

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF GENERAL SESSION

October 3, 2023

The Franklin County Board of Commissioners convened in the Commissioners Hearing Room, at 9:00 A.M. on Tuesday, October 3, 2023.

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

Also present on the dais were Joy Bivens, Deputy County Administrator; Zachary Talarek, Director, Office of Management and Budget; Amy Hiers, Deputy Chief Counsel and Director of Litigation, Civil Division, Prosecuting Attorney's Office; and Brittany A. Razek, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners.

*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 Boyce called the meeting to order at 9:15 A.M.

Commissioner Boyce: Good morning, everyone. We are leading off this morning's meeting with recognition of Stormwater Awareness Week. Stormwater Awareness is all about protecting local streams and rivers and the water and wildlife within them. Today, we have Jennifer Fish, Director of the Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District, with us as well as Jim Ramsey, the Riparian and Environmental Engineer from the County Engineer's Office. Ms. Fish is going to tell us a little bit more about Stormwater Awareness and the actions that each of us can take to protect our local streams, rivers, and drinking water.

Jennifer Fish, Director, Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District: Stormwater Awareness Week is the entire first week of October, and we celebrate it across the state of Ohio. This week, we have all kinds of different activities, including pollinator gardens, storm drain art, and stream cleanups in different communities. Residents can also take an online pledge, and there are prizes associated with those. Stormwater is important for a lot of different reasons. All the rainwater that runs off our property and land picks up pollution and takes it directly to the stream; it is not treated. As we continue to develop, we put up more roofs, sidewalks, and roads, which cause the water to rush more quickly into the streams, which leads to erosion and flooding and impacts fishing and recreation opportunities. This week, I am asking everyone to think about actions they can take to slow down the water.

Ms. Fish (cont.): You can infiltrate stormwater into a rain garden or plant a tree to take up more stormwater. Native plants do a better job breaking up our clay soil and infiltrating stormwater, so you may consider planting more native plants on your property. We are also concerned about making sure all of the fall leaves do not make it into the storm drains and gutters because that will cause streets to flood. Please keep leaves on your lawn and either collect, compost or mow over them. If leaves make it into the storm sewers, they will decompose and create algae blooms. Too much of this will create problems in the streams, creating problems for wildlife and people. This winter, think about reducing the amount of salt you put on your driveway and sidewalks because that also affects our waterways.

James Ramsey, Riparian and Environmental Engineer, Engineer's Office: Thank you for your support of our stormwater program. The Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District is a very important partner to our program, but through the Drainage Engineer's Office, you allow us to coordinate with Franklin County entities such as Economic Development and Planning, Sanitary Engineers, and Public Health, as well as Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, the townships, and even the Village of Lockbourne. When we are dealing with stormwater, at this point, it is mostly non-point source pollution because there are all kinds of different things that affect it, from walking your dog and working on your car, to factories and businesses. It takes all of these partners working in concert to help solve this problem and reduce the impacts we have on the environment. Your support helps us do that, and we appreciate it.

Commissioner Boyce: Thank you. I know that there are some things that we could be doing better. We have rain gardens on some of our roofs and are trying our best, but I wonder what else we could be doing. This is something to think about as we execute our long-term capital plan. We will circle back around with you on that.

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**Resolution No. 0743-23**, authorizing a supplemental contract with Precision Industrial Services, Inc. to provide replacement carpet services for the Franklin County Clerk of Courts Auto Title division (\$72,362.64) (Clerk Of Courts), presented by Richard Simms, Director of Auto Title, Clerk of Courts.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0743-23, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0744-23**, authorizing an agreement with National Medical Services, Inc. d/b/a NMS Labs ("NMS Labs") for specialized testing services for the Coroner's office (\$45,000.00) (Coroner), presented by Amanda Alvarez Wright, Director of Operations, Coroner's Office.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0744-23, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0745-23**, authorizing an agreement between Ohio State University on behalf of its Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute (Coroner), presented by Patrick McLean, Chief of Staff, Coroner's Office.

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

*Commissioner Crawley explained that the nondisclosure agreement tries to protect intellectual property for the university. If there were to be any request for information or data, the nondisclosure agreement does not supersede that. Any public records request would still be legitimate and could still be responded to by the Coroner's Office or Ohio State. Mr. McLean confirmed that that was correct. Commissioner Crawley asked if this business relationship is similar to the Coroner's Office's relationship with the University before moving into the new Forensic Science Center. Mr. McLean agreed it is similar, but the technology has also come a long way since then. The discussion would be about the Ohio State University being able to do more for the Coroner's Office in the field of histology. Ms. Alvarez Wright added that having the capability to go digital is a component offered by this vendor that the current vendors do not offer.*

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0745-23, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0746-23**, authorizing the Franklin County Administrator to sign on behalf of the Coroner an Agreement with West Virginia University – School of Medicine, Biomedical Laboratory Diagnostics, and Pathologists' Assistant Programs Affiliation Agreement for Clinical Education (Coroner), presented by Amanda Alvarez Wright, Director of Operations, Coroner's Office.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0746-23, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0747-23**, ordering the County Engineer to prepare reports, plans, and schedules for the improvement of the Raduege-Snyder Ditch Watershed, Madison Township, Franklin

County, Ohio (Board of Commissioners), presented by Brad Foster, Chief Deputy Engineer of Operations, Engineer's Office.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0747-23, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0748-23**, CT Consultants, Inc., consulting engineers, appointed to assist the Franklin County Engineer by providing detailed engineering services for the Cleveland Avenue and Dunedin Road and Piedmont Road/Dunbar Drive Pedestrian Improvements project, Clinton Township, Franklin County, Ohio (\$56,140.00) (Engineer), presented by Brad Foster, Chief Deputy Engineer of Operations, Engineer's Office.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0748-23, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0749-23**, authorizing the County Administrator to accept the grant award from the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services (\$25,000.00) (Prosecuting Attorney), presented by Edward Leonard, First Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Administration, Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0749-23, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0750-23**, authorizing a contract agreement with Monark Management LLC to administer One Voice training services (\$45,000.00) (Office on Aging), presented by Chanda Wingo, Director, Office on Aging.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0750-23, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0751-23**, authorizing the acceptance of a gift from the estate of Margaret L. Blankenberg (\$5,000.00) (Animal Control), presented by Lionel Hamilton II, Fiscal Officer, Animal Control.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0751-23, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0752-23**, authorizing the acceptance of a gift from the Yvette M Gardner Trust (\$21,250.00) (Animal Control), presented by Lionel Hamilton II, Fiscal Officer, Animal Control.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0752-23, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0753-23**, authorizing contract modifications with Savana Sprague and Kevin Irby for peer support and case management services for residents served via SAFER Station through the Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program grant (Justice Policy and Programs), presented by Melissa Pierson, Chief Operating Officer, Justice Policy and Programs.

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

*Commissioner Crawley asked why this was submitted as one resolution, when the previous resolutions regarding these contracts were separate. Ms. Pierson stated that if the professional services contracts are funded through the same grant program, they have historically been put together when coming before the Board of Commissioners for extensions.*

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0753-23, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0754-23**, authorizing a professional service contract agreement with Faith Sharp for community health worker services for residents served via SAFER Station (\$37,000.00) (Justice Policy and Programs), presented by Melissa Pierson, Chief Operating Officer, Justice Policy and Programs.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0754-23, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0755-23**, authorizing a professional service contract agreement with Michelle Majors for peer support and case management services for residents served via SAFER Station. (\$37,000.00)(Justice Policy and Programs), presented by Melissa Pierson, Chief Operating Officer, Justice Policy and Programs.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0755-23, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0756-23**, authorizing a contract agreement with Driven Excavating LLC for the Kanawha Rosslyn Sanitary Sewer Project (\$7,828,189.00) (Sanitary Engineers), presented by Ryan Stowe, Assistant Director, Sanitary Engineers.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0756-23, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0757-23**, approving the updated Franklin County Board of Commissioners Purchasing Policy regarding the requirements for all purchases made under the authority of the Franklin County Board of Commissioners (Purchasing), presented by Megan Perry-Balonier, Director, Purchasing.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0757-23, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0758-23**, approving purchases for various Franklin County agencies (\$1,888,963.60) (Purchasing), presented by Megan Perry-Balonier, Director, Purchasing, and Tameca Bumper, Economic Equity Administrator, Office of Diversity Equity and Inclusion.

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

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0758-23, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0759-23**, authorizing receipt of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 Community Project Funding award from the U.S. Department of Labor (Board of Commissioners), presented by Lauren Rummel, Director, Government Affairs and Ethics, Board of Commissioners.

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

*Commissioner Crawley noted that the Board of Commissioners submitted the application for this award last year on behalf of the program. She stated that Building Futures is one of the County's flagship workforce development programs, and it has been highly recognized across the country by other counties, by the National Association of Counties (NACo), and by the White House. Commissioner Crawley emphasized that it is transformational to move people from being unemployed or underemployed directly into the middle class with a number of wraparound services. She noted that the Commissioners have invested more than \$12 million in the Building Futures, Driving Futures program. She would also like to see these types of awards and resolutions for the County's other workforce development programs. Ms. Rummel stated that there are a number of grant opportunities open, so she will work with County Administration and the agencies to explore those opportunities.*

Commissioner Crawley moved to approve Resolution 0759-23, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

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There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:57 A.M.

**(Signature Page Follows)**

These minutes are a general summary of the Commissioners' General Session meeting on Tuesday, October 3, 2023.



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**JOHN O'GRADY, PRESIDENT**



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**KEVIN L. BOYCE**

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**ERICA C. CRAWLEY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

Submitted by:



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Lauren M. Graessle

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