

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF GENERAL SESSION

July 7, 2022

The Franklin County Board of Commissioners convened in the Commissioners Briefing Room, at 9:00 A.M. on Thursday, July 7, 2022.

Present were: Erica C. Crawley, President
John O'Grady, Commissioner
Kevin L. Boyce, Commissioner

Also present were Kenneth N. Wilson, County Administrator; Erik J. Janas, Deputy County Administrator; Brittany A. Razek, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners; Lauren M. Graessle, Deputy Clerk to the Board of Commissioners; and Jeanine Hummer, First Assistant Prosecuting Attorney and Chief Counsel, Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

Using hybrid meeting technology, participants were also able to access General Session via Zoom conferencing, by dialing (929) 436-2866, Meeting ID:978 8790 2896; Passcode:628826, or by joining at: <https://franklincountyohio.zoom.us/j/97887902896>

Commissioner Crawley called the meeting to order at 9:22 A.M.

Resolution No. 0514-22, establishing, altering, and widening of the Hayes Road, County Road No. 2, and Richardson Road, County Road No. 119 Intersection Improvement project, Madison Township, Franklin County, Ohio, declared necessary (Engineer), presented by Nick Soulas, Government Affairs Liaison, Engineer's Office.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0514-22, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0515-22, endorsing applications submitted by County Engineer Cornell R. Robertson on behalf of Franklin County for Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission-attributable federal funding of road and bridge projects (Engineer), presented by Nick Soulas, Government Affairs Liaison, Engineer's Office.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0515-22, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0516-22, authorization for the Franklin County Engineer to enter into a contribution agreement with the City of Columbus for the preliminary design of the North Knot/State Route 315 Project (\$50,000.00) (Engineer), presented by Nick Soulas, Government Affairs Liaison, Engineer's Office.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0516-22, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0517-22, Terracon Consultants, Inc., consulting engineers, appointed to assist the Franklin County Engineer with construction inspection services for improvements of the Fisher Road project, Franklin Township, Franklin County, Ohio (\$152,664.00) (Engineer), presented by Nick Soulas, Government Affairs Liaison, Engineer's Office.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0517-22, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0518-22, awarding contract and approving contract bond to Strawser Paving Company, Inc.; for the Ferris Road at Walford Street Mini-Roundabout (\$699,690.55) (Engineer), presented by Nick Soulas, Government Affairs Liaison, Engineer's Office.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0518-22, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0519-22, authorizing a contract with Intellinetics, Inc. to upgrade to the IntelliCloud document management system, deploy eforms, migrate the Treasurer's application and provide an SOW and cost to migrate all other applications (\$155,259.00) (Franklin County Data Center), presented by Julie Lust, Chief Financial Officer, Data Center.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0519-22, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0520-22, authorizing a COVID-19 Recovery Grant to Wexner Heritage Village to provide services to seniors (\$67,352.91) (Community Partnerships), presented by Curtis Brown, Community Partnerships Coordinator, Community Partnerships.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0520-22, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0521-22, approving a contract agreement with Raising the Bar Performance Group for race equity consulting services (\$270,000.00) (Office of Diversity Equity & Inclusion), presented by Damika Withers, Chief Economic Equity and Inclusion Officer, Office of Diversity Equity and Inclusion.

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

Commissioner Boyce: Is the Data Analyst position permanent, and therefore included in the next budget cycle?

Ms. Withers: It is a permanent position that will be ongoing.

Commissioner Boyce: Are we still doing consulting for the Rise Together Blueprint? What else do we have going on with Diversity and Inclusion?

Joy Bivens, Deputy County Administrator: Right now, we are not doing any work with the Innovation Center, but we are working with Ms. Withers on putting together the framework and next steps for Franklin County. I know we used to do training with the Racial Equity Institute.

Kenneth N. Wilson, County Administrator: Now, we are looking at building sustainability by having our own trainers perform training. We are working with the structure that was developed by the YWCA, and we are continuing to build upon that. We are also building upon all of the recommendations from the Racial Equity Plan that this Board approved several months ago.

Ms. Withers: Within our Racial Equity Council, the second group is working on our implementation as it relates to our Employee Resource Group. We performed a Cultural Climate Audit last July with Raising the Bar. As a result, our leadership is looking for more training regarding the creation of more inclusive environments. This contract with Raising the Bar will work on the implementation of inclusive training, building leadership circles, providing justice talks, how to continue the conversation about diversity, equity, and inclusion, and ensuring it is embedded in our DNA. Courtnee Carrigan, Chief Executive Officer and Executive Trainer, Raising the Bar Performance Group, LLC, will be working with our Economic Equity Administrator on strategic planning to further increase our supplier diversity. We are looking for sustainable models of DEI, so that we are not only focusing on training, but also policy development, operationalizing DEI, and program development.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0521-22, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0522-22, review of petition to annex 42.0 +/- acres from Plain Township to the City of New Albany Case #ANX-26-22 (Economic Development and Planning), presented by Jenny Snapp, Chief Operating Officer, Economic Development and Planning.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0522-22, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0523-22, to adjust the boundaries of Montgomery Township, thereby making them conform to the boundaries of the City of Columbus Case #ANX-27-22 (Economic Development and Planning), presented by Jenny Snapp, Chief Operating Officer, Economic Development and Planning.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0523-22, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0524-22, approving a COVID-19 Recovery Grant and TANF contract amendment with Advocacy & Communication Solutions, LLC for quality early learning and community engagement strategies (an increase of \$494,001) (\$797,751.00) (Job and Family Services), presented by Bart Logan, Deputy Director, Communications, Job and Family Services.

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

Joy Bivens, Deputy County Administrator: I know that the Resolution sounds like it is heavily focused on the centers, and it should be because those are the educators for our children, but I would be remiss not to mention that when this Board began its investment in the Step Up To Quality initiative, 27,000 children in Franklin County received public-funded childcare. Sixty-eight percent of them were African American children. Seventy-four percent of children in Franklin County are not ready for kindergarten. When the pandemic hit, it impacted our childcare system. We do not have enough workers, and we have yet to see the full manifestation of the educational deficit children will have as a result of the pandemic. They have high anxiety, and they are going to be three years behind. So, we see this as an ongoing investment.

Commissioner Boyce: Does that mean that we need to think about how we will fund this in the budget going forward?

Joy Bivens, Deputy County Administrator: Absolutely.

Commissioner Boyce: I appreciate your transparency. The only thing that I would ask is that we have a full-scale plan of what our investment will look like long-term. I am not focused on the money; I want to focus on having a plan and sticking to it regardless of the cost. The issue itself has greater implications across the board, so we need to see where it fits in the mosaic of what we are doing. I am definitely supportive of this, but we know that we currently have short-term funds that are one-time, and we have to be thinking about reconciling this two years from now, not knowing what the economy will look like and what our books will look like. I am mindful of that, but we also have to be committed to this issue. We are in, but we need to understand the implications for the bigger picture.

Kenneth N. Wilson, County Administrator: There is a lot of investment and there are several strategic steps that need to be taken to get to where we want to be. The statistics that Deputy Administrator Bivens quoted have gotten worse. This research will inform our efforts. The Board of Commissioners has been making the investments, but we need more actions to go with those investments. We think RISE will get us there, but we need action and we will definitely need to go beyond American Rescue Plan funds.

Commissioner Crawley: Prior to RISE, you had a commitment to our providers and helped them navigate the red tape to get the mandate in place and go after the funds that the state has provided. Now you have RISE, which has targeted investments. What are the data points? What are the outcomes that we want to see for our children? For example, how many kids are enrolled? We have targeted goals that we want to measure. We can also look at how all of our investments are working towards a holistic goal. When I look at our investments, it is not just RISE, but it is all of our other partnerships that have to continue, as well. We do not have investments for the sake of having investments. We meet often to

talk about what the numbers look like and what we want them to look like in five, ten, and fifteen years.

Joy Bivens, Deputy County Administrator: Alignment is really important when organizations approach the Board for funding. We need to make sure we are all aligned and having collective conversations.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0524-22, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0525-22, approving a COVID-19 Recovery Grant with the Columbus Urban League for the Building and Driving Futures Workforce Training Program (an increase of \$923,100) (\$3,173,100.00) (Job and Family Services), presented by Bart Logan, Deputy Director, Communications, Job and Family Services.

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

Leland Bass, Director of Apprenticeship Services/Building Futures, Driving Futures, Build Back Together, Columbus Urban League: Dr. Allen and Western Governors University (WGU) attended our all-women graduation, and they have learned a lot about the program and what it has done in the community. They wanted to be a partner, and we thank President Crawley for mitigating that partnership. We have been able to give our graduates laptops with built-in Wi-Fi, which provided them with the internet capabilities that many of them did not have. Our Building Futures cohorts have continuing education requirements for their apprenticeships, so those laptops have been particularly helpful for them.

Commissioner Crawley: WGU is an online university with undergraduate and graduate programs that has been focused on bridging the digital divide. Once Dr. Allen learned about the program, we had a conversation and brought in Mr. Bass. We attended a graduation and were blown away by the program. We are committed for the rest of this year and looking towards a partnership next year to ensure the equipment, laptops, and hotspots are available to bridge that digital divide. Thank you for your partnership, Mr. Bass.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0525-22, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0526-22, approving a COVID-19 Recovery Grant subaward agreement with Columbus Recreation and Parks for youth enrichment programming (\$57,533.12) (Job and Family Services), presented by Bart Logan, Deputy Director, Communications, Job and Family Services.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0526-22, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0527-22, approving a subaward agreement to launch a New Workforce Development Initiative-Franklin County Futures (\$734,430.00) (Job and Family Services), presented by Bart Logan, Deputy Director, Communications, Job and Family Services.

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

Leland Bass, Director of Apprenticeship Services/Building Futures, Driving Futures, Build Back Together, Columbus Urban League: We are excited about not only creating a pipeline of individuals who are interested in the positions that are open with the Board of Commissioners agencies, but also providing support for current employees to ensure we are addressing retention and providing employees with the training and skills they need to apply for higher positions and receive promotions within the county. I think this program has an opportunity to be a model that is followed by other county governments because I have not seen or heard of another program that provides these services to current employees while also recruiting for open positions. We are really excited about getting this started.

Kenneth N. Wilson, County Administrator: I would like to commend the county offices and staff for bringing this forward. A lot of times, the amount of work that goes into a Resolution like this is not appreciated. I do not think any county in the country has brought forward anything like this. I would like to thank all of the staff for the mercy they gave me as County Administrator. All hands were on deck. This is another example of how we serve every resident every day because it allows a program that creates internal equity within Franklin County, as an employer, by providing workforce readiness training to traditionally underserved and underrepresented residents. It walks in step with the Rise Together Blueprint. I am proud of the efforts of everyone involved, and I am looking forward to the program's success.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0527-22, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0528-22, authorizing an allocation from the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund for the support of various reentry programs (Justice Policy and Programs), presented by Ruchelle Pride, Director, Justice Policy and Programs.

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

Commissioner Crawley: Thank you, Director Pride, and your office, as well as County Administration and the Prosecuting Attorney's Office, for having the conversation about the Rapid Resource Center and having a third shift, especially at Jackson Pike. There have

been incidents at Jackson Pike, when people are released late at night or in the middle of the night, that have put their health, wellbeing, and safety in jeopardy. When we talk about “every resident, every day,” this is what it looks like. We make sure we meet the needs of our residents and make sure they are safe, no matter what that might look like. The Rapid Resource Center has been a valued addition to Jackson Pike, and one will also be in the new facility. It is important to have a third shift to ensure that as people leave, they have a home or a shelter to go to, clothes and jackets, and transportation. Thank you for moving forward on that conversation.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0528-22, seconded by Commissioner O’Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0529-22, authorizing a Novation Agreement with WEX Health, Inc. (Human Resources), presented by Jodi Leis, Assistant Director, Benefits and Wellness, Human Resources.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0529-22, seconded by Commissioner O’Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0530-22, approving purchases for various Franklin County agencies (\$1,190,399.38) (Purchasing), presented by Megan Perry-Balonier, Director, Purchasing, and Marleise Ryan, Economic Equity Administrator, Office of Diversity Equity and Inclusion.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0530-22, seconded by Commissioner O’Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0531-22, authorizing policies and procedures for the approval of temporary fiscal staffing (Board of Commissioners), presented by Zachary Talarek, Director, Office of Management and Budget.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0531-22, seconded by Commissioner O’Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

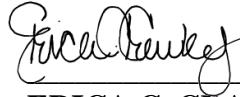
Resolution No. 0532-22, of the Franklin County Board of Commissioners to convene into Executive Session for the purpose of considering personnel matters, and to confer with the Franklin County Prosecutor's Office concerning pending or imminent litigation (Board of Commissioners).

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0532-22, to convene into Executive Session for the purpose of considering personnel matters, and to confer with the Franklin County Prosecutor's Office concerning pending or imminent litigation, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote, and the Commissioners convened into Executive Session at 10:26 A.M.

At 12:18 P.M., Commissioner Boyce moved to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady, which was unanimously approved by roll call vote. No substantive action was taken upon exiting Executive Session, and with no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:18 P.M.

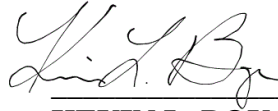
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These minutes are a general summary of the Commissioners' General Session meeting on Thursday, July 7, 2022.



ERICA C. CRAWLEY, PRESIDENT

JOHN O'GRADY



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

Submitted by:



Lauren M. Graessle

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