

# FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

## MINUTES OF GENERAL SESSION

September 24, 2019

The Franklin County Board of Commissioners convened in the Commissioners Hearing Room at 9:00 A.M. on Tuesday, September 24, 2019.

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

Also present on the dais were Nick Soulas, First Assistant, Prosecuting Attorney's Office; Kenneth N. Wilson, County Administrator; Zachary Talarek, Director, Office of Management and Budget; and, Dean M. Hindenlang, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners.

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

President Brown moved for the approval of the minutes of the June 18, 2019 General Session meeting. Commissioner Boyce requested a personal point of privilege before making the motion for approval.

Commissioner Boyce: I wanted to make sure that everyone knew that today is National Voter Registration Day. If you know of someone who is not registered to vote, I'd like to encourage you to help get them registered to vote by visiting the Franklin County Board of Elections. You can download the form, as it is a very easy process. I really just want to encourage the public as we have some important elections coming up. The deadline, I believe, for voter registration for the upcoming election is October 7, and so there is still some time. I want to encourage you to knock on your neighbors' door and call some relatives. If you have a college student who is far away and hasn't registered or doesn't have their absentee ballot, I want to encourage you to do that.

Commissioner Boyce: Madam President, one more point. I was on the NACo call yesterday where we are dealing with the issue of international postage for package delivery. There is an issue where the United States, along with many other countries, are negotiating the cost of international package delivery. If you send something to China or wherever, and the cost of the international shipping is still being negotiated, the concern is that there is a lag or no international mail service. What that means is that overseas ballots could be in jeopardy. It is so important to as quickly as we can, encourage folks to get their absentee ballot in, get it mailed and to get registered if they are not already. There is just a little bit of time, but those overseas ballots, someone serving in the military could be in jeopardy. I want to encourage you to do that, especially on National Voter Registration Day.

Commissioner Brown: I really appreciate you mentioning both of those items because every election really is important. We have said this so often, every year, elections matter. Those local elections are so critically important for your communities and school board elections, local city councils, township trustees – every election matters. People don't always notice when voter turnout is so low, but it makes a difference. When you vote in your local elections it makes a huge difference whose going to represent you and it matters when you get out and vote. It's not just in a presidential cycle; it matters every year. So, thank you for bringing it up.

Commissioner Boyce: And what doesn't matter is what party you're affiliated with. It's about the process. It's about your voice being counted.

Commissioner Brown: It's about voting. Absolutely.

Commissioner Boyce: Thank you for that personal point of privilege. And with that, I will move for approval of the minutes for June 18, 2019.

Approval of the minutes of June 18, 2019 General Session. Commissioner Boyce moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The minutes were approved by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0693-19**, establishing, altering and widening of Clark State Road at The Farms at Jefferson, Jefferson Township, Franklin County, Ohio, viewed – Engineer to file plans as necessary (Engineer), presented by Cornell Robertson, County Engineer, and Andrea Lossick, Planning & Programming Administrator, Engineer's Office.

Mr. Robertson: Commissioners, with me today is Andrea Lossick who was recently promoted to Planning & Programming Administrator, and it's my pleasure to introduce Andrea to you. Commissioners, this first resolution is for a road widening project in the northeast part of Franklin County in Jefferson Township, along Clark State Road, from Babbitt to Dixon Road. This is the second resolution in a series of two that will allow us to begin the design process.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0693-19, seconded by President Brown. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0694-19**, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., consulting engineers appointed to assist the Franklin County Engineer with updating the Franklin County Thoroughfare Plan, Franklin County, Ohio (\$37,027.00) (Engineer), presented by Ms. Lossick.

Ms. Lossick: In 2001, the County Commissioners adopted the 2020 Thoroughfare Plan and it is time to update that plan provision for the future. It will include all jurisdictions in Franklin County and multiple modes of transportation. We used a qualification-based selection process and recommend Jacobs Engineering to help with this effort.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0694-19, seconded by President Brown. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0695-19**, authorizing the Franklin County Engineer to enter into a contract modification with Crawford, Murphy & Tilly, Inc. for the Frank Road between Harrisburg Pike and Harmon Avenue project, Franklin County, Ohio, an increase of (\$40,647.00) for a revised contract amount of \$142,067.00 (Engineer), presented by Mr. Robertson.

Mr. Robertson: Commissioners, as stated, this resolution is for a design contract modification with Crawford, Murphy, & Tilly. This project is in the southwest part of Franklin County, in Franklin Township, along Frank Road from Harrisburg Pike, east to Harmon Avenue. We feel that there is a need to consider roundabouts at two intersections, which explains the reason for this design modification, and would recommend your approval.

Commissioner Boyce: I've got to tell you, I am not a fan of roundabouts.

Mr. Robertson: Is that right?

Commissioner Boyce: I am not. I am not. I don't get the hubbub about the roundabouts. I know the engineers probably do though, and that there is some logical traffic calming. I always feel like I am going to crash though. You're always coming around and you're supposed to keep going, but its traffic calming, I suppose.

Mr. Robertson: I am happy to help you with that notion and I can explain. That is in fact one of the reasons that roundabouts work so well, because they make us feel a little bit uneasy. When it comes to driving a vehicle, it is not a bad thing that we feel uneasy, because it heightens our awareness. It gets our senses ready to make a decision as to when it is safe to pull out into an intersection, as opposed to a conventional signalized intersection where a small device is making that decision for us. So, as I have learned more about roundabouts for example, when that traffic signal turns green, I look left and right before I pull out because it's that red light runner that you don't want to encounter at high speed.

Commissioner Boyce: Well, that is good information. I know that roundabouts are doing their job for me, because I think they are quite terrifying, so I am very alert.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0695-19, seconded by President Brown. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0696-19**, report (1st) of the Franklin County Engineer, establishing sums of compensation for a portion of the owners of property abutting the Reynoldsburg-New Albany Road at Clark State Road improvement, Franklin County, Ohio (\$300.00) (Engineer), presented by Mr. Robertson.

Mr. Robertson: Commissioners, this capital improvement project is in the northeast part of Franklin County, in Jefferson Township, again at the intersection of Reynoldsburg-New Albany Road at Clark State Road, where we have designed a roundabout. This is a first report for right-of-way acquisition. It includes one property and the offer is based on appraised fair market value.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0696-19, seconded by President Brown. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0697-19**, authorizing a contract with Franklin County Children Services for police protection at its office locations within Franklin County (\$1,375,000.00) (Sheriff), presented by Dave Masterson, Director of Administrative Services, Sheriff.

Mr. Masterson: Good morning, Commissioners. This resolution does approve a contract with Franklin County Children Services to allow the Sheriff's office to continue to provide police services at their various office locations. It's a one year contract running through July 31, 2020 and covers the services provided by nine deputy sheriffs. Pending any questions, I ask your approval.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0697-19, seconded by President Brown. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0698-19**, approving a contract extension for on-site case management services between the Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services and The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center (\$170,734.36) (Job and Family Services), presented by Vivian Turner, Assistant Director, Job & family Services.

Ms. Turner: Good morning, Commissioners. This resolution is for a purchase extension contract for two case managers that will be stationed at Wexner Medical Center to provide timely assistance in determining patient eligibility, primarily for Medicaid, but also for other agency programs. The on-site case managers are housed in the financial office inside the Wexner Center, but can remotely serve patients throughout the campus including the James Cancer Center, as well as those treated at the University Hospital East. This is the final one-year extension of this contract, which you first authorized in 2017. Under the terms of the extension, OSU will reimburse the agency for the actual full-time employees, the clerical support, as well as the cost of their supervisor. The total cost of the 12-month extension is not to exceed \$170,734.36. All other terms of the contract are unchanged. Pending any questions, I request your approval.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0698-19, seconded by President Brown. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0699-19**, authorizing a Professional Engineering Services Contract with Arcadis U.S. Inc. for General Engineering Services (\$198,900.00) (Sanitary Engineers), presented by Stephen Renner, Director, Sanitary Engineering.

Mr. Renner: Good morning, Commissioners. I am trying to go electronic and no paper, so bear with me a little bit here. The submittals for the qualifications for the RFQ were received on April 15. We did receive one firm that submitted in reply to the RFQ. The selection team reviewed, evaluated, and determined that Arcadis was the best firm to fit our needs. The general engineering services to be provided, but not limited to a capital improvement development implementation concept of a preliminary design of major capital works. The proposed services are to be funded, provided by the \$5 million provided by the Board of Commissioners and if there are no questions, I respectfully request approval of this contract with Arcadis.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0699-19, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0700-19**, authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding for the continuation of support for the Franklin County Municipal Court Specialized Dockets (\$340,000.00) (Justice Policy and Programs), presented by Michael Daniels, Director, Justice Policy and Programs.

Mr. Daniels: Good morning, Commissioners. This is the copy of the annual memorandum of understanding, supporting the five specialized dockets in the Municipal Court. The same amount of money is put in by the City of Columbus, as well as the court's finding funding in other places. The \$340,000 that we put in from the county support the services provided to folks charged under the Ohio Revised Code, not under the City of Columbus municipal code. If you'll remember, this resolution has come through the Office of Management & Budget, but it now makes sense to move it down to the office of Justice Policy and Programs, so we'll be administering it this year, and then you'll see it in our budget henceforth. Pending any questions, we'd ask for your approval.

Commissioner O'Grady: Michael, we have five specialty dockets now?

Mr. Daniels: We have five in the Municipal Court and one in the Common Pleas Court. There's CATCH court, that's a solicitation and human trafficking court and that's Judge Herbert; MAVS, the military veteran's court and that's Judge Barrows; there's a mental health court run by Judge Morehart; and, then there are two drug courts. One is an all-drugs court run by Judge Tyack and the other is an opiate court run by Judge Thomas.

Commissioner O'Grady: What is the Common Pleas court?

Mr. Daniels: That is Judge McIntosh, and that's a drug court called TIES.

Commissioner O'Grady: I knew the courts had expanded. The first one was Judge Barrows, and I knew that they were expanding so I wanted to be sure I kept up with them.

Mr. Daniels: We have five functional courts in the Municipal Court and the statistics for enrollment, recidivism, etc., are included in the supporting materials for the resolution.

President Brown: Are you keeping track of the accountability for how those courts are operating?

Mr. Daniels: Thanks for the question. With this resolution, we are reporting the data that has historically been reported out by the courts and that's the data that is required by the Supreme Court of Ohio. I think it shows only part of the picture of the functionality of the courts, however. Because, what it measures is the enrollment and then the graduation, and then it looks at a three year recidivism rate. I think, moving forward we'll be tracking other things. It's possible for someone to terminate the program successfully, but not graduate. They get a job, they no longer need it, and they don't finish out the entire two years and go through the ceremony. We are currently counting that as a failure and it shouldn't be. We're also looking at a recidivism rate, remembering that with these clients they cycle through the jail a lot. If you get arrested five times and spend two hundred days in jail this year, and then you get arrested once and spend a weekend next year, we consider that a major success, but if we're only measuring recidivism, it's a hundred percent failure. So, we're looking at how you measure some different metrics, as well as looking at one, two, or three years post-program. We are going to start looking at employment rates, average wages, rates of homelessness, what are the rates of reunification with children or catching up on child support; those kinds of societal impact measures. I've talked to Paige Allen over in the specialty docket and she and her team are excited that someone actually wants to know that data. We will be looking at that data moving forward from this contract.

President Brown: I am really happy to hear that.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0700-19, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0701-19**, authorizing two contracts to the City of Columbus for work release and electronic monitoring services through the FY 2020 Targeted Community Alternatives to Prison (TCAP) grant program (\$540,000.00)(Justice Policy and Programs), presented by Michael Daniels, Director, Justice Policy and Programs.

Mr. Daniels: Commissioners, these two contracts are both two-year contracts using Targeted Community Alternatives to Prison or TCAP dollars for fiscal years '20 and '21, from the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections. The first piece of this is the continuation of our work release program through the Municipal Court. This allows for folks to be out on unsupervised work release, continuing to contribute to their families and contribute to the community, without having to sit in jail. Again, these dollars are used

only for folks who are charged under the Ohio Revised Code, not the City of Columbus; they support that separately. New this year is our support of the electronic monitoring services. 90-plus percent of the clients on these electronic monitoring services are charged with domestic violence under the Ohio Revised Code. Currently, in order to protect victims, those folks are often kept in jail and don't necessarily need to be, so long as they're kept away from the victims. The program was originally designed so that they would pay \$10 a day for monitoring, and to indigent individuals. Unfortunately, demand has over-exceeded the capabilities of the system. We're monitoring at exactly the rate of approximately \$3.60 a day. Unlike the State of Ohio or the Common Pleas Court, the Municipal Court uses a GPS-tracking system. It's not just an RF-frequency. "Are you home?" or "are you not at home?" We can set both inclusion and exclusion zones for these individuals and be alerted if they leave the space they are supposed to be in, or enter a space they are not supposed to be in. So, we're excited to be able to do this with the Municipal Court this year. As I said, these are two year contracts and we are guaranteed the funding through two fiscal years.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0701-19, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0702-19**, approving purchases for various Franklin County agencies (\$965,338.05) (Purchasing), presented by Megan Perry-Balonier, Director, Purchasing and Marleise Wicker, Small and Emerging Business Coordinator.

Ms. Perry-Balonier: Good morning, Commissioners. This morning, our resolution is seeking approval for 99 purchase orders (POs) for which the County Auditor has pre-certified available funding.

Ms. Wicker: This week's small and emerging business vendors (SEBEs) include 17 eligible purchase orders, totaling approximately \$191,000. These purchase orders are for goods and services that have a greater prospect of participation by small and emerging businesses. Of these, 12 were awarded to small and emerging businesses, totaling \$174,743.35, which is 71 percent of the eligible PO volume and 91 percent of the eligible PO dollar value.

Ms. Perry-Balonier: Pending any questions we recommend approval of this resolution.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0702-19, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution unanimously was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0703-19**, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners to convene into Executive Session to confer with the Franklin County Prosecutor's Office concerning pending or imminent litigation (Board of Commissioners).

Commissioner Boyce moved to go into Executive Session to confer with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent

court action, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote and the Commissioners convened into Executive Session at 9:30 A.M.

At 10:59 A.M., Commissioner Boyce moved to come out of Executive Session, with Commissioner O'Grady seconding, which was unanimously approved. No action was taken upon exiting Executive Session, and with no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

**(Signature Page Follows)**




These minutes are a summary of the Commissioners' meeting of September 24, 2019.

  
Marilyn Brown  
**MARILYN BROWN, PRESIDENT**

  
**JOHN O'GRADY**

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

Submitted by:

  
Dean M. Hindenlang,  
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners