate all that you do. It is amazing the work you do. Thanks to the Levy Committee for all of your work.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 522-17, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 523-17, resolution approving an amendment to the subaward agreement with The Center for Healthy Families, Inc. for teen parenting and pregnancy prevention services, (an increase of \$75,000.00) (Job and Family Services) (\$325,000), presented by Joy Bivens, Director, Job and Family Services.

Ms. Bivens: Good morning Commissioners. This resolution would approve an amendment to contract with The Center for Healthy Families to provide teens with parenting and pregnancy prevention services. The Center for Healthy Families has provided coaching and support to move more than 800 teen families in Franklin County towards economic sufficiency since 2009. We have supported their parent education support group for the last

four years. This is a school based program that is housed in Briggs High School, Independence High School, Walnut Ridge High School, and West High School. We believe that this program is impactful. We know that age and educational attainment can have a significant influence on birth outcomes. A new report for the Center for Community Solutions reaffirms that teen mothers have the highest rate of poor birth outcomes in Ohio; 8.9% low birth weights and 13.6% prematurity. Under our last contract, Center for Healthy Families reported that more than 90% of the teens that participated in this program delivered healthy babies. Teen parents that have participated in the program have graduation rates of 30 points higher than the national average, 69% compared to the 40%. I believe this information is more than just results, but impact because we want to move the needle. The supplemental TANF funding would allow the Center for Healthy Families to serve additional families.

Commissioner Boyce: I appreciate and value the data link to the resolution. We are trying to give them the tools to be successful and this data shows that it works.

Commissioner Brown: This has a real impact on people.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 523-17, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 524-17, resolution authorizing an agreement with Calgon Carbon to partially fund a Super Sack Recycling Project (Economic Development and Planning) (\$5,700), presented by James Schimmer, Director, Economic Development and Planning.

Mr. Schimmer: Good morning Commissioners. We applied and have received a 2017 Market Development grant from the Ohio EPA to partially fund Calgon Carbon's Super Sack Recycling Project. Calgon has been a long time business in our community. They provide activated carbon and other chemicals that goes into water purification process. They are a bulk commodity and use large sacks that are made of plastic to move chemicals. Those sacks were not being recycled in an efficient manner, and are installing a new machine that consolidate those bags and making it a lot easier for them to be recycled. The purchase of the baler is going to divert approximately 20 tons a year from the landfill. It is a matching program, so the \$5,700 is matched by the company directly.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 524-17, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote

Resolution No. 525-17, 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 Brown moved to approve Resolution 525-17, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 526-17, resolution approving purchases for various Franklin County agencies (Purchasing) (\$450,791.74), 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 89 Purchase Orders. These Purchase Orders have been pre-certified as to availability of funds by the County Auditor.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 526-17, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Commissioner Brown moved to remove **Tabled Resolution 510-17** from the table, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. **Tabled Resolution 510-17** was unanimously removed from the table by roll call vote.

Tabled 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. This Board is in the process of building a new Correctional Facility out on Fisher Road and the Board has expressed through multiple resolutions its intent to develop diverse solutions to the challenges and barriers that hinder sustainable access to equal opportunity. This County and this Board has consistently expressed its desire and commitment to having workforce and participation in the project that reflects our community to the maximum extent possible. This resolution was tabled last week and I will defer to Ms. Smith for further conversation on where we stand right now.

Ms. Smith: Good morning Commissioners. To refresh your memory, the Construction Inclusion Plan sets forth a framework for creating opportunities and jobs for all of our residents in building the new Corrections Facility. This is an accountability plan that frames our intent to perform extensive outreach, supporting labor participation, pipeline development and utilizing our socially and economically disadvantaged small and emerging businesses. Last week you asked us to engage in some outreach and some meetings with the NAACP. We did reach out to the group, but were not able to meet because of time constraints. The NAACP wanted some clarification on what we were going to be discussing at this meeting, and responded by voicemail and stated that she wanted to go another route and will provide a proposal in writing. We did receive the proposal and

are in the process of reviewing that proposal. Another development, that happened yesterday, we had a meeting with Nick Soulas, 1st Assistant Prosecutor, and he shared that the determination was made that the Board of Commissioners could actually develop aspirational goals for our project.

This prompted us to amend the Construction Inclusion Plan to include language tasking the Construction Inclusion Team to develop aspirational contracting goals. We amended the plan with the following language: “The Construction Inclusion Team will be tasked with developing inclusion contracting goals for the project and construction with guidance from the Franklin County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office provided July 2017. These goals will be aspirational in nature. It is intended that the goals will be well reasoned and aligned with outcomes of similar projects in our region.” You may ask what are aspirational goals? They have been described in many ways. We have found that there are many and varied definitions. They are described as targets or benchmarks which convey an intention to achieve and establish a percentage of socially and economically disadvantaged utilization. They have been used in various circumstances. For example, some with and without a predicate study. They have been used project based and program based. There is a lot of opportunity there for us to employ an aspirational goal on this project. In the development of the plan and when we met last week, we did make the point that we were not permitted to have goals. However, this development is new. We would like to develop a community based aspirational goal and to ensure that we are engaging the community in helping us to put that goal together. Therefore, we would like to use the Construction Inclusion Team to facilitate the conversation and the development of those goals for goods and services and subcontracting on this project.

We believe that this approach will engage the community in a way that is meaningful and significant. It will keep us on track on establishing the Board’s first Construction Inclusion Team and Plan. We believe this plan will make the slice of the pie bigger for everyone. In addition, we believe the job creation aspects of this plan are the most important part. I have had many conversations in the past with small businesses that they appreciate what we are doing. The most impactful conversation I had was with Ms. Bivens, who talked about the impact this plan could have on her client base. Is it ok if Ms. Bivens speak to this?

Ms. Bivens: One of the things as a Director of 350,000 people who receive benefits, you want them to move upward economically. Right now, we have about 600-700 people receiving cash assistance. Over 100,000 receiving SNAP. We have 350,000 receiving Medicaid. 23,000 children, 0-12 years old, receive publicly funded childcare services. What that tells us is that these parents need something to supplement their income. Many of the parents have to make decisions on promotions based on if they get a raise, the raise will put them in a benefits cliff. I stand here for poor people. If this is going to help my 350,000 customers and take them out of the benefits cliff, I see it as a good plan.

President O’Grady: I have speaker slips for four people indicating they want to speak on this resolution. The first we have is Nana Watson, President, Columbus Chapter of NAACP.

Ms. Watson: Good morning Commissioners. Last Tuesday, several people spoke against the diversity and inclusion plan for the jail and forensic center. You tabled it. Today, the NAACP is requesting your consideration to allow the NAACP to provide sufficient input prior to your vote. I did mail you our comments, along with others. The Inclusion Plan developed by the County Administrator does not represent best practices that are being utilized throughout the country to achieve inclusion. This plan should be written by a third party that is an expert in this field with input from the community and the County Prosecutor Office so that it stays within the framework of the current law. The plan identifies other groups, yet there is no data showing they have been victims of discrimination. The federal guidelines for purchasing and procurement states the following groups are protected: minorities, women, veterans and economically disadvantaged. A specific plan should be written for each individual project based on the scope of the project. We understand that two bid packages have been sent to those eligible to participate in the project. We are requesting the process that occurs after bids have been received. Based on our research, you will be briefed on the selection and vote in October on the contracts who will be utilized. Why is it so critical that the document be voted upon now? What is the actual bidding schedule for both projects? We are requesting to view construction manager bid schedules to see if it warrants the urgency to rush through an inclusion plan as Mr. Wilson and Ms. Long are pushing for. In conversation with Mr. O'Brien, he did share some creative ways in which goals can be assigned. We do plan to meet with him to discuss our concerns as it relates to those goals. Ms. Smith, we did receive your email where you referenced Mr. O'Brien's aspirational goals he shared with you and others. We would request that the Prosecutor provide us, in written form, his thoughts on the goals. It is always best to hear it firsthand. Please understand that we are not against the new build. We strongly believe that there needs to be more in depth conversation about the plan. We want the project to be successful for all concerned black businesses. We understand that some black businesses are in support of the Inclusion Plan. The NAACP has kept within their mission to fight for social injustices. If no other black businesses stand with us, we will continue to push forward in seeking equality for all black people. I leave you with a quote from W.E.B. DuBois, "to be a poor man is hard, but to be a poor race in a land of dollars is the very bottom of hardships." Thank you.

President O'Grady: Next we have Tarrell Mock, Executive Director, Minority Independent Contractors Alliance (MICA).

Mr. Mock: Good morning Commissioners. The minority is economic based. I deal with the hardest to serve. I deal with Ms. Bivens' clients. We spent a lot of time at the schools trying to get teenagers interested in the construction trade. I am a general and residential contractor. I have done work for the city and state. My history comes from the Northeast Career Center. Most of MICA members are either ex-felons or come from a very low economic status. These are typically the parents of the kids who are on benefits. I think this is an excellent opportunity for our members to get some contracts. Historically, when we deal with the union side, it is very difficult for them to participate. I have had one of our contracting members pay tens of thousands to a union and he says the same thing. When

he gets a bid, it is either short notice or once he does get it, it is the same day. He does not have time to review it. He has not received any work, so he cannot hire any of our members because you have to be in a union in order to get the training. We cannot do outside training. My goal, as President of MICA, is to make sure training is available. You have a short term. This project is supposed to be finished in 2018. Tell me how, in 24 months, that you are going to get enough people trained on union labor guidelines from this population to participate in this program. It is not going to happen. What you can do, that there is enough training for the next projects coming up, that they are trained by that time. I have not seen a program in 24 months that is going to have them have union status. This conversation and the training should have been had prior to this date. They can be successful. There are training dollars. I need to know who is going to train? When are they going to train? How are they going to train?

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

Mr. Washington: What I try to do is to advise communities across the state. Last week when I was here, I listened to you. You wanted to get these things accomplished. It was clear that you meant that, but you said some other things. You talked about how you could not do goals. I knew that not to be true, but you have to go through the process to find that out. I spent a lot of my time counseling the NAACP throughout the week on that issue. I got hard copies of the proposal if you need it. My concern is that if you know that a document is flawed, why do you move forward with it? I would say fix it before moving forward. There are some processes that are not that difficult. It can be done in the time frame that does not compromise the schedule of this project. These things can be remedied. I speak from a very narrow vantage point. We spent two days working on this proposal to remedy the goals issue. If you look at past successful programs, there are critical elements in each of them. To go forward with a program that lacks the critical elements for success does not make sense. If you are going to vote on something, let it be a good something. To vote on a flawed document, is not a recommendation I would make.

Mr. Wilson: I would like to make a few points for clarification. This project, due to the desire to do it right. The project schedule will go into 2019, under the most aggressive scenario it will go into the third quarter of 2019. For both the Corrections Center and Forensic Center. Also, I respectfully state that this plan provides a framework, and passage of this plan is about starting to get the work done. This document calls for the creation of the Construction Inclusion Team. The flexibility is built within this team to stop talking and be able to start working by bringing all parties together to meet and get beyond the exchange of emails. It is critical for our community to come together, as this plan calls for. If this plan would have passed last week, the revelation of the ability to develop aspirational goals, we would have still been able to do that. This plan is about getting to work and working in good faith. I wanted to make that clear for the record. If this plan is approved, it will not prevent the work from being done to meet the goals set out after the Inclusion Team does its work. The key is to do the work and not delay. To allow County Administration to reach out to all the talent within the community, business, labor and all

groups that have an interest in doing better than Franklin County has done as it relates to construction projects.

President O'Grady: Thanks Ken. We also have Dr. Iris Cooper, Just Ask Iris.

Dr. Cooper: Good morning Commissioners. I have been in small business my entire career. My study for the doctorate was on entrepreneurship and disadvantaged businesses' sustainability. What I have learned over my career is that small businesses become resilient through experience and inclusion. That cuts through industry and race and gender. My previous position as Director of Entrepreneurship and Small Business for the State of Ohio demonstrated that you can be successful if everyone is at the table. You can be successful if everyone has the tools, especially populations that have been left out of the discussion. I am in support of this project and willing to share best practices on what I have learned about entrepreneurship globally. I encourage you to think in terms of the future. Where could we be as a community if everybody was on the same step of the ladder? Thank you.

Commissioner Brown: I appreciate that. I think what we are attempting to do here, is that everybody is at the table. This is what this framework is designed to do. Thank you for your comments.

President O'Grady: Thank you for your comments. There are some other people in the room who have some authority on this subject that I would like to come up and speak to get their thoughts. Otto Beatty, Lewis Smoot, Sr. and Dorsey Hager, Columbus Building Trades Council. I don't care what order you speak, but I would like to hear from you.

Mr. Hager: I will try to get this brief. A lot has been talked about this jail because that is the topic of the discussion and the MOU agreement. I appreciate the focus on this project and look down the road on a large scale. The MOU is very similar to the agreement that we used on Hollywood Casino. The inclusion programs and the community outreach was not included in that agreement, but the unions I represent were very active in getting out in the community and recruiting disadvantaged and the unemployed in this community. One of the things that we have done under the leadership of Mayor Ginther that we had a building trades job fair last year, we had over 275 people attend this job fair, we had a sophomores juniors in high school, but also there was a residential contractor in the city who had been working for a contractor for ten years and only making \$13/hr. A first year apprentice makes \$14.61 for one union and a journey person makes about \$30/hr plus full benefits. I told him that the job fair was not just for high school students and he began working for one of the contractors for the union. This jail project is important, but there is so much other work out there that we are in a unique situation right now. The Baby Boomers are starting to retire, there are not a lot of kids/young adults interested in the building trade programs and the economy is doing incredible. We are looking at a Facebook data center in New Albany estimated at \$1.2 billion. FoxConn was here last week and is looking at a project estimated at \$8-\$11 billion. I got a call from someone last week about meeting with me to discuss about acquiring property in Central Ohio to build a \$2.5 billion manufacturing plant. That is the point I am trying to make. The biggest concerns are hiring,

firing, unemployment and training. The building trades unions take care of all of that. The businesses can hire and fire who they want. When they send someone back, there is a very low chance you are going to pay unemployment on that person because they are going to go right back out to a signatory contractor. The training is all done by us because of joint apprenticeship and the standards set by the Ohio State Apprenticeship Committee. Here are some stats:

- 10,550 registered apprentices in the State of Ohio
- 8,730 in the building trades apprenticeship programs (83% are ours)
- There are 1,968 minorities. 1,732 are in our programs.

More than half of my building trades need people. If we all work together collectively, I think we can do a good job to help the community.

Commissioner Boyce: I have had the pleasure of knowing Mr. Hager for some time, and when I got elected as Commissioner, he called me and wanted to think strategically how we can recruit more aggressively minorities. We hosted a dinner with a number of pastors around the city to begin the conversation about a pipeline of minorities. We are coming up on our follow up meeting to create the infrastructure to have a stronger pipeline for the next generation. I do think we are making progress. There was an acknowledgement that unions were not as aggressive as they should have been. Now we are beginning a process to catch up. I see efforts that are building a strong frame work. The next meeting is going to take a deeper dive and see what kind of organization we can create to make sure we are creating a pipeline for minorities.

Mr. Hager: You are absolutely right because we did reach out together and even before you were elected Commissioner we were working on some things. We reached out to Commissioner Boyce because we are searching for advocates in the community that can help me do this. When I go to Columbus West, Marion Franklin, or South High School, and give my speech about our program, it does not really hit them the way it should. That is why I need people in the community to make those connections. If I walk by a construction site and see an Indiana, Kentucky or any other county plates, I would be mad.

Mr. Beatty: Good morning Commissioners. I have experienced this concept for the last twenty years as an attorney and as someone who has participated in doing disparity studies. I have seen organizations, such as Board of Commissions, fearful of trying to do this. I have also seen many people, who say they are experts, saying that you can't do this. That is not true. What you have to do is be aware of the procedures you have to follow in order to be on solid ground. Number one, you have to decide whether or not what you are going to do is a legitimate county ambition. Is it something that you need to do, as Commissioners, for this county? Is it necessary? It sounds like you have arrived at this decision, and it needs to be done. Number two, is getting the public buy-in. You have to document everything. You have to look at all the cases that deal with this issue, and ask yourself can you pass strict scrutiny? Is there any other way to accomplish what you want to accomplish? You can look at the past, and document the past because you want the

program to be successful. These things should be done for your own protection and for the success of the program. If there is anything we as a community can do to help, let us know.

Mr. Smoot: It is a procedure, as Mr. Beatty explained. It is hard for me to explain what we have done and what we are going to do. There was a program from Columbus Public Schools, and The Ohio State University and they worked. We are continuing to teach people what they need to do. People can be trained. We are going to do what you tell us to do. You can hold us accountable.

President O'Grady: Thank you Mr. Smoot.

Mr. Beatty: In deciding whether this is a legitimate county interest, you have to remember that most of these programs are like dropping a rock in water and watching the waves go out. There is more in the evaluation than helping contractors. There are so many goals, especially in the unemployment area, you have shown your leadership, and that this could add to.

Commissioner Boyce: I value all the input. I hosted a group of members from NACo this past week and mentioned to them the "Columbus Way." That is a collaborative spirit that allows us to do things that many other communities could not accomplish. I just went down the list of things that were done in a collaborative way. Everyone owns a piece of our progress. I feel no different about this conversation. I am glad to hear opposition, perspective, history and the current status of access to jobs. That is important to our overall process and considerations. It is not hostile. We might not agree on every aspect, but we are here together with the same goal. My first couple months as a Commissioner, I spent touring the County Jail. I was disappointed in the condition of our jail. Not from a physical standpoint, but being able to serve those who are coming through our system to ensure that they have a pathway to be successful when they leave. That protects us all. When I think about priorities, I would like to see this Corrections Center move forward. Embedded in that, is that everyone gets a piece of the process. Not only in the building of the facility, but everyone should benefit at every level of the way. I do not want to see this plan delayed, but would add some stipulations to it. The first would be that we immediately establish the Construction Inclusion Team, which would begin to work to identify these aspirational goals. I believe we have to aggressively capture that concept as part of this process as soon as possible. I would like the members to be appointed by 5:00 pm tomorrow. The second stipulation is that County Administration is on the hook. They are accountable for what we expect in this process. This is an everyday grind. This plan is complex and complicated. We have to have the right people at the table to help guide us through the process. We do not have all the answers. This has to work doing this together.

Commissioner Brown: We have made ourselves very clear from the beginning that we want this to be as inclusive as a process that we can make it. This is the beginning. We as a Board have always wanted to be more expansive and inclusive. This is another step in this journey and need the community's help. My whole work experience has been in social

justice issues and yet I'm not an expert in all social justice issues. It always depends on the community to make a better community.

Commissioner Boyce: They only way I would move forward is that we have an understanding that we are going to establish this working committee by close of business tomorrow and they will be charged in finishing the plan to getting us where we need to be.

Commissioner Brown: I would agree to that.

President O'Grady: I appreciate my colleagues' comments and the speakers. To Ms. Watson, I think you understand that I've been disappointed on how this all transpired. I think everyone would understand that since I have been on the Board, my intent has been to move in this direction. We see this project as a way to get where we need to be. This is why we moved this Inclusion Plan when we did. Our intent was to be very bold and to do what we believe is the right thing for this community. The process what not necessarily right. That is disappointing. The intent is to move this plan forward and we need to get everyone around the table.

Mr. Beatty: I would make a suggestion, that part of the resolution, can you make a finding that this is a legitimate county interest or similar language?

Mr. O'Brien: I think to have any of those findings you will have to have information and evidence before you to make the finding.

Mr. Beatty: I am not saying what the findings should be, but conceptually that this is a legitimate county interest.

Mr. O'Brien: I would agree with that.

Ms. Long: In terms of amending the resolution, that is permissible. It would be a motion to amend the resolution, seconded and roll call vote. Then vote on the amended resolution for passage. We can add in the BE IT RESOLVED Clause that the Construction Inclusion Team be named by end of business tomorrow, with a date of the first meeting to be scheduled no later than the first of next week and that this resolution affirms a legitimate county interest to move forward, hence the reason for adopting the Inclusion Plan.

Mr. Wilson: Thirdly, the explicit direction of the Construction Inclusion Team to convene and develop aspirational goals as it relates to workforce, subcontracting and good and services.

President O'Grady: Counselors, are we ok with this language?

Ms. Watson: I wanted to share that we are encouraged by this committee you are putting together. The only request from the NAACP, is that you be honest, forthright, keep your

word and do not blindside us because we will not blindside you. Thank you for allowing us to share our comments.

President O'Grady: You have my guarantee.

Commissioner Brown: We will be forthright. In this plan, there will be other groups included because we believe that underrepresented businesses should be a part of this. We appreciate what everyone has done to make this plan better.

Commissioner Brown moved to amend Resolution No. 510-17, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. Resolution No. 510-17 was unanimously amended by roll call vote.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Amended Resolution 510-17, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 527-17, resolution authorizing immediate replacement of a section of sewer along Fairway Drive in Perry Township (Sanitary Engineers) (\$63,340), presented by Stephen Renner, Director, Sanitary Engineer.


Mr. Renner: Good morning Commissioners. One of the service areas that we have is in the Worthington Hills area. It serves about 940 homes. A three to five foot section of the sanitary sewer along Fairway Drive has partially collapsed. We are requesting via this resolution that you declare this an emergency and allow us to move forward to select a contractor to make repairs immediately.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 527-17, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

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 25, 2017.



JOHN O'GRADY, PRESIDENT



MARILYN BROWN



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

Submitted by:



Antwan Booker, Clerk