

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF GENERAL SESSION

December 19, 2017

The Franklin County Board of Commissioners convened in the Commissioners Hearing Room at 9:00 A.M. on Tuesday, December 19, 2017.

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

Also present on the dais were Harold Anderson, Business, Contracts and Zoning Director, 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 October 19, 2017 Administrative Session, November 14, 2017 General Session, and the minutes of the October 19, 2017 Briefing Session. Commissioner Boyce moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The minutes were unanimously approved by roll call vote.

PUBLIC HEARING

Resolution regarding the continuation of the one-quarter of one percent (0.25%) sales and use tax levied pursuant to Section 5739.021 and 5741.021 of the Ohio Revised Code for the benefit of Franklin County, Ohio.

President O'Grady: I have a few speaker slips already. If you intend to speak at this morning's public hearing, please fill out a speaker slip in the back of the room. Your comments should be limited to three minutes. We have a lot of business to get to this morning. When you hear the buzzer, please wrap up your comments. We will begin this morning with a brief message from our County Administrator.

Kenneth Wilson, County Administrator: Good morning Commissioners. I am respectfully recommending passage of this resolution. After extensive analysis, it has been determined that in order to secure fiscal sustainability and maintain sound management practices of Franklin County, it is necessary to continue the collection of the .25% sales and use tax after December 31, 2018. Sales tax of .25% is estimated to provide just over \$60,000,000. The continuation of the sales tax will be utilized, if approved;

- \$21 million to back fill the loss of Medicaid Managed Care revenue;

- \$15 million/year to continue additional investments in our Community Partnership Program, economic development initiatives, along with an enhanced investment in the County's Sanitary sewer system;
- \$12 million to cover debt service requirements on planned sales tax backed bonds to complete the consolidation of the County's Correction Centers into one facility on Fisher Road. This action will save an estimated \$50 million if we do not defer this project for several years;
- \$6 million/year to continue subsidies provided to our social service agencies; Homeland Security and Justice Program required from the loss of state and federal revenues; as well as a subsidy to Animal Care and Control;
- \$5 million/year for capital investments, which include addressing issues with the County's aging infrastructure, such as the replacement of elevators and other overdue capital improvement projects.

Franklin County is now the largest and fastest growing county in Ohio. With that growth comes increased responsibilities and challenges, such as addressing the higher rate of poverty through job opportunities that earn beyond a living wage and programs that impact social determinants of health and well-being. Implementing Smart Justice Initiatives, as well as addressing addiction, mental illness, recidivism and increasing affordability of housing, as rents continue to rise, while income is not keeping base with housing costs. In future years, it would not be prudent to allow an ongoing structural budget gap to persist and totally deplete cash reserves over time.

President O'Grady: I would like to open the public hearing. The first speaker slip I have is Harold D. Thomas, Franklin County Libertarian Party.

Mr. Thomas: Good morning Commissioners. We Libertarians pride ourselves on being the party of principle. Accordingly, it is on principle that I oppose this resolution. The Columbus Dispatch, in its editorial on November 26, 2017, wrote that the resolution breaks faith with the voters, reneging on a 2013 promise to sunset the five year tax. Just to be clear, I do feel that it is commendable that the Commissioners want to maintain fiscal responsibility and we understand there is a real need for the County's social services. Balancing the County budget is tough when the state and federal government reduce their funding without reducing their mandates. However, none of this negates that fact that taxes, all taxes, especially the sales tax, seize money that the poor need to feed and house their families and the rich could use to support local businesses and create jobs. The people of Franklin County have the inherent right, if not always the power, to review these taxes from time to time. More than 200 years ago, we fought a revolution on the principle that taxation without representation is tyranny. I hope that you would agree that any resentment that a young person would feel about not having a voice in passing this tax, would be more than justified by our founding principles. As I see it, the Commissioners have three options. First, you may redouble your efforts to root out what the Dispatch called "mission creep and bloat" in government operations. The best solution is to make this tax unnecessary. Secondly, you may put the sales tax on the ballot for a five year renewal. At least this way you will keep faith with the taxpayers by giving us an opportunity to decide how our money is to be spent. Thirdly, you can break faith, ignore principle, and make the tax permanent. All I ask is that you make a principled decision, not just for Franklin County government but for all of us.

President O'Grady: Thank you Mr. Thomas. The next speaker slip I have is Isi Green, Physicians Care Connection.

Ms. Green: Good morning Commissioners. I am here to express my appreciation for the financial support that this community provides to our most vulnerable residents, through your allocation of sales tax dollars and the community partnership grant to our organization. Using our unique model of patient-centered care coordination, PCC has achieved successful healthcare outcomes for high risk, hard to reach populations in Franklin County. Through a network of over 1,100 healthcare volunteers, primary care physicians, dentists, nurses and 13 participating hospitals, PCC acts as a connector between people who are vulnerable and medical services. You have all of our statistical data and numbers on over the 2,500 vulnerable patients we see annually. These numbers are important, but they there real people behind this data. In 2016, we had a Hispanic man show up at our free clinic. Our volunteer doctor diagnosed him with Stage 4 lung cancer. He did not have insurance. That night our nurse prayed for him. The next day she was able to schedule an appointment with an oncologist. Shortly after that he began chemotherapy treatments. At the beginning of this month, he returned to our clinic to let our nurse know his cancer was in remission and to thank her for her quick actions that got him into care, ultimately saving his life.

Access to dental care continues to be an unmet health care need in our community. Since 2012, we have served 1,841 people through our dental initiative. We provide extractions, cleanings, fillings and dentures. The value of this care totals over \$600,000. However, the true economic value of this care to this community is that we kept 1,841 people from seeking this care from the emergency room.

Last week one of our clients let us know that she lost her Medicaid coverage. Her husband began receiving early retirement benefits three months ago, taking their monthly income from \$1,700 to \$2,100. Her prescription medication costs without insurance is over \$2,000 a month. Our care coordinator was able to help her enroll in a plan through the Marketplace, with a monthly premium of \$34 a month. With this plan, she will only pay \$5 for her primary care visits and her medication is only \$5 for each prescription. These examples of care coordination continue to be our experience. It is very resource intensive, but very necessary and very cost effective. The health care landscape in our community is complicated. Coupled with the challenges associated with the social determinants of health, there are substantial numbers of our residents that will continue to need help when they are sick and coordination of care when they fall through the cracks. The funding that we receive through the Community Partnership is critical to providing these services. As you wrestle with financial decisions that will impact the future of the County, we want to help remind our community of the people behind the financial numbers. Your public financial support is a very practical benefit to our work. However, it is a vital partnership to over 1,000 volunteer health care providers and our private funding supporters. We strongly urge your consideration of maintaining the current sales tax to allow for the funding of this work. Thank you.

Commissioner Boyce: Thank you for coming and showing a real life example of how the decisions we have impact lives. What we are considering here, if we do not extend this current rate, there will be cuts. Your program will be cut because it will be across the board cuts. These dollars

specifically go to agencies like yours that help people. I wanted to make the point that the decisions we make impact the people you help. It is not all about numbers, but about people. If we do not extend the tax, these funds will go away immediately.

Ms. Green: Thank you. The Commissioners are welcome to come visit the free clinic any time. We are open Monday evenings at Columbus Public Health at 5:00pm.

Commissioner Brown: Having been there before, I know the critical work you do. The dental work that you discussed is for health as well as teeth. It affects one's overall health. Those community partnerships we talk about are more than partnerships. They are critical services in our community that affect people's lives every day.

Ms. Green. Usually the issues are very layered. We are happy to continue to provide these services because we know the value of this goes on longer than the short time we spend with them.

President O'Grady: Our next speaker is Michael Vinson.

Mr. Vinson: Good morning Commissioners. I am here to oppose the proposal to extend the sales tax for several reasons. For one, it is a jail expansion. You are proposing to expand the jail system from 2,300 beds to 2,800 beds. There is no evidence to support this expansion. There is no relationship between crime and incarceration. Also, you have not taken the necessary steps to decarcerate the jails, despite the alarming rates of pre-trial detainees in the jail. The pre-trial detainees are detaining someone before they have been convicted of a crime. This is a human rights abuse and a violation of international law. I am also opposed to the jail because you say you are taking steps to reform the jail and provide the necessary services, but you have not taken the necessary steps to ensure human rights abuses have not been committed. The UN Special Rapporteur on Torture is calling for a criminal investigation into the incident from 15 videos where Correctional Officers were torturing prisoners in the Franklin County Jail system. One was a pregnant woman who was tased while she was naked and then had a miscarriage as a result of that incident. Jail, like prison, is a direct vestige of slavery, where prisoners are subjected to the will of others. Prisoners are depending on others for basic human necessities. Prisoners are isolated from the general population, making the state anti-family and anti-community. Prisoners are coerced to work against their will and follow daily routines specified by their superiors. Jail is a disabling and traumatizing environment making it impossible for prisoners to receive quality health care. The Sheriff contracted with Naphcare, which the state of Alabama canceled their contract with Naphcare because there was an audit that stated that Naphcare was providing extremely dangerous and poor quality health care. You have prisoners that are dying in the Sheriff's custody. An individual was incarcerated for seven months and died of a fentanyl overdose. How did this fentanyl get into the jail? It had to be a Correctional Officer. The idea that you can receive quality treatment for drug dependency, there is no evidence to support that. I am opposing the proposal for the use the sales tax for the expansion of the jail system.

Commissioner Boyce: It is important to disagree on the new facility. In my opinion, this new facility will do the opposite. It is going to provide us the ability to provide for a greater menu of care to those that come into our system. That includes better mental health services, health care

services, and triage for other needs and is a critical part of the rehabilitation process. As a new Commissioner, I have been able to give a fresh review of what our current facilities are like and what we do not have the capacity to do. I think it is important for the public to understand is what this new facility does. It gives us a better opportunity to protect the public. When someone comes through our doors and provide them with the resources they need to be a successful citizen. All of the things that you identify, are areas that a new facility will allow us to be able to better manage. We are required by the Ohio Revised Code to provide this service to this community. For that, we have to do it to the best of our ability. Commissioner Brown has worked on recidivism for years, to ensure that when people do come into the jail, that they have a pathway to success in life. Franklin County is leading the way in providing services and resources for people to be successful. We are not perfect or get it right every time we have a new prisoner. We are working towards that end. That is worth this investment. I hope you work with us in this endeavor.

Commissioner Brown: I appreciate your comments. I disagree with you and wonder what would you have us do? We are mandated to provide this service. In that mandate, it does not lay out how to do a correctional center. Through extensive research and visiting other correctional centers around the country, we determined that this is the best way to do a new correctional center. When an individual gets out of the jail, they will have the ability to be successful. With respect and accountability, they will have the ability to get quality services that we can't provide in the current facilities. We are working hand and hand with the Sheriff's Office to provide this.

President O'Grady: Mr. Vinson, I appreciate your passion for this issue. We have had three public hearings and you have been at all of them. I appreciate the awareness you have brought to this issue

Mr. Vinson: I understand you have a state mandate to fund the law enforcement functions and courts. The majority of your budget is allocated to the Sheriff's Office. I feel that this is misguided public policy. I remember when our taxes used to fund things like education and public housing. Those taxes over the last generation have been diverted to law enforcement activities. We know that it has not solved any of the social problems. The father of gynecology performed his research on women that were incarcerated in Indiana. That resulted in sexual trauma for the women. That is the reason I am calling for an end for strip searches and body cavity searches. With the Pathways Program, you are claiming to be helping women, but you are traumatizing them during the intake process. You have an international mandate not to detain people who have not been convicted of a crime and not to use corporal punishment in order to torture prisoners. Thank you and I look forward to working with you so we can prevent jail expansion in Franklin County.

President O'Grady: Our next speaker is Jennifer Seifert, The Charitable Pharmacy of Central Ohio.

Ms. Seifert: Good morning Commissioners. I want to talk about how being a Franklin County community partner improves the lives of our most vulnerable neighbors. The mission of The Charitable Pharmacy of Central Ohio is to provide affordable medication and pharmacy services and coordinate health care for those most vulnerable in our community. I would imagine that many of you today have been to a pharmacy to pick up a medication and discover that the cost is much higher than you anticipated. The high costs of medications is a national problem. The Charitable

Pharmacy exists to make sure that our citizens living in poverty do not go without lifesaving medications. We provide medications at no charge to patients who live in poverty and our qualifications are that you are a Franklin County resident and under 200% of the federal poverty level.

Since opening in February of 2010, we have dispensed over 330,000 prescriptions worth \$27,000,000 in medication. Of that \$27,000,000, 95% of it is donated to The Charitable Pharmacy. We receive medications from long term care facility pharmacies, pharmaceutical manufacturers and from charitable dispensaries. We have a budget to purchase medications, so we spend about \$1,500,000 purchasing medications. That means that every dollar we receive through donations, we turn that into \$8 of medications for our patients. Not only do our patients receive medication, they receive much more. Every time a patient comes to the pharmacy, a pharmacist or advanced intern sits down with them and goes through their average of seven medications, counsels them on their medications, takes their blood pressure and glucose and communicates with their physician or nurse practitioner if we discover problems in their medication therapy. We have published data that demonstrates that The Charitable Pharmacy services produces a reduction of one hospitalization per patient per year once becoming a patient of The Charitable Pharmacy. With the demonstration of the increased quality of life and reduction of hospitalization of our patients, we are a model that has garnered attention from other counties and other states. I regularly receive phone calls and emails from around the county about them wanting to start a charitable pharmacy like we have in Franklin County because they have seen the published results and the impact it has produced in our community. Thank you for the support. We would not be able to have these mechanisms to produce this service without the support.

Commissioner Boyce: I want to emphasize that medication is lifesaving. This is another example of how these resources are used and touch someone's life. I could not imagine what a family would do without access to those resources for their children. These are people's lives that we are talking about. The decisions that we make as Commissioners are rooted in that basic premise.

President O'Grady: Our last speaker we have is Stephanie Hightower, The Columbus Urban League.

Ms. Hightower: Good morning Commissioners. I am here to speak in support of Resolution No. 890-17. For nearly 100 years, the Columbus Urban League have provided hope and inspiration for African Americans and those underserved in the urban core. Living in poverty is expensive. Being under and unemployed is expensive. Being homeless is expensive. Having the high rates of eviction in our community is expensive. Coming home as a restored citizen to our community without a job is expensive. Not having a 700 credit score and having to go to payday lenders is expensive. Not having access to affordable and appropriate healthcare is expensive. I believe that this tax will help close the economic disparity gap that exists in our urban and poor neighborhoods. Without it, we will continue to grow that gap. I support the work that you are doing in making sure that we can expand the sales tax for our urban community and for those that are living in poverty every single day. Without the help that you provide us, we would not be able to deal with a lot of the issues that continue to rise in our community on a day to day basis. When you look at the number of African American women who are single heads of households, who now are homeless,

are 3x the national rate in the country. Without having the sales tax to be able to provide the necessary funding for a lot of the work that we do to alleviate the stress that comes with that, we will be in trouble as a community. I commend your continued work as you help us deal with our issues of poverty and economic disparities. Thank you.

Commissioner Brown: Without the funding that we provide directly to the Urban League, what would you do? What would that impact be?

Ms. Hightower: We would not be able to provide after-school programming for young children. We will not be able to continue to have a workforce development program to help get people to work. We are not talking about getting people to work with minimum wage jobs. We are talking about technology training to put individuals in real jobs that become careers. Without those dollars that the sales tax would provide, we would not be able to implement a 700 credit score program. We would not be able to have our landlord-tenant counseling. Those are the kinds of things that will be directly impacted in our community. We will not be able to serve those returned citizens that are coming back into our community. We would not be able to have the My Brothers Keeper program for those young boys from 11-14 years old to keep them off the streets. We understand the importance of what the sales tax does. It is important for all of us to give back just a little bit. It is to help all of us long term.

Commissioner Boyce: Despite the challenges that we face, our Urban League has been selected to host the National Urban League Conference next year. Part of the selection is because of some of the innovative things we are doing here. While we have some challenges in our community, we are doing things to address those challenges.

President O'Grady: Ms. Hightower's predecessor is in the audience, Samuel Gresham.

Ms. Hightower: Mr. Gresham made sure that the Urban League is where it is today. Commissioner Boyce, we will have a national platform to talk about the economic disparities that are directly impacting the African American neighborhoods and urban core. We will also have the opportunity to talk about the work that is going on in Columbus, OH to talk about the support that the Commissioners give us to allow us to be innovative.

President O'Grady: I will now close the public hearing. We heard a lot of speakers this morning. Some for and against the continuation of the tax. I have been a proponent of expanding this sales tax all along. For those who have come in opposition of the tax, by stating that we are going back on a commitment that was made five years ago, I do not take it lightly. We did not have a crystal ball back then. We did not know that when we entered into this commitment, that our partners in the federal and state government were going to break their commitments to us. We expanded the sales tax in 2013 because of the cuts to the local government fund. A commitment that the state had made to local governments for over 80 years. We were cut by the governor by huge sums of money. The state of Ohio made itself whole, but made all other local governments make up the cuts. I do not take going back on a commitment lightly, but sometimes you are forced to by your partners. Somebody has to make a hard choice. When the federal and state do not make hard choices, someone has to.

Commissioner Brown: I think it is interesting that when we did the original action back in 2013, nobody questioned our ability, as a Board of Commissioners, to do what we did. I have been struggling with what we need to do. I see that if we do not take this action, we will be hurting all of our community partners' work, which extends our work in the community in an essential way. We have not increased our general fund budget by much.

Commissioner Boyce: I want to thank all the speakers that attended any of the public hearings we had. There are more people that understand and support this action. The current tax rate is at 1.25%. That is what Franklin County, as an institution, receives. That rate, as it relates to the other 87 counties, there would be 48 counties with higher rates than Franklin County. There is a reference that we have the second highest rate, but that includes a portion of the sales tax that goes to COTA. We do not see that at Franklin County. The other part of the sales tax goes to the state of Ohio at 5.75%. When you think about why we are taking this action to continue the current tax rate, we are put in a difficult position by Ohio to have to make this decision. Making this decision was not easy. It comes down to having a structural imbalance. Do we more going out, than you have coming in? If we do not continue this, it means that we will have less coming in than going out, which means we will make cuts. We gave \$300,000 to PCC and \$65,000 to The Charitable Pharmacy of Central Ohio. What we are doing is continuing the current rate. While we are not at the capacity that the Ohio Revised Code allows us to get to, we always have the option of rolling it back. One of the things that rating agencies look at, when they are considering your ratings, they look at your tax capacity and your willingness to use it. If we tap into our reserve fund, there will be a material consideration on our rating, which could result in higher interest rates. It will cost us more money to borrow. The prudent decision, in my opinion, is to continue the current rate and review it as we go.

President O'Grady: We are in the top one percent of the best managed counties of the 3,069 counties in the United States. We are the envy of almost every county because of the way we are financially managed. We are a double AAA bond rated. We do not do this lightly. We are doing what we believe is in the best interest of this county.

Seeing no more speakers, I will now close the Public Hearing.

Resolution No. 890-17, resolution regarding the continuation of the one-quarter of one percent (0.25%) sales and use tax levied pursuant to Section 5739.021 and 5741.021 of the Ohio Revised Code for the benefit of Franklin County, Ohio (Board of Commissioners), presented by Kris Long, Deputy Administrator.

Ms. Long: Commissioners, I would only add that the Ohio Revised Code requires two public hearings. This Board has conducted three public hearings; one in the evening in the community. All of the meetings have been properly noticed. I will defer to Mr. Wilson for any further comments.

Mr. Wilson: I have no additional comments, other than to reiterate that I believe that this is a sound plan that has been put together over a significant amount of time. As

Commissioner Boyce stated, there is a commitment to financial planning in this county. We will continue to monitor the state of the County finances through our fiscal forecast and recommend the appropriate actions along the way. Today is not an ending. It is a continuation of sound financial planning. I recommend favorable action on this resolution.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 890-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 898-17, resolution approving a subaward agreement with Partners Achieving Community Transformation dba PACT for health sciences educational programming and Parent University instruction (Job and Family Services) (\$149,293.98), presented by Joy Bivens, Director, Job and Family Services.

Tei Street, Education Director, PACT: Good morning Commissioners. I wanted to thank the Commissioners for funding the Health Sciences Academy for the past two years. Your contributions and support has made it robust. The research tells us that low income kids and kids of color are kinesthetic learners by nature and they learn when they do. If you look across the state of Ohio, you will see the lowest scores are not in reading and math. It is in science. A part of that has to do with the fact that so much of our science comes out of textbooks and not of learning. In low income schools, they do not have the labs that you may see in the suburban schools. Your funding has made possible some of the opportunities that the kids in the seven Health Science Academies have enjoyed. We appreciate your funding in the past and we are hoping that you continue to fund us this year. I like to show you what you fund. The bottom line is results and everything else is rhetoric. When you look at the graduation increase at Champion Middle School, you will see that we know what works. The question is, do we have the will to fund and to do what we know works. We thank you for having the courage to fund what works and advancing our young people.

The Health Sciences Academy are comprised of seven schools on the near east side: East High School, Champion Middle School, Eastgate, East Columbus, Beatty Park, Ohio Avenue, and Trevitt Elementary School. The young people from Champion Middle School are going to do a demonstration for you today. Their Principal will introduce the students.

Stephanie Bland, Principal, Champion Middle School: Good morning Commissioners. Number one, I want to thank you for giving our students, who are 100%, our future, this opportunity. They are going to demonstrate what has been going on at Champion Middle School and the other schools. We have worked on this for the last four years. This will be my second graduating class and I am very proud of them.

(students' presentation)

Ms. Street: We are talking about smoking cessation. This is a great example for our young people to prevent smoking. They have their gloves on because this is a pig's lung and it has chemicals on it. We are now sharing it with the other six schools of the Health Sciences

Academy. Your funding helped make that possible because that is something our budgets could not afford. Our young people are excited. You prepare the future by preparing them now and recognizing that they are not just our future, but our present. I think you get a good bang for your buck. You support almost 2,000 kids with the money you provide us. We ask for your continued support for these young people and the other young people coming behind them.

We have a partnership with the Ohio State University Veterinarians Medicine School. When they found out that we had to purchase that lung, they let us know that they could get us parts of animals. This is a way to save us money in the future. We have amazing kids in this feeder program. I love to look at our grade card for Champion Middle School because almost seven years ago the US News and World Report listed Champion Middle School as one of the lowest performing schools in the State of Ohio. Today, when you look at their reading scores, they are on par in terms of growth in reading and math with schools in suburban schools. There are a lot of gems in these districts to see what progress looks like. We did not get in this academic situation overnight and we are not going to get out of it overnight. This year, the kids at Champion Middle School had 3.7 years of growth in math in one school year in seventh grade. We have seven great principals at our schools. We have a partnership that is working.

(group picture)

Ms. Bivens: Good morning Commissioners. PACT is a collaborative partnership between the Ohio State University, Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority, City of Columbus and stakeholders who are taking a holistic approach to the community on the near east side. Improving education outcomes is a key component of this initiative. This resolution would help fund health science programming and co-curriculum experiences developed and offered with COSI for an estimated 2,300 students, elementary through high school, across seven near east side schools. It will also fund a second year of the Parent University series, which is designed to give parents and caregivers with the resources to become better educational partners and advocates for their children. Many times, we have students in school, a school's success is at a higher level when parents are engaged. Parent University is one of those models that is working.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 898-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 891-17, resolution authorizing a contract between Alvis, Incorporated and the Franklin County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the Franklin County Common Pleas Court, for a Medically Assisted Treatment Program (Court of Common Pleas) (\$1,084,035), presented by Susan Bedsole, Deputy Court Director, Court of Common Pleas.

Ms. Bedsole: Good morning Commissioners. This resolution is for an agreement with Alvis Incorporated to provide necessary programming and staff to implement our

medication assisted treatment program. Alvis provides this specialized programming for approximately 150 program participants who have an opioid addiction. They do subcontract with Ohio State University's Talbot Hall that provides the actual management of the administration of the medication.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 891-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 892-17, resolution authorizing a contract extension with Redwood Toxicology Laboratory, Inc. to provide drug testing (Court of Common Pleas) (\$135,000), presented by Ms. Bedsole.

Ms. Bedsole: This resolution is our fourth and final extension of this contract with Redwood Toxicology. We send over 20,000 substance tests out each year. We will be rebidding it in 2018. The contract terms and the pricing remain the same as the previous extensions.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 892-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 893-17, resolution approving ten contracts for mediation services (Auditor) (\$100,000), presented by Alande Orelie, Director of Real Estate Division, Auditor Office.

Mr. Orelie: Good morning Commissioners. This mediation program has been implemented since 2013 to provide support for the Board of Revision in order to resolve quickly and efficiently evaluation cases for the benefit of our taxpayers. The Purchasing Department oversaw the competitive qualifications process and made sure that our ten finalists met all the criteria set forth. The highlights of the expenditure are: the mediators will assist the Board of Revisions by mediating the cases assigned to them; they will draft the stipulation document for the taxpayer's signature; and make sure that the document is returned to the mediation department for the Board of Revisions' final review.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 893-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 894-17, resolution authorizing the acceptance of an Ohio Attorney General Law Enforcement Diversion Program Grant for the Franklin County Heroin Overdose Prevention & Education (HOPE) Task Force (Sheriff) (\$109,375), presented by Dave Masterson, Director of Administrative Services, Sheriff's Office.

Mr. Masterson: Good morning Commissioners. Passage of this resolution approves the acceptance of a grant from the Ohio Attorney General to augment the duties of our HOPE

Task Force through June 30, 2019. The activities will include investigation hours aimed at locating the source supplier on overdose cases and outreach based activities for overdosed victims to link them to support services for recovery.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 894-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 895-17, resolution authorizing a transfer of appropriations and a purchase order for the return of prisoners (Sheriff), presented by Mr. Masterson.

Mr. Masterson: Commissioners, this resolution authorizes the transfer of appropriations and the approval of a purchase order to cover the expenses incurred in the pursuit and transportation of prisoners. These appropriations cover the expenses of transporting 45 prisoners during October. The itemized monthly reports have been submitted and approved by the Sheriff.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 895-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 896-17, resolution authorizing a contract with US Bank for Banking Services (Treasurer) (\$299,580), presented by Julie Grimes, Director of Financial Operations, Treasurer Office and Samuel Gresham, Chief of Staff, Treasurer Office.

Ms. Grimes: Good morning Commissioners. We are here to present the Request for Proposal results for our banking service contract. We publicly advertised, as we are required by the Ohio Revised Code, and we received five proposals for our banking services contract, none of which were small and emerging businesses. Based on our evaluation team, US Bank was the lowest and best bidder for the services that we are requiring. This contract is for a term of three years, beginning January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2020. This contract will also provide for two one-year renewals.

Mr. Gresham: Thank you for acknowledging my twenty years of experience at the Columbus Urban League. What you need to know is that in 2018 the Columbus Urban League will be 100 years old. The first National Urban League Conference was held at our public library on November 24, 1918.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 896-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 897-17, resolution approving a contract for on-site case management services between the Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services and OhioHealth (Job and Family Services) (\$69,135.37), presented by Ms. Bivens.

Ms. Bivens: Good morning Commissioners. This resolution is for a contract to provide an onsite case manager at Grant Medical Center for eight hours a day, five days a week to provide timely assistance in determining patient eligibility. Primarily for Medicaid, however they will determine eligibility for all of our other benefits as well.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 897-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 899-17, resolution approving a contract agreement with Franklin County Probate Court for Adult Protective Services guardianship services (Job and Family Services) (\$150,000), presented by Ms. Bivens.

Ms. Bivens: Commissioners, as you know, the Title XX service program is intended to enable residents to improve self-sufficiency, support independent living and strengthen family lives. Our agency is responsible for administering the Title XX Block Grant Funds locally. This includes working with the Probate Court and the Public Guardianship Board to fund an oversight and other protective services for elder adults, approving prior court appointed guardians and social workers. The Board serves adults' age sixty and up who are referred to the court for adult protective services by the Franklin County Office on Aging, as a result of abuse, neglect and exploitation. The court appointed social workers will provide direct assistance or make arrangements when necessary to ensure approximately 75-100 adult protective service referred seniors receive the necessary services that they need.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 899-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 900-17, resolution approving a subaward agreement with Future Ready Columbus for their Early Warning Indicator Information System, providing intervention training and support to community agencies (Job and Family Services) (\$1,138,443.11), presented by Ms. Bivens.

Ms. Bivens: For the past several years, our agency has partnered with Future Ready Columbus to obtain student data from their Cee-Hive and Learning Circles tools available to community agencies. Cee-Hive tracks data for children in early learning settings to support kindergarten readiness. By monitoring children's strengths and areas of improvement, Cee-Hive helps track performance measurements effectiveness of early learning programs. It also helps identify some opportunities to align with promising practices or develop continuous improvement strategies for early learning programs.

Learning Circles is an early learning indicator and intervention system that monitors attendance, behaviors and core academics data for K-12 students. The Learning Circles dashboard allows users to analyze early warning indicators at the student's classroom level

and district level. It is also available for many of our after-school and summer youth program providers. This data is accessible at the click of a button allowing our partners to identify at risk youth that are in need of intervention and monitor effectiveness of classroom strategies.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 900-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 901-17, resolution approving a subaward agreement with Tech Corps Ohio for youth computer science workforce development program (Job and Family Services) (\$229,289.18), presented by Ms. Bivens.

Ms. Bivens: Commissioners, Computing Career Corps is a 15-week program designed for high school students to increase a participant's knowledge and skills in the computer science field. The program introduces students to a variety of technology career pathways, including programming, software engineering, robotics and app development. The students earn badges for mastering different skills, equipping them with the tools to compete in the 21st century technology based economy and making them more attractive to college admission counselors and potential employers. These are good paying, in demand fields that students might not otherwise be exposed to. Over the years 2016-2017, 70% of the participants met the program completion requirements with plans to enter college or pursue other STEM career paths.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 901-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 902-17, resolution authorizing Fleet Management to begin the process of purchasing a new in car video system (Fleet Management), presented by Charlotte Ashcraft, Director, Fleet Management.

Ms. Ashcraft: Good morning. This resolution is requesting authorization to begin the process to replace our in car video system for all of our patrol cruisers. Our current system is outdated and no longer supported. We purchased that system in late 2006, and it is beginning to fail with no repair parts available. Fleet has used all available pieces and parts and have exhausted all avenues to get more. The Sheriff's Office conducted research and selected Watch Guard, which is on the GSA contract. Fleet wishes to begin the transition process now, in order to take advantage of a discount of \$31,900. A purchase order will be opened in the ensuing fiscal year.

President O'Grady: Ms. Ashcraft, did we have any issue with our IT, when the City of Columbus went down?

Ms. Ashcraft: Not that I am aware of.

President O'Grady: I know the City of Columbus had some IT problems this weekend.

Mr. Wilson: President O'Grady, I am not aware of any County instances being impacted by the City of Columbus.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 902-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 903-17, resolution authorizing disposition of personal property, including motor vehicles and equipment, that are no longer needed for public use, are obsolete, or are unfit for the use it was acquired, and authorizing the Director of Fleet Management to dispose of said items by transferring title to other governmental agencies in Ohio, by internet auction, or selling as salvage (Fleet Management), presented by Ms. Ashcraft.

Ms. Ashcraft: This resolution is to dispose of twelve vehicles and one piece of obsolete equipment. We have several other counties asking for donations. Smaller counties have limited resources to replace vehicles. Our patrol cruisers operate 24/7 and our mileage accumulation are much higher than theirs. Donating a cruiser to another agency saves on the cost of removing the decals and the equipment and helps the other counties. Some of the other counties have lost vehicles due to accidents and are looking for assistance to get a vehicle back on the road. After the donations are decided, we will post the remainder to govdeals.com and those that are totaled will be disposed of appropriately.

Commissioner Brown: This has always been a good program for the smaller counties.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 903-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 904-17, resolution authorizing the increase in the countywide rate structure for water and sewer services (Sanitary Engineers), presented by Stephen Renner, Director, Sanitary Engineers.

Mr. Renner: Good morning Commissioners. Our water rates and sewer rates are driven by three main drivers: the water and sewer rates from the City of Columbus because we are a master meter community; increases in operational maintenance costs; and regulatory pressures to upgrade our aging facilities. The City of Columbus Public Utilities plan to increase their water and sewer rates by 1% and 2% respectively. Therefore, we are also recommending to do the same increase.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 904-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 905-17, resolution authorizing a contract agreement with Peterson Construction Company for the Timberlake Water Treatment Plant Upgrades Project (Sanitary Engineers) (\$857,000), presented by Ryan Stowe, Project Engineer, Sanitary Engineer.

Mr. Stowe: Good morning Commissioners. Sanitary Engineers is requesting approval of a construction contract with Peterson Construction Company for the Timberlake Water Treatment Plant Upgrades Project. The County's Timberlake Water Treatment Plant provides drinking water to Timberlake Subdivision and Village of Harrisburg. The treatment plant was designed to be constructed in two phases. The first phase, which only included minimal treatment processes needed to produce drinking water, was completed in June 2011. The second phase, which is this project, includes installation of the skid mount and infiltration system that will produce softened water for the residents, a pre-engineered building for chemical storage and improvements to the existing electrical and interior of the existing building. Peterson Construction Company was determined to be the lowest and best bidder. The total of \$857,000 will be paid from the Sanitary Engineering's general fund. Construction is expected to be completed in late 2018.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 905-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 906-17, resolution authorizing a subordination agreement with Edmund Coleman to allow for a second mortgage on his property at 2208 Mifflin Blvd, Columbus, Franklin County, Ohio 43219 (Economic Development and Planning), presented by Jamie Edwards, Business Service Officer, Economic Development and Planning.

Ms. Edwards: Edmund Coleman received a water quality grant for \$2,125.00 in November 2007. He is requesting a subordination to receive a second mortgage with Home Loan Investment Bank. This second mortgage would be for renovation to Mr. Coleman's property. This investment will increase his property value which also benefits the community. The taxes are paid and current, pending any questions I request your approval.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 906-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 907-17, resolution authorizing a subordination agreement with Edmund Coleman to allow for a second mortgage on his property at 2208 Mifflin Blvd, Columbus, Franklin County, Ohio 43219 (Economic Development and Planning), presented by Ms. Edwards.

Ms. Edwards: Edmund Coleman received a second water quality grant for \$4,658.50 in August 2017. He is requesting a subordination to receive a second mortgage with Home Loan Investment Bank. This second mortgage would be for renovation to Mr. Coleman's

property. This investment will increase his property value which also benefits the community. The taxes are paid and current, pending any questions I request your approval.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 907-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 908-17, resolution authorizing the extension and modification of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (MetLife) contract to provide a voluntary short and long term disability program to members of the Franklin County Cooperative Health Improvement Program (Human Resources), presented by Jodi Leis, Assistant Director, Human Resources.

Ms. Leis: Good morning Commissioners. This resolution approves an extension with modifications of the existing contract with MetLife. MetLife provides a voluntary long and short term disability program for the Franklin County Cooperative. All benefit eligible members within the cooperative have the opportunity to purchase this coverage. This extension is for 36 months. It begins January 1, 2018 and goes through December 31, 2020. The short term disability rates are being held at the current rates for the entire length of the extension. The long term disability rates will be held for the first two years of the extension with a 20% increase for the third year.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 908-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 909-17, resolution authorizing a contract extension with modifications with The Staywell Company, LLC (Staywell) to provide wellness services for members of the Franklin County Cooperative Health Improvement Program (Human Resources) (\$450,000), presented by Ms. Leis.

Ms. Leis: This resolution extends and modifies the contract with Staywell Company. Staywell provides the virtual or online presence for our ThriveOn Wellness programming. This extension is for 12 months. It begins January 1, 2018 and ends December 31, 2018. The modifications to the contract include third party access to Staywell's compass system, which will support our 2018 ThriveOn Wellness programming, as well as adjustments to communications, data management, and health coaching participation. As a result of the modifications, we were able to decrease the cost of this contract by \$50,000. The total cost of 2018 contract extension will be about \$450,000.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 909-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 910-17, resolution authorizing a contract extension with modifications with Rite Bite, Inc. d/b/a Alyfe Wellbeing Strategies (Alyfe) to provide wellness services for members of

the Franklin County Cooperative Health Improvement Program (Human Resources) (\$450,000), presented by Ms. Leis.

Ms. Leis: This is another extension with modifications with Rite Bite. Rite Bite provides the boots on the ground services that support our wellness programming. This extension is for 12 months, beginning January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018. The modifications include support staff for our 2018 programming and includes price increases for flu shots, health screenings, wellness challenges, and certain administrative fees. The total cost of this contract extension is \$450,000.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 910-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 911-17, resolution authorizing a contract with Sun Life Financial (Sun Life) for excess risk (stop loss) insurance coverage for the Franklin County Cooperative Health Improvement Programs medical and pharmacy claims (Human Resources) (\$1,020,000), presented by Ms. Leis.

Ms. Leis: This resolution approves an agreement with Sun Life Financial for excess risk insurance, as well as authorizing the County Administrator to sign all of the documentation to effectuate this agreement. Stop loss insurance transfers risk over for medical and pharmacy claims in excess of \$1,000,000 for any individual and any one given plan year to the stop loss carrier. It caps the risk that the cooperative assumes. CBIZ assists us annually in procuring stop loss coverage and proposals for such. After a strong consideration of the proposals that were received, and after negotiations with our incumbent carrier, it was determined that the Sun Life proposal provides the best desired coverage at the lowest cost.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 911-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 912-17, resolution authorizing a contract extension with Sedgwick Claims Management Services, Inc. for Third Party Workers Compensation Administration Services for Franklin County (Human Resources) (\$352,400), presented by Jerry Bower, Risk Manager, Human Resources.

Mr. Bower: Good morning Commissioners. This contract was originally bid through Purchasing, resulting in the Board of Commissioners Resolution No. 0901-14. The Department of Human Resources recommends the passage of a one extension for the addition of two years. This was allowed in the bid process.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 912-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 913-17, resolution reappointing Laquore Meadows and Cathann Kress to the Columbus & Franklin County Local Food Board (Board of Commissioners), presented by Erik Janas, Deputy Administrator.

Mr. Janas: Pending any questions, I request your approval for these appointments.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 913-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 914-17, resolution reconciling 2017 appropriations to align with projected ending revenues in the amended certificate of estimated resources (Board of Commissioners), presented by Zak Talarek, Director, Office of Management and Budget.

Mr. Talarek: Good morning Commissioners. This resolution is our annual review of fund balances to ensure that appropriations do not exceed actual resources at the end of the year. This year there are reductions within fourteen funds, totaling \$14.9 million, primarily related to grant dollars that would be realized in a later year. There are also adjustments for three supplemental appropriations across funds to reconcile for obligations through the year, as well as two other transfers to meet payroll obligations.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 914-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 915-17, resolution authorizing a General Fund supplemental appropriation to record the administrative fee charged by the State Tax Commissioner for the collection of the County's sales tax (Board of Commissioners), presented by Mr. Talarek.

Mr. Talarek: Commissioners, this resolution authorizes an appropriation of \$3,051,324 for the amounts withheld from the State Tax Commissioner for collection of the piggyback sales tax. Also, there are some offsetting revenue for that expense that is required to be recorded per guidelines by the Auditor of the State. This resolution also updates the sales tax revenue of the year for reduction of \$4.7 million as a result of sales tax collection coming in at 1.5% below estimate.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 915-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 916-17, resolution authorizing the classification of fund balance within the General Fund for the Economic Stabilization Reserve and transfers for other reserve and capital funds (Board of Commissioners), presented by Mr. Talarek.

Mr. Talarek: This is the annual year end transfer resolution. In addition to the \$7,500,000 added to the rainy day fund to bring the balance to \$45,000,000, other transfers include:

- \$6.4 million to the permanent improvement fund. \$5 million of that will cover the build out cost for the two new judgeships that were recently approved by the General Assembly for the Domestic Court;
- \$1.8 million to the Fleet capital fund for the purchase of vehicles for next year;
- \$1.4 million to Child Support Enforcement as an advancement on their 2018 subsidy to be able to begin operations the first quarter of the year;
- \$1 million to the 27th pay reserve fund. The next 27th pay is scheduled for 2020;
- \$1 million into a new Board of Election voting machine fund to begin the process of setting aside funds for purchase and replacement of voting machines;
- \$654,000 to Job and Family Services for public assistance fund; and
- \$7 million from the Medicaid sales tax transition fund to the public safety center fund to make an advance to make a contribution of 2018.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 916-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 917-17, resolution authorizing the annual appropriation measure for Fiscal Year 2018 (Board of Commissioners).

President O'Grady: I wanted to reflect on some of the accomplishments this year. I want to first acknowledge the staff of the Board of Commissioners and all Commissioner agencies for all of the hard work you have done. Nothing would happen around here, if not for all of the work that you do. The residents of Franklin County rely on you. I want to thank my colleagues. These individuals are passionate about their work.

This has been a pretty challenging year. We had some uncertain times. Had a lot of cuts from the federal and state government. The demand for services rose, but this team kept rising to the challenge. We continue to work every day to service the constituents regardless of what the state and federal government seems to be up to. We created the New Americans Advisory Council. We helped pass the Senior Option levy. We renewed commitments to protecting the environment. We called out our state and federal colleagues when we thought they were not doing the right thing, like protecting healthcare, DACA and gun control.

This year I am proud that we helped lead the fight against drug overdoses with the creation of the Franklin County Opioid Action Plan. We have broken ground on the new Corrections Center. We hosted the most successful National Association of Counties (NACo) Conference this year. Thanks again to my colleagues and the staff of the Board of Commissioners. I am excited for 2018. Franklin County is a fantastic place. We learned more about ourselves when we hosted the NACo conference. This is a time to reflect on the things we did.

Commissioner Brown: I want to thank all of our teams of employees and the residents of the County. I want to acknowledge that we created our Justice Policy team. They are doing the work that is critically important as we look at our residents that are in jail and coming out. I am proud that we were able to do that this year. I did a lot of this work out of my office previously, but I am glad it is now its own department.

Commissioner Boyce: Thank you for my colleagues. It has been great working with you and learning from you. This is the best job I have ever had. Franklin County is a great run organization, with good people. It reflects what Central Ohio is about. I want to thank the Administration that helped me in my transition. I want to thank my office staff that do everything I ask and more. To all of the employees of Franklin County, this is a tremendous institution. I hope that you take time over the holidays to enjoy your family and take a moment to yourself.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 917-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 918-17, resolution of the Franklin County Board of Commissioners to convene into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing pending or imminent court action (Board of Commissioners).

Commissioner Boyce: Move to convene 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.

Commissioner Brown: Second.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 918-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

The Commissioners convened into Executive Session at 11:04 A.M. With no deliberative action taken, Commissioner Boyce moved to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Commissioners came out of Executive Session at 12:47 P.M. There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:47 P.M.

(Signature Page Follows)

These minutes are a summary of the Commissioners' meeting of December 19, 2017.



JOHN O'GRADY, PRESIDENT



MARILYN BROWN



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

Submitted by:



Antwan Booker, Clerk