

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF GENERAL SESSION

February 14, 2017

The Franklin County Board of Commissioners convened in the Commissioners Hearing Room at 9:00 A.M. on Tuesday, February 14, 2017.

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

Also present on the dais were Harold Anderson, Director, Business, Contracts and Zoning Unit, 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.

President O'Grady: We have some guests this morning. Columbus City Schools began a program called "Ohio Days." We have with us this morning Annette Morud, Sr. Executive Director of Business Operations and Joe Brown, Food Service Director. If you want to come up and talk about the program we would love to present you with a resolution and get a picture with you afterwards.

Mr. Brown: Thank you. On behalf of Columbus City Schools, the Board of Education and Dr. Dan Good thank you for this resolution. Ohio Days is an opportunity for us as Columbus City Schools to participate and support local agriculture and businesses. It is a program where once a month we are going to provide meals that are completely comprised of products, either grown raised or produced in the state of Ohio. As those products become popular and students like them we will incorporate those items into our regular menu cycle, which will further enable us to support our local economy and local businesses. It is important for several reasons. First, local products are fresher, which provides more nutritional benefits for our students. A well-nourished student is better prepared to learn in the classroom. That is how we in the food service area help students succeed in the most direct way. Also, it is an educational opportunity for our students. They will understand how they fit into the local food cycle. There has been lots of questions and interest in where the food comes from and how it gets to them. Finally, we are supporting our community. That is important as well. As a public school district, the community supports us and it is also important for us to support the community. We take that very seriously. Thank you very much for the resolution. We are very appreciative.

Commissioner Brown: We thank you for being here. Are the kids learning about what this is as you are doing this? I think this is a great program. Do the kids recognize what is happening?

Mr. Brown: They do. It is a work in progress. We weren't sure what the reaction would be at the school level when we did our first one. January was our first one and February was our second one. In February we are providing the schools a lot more educational material because they had a lot of questions. Hydroponic Lettuce was one of the things we provided. What is hydroponic and how do lettuce grow in the winter in Ohio. Those were some of the questions. For the elementary students, we have starting this month, placemats. We are continuing to evolve in figuring out how we can make this more of an opportunity for our students.

President O'Grady: I was there a few week ago and the kids definitely had a lot of questions. There was local turkeys, local produce. Everything was locally sourced. You give them all of this healthy food, but they still want to lather it with ranch dressing and ketchup. The food was great and they kids were excited about it. We were at Sterling Elementary. It is a great program.

Commissioner Brown: How does this work with the food service program? Is it easy to incorporate or more complicated?

Mr. Brown: Nothing is as easy as you initially think. We are limited by our facilities. Not all of our schools have full service kitchens. We may have a good idea on how something works, but we test it and run it through our processes and it didn't work as we thought it would. The turkey and dressing, salads and apples we provided for the first meal, it worked across the board. Some of our earlier ideas have been more challenging, so we have had to go back to the drawing board. The other challenge, the school food service has some strict requirements on the type of food, everything has to be whole grain. There are restrictions on fat, sodium. There may be some local providers that provide a very good product but that product doesn't meet that requirement. As a stopping point, it forces some further conversations on how they can work with us. Anybody we told that we wanted to do this, their first response was, what can we do to help? Sometimes you thought you had a quick answer, but it is taking you a lot longer to get to the answer.

President O'Grady: We have the resolution to take with you guys. I am not sure if Ms. Morud wanted to add anything.

Ms. Morud: The only thing I would add is thank you for your support, to Mr. Brown and his staff for what they have done. They have done an incredible amount of work. He is very humble when I talk about this, but this has been a project many months in the making and worked very hard to make happen.

President O'Grady: We recently had your partners at OSU extension center last week. They are very happy and very proud to be a part of this.

(Group picture)

President O'Grady: February is Black History Month. We also have with us today Mr. Don Elder, Ohio Memorial Chapter—Tuskegee Airmen. We are excited to have Mr. Elder with us today. The Tuskegee Airmen are near and dear to us. We have been working with them on the National

Veterans Memorial and Museum. We hope to have an exhibit for them in the new Memorial Museum when it opens.

Mr. Elder: Good morning. Thank you for the opportunity to chat with you about the history of the Tuskegee Airmen. I have a presentation that I normally do, but I usually do on powerpoint. To tell you a little bit about myself. I was born and raised in Columbus, OH. My father served in WWI. My older brother got drafted in WWII. I decided to enlist in the Army. I want to tell you about some of the experiences I had. Being a young kid from Columbus, I went down to Fort Hayes. I took the oath and never went back home. From there, I was shipped to Camp Atterbury Indiana. There were 5,000 German prisoners of war there. They were treated better than the black soldiers. I was then shipped to Shepherdsville, TX. Two days later, there was a race riot. After finishing my Basic Training, I went to A&E School (Aircraft and Engine Mechanic). Being in A&E School, I completed with a grade of excellent and they sent me to Illinois. This is where the specialists are trained. The good fortune was that Columbus had the 99th Fire Squad (Tuskegee Airmen). I was assigned to the 99th.

Let's talk about what Tom Brokaw says is the greatest generation. We do a presentation in Dallas, TX that talks about African American history in aviation. It starts back in 1894 with Eugene Bullard. C. Alfred Anderson was a black guy who had a pilot license. Eleanor Roosevelt went to Tuskegee and rode in an airplane with Mr. Anderson. Secret Service told him that he could not let Ms. Roosevelt ride in the airplane, and Mr. Anderson stated that he cannot tell her what to do.

Who are the Tuskegee Airmen? The Tuskegee Airmen happen to be a bunch of segregated unit of the Army Air Corp. Here are some important facts of some of their accomplishments: their job was to escort B-17s all over Europe; they never lost a bomber they were assigned to escort; they flew some 15,000 missions; they destroyed 111 German aircraft in the air and more than 150 on the ground; 62 pilots were killed in action and 32 were prisoners of war; earned 150 distinguished flying crosses; 744 air medals; 942 first class graduates; 8 Purple Hearts; and 14 Bronze Stars. There is a movie called Luft Gangster. It is about a guy named Alexander Jefferson who was shot down in Europe. The interesting thing is that he was treated by the German military better than he was in the United States.

In 1948, Harry Truman issued Executive Order 9981 that desegregated the service. The primary reason given for this Executive Order is because of the accomplishments and contributions that the Tuskegee Airmen had made.

In March of 2007, Congress voted to give us the Congressional Gold Medal. On January 20, 1949, I walked down Pennsylvania Avenue for the inauguration of Harry Truman. I had to prove it later on by presenting a copy of my special orders. Who would have thought that sixty years to the day, January 20, 2009 I was invited to sit in the front row for President Barack Obama?

Are there any questions?

Commissioner Brown: Mr. Elder, we are so honored that you are here today. Thank you for your service.

Mr. Elder: I thank you for the opportunity to come. It is a story to be told. I will be in Dallas, TX Saturday. We will do our 100 years of aviation. This year's theme is Beyond Hidden Figures. We talk about the difference between black history and black future. That is why we try to talk to the kids into the future. You hear people saying "make America great again." No, we have been there. We do not want to go back again. We want to make history for the future.

President O'Grady: Mr. Elder, how many of the original airmen in the photo you brought are still alive?

Mr. Elder: We do not have any idea. Our convention was in Indianapolis, IN last year and they took a picture of the three amigos; Beaver Johnson, Homer Hogan and myself. He took the picture because the three of us were together in the parade for Harry Truman. We do not know exactly how many. Originally there were some 19,000 persons that are in that organization.

Commissioner Boyce: I will join the chorus and thanking you for not only your service, but your contribution to the legacy to American history. I really appreciate and value what you shared with us today. If folks want to invite you out to other places because I think the story of the Tuskegee Airmen is a story that needs to be more deeply embedded in history in general, beyond Black History Month, how would someone contact you and get you scheduled?

Mr. Elder: You can reach me at don.elder9986@att.net. While I was in Texas, we had a flight school that we set up called CRP, Career Resource Professionals. We had a flight school that we offered to the school there. You will be impressed as to how those kids devoted their time. Every Saturday they were there to learn about careers in aviation. There are more than 100 different jobs in aviation. I just did a presentation in Lima, OH last Monday. The Ohio State University is doing the same kind of thing. They are trying to get kids interested in careers in aviation. We do this to keep the legacy alive. I have a disk I like to play when I go out to the schools that shows that we started in the kitchen and where we ended up in the military. Even though we were segregated, we too are Americans. We did our job and what we had to do at the time. Only about 30% of the 19,000 got a chance to go overseas. One of my favorite guys is Calvin Span. One of his records was that he flew from Pantelleria, Italy to Berlin, Germany and back. Keep in mind that he is flying a single engine airplane in a cockpit. Some of the guys teased him about pulling over when he had too. He could not stop, that is when they invented Depends. There are some stories to be told. Some of it we do not like to talk about because it is sad.

President O'Grady: We have been working with our friends at the Columbus Downtown Development Corporation, who are building the new Veterans Memorial and Museum, to make sure we have a display and dedication to the Tuskegee Airmen when it opens July 4, 2018.

Mr. Elder: I did a video for them.

Commissioners: Thank you.

(round of applause and group picture)

Resolution No. 84-17, resolution authorizing a settlement to Debbie Jude for a disputed property damage claim due to an auto accident involving a Franklin County Sheriff's Deputy (Sheriff) (\$250), presented by Dave Masterson, Director of Administrative Services, Sheriff's Office.

Mr. Masterson: Good morning Commissioners, Dave Masterson, Director of Administrative Services for Sheriff Dallas Baldwin. This resolution approved a settlement from a vehicle damage claim from an accident that occurred on November 28, 2016. It has been recommended by the Prosecutor and Fleet Management to offer payment of \$250 to settle the claim.

Commissioner Boyce moved for passage of Resolution 84-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 85-17, resolution authorizing the Settlement of Legal Claims Brought in the United States District Court, Southern District of Ohio, Being Case No. 2:16-cv-00224 (Veterans Services) (\$7,000), presented by John Warrix, Assistant Director, Veterans Service Commission.

Mr. Warrix: Good morning. This action was executed with assistance of the Assistant Prosecutor Denise DePalma. This is the settlement arrangement that they came up with. We take no fault and the County takes no claim to this. This is simply a way to get the matter taken care of in an expedited manner.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 85-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 86-17, resolution authorizing one subaward agreement with the Franklin County Office on Aging for the provision of Adult Protective Services (Job and Family Services) (\$1,634,279.92), presented by Joy Bivens, Director, Job and Family Services.

Ms. Bivens: Good morning Commissioners, Joy Bivens, Job and Family Services. This resolution will approve a contract with the Office on Aging to provide our required Adult Protective Services. In accordance with the Ohio Revised Code, County Job and Family Services Departments are the local entities responsible for the provision of Adult Protective Services. However, Code allows for the designation of these services to another entity. Since 1999 Job and Family Services via a contractual agreement has designated the Office on Aging to perform all Adult Protective Services and responsibilities. We seek to continue this practice by awarding a contract for services for calendar year 2017.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 86-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 87-17, resolution authorizing a first contract modification with Raftelis Financial Consultants, Inc. for a professional consulting services between Board of Commissioners of Franklin County, Ohio and Raftelis Financial Consultants, Inc. (Sanitary Engineers) (\$35,000), presented by Stephen Renner, Director, Sanitary Engineers.

Mr. Renner: Good morning Commissioners, Stephen Renner, Sanitary Engineering. In 2014, Raftelis provided a full review of our department's operations. This contract modification is a continuation of our ongoing project to ensure the sustainability of our systems for both our customers and the County.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 87-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 88-17, resolution approving Plans and Authorizing the Advertisement for Bids for the Darbydale Wastewater Treatment Plant Enhancements Project (Sanitary Engineers), presented by Mr. Renner.

Mr. Renner: Commissioners, this resolution we are asking for authorization to bid the Darbydale project. This is because of continuing regulatory pressures for the flows that we have to take on to increase the plant's capability to processing 300,000 gallons to 450,000 gallons a day.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 88-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 89-17, resolution for review of petition to annex 5.17 +/- acres from Madison Township to the City of Columbus Case #ANX-01-17 (Economic Development and Planning), presented by Jenny Snapp, Assistant Director, Economic Development and Planning.

Ms. Snapp: Good morning Commissioners, Jenny Snapp, Assistant Director, Economic Development and Planning. This resolution is to consider an expedited type 2 annexation petition of 5.17 acres from Madison Township to the City of Columbus. The area to be annexed included the property located at 2566 Jerri Mock Avenue, east of Alum Creek Drive and south of London Groveport Road. The petition was filed by agent/attorney Michael Bridges from Dickinson Wright and we have Brian Kocak from Dickinson Wright in attendance should you have any questions. The site contains an existing office-warehouse building at Rickenbacker International Airport. Columbus Regional Airport Authority owns this building which is leased to multiple individual tenants. The Columbus Regional Airport Authority plans to continue use of this site to support airport operations at Rickenbacker. Twenty-nine percent of the site's perimeter is contiguous to the City of Columbus and the City passed Ordinance No. 0143-17 on January 23, 2017 indicating the services that will be provided once the annexation is approved and a statement regarding

possible incompatible land uses and zoning buffer. The petition meets all statutory requirements outlined in Section 709.021 of the Ohio Revised Code.

President O'Grady: Mr. Kocak, do you have anything to say? Mr. Anderson, does the Prosecutor have any issue with this?

Mr. Anderson: I am not aware of any issues. I believe Nick Soulas has reviewed it and signed off on it.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 89-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 90-17, resolution authorizing the County Administrator to enter into a memorandum of understanding with Jackson Township for Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) services (Human Resources), presented by Rob Young, Director, Human Resources.

Mr. Young: Good morning Commissioners, Rob Young representing Human Resources. Jackson Township desires to establish and regulate a Family Medical Leave program. They contacted our office. We are going to assist them by providing up to 16 hours a month for consultation and help them with setup and ongoing advisory and support services. They will pay \$37.50 an hour and not to exceed the 16 hours per month. This resolution will allow the County Administrator to enter into a memorandum of understanding with Jackson Township.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 90-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 91-17, resolution authorizing the County Administrator to perform certain personnel functions. (Human Resources), presented by Mr. Young.

Mr. Young: Commissioners, Ohio Revised Code Section 305.30(I) permits the County Administrator, under the direction of the Board of Commissioners, to perform any and all personnel actions conferred upon the Board by the Ohio Revised Code. This resolution authorizes the County Administrator to approve certain personnel actions under the purview of the Board of Commissioners. The Board will continue to approve the following the personnel actions: new hires over \$20 an hour, suspensions, terminations, and probationary removals.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 91-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 92-17, resolution approving Personnel Actions (Human Resources), presented by Mr. Young.

Mr. Young reviewed the list of personnel actions in the Resolution and requested the Commissioners' approval.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 92-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 93-17, resolution approving purchases for various Franklin County agencies (Purchasing) (\$6,642,144.98), presented by Karl Kuespert, Director, Purchasing Department.

Mr. Kuespert: Good morning Commissioners, Karl Kuespert representing the Purchasing Department. The resolution before you requests your approval of 140 purchase orders. These purchase orders have been pre-certified as to the availability of funds by the County Auditor.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 93-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 94-17, resolution authorizing the agreements between Franklin County and the Public Safety Answering Points for the disbursement of Wireless 9-1-1 grant dollars (Board of Commissioners) (\$2,140,425), presented by Zak Talarek, Director, Office of Management and Budget.

Mr. Talarek: Good morning Commissioners, Zak Talarek, Office of Management and Budget. This resolution authorize the distribution of the wireless 9-1-1 funds that are collected by the state. This is the .25 cents per month charge that is on wireless cellphone bills. The agreements are with the cities of Columbus, Dublin, Grove City, Westerville, and Franklin County Sheriff's Office who operate the wireless public safety answering points.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 94-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 95-17, resolution establishing the New American Advisory Council for the Franklin County Board of Commissioners (Board of Commissioners), presented by Kenneth Wilson, County Administrator.

Mr. Wilson: Good morning Commissioners, Kenneth Wilson, County Administrator. The New American Advisory Council was originally established by Franklin County, the City of Columbus and other political subdivisions to identify challenges and barriers within the

new American community, to build a platform that promotes inclusivity, establish effective solutions for positively integrating new Americans into a democratic society. The New American Advisory Council membership should be comprised of immigrant and refugee service providers, state and local governments, policy experts, immigrant and refugee leaders and business and community partners. The New American Advisory Council shall publish an annual report to the Board of Commissioners and the community that outlines workforce programs, legal services, policy initiatives, community outreach and partnerships and any other matters effecting new Americans in Central Ohio. This council is being reestablished by Commissioner Boyce. There have been two meetings that have been held to kick this off as a County initiative.

Commissioner Boyce: I am really thrilled by the feedback that we have received from the broader community. The idea is to be beyond Franklin County and include the municipalities, townships, villages, school districts and other folks that are impacted by the citizens that live in this region. The broader idea here is the convening data, which will be hosted in a couple of months. This will bring everyone to the table to allow a real strategy to undergird Central Ohio in how we serve all of our citizens. Not only our new Americans, immigrants or refugees, but how we are building a platform for everyone to thrive in. I enthusiastically move for passage.

Commissioner Brown: I am thrilled that we are doing this. It is a long time coming. I know that we are going to make a lot of progress in helping our refugees and immigrants. I would just note that we need to be mindful and talk about residents and citizens in a different manner because not all of our refugees and immigrants are citizens. I think we need to note that and talk about it in a sensitive manner as we work with that community of new Americans. Citizenship means something really special to folks who are not yet citizens of the community. As we go out talking to our refugees and immigrants who strive to become citizens, I want to make sure we are mindful of the language we use. I thank you for taking the leadership role. I know President O'Grady, as a new Commissioner, had done a lot of outreach with the Somali community. My office has done some work with immigrants with one of my grad students. Thank you for taking the leadership on this issue. Right now it is really important. More so than it has ever been.

President O'Grady: Nobody does more work in Central Ohio with the immigrant population than Franklin County. While we have been doing this for years, our agencies and our people certainly are the folks on the front lines doing this work. This is the comprehensive stuff and what you are putting together Commissioner Boyce is fantastic. Thanks for stepping up and leading this initiative. There is no question that our agencies are on the front lines of leading this initiative. The work that you are doing Commissioner Boyce is phenomenal and I and Commissioner Brown are here to do anything we can to help out with this. This is important work. The reason why immigrants come to this community are varied. It is an economic development issue as well. People come here for a variety of reasons. Some come because they need to come here. Some come for opportunities. Some come to make money and help with this economy. There is a lot to this and a lot going on here. This is exciting stuff for a lot of reasons. Thanks.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 95-17, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 A.M.

(Signature Page Follows)

These minutes are a summary of the Commissioners' meeting of February 14, 2017.



JOHN O'GRADY, PRESIDENT



MARILYN BROWN



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

Submitted by:



Antwan Booker, Clerk