

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF GENERAL SESSION

December 10, 2019

The Franklin County Board of Commissioners convened in the Commissioners Hearing Room at 9:00 A.M. on Tuesday, December 10, 2019.

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

Also present on the dais were Paul Thies, Assistant Prosecutor, Prosecuting Attorney's Office; Zachary Talarek, Director, Office of Management & Budget; Kenneth N. Wilson, County Administrator; Kris J. Long, Deputy County Administrator; Keena M. Smith, Deputy County Administrator; and, Dean M. Hindenlang, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners.

President Brown called the meeting to order at 9:04 A.M.

Approval of the minutes of the June 25 and July 30, 2019, General Sessions; and, the December 5, 2019 Briefing Session. Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The minutes were approved by roll call vote.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Resolution regarding the Final Hearing for the Kahler Ditch Watershed Improvement project, Blendon Township, and Plain Township, Franklin County, Ohio.

President Brown: We would like to open this Public Hearing. Is there anyone in the audience who would like to speak on this Public Hearing?

*Mr. Jason Francis, MI Homes, and Ms. Elayna M. Stierhoff, City of Columbus Public Utilities, Division of Water, both spoke "for" the proposed resolution. With no further comments, the Public Hearing was closed.*

**Resolution No. 0887-19**, Final Hearing for the Kahler Ditch Watershed Improvement project, Blendon Township, and Plain Township, Franklin County, Ohio (Board of Commissioners), presented by Cornell Robertson, County Engineer, and James Ramsey, Assistant Highway Design Engineer, Engineer's Office.

Mr. Robertson: Good morning, Commissioners. I would like to start off by saying that this resolution is for drainage improvement, in the northeast part of Franklin County in Blendon

Township. It is a drainage situation that has been a difficult scenario for many people for many, many years; going back earlier than 2014. This project is a collaborative effort, including Franklin County, the City of Columbus Division of Water, a collaboration with the property owners, and with a developer, upstream, in this particular area. I think that this is an opportunity utilizing the Ditch Maintenance Improvement process that will allow for the improvement of this area that has needed attention for quite some time. If you'd like any further details or have any other questions, we'd be happy to answer those at this time. If not, we would recommend approval.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0887-19, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Resolution regarding plans approved for the improvement of the Havenwood Improvement project, Franklin Township, and Prairie Township, Franklin County, Ohio.

Mr. Robertson: Commissioners, as stated, this improvement is in the southwest part of Franklin County; Franklin Township and Prairie Township. It is west of Georgesville Road and south of Cosgray. This is also a collaborative project that includes Franklin County, the townships mentioned, and the Ohio Public Works Commission. The project has been designed and the plans are ready for your review, approval, and signature, and then we can move forward with scheduling the bid opening and begin construction in 2020.

President Brown: Thank you. We would like to open this Public Hearing. Is there anyone in the audience who would like to speak on this Public Hearing?

*Mr. John Fleshman, Franklin Township Trustee, Chairman, spoke "for" the proposed resolution, and thanked the Board of Commissioners and the County Engineer for their assistance with the project.*

**Resolution No. 0888-19,** Plans approved for the improvement of the Havenwood Improvement project, Franklin Township, and Prairie Township, Franklin County, Ohio (Engineer), presented by Cornell Robertson, County Engineer, Engineer's Office.

Mr. Robertson: I think we've covered the basics.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0888-19, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0889-19,** Rehabilitation of existing structure on Havens Corners Road over Blacklick Creek (JEF-CR16-7.26), Jefferson Township, Franklin County, Ohio, declared necessary (Engineer), presented by Cornell Robertson, County Engineer, Engineer's Office.

Mr. Robertson: Commissioners, this resolution is for a bridge, rehabilitation project in the northeast part of Franklin County, in Jefferson Township, along Havens Corners Road over Blacklick Creek. This resolution specifically declares the project necessary and allows us to move forward with the design.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0889-19, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0890-19**, to update the Special Hauling Permit Manual for the use and protection of roadways that are under the jurisdiction of the Franklin County Engineer's Office (Engineer), presented by Cornell Robertson, County Engineer, and Steve Brutsche, Utilities Supervisor, Engineer's Office.

Mr. Robertson: Commissioners, I have asked for some help on this resolution.

Mr. Brutsche: This resolution seeks adoption of the updated Special Hauling Permit Manual. The special hauling permits are used to prevent pavement fatigue, abnormal pavement failures, and unsafe conditions caused by unmanaged, oversized, and overweight vehicles. Pending any questions, I would ask for approval.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0890-19, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0891-19**, Snipe View Loop, in the Villages at Jefferson Run, Phase 1 accepted for public maintenance and shall become part of the Jefferson Township Road System, Franklin County, Ohio (Engineer), presented by Cornell Robertson, County Engineer, Engineer's Office.

Mr. Robertson: Commissioners, this subdivision is in the northeast part of Franklin County in Jefferson Township. It's east of Wagner Road, and south of Havens Corners Road. The streets have been built according to the Franklin County subdivision regulations, and are ready to be accepted for public use, and the maintenance is going to be turned over to Jefferson Township.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0891-19, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0892-19**, authorizing a contract with Fifth Third Bank to provide Lockbox and E-Lockbox Services to the Franklin County Treasurer (\$95,000.00) (Treasurer), presented by James Holmes, Chief Technology Officer, and Allyse Thomas, Budget and Purchasing Coordinator, Treasurer's Office.

Mr. Holmes: Good morning, Commissioners. This is an emergency resolution, as our provider of lockbox and e-lockbox services is exiting the market, leaving ourselves and roughly half of the county treasurers of Ohio, without a provider of lockbox and e-lockbox services. Lockbox services are automated processing of our mail payments, which allows roughly 300,000 mail payments that will come in during the first half of collection, to be automated-open, and then immediately credited to the Treasurer's account, without separate batching and processing. This also goes for e-lockbox services which is an online version of receiving payments and crediting them to the Treasurer's account, making the process much more efficient and correct, with regard to taking those payments. Over a collection period that can add up to over a hundred million dollars.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0892-19, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0893-19**, approving a Purchase Order for the Franklin County Treasurer's Office for the replenishment of United States Postal Service (USPS) Postage Permit #1034 for tax bill and tax lien sales mailings (\$50,000.00) (Treasurer), presented by James Holmes, Chief Technology Officer, and Allyse Thomas, Budget and Purchasing Coordinator, Treasurer's Office.

Ms. Thomas: We are looking to replenish the postage permit that will help for our mailings for the first-half collections, as well as the tax-lien sale mailings.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0893-19, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0894-19**, review of a petition to annex 0.5 +/- acres from Sharon Township to the City of Columbus Case #ANX-25-19 (Economic Development and Planning), presented by Jenny Snapp, Assistant Director, Economic Development and Planning.

Ms. Snapp: This resolution is to consider an expedited type two annexation petition of 0.5 acres from Sharon Township to the City of Columbus. The area to be annexed includes property located at 225 Oak Street, which is south of Oak Street, east of Flint Road, west of Sancus Blvd., and north of East Campus View Blvd. The petition was filed by agent and attorney Michael Fusco, on behalf of the owner Craig Wathen. 71 percent of the site's perimeter is contiguous with the City of Columbus, and the city passed Ordinance Number 2901-2019, on November 18, 2019, indicating the services to be provided once the annexation is approved, and a statement regarding the incompatible land uses and zoning buffer. The petition meets all statutory requirements outlined in Section 709.021 of the Ohio Revised Code. Pending any questions, we request your approval.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0894-19, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0895-19**, review of a petition to annex 0.464 +/- acres from Franklin Township to the City of Columbus Case #ANX-26-19 (Economic Development and Planning), presented by Jenny Snapp, Assistant Director, Economic Development and Planning.

Ms. Snapp: This resolution is to consider an expedited type two annexation petition of 0.464 acres, from Franklin Township to the City of Columbus. The area to be annexed includes property located at 2238 Gantz Road, which is east of Gantz Road, south of Willow Run Road, west of Brown Road, and north of Dyer Road. The petition was filed by owner Christian Ottaway, on behalf of himself. 45.9 percent of the site's perimeter is contiguous with the City of Columbus, and the city passed Ordinance Number 2902-2019, on November 18, 2019, indicating the services that will be provided once the annexation is approved, and a statement regarding incompatible landed uses and zoning buffer. The petition meets all statutory requirements outlined in Section 709.021 of the Ohio Revised Code. Pending any questions, we request your approval.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0895-19, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0896-19**, authorizing the issuance, repayment, and extension of various interfund loans (Board of Commissioners), presented by Zachary Talarek, Director, Office of Management & Budget, Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Talarek: This resolution is the annual review of the interfund loans required for cash flow purposes. This year, the resolution includes one new loan to the Sheriff's Office to the Drug Task Force Fund, related to the support of a justice assistance grant. The resolution also includes the partial repayment of three loans; the forgiveness of two loans; and, the extension of 11 other loans for one year. Pending any questions, I would ask for your approval of this resolution.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0896-19, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0897-19**, authorizing the agreements between Franklin County and the Public Safety Answering Points for the disbursement of Wireless 9-1-1 government assistance funds (Board of Commissioners), presented by Zachary Talarek, Director, Office of Management & Budget, Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Talarek: Commissioners, on November 26, 2019, the Franklin County 911 Planning Committee authorized an amendment to the funding plans of wireless funds for 2019, as well as the distribution for 2020. This resolution would authorize the additional payment to the City of Westerville in 2019, as well as the payments to the City of Columbus, the City of Dublin, the City of Grove City, and the Sheriff's Office in 2020. Pending any questions, I would ask for your approval of this resolution.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0897-19, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0898-19**, authorizing a contract modification with Calfee Halter & Griswold for legal services for the drafting of construction management contract documents (\$20,000.00) (Board of Commissioners), presented by Zachary Talarek, Director, Office of Management & Budget, Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Talarek: Commissioners, this resolution would authorize a contract modification to assist with the drafting of contract documents, involving the construction manager, risk delivery system, including providing additional templates. Pending any questions, I would ask for your approval of this resolution.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0898-19, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0899-19**, approving the issuance of revenue refunding bonds by the Franklin County Convention Facilities Authority, and other matters relating to the issuance of such bonds. (Board of Commissioners), presented by Don Brown, Executive Director, Franklin County Convention Facilities Authority.

Mr. Brown: Good morning, Commissioners. The Convention Authority issued bonds in 2012, to purchase Nationwide Arena. This resolution would authorize the issuance of new revenue bonds, to refund the bonds issued in 2012, at substantial savings. As you know, whenever the Convention Authority issues debt, we are required to have the city and county's consent to do so. City Council provided, by Ordinance, provided approval last night [Monday, December 9, 2019], and with the passage of this resolution the county would also provide its consent to the issuance of new bonds, and to the identification and to the use of an additional source to refund those bonds. Pending any questions, I would ask for the passage of this resolution.

Commissioner Boyce: What's the amount?

Mr. Brown: \$51,500,000.00. That will satisfy in full an obligation that amounts to about \$64 million, now. The difference between the \$64 million that is on our books and the \$51.5 million, represents a saving to be had by this transaction.

Commissioner Boyce: What is the present value savings?

Mr. Brown: The repayment will occur in 2029. And, I think the total value of savings at that time will be about \$45 million.

Commissioner Boyce: This is important because it is really a payment thing. It reduces the overall payment. It is a significant saving. In the end, you mentioned that there was an additional source. What does that mean? Who is that?

Mr. Brown: Yes. The bonds issued in 2012 were payable from casino tax revenues; that will remain a source of repayment for the refunding bonds, or new bonds. In addition to that, we will authorize the use of CFAs hotel residual fund, as a repayment source.

Commissioner Boyce: Got it; okay. Finally, in terms of the underwriters, and the team that you've put together, are there any minority-owned or female firms on the transaction?

Mr. Brown: This is not a public offering, Commissioner. This is a private placement.

Commissioner Boyce: Where is the private placement?

Mr. Brown: The purchaser is Nationwide Realty Investors, which holds the current, 2012 bonds.

Commissioner Boyce: Thank you very much.

President Brown: Thank you, Don.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0899-19, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0900-19**, affirming that Franklin County welcomes residents who first arrive in Central Ohio as refugees and deeply appreciates their contributions to the economic growth and cultural richness of the community, and urging the State of Ohio and all local governments within Franklin County to respond affirmatively to President Donald J. Trump's Executive Order 13888, requiring state and local consent to allow the continuation of the historic and life-saving refugee resettlement program (Board of Commissioners), presented by Kris Long, Deputy County Administrator, Board of Commissioners.

Ms. Long: Good morning, Commissioners. Refugee resettlement has had a long history in Franklin County with broad community support for the economic and cultural contributions of those individuals who first settle in Central Ohio as refugees. By definition, refugees are individuals who have been forced to flee their home country, due to persecution based on their race, religion, nationality, political opinion, and social group. The United States Government operates the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program, which mandates extensive refugee vetting for every refugee resettled in the United States. Recently, President Trump issued an Executive Order on September 26, 2019, which now requires states and local governments to consent to receive refugees under the Department of State's Reception and Placement Program. According to the 2015 impact of refugees in Central Ohio, the total yearly contributions of refugees in Franklin County is \$1.6 billion.

Franklin County remains committed to creating an open, inclusive, compassionate, and welcoming place for all who live, work and raise families here. Although not every local jurisdiction in Franklin County has had refugee resettlement in the past, it is important to make a collective statement of welcome and inclusion, as our regional economy continues to grow in population and diversity. Pending potential legal challenges to its constitutionality, the Executive Order requires all states and local jurisdictions to submit a consent to the secretary of state by December 25, of this year [2019]; just several weeks from now. Therefore, this resolution would do a number of things: First, it would state to the extent of Franklin County's authority; the Board of Commissioners consents to and welcomes official resettlement in Franklin County of refugees, as per the terms of the Executive Order; the Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Administrator to sign any future correspondence that may be required to convey this consent; the Board of Commissioners has already conveyed its consent in a letter that will be forwarded to the U.S. Department of State; importantly, Lauren Rummel, Government Affairs Director [Board of Commissioners] has been engaged in and will continue to be engaged on your behalf; and, urges all local jurisdictions within Franklin County to consent to the resettlement of refugees in our community, as well as the Governor of the State of Ohio. This resolution would not only be transmitted to the U.S. Department of State, but would also be sent to Governor DeWine, and each government jurisdiction in Franklin County. With us today is Angela Plummer, who is the Executive Director of the Community Refugee and Immigration Services (CRIS), to speak further about this resolution. Pending questions, we would urge your consent to this resolution.

*Ms. Plummer addressed the Board of Commissioners on the importance of the resolution and the significance of keeping Franklin County a welcoming home to refugees and New Americans.*

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0900-19, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0901-19**, authorizing the County Administrator to execute necessary documents with the Ohio Department of Transportation as it relates to Parcel 11, Parcel 12, and Parcel 13 of the highway project identified as FRA 70-12.68 (Board of Commissioners), presented by Kris Long, Deputy County Administrator, Board of Commissioners.

Ms. Long: Commissioners, the State of Ohio, through the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) continues to work on a major highway project identified as FRA 70-12.68, which includes major infrastructure changes that will impact the downtown complex. Amongst other, Front Street and Fulton Street, and other roads around our Government Complex. Franklin County Administration and the Commissioners continue to work with the County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, the Franklin County Engineer's Office, as it evaluates and works with the Department of Transportation, to move forward. It is understood that there are time-sensitive contracting and construction deadlines that ODOT desires to meet and that concurrently the county will require appropriate



compensation for the construction easements attended to this work, and work with ODOT to ensure the sequencing of the work minimizes the disruption, to the extent possible, to the downtown Government Complex. Therefore, this resolution would authorize the County Administrator to enter into any necessary right-of-entry agreements, and any other related documents to be executed as it relates to Parcels 11, 12, and 13, with the ODOT transportation project identified in the resolution. Pending any questions, we would request your approval.

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0901-19, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0902-19**, Resolution of the Franklin County Board of Commissioners to convene into Executive Session for the purpose of considering personnel matters (Board of Commissioners).

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0902-19, seconded by Commissioner Boyce. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote and the Commissioners convened into Executive Session at 9:43 A.M.

At 11:18 A.M., Commissioner O'Grady moved to come out of Executive Session, with Commissioner Boyce seconding, which was unanimously approved. No action was taken upon exiting Executive Session, and with no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:19 A.M.

**(Signature Page Follows)**

These minutes are a summary of the Commissioners' meeting of December 10, 2019.

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**MARILYN BROWN, PRESIDENT**

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**JOHN O'GRADY**

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

Submitted by:



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Dean M. Hindenlang  
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners

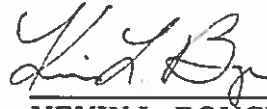
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**MARILYN BROWN, PRESIDENT**

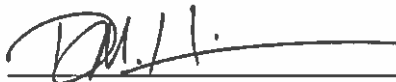


**JOHN O'GRADY**



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

Submitted by:



**Dean M. Hindenlang  
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners**