

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF GENERAL SESSION

July 2, 2019

The Franklin County Board of Commissioners convened in the Commissioners Hearing Room at 9:00 A.M. on Tuesday, July 2, 2019.

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

Also present on the dais were Paul Thies, Assistant Prosecutor, Prosecuting Attorney's Office; Kenneth N. Wilson, County Administrator; Zachary Talarek, Director, Office of Management & Budget; and, Victoria Caldwell, Interim Clerk to the Board of Commissioners.

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

President Brown: Before we get started with our resolutions, we have our Thrive-On Invitational Challenge winners, today. We are here to recognize this year's Thrive-On Invitational winners. We have an interesting group here that are the winners, and I'm anxious to hear a little bit about how they came up with their name. We have the Engineer's Office, Periwinkle Lightning Bugs, who are the winners. I'd like to hear from County Engineer Cornell Robertson's office, and our Human Resources team. We have Jessica McCurdy, Coordinator of Wellness & Benefits Programs, and I'm really anxious to hear how this team got their name, and congratulations to you.

Ms. McCurdy: Back in May, we did launch our first challenge of the year, and as she said, that was an Invitational Steps Challenge. Names were actually chosen based on a color and an animal, so they were picked out at random, Periwinkle and Lightning Bugs, but they had options to choose different colors and different animals. Some of the other team names that they have were like the Cobalt Kangaroos, the Emerald Clydesdales, so just really creative names out there. The Periwinkle Lightning Bugs did win the challenge. I would like to recognize them and just acknowledge the fact that as a team, they took nearly two million steps. That's over ten thousand steps per participant, per day, for their team, which is absolutely fantastic. So, at this time, I would like to congratulate the Periwinkle Lightning Bugs and welcome them to the front of the room for a photo, and to recognize them. Team members were Andrea Lossick, Brent Welch, Fritz Crosier, Ed Herrick, and David Dibling. I would also like to welcome the Engineer's Office, Wellness Champion, Angie Phelps, and Franklin County Engineer, Cornell Robertson. (Applause). On behalf of Thrive-On, I would like to say thank you for your continued engagement and commitment to living well, and your support of the Thrive-On Program. Thank you. (Applause)

(Photo)

Ms. McCurdy: While I'm here this morning, I also have an exciting announcement on behalf of Thrive-On. I'm excited to announce that the inaugural Franklin County 5k and Thrive-On Challenge, is officially open for registration today. This is a 5k walk/run event, that's going to be on October 13, 2019. So being a walk/run, we've really made an effort to make this an event that is open to all activity levels and all experience levels. So, whether you're an avid runner or you prefer a leisurely walk, we want you to come out and enjoy this race with us. This is an event that will be open to employees and their dependents. In order to increase participation, we are providing a reimbursement of a portion of the registration fee to those who do actually participate on race day. We really want to encourage our employees to come out and participate, live well, and just be part of the Thrive-On culture. We will be sending out an email later today that has information, a registration link, and all of that. I just want to thank the Commissioners for your continued support, to help make this idea and this wonderful opportunity come to fruition for our employees.

Commissioner Boyce: When you announced it, the Auditor looked over at me as though they were challenging the Board of Commissioners Office. (Laughter) Its 5k, so I just want to say that it's on, the BOC versus the Auditor's office.

Resolution No. 0479-19, authorizing a contract with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction for the Community Corrections / Prison Diversion (407) Program (\$4,480,408.00) (Court of Common Pleas), presented by Kimberly Canada, Director of Finance, Court of Common Pleas.

Ms. Canada: This grant renewal is for the Community Corrections/Prison Diversion grant, which is fully funded by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections for state fiscal year 2020 and 2021. This grant provides funding for about 24.31 FTE's and provides intensive supervision and risk reduction services to offenders. It is estimated that this grant will divert about one thousand four hundred and eighty-seven (1,487) offenders from prison.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0479-19, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0480-19, authorizing a contract with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction for the Community Corrections / Jail Diversion (408) Program (\$727,408.00) (Court of Common Pleas), presented by Ms. Canada.

Ms. Canada: This grant is also the renewal for the Community Corrections/Jail Diversion grant, which is also funded again, with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections, also for state fiscal year 2020 and 2021. This grant provides services for about 3.91 FTE's and provides pre-trial services to offenders. It is also estimated one thousand four hundred eighty-seven (1,487) offenders will be diverted from jail.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0480-19, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0481-19, authorizing an agreement with the security firm Whitestone Group, Inc. to provide armed guard services for the Franklin County Clerk of Courts Auto Title division (\$1,331,039.00) (Clerk Of Courts), presented by Shawn Rieder, Fiscal Officer, Clerk of Courts.

Mr. Rieder: Good morning, Commissioners. Today's resolution is a non-general fund contract for the Clerk's Auto Title division. The Whitestone Group is an Ohio-based, veteran owned business, currently providing security services for the Coroner's Office. The Whitestone Group is an approved federal supplier and the GSA schedule holder. The resolution today authorizes a four year contract. The first year annual cost of the contract is three hundred twenty four thousand eight hundred seventy dollars (\$324,870). Today's resolution encumbers one hundred sixty two thousand four hundred and thirty-five dollars (\$162,435) for the second half of the year.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0481-19, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0482-19, authorizing a contract extension with Action for Children for Parenting Seminars (\$39,672.60) (Domestic Relations), presented by Barb Reeves, Deputy Director, Domestic Relations.

Ms. Reeves: Good morning, Commissioners. This contract with Action for Children provides parenting classes for parents seeking divorce, legal separation, annulment or the allocation of parental rights. This contract was originally bid through the Purchasing Department in 2018. This resolution is requesting a contract extension for one year with three remaining options. The rate remains unchanged at one thousand three hundred twenty-two dollars and forty two cents per seminar (\$1,322.42). The annual cost of the seminar is thirty nine thousand six hundred seventy-two dollars and sixty cents (\$39,672.60), which is offset by a twenty two dollar filing fee which pays for these seminars.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0482-19, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0483-19, awarding contract and approving contract bond to Shelly & Sands, Inc., for the Reynoldsburg-New Albany Road Improvement Project, Franklin County, Ohio (\$769,945.30) (Engineer), presented by Cornell Robertson, County Engineer, Engineer.

Mr. Robertson: Commissioners, this first resolution is for a road widening project in the northeast part of the county, in Jefferson Township, along Reynoldsburg-New Albany

Road. It is a public-private partnership with M/I Homes for their Weldon subdivision. This project will add turn lanes into that particular subdivision. We had a competitive bid for the construction. We had four bidders, and Shelly & Sands had the lowest and best bid.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0483-19, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0484-19, authorizing settlements for disputed property damage claims involving Franklin County Engineer's Office employees (\$7,954.52) (Engineer), presented by James Jewell, Chief Deputy of Operations, Engineer.

Mr. Jewell: Commissioners, on March 19, 2019, during routine excavation within our right-of-way, one of our employees damaged a telephone line owned by AT&T. On November 7, 2018, a Franklin County Engineer employee stretched an overhead AT&T line, which was causing it to drop in height. A vehicle owned by CMH Air Freight Associates, Inc. entered the road and made contact with the lower overhead line, dragging a portion of the line, and damaging a portion of their vehicle. There were no injuries reported on either case. Our office worked closely with the Prosecuting Attorney's Office and they have approved a total settlement of seven thousand nine hundred fifty-four dollars and fifty two cents (\$7,954.52).

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0484-19, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0485-19, authorizing a one-year contract with Woolpert, Inc. for orthographic aerial CAUV photography utilizing non-general funds (\$69,088.00)(Auditor), presented by Michael Stinziano, Franklin County Auditor, Auditor.

Mr. Stinziano: Thank you for the opportunity to present this resolution. It is in regards to our program for the Current Agricultural Use Valuation (CAUV). It's the state program that allows for farmers to get a tax deduction for their agricultural farming portion of their property. We are looking to use aerial photography to supplement field work, which is critical for our appraisers. Previously, a pilot program had been pursued using drones, and this would correlate more to what we've done before with the goal of seeing crop use and make sure that we don't have to put appraisers out in the field as much.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0485-19, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0486-19, authorizing the approval of the renewal agreement for the Everbridge Mass Notification System (Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security

(\$261,706.06), presented by Jeff Young, Director, Emergency Management and Homeland Security.

Mr. Young: Good morning, Commissioners. Before you is a resolution for our annual renewal agreement with Everbridge Mass Notification System, which is branded as Alert Franklin County. The Everbridge software is provided through a GSA contract and an end user license agreement reviewed and amended with the assistance of Franklin County Purchasing and the Franklin County Prosecutor's Office. This mass notification capability is in place to serve all residents within Franklin County, and is available for use by every jurisdiction within Franklin County. This availability is part of the Alert system or through the use of events, specific text groups, and the use of key words, such as Arnold, Pride or this Wednesday, Red, White and Boom, which you can join or text into by texting RWB2019 to 888777. As a countywide multi-jurisdictional resource, this contract is funded through the annual proportionate share that supports Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security. The Everbridge software also provides the capability for internal agencies' staff notifications. This capability is used extensively by both the City of Columbus, as well as Franklin County. As a follow-up to last year's discussion, the elected and appointed officials' lunch, we worked closely with County Administration to do an annual test and increase the usage, the knowledge and the accuracy of the information contained within the system. On October 31, 2019, we did that test and successfully had two thousand five hundred and sixty five (2,565) staff receive and confirm receipt of the Alert message that went out, almost immediately in most cases. More recently, I wanted to review the database for its accuracy and to confirm that it was up to date, and was pleased to see that the Auditor, being a recently elected official, was in with current contact information. Even more specifically, on June 11, 2019, when the Municipal Court building had a water issue, it was used to notify two hundred sixty five (265) internal staff as to which courts were closed, which ones were open, and actions being taken to keep the court system functional and accessible to the public. While the individual agency, points of contact, and my staff continuously worked to keep the database updated with current information as to contact methods, I can report that I am confident this is an active, functional, and ready resource.

Commissioner Boyce: You said that we can opt in for this week's events, can you explain that?

Mr. Young: For special events, we work with the Event Management Unit for law enforcement to create events specifically by key words, with an anonymous text message group that people can join, and we can push actionable information to them. We have used it several times over the past year. It's a relatively new module within the system, and we're working with media to get that word out. We've got about twelve hundred (1,200) people who have joined for 2019. So, anytime there's a specific event, we can work with the event organizer to assign a specific key word, and then people can join that group and we can push it out to them.

Commissioner Boyce: Once you've opted in, you're in for all of the events, or you have to opt in for each event?

Mr. Young: Some of it depends on the structure we set in place, but it's really event specific. So it goes to marketing for that event. In many cases we've learned now we can roll those contacts from year to year. So if you've got a group that always comes to town, Quarterhorse Congress, it's a lot of the same people that might come into town. If we stand that group up, we can activate and deactivate that keyword, which really speaks to new people's ability to join it. But the database exists and we can reactivate it roughly thirty days out from the event, start from an existing pool and then add more people to it, as well as provide them the ability to opt out if they're not coming to the event or if it's bothering them and they always have the ability to opt out. There's a little bit of active management and discussion on how you do that. For instance for Red, White and Boom with the Columbus Police Chief development and marketing the brand new app for Columbus Police, will utilize this and then at the end of the event after Red, White and Boom, we will send a handoff message thanking people for attending the event and hoping they had a safe time and if they would like to follow Columbus Police on a daily basis they can join or load that app onto their phone. We'll work with Columbus Police to see how that messaging should actually be worded. You can use that to drive it to other social media platforms as well, facebook pages, twitter account, so it's a little bit of the active management. Like any of these systems, it's all about marketing. Don Brown at the Convention Facilities Authority and I have talked about trying to create a system when large conventions come to town, whoever the event organizer is, is obligated to assist with marketing which really goes into the large picture safety event. It's really nice, because people can join this group or a text message group on the fly with minimal effort, they don't have to create a profile and they don't have to have a local address, so when you are pulling in visitors to the area, it's very easy for them to join, utilize it for the event and then we've got a way to push information to them or contact them, give them directive actionable items if there is an event.

Commissioner Boyce: Ok.

Commissioner O'Grady: Everbridge is a really good system and this is a different use, but I appreciate you coming to my office after the last major weather event. The director and I had a long conversation about how the sirens go off, when and how, what the decision-making process is there. Sometimes it's not necessarily in the hands you know, of the folks we'd like it to be in the hands of, and so I appreciate that. We had long conversations about that. I live in the western part of the county and there are the occasional times when the sirens will go off once the storms already passed my house, so that was the beginning of our conversation, and why sometimes that happens. As the sirens are going off, the storms are already in the central or eastern part of the county, but there's a reasoning behind that and so I had to better understand that and I appreciate that conversation. We'll be watching the weather map on television or following it on the radar, on the phone, or the iPad at home and I'm going, why is there no siren, and then I see it on the radar going past my house or past my part of the county. All of a sudden the sirens are going off and I'm going,

that seems a little late, but there's reasoning behind it, and so I appreciate that explanation and that timing. This other conversation and technology that we're talking about is critical, and its good stuff and I appreciate that as well.

Mr. Young: You're welcome, and thank you. I get somewhat down in the weeds and enjoy it because, how we communicate as public officials and as a society is always changing, and so it's something you're always evaluating. The perfect sweet spot of sending relevant important information without creating white noise and overload. That's the evaluation we're constantly doing.

Commissioner O'Grady: And how we're communicating and who we are communicating with. We have a multitude of residents that we have to communicate with, not all of them speaking the same language, so we appreciate the work that you do, making sure that all of our residents can understand what needs to be heard.

Mr. Young: You're welcome, and which is why we do have layers of what sometimes feels like old technology, as well as new technology. You just need all of those different layers because people do receive their information in so many formats, so many ways, and it is a challenge. One of the unique things in the past six months, is working with the Board of Developmental Disabilities, and they are using Everbridge to be able to send information to their clients, their services and when those are impacted by weather events or significant incidences that affect their ability to serve their clients, and we continue to expand that.

Commissioner O'Grady: Only some of our residents can understand, not all of our new residents know and understand what a siren is, and what it's for.

Mr. Young: We have those conversations with Ohio State constantly, as they always pull in students from all over the country. A new group every summer, a new group of students who have never been to Central Ohio before are now part of our constituencies.

Commissioner Boyce: If it's not too much trouble, if you could today sometime, just call my office so that I can get the opt-in information, because I would like to opt-in just to see how that works.

Mr. Young: We actually have a flyer I will send to all of the Commissioners, it's also the same flyer we've pushed out or made available to broadcast media who are really the sponsors of Red, White and Boom. We are hopeful that they will talk about it on the air, both in radio broadcasts, as well as the television broadcast.

President Brown: Can we get that on our website also?

Mr. Young: Absolutely. We will make sure that it is available.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0486-19, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0487-19, declaring it necessary to levy a renewal tax in excess of the ten-mill limitation and requesting the Auditor to certify the total current tax valuation of the County and the dollar amount of revenue generated by the tax levy (Franklin County Children Services), presented by Zak Talarek, Director, Office of Management & Budget.

Mr. Talarek: Good morning, Commissioners. After a thorough analysis of the Children Services levy request, the Levy Review Committee recommends that the Board of Commissioners place a renewal of the existing ten year \$3.1 mil levy on the November 2019 ballot. The renewal levy will commence in 2019, and first be collected in calendar year 2020. There will be no additional cost to taxpayers with the renewal levy. With the successful passage of this levy, Children Services will be able to maintain quality services for the children and families of Franklin County who need them. The resolution presented today declares it necessary to levy a tax in excess of the \$10 mil limitation and request the certification of estimated resources from the County Auditor. This is the first step required before the Commissioners may consider placing the issue on the ballot, for the November 5, 2019 General Election.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0487-19, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0488-19, approving two contract extensions for on-site case management services between the Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services and OhioHealth's Riverside Methodist Hospital and Grant Medical Center (\$174,188.82) (Job and Family Services), presented by Vivian Turner, Assistant Director, Job and Family Services.

Ms. Turner: Good morning, Commissioners. This resolution will approve a pair of contract extensions with OhioHealth that will allow Franklin County Job and Family Services to continue to provide onsite case management services at Riverside Methodist Hospital and Grant Medical Center. Per the contract, an FCDJFS case manager will be stationed onsite at both hospitals for eight hours a day, five days a week to provide timely assistance and determining patient eligibility, primarily for Medicaid but also for other agency benefits. OhioHealth will reimburse the agency for the actual full-time employee cost of an onsite case manager, including the salaries and benefits and part of the cost for supervisory and clerical support each. The cost is not to exceed nine thousand two hundred and ninety-two dollars and ninety-four cents (\$9,292.94) per month, per case manager, for a combined total not to exceed one hundred seventy four thousand, one hundred and eighty-eight dollars and eighty-two cents (\$174,188.82) over the twelve month extension period. At the end of this upcoming term in June 2020, we will have the option for one additional extension under the current contract, all other terms and conditions from the original agreement approved last year are unchanged.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0488-19, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0489-19, authorizing the acceptance of an estate donation from Connie R. Bridges to Franklin County Dog Shelter and Adoption Center (\$17,760.69) (Animal Control), presented by April Ricciardo, Assistant Director, Animal Control.

Ms. Ricciardo: Good morning, Commissioners. This resolution is accepting the estate donation for Connie Bridges. It will go into the donation fund which offers, part of it is to the free spayed and neutered program for the residents of Franklin County.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0489-19, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0490-19, authorizing a transfer of General Fund appropriations in order to provide the budgetary allotment for meeting July payroll (Board Of Elections), presented by Ed Leonard, Director, Board of Elections.

Mr. Leonard: The first resolution we have is relating to our allocation of budgetary appropriations for the month of July. We continue to do outreach programs throughout the county, educate the public about the new equipment and also developing our website, what we've put on the website with regard to our outreach. I do want to extend my thanks to everybody in the Franklin County family. Today's my first day back and I just wanted to extend my thanks to everybody in the Franklin County family for extending their condolences to me on the loss of my mother. It's a difficult time over the last several weeks, so again, when she passed, it was very meaningful to me and comforting to me to have somebody of the Franklin County family reach out to extend their condolences.

Commissioner O'Grady: It's a rough time always when you lose a parent; you've had a rough particularly twelve months or so. I have one question. Has there been any movement from our two Republican Board members at all?

Mr. Leonard: No.

Commissioner O'Grady: No change?

Mr. Leonard: Nothing that's been expressed to me.

Commissioner O'Grady: Nothing on the voter suppression front?

Mr. Leonard: No.

Commissioner O'Grady: Ok.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0490-19, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote, with Commissioner O'Grady voting nay.

Resolution No. 0491-19, authorizing appropriation adjustments and a transfer of funds for the implementation of a new voter registration and election management software solution (Board of Elections), presented by Mr. Leonard.

Mr. Leonard: Commissioners, we've been working on this since 2017-2018. Our current voter registration system is aging. It was initially purchased in 2004, but the software actually dates back to 1998, so it is quite old. We've done a great job over the years of servicing it and creating tools that hang off of that system in order to allow it to do what we need it to do. As we start moving forward, we looked at whether we could take the old system, retool it, and we ultimately, after a lot of analysis decided based on the recommendation of the county's former CIO, that we actually move to a new system. In that way we'll have support from a software company that is fully staffed and capable of providing the support that we need, that would be staying on top of the cutting edge of technology in terms of cybersecurity. So we thought this was the best approach to ensuring that we had a system that was sustainable, supportable, and secure as we go forward and this appropriation will allow us to begin that process. We've been working with our new CIO for the Data Center as well as your current and former CIO for the Board of Commissioners. We've worked with the Purchasing Department, Prosecutor's Office in terms of developing the service agreement that we'll use, so we'll actually be purchasing the software as a service and again this will allow us to have a system that will allow us go forward with the very sustainable, secure and functional system for our staff and provide that level of security that citizens expect as it comes to our voter registration rules.

President Brown: When do you plan to have the system in place?

Mr. Leonard: It's to run parallel. We will be doing some of the initial implementation this year, some of the modules that we don't currently have any functionality for or we have them and they are not involved in our voter registration software, some of that functionality will begin this year. Then the voter registration component of it, we will work on running parallel with our current system to make sure that everything is functioning as it should. We set ourselves an internal deadline with the vendor that, if we're not ready to switch over in mid-July, then we're not going to switchover until 2020. We want to make that if we aren't able to switch over in that mid-summer, then we'll just continue to run parallel with the existing system. We've been working with the Data Center and with Homeland Security in terms in providing that external security for the system. With the old system that we are running on, the support for it we are very reliant on just a few individuals for it and that provides a security issue, and when you relying on just a few people to provide the support for it. We also want to make sure that we're maintaining that external security

so that the system can't be penetrated, the network can't be penetrated to cause problems. We've been working with our County Data Center as well with Homeland Security to make sure that we have the monitors in place that would provide that level of security from an external standpoint. From our standpoint, running in parallel will allow us to make sure that the new system does everything that it needs to do and will hope to be in a position to have it fully implemented and able to move forward, and essentially leave the old system behind.

President Brown: Adam, you feel comfortable with the timing and getting this in place for the 2020 election?

Adam Frumkin, CIO, Data Center: I looked at the project plan that the vendor has provided and we've had a discussion internally about where that stands, and one of the first questions that I asked was with Ed, David and their team, asking if we look at the 2020 election, back me up to what day you feel comfortable with and that's where we came to the July timeline. We actually built, working with Legal Counsel and with Megan Perry-Balonier from Purchasing's perspective, put language in it that basically allows us to say if they're not ready, it's on them, and if we're not ready, it's on us. The idea is to run it in parallel up to that point, and then say yes, we feel completely comfortable with it. One of the things I would like to add is the Secretary of State has put a directive out that all counties have to be at a certain level of security with everything that has to do with voting and technology in a program called Protect2020 that they launched. This actually moved us even closer to that. We were told, Mr. Leonard was at the meeting as well, I had our chief security officer at the meeting, and it was shared with us that Franklin County is the most qualified and the most ahead of any county in the state. It's not like we're a little ahead, we are lightyears ahead of some of the other counties and with that, how we can help and reach out to the other counties and help them in that process as well for the Board of Elections and the Secretary of State. I think that it sets us in a direction that we need to go and it will help us not just now, but it truly leads in some of the things that the words that I've shared with you which is future proofing and counting so the direction that we need to be and it sets us up to be a premier County heading into a major presidential election.

Mr. Leonard: And, we definitely anticipate including a communications component to that, to make sure that the public is comfortable with the direction we are taking and recognizing. We don't want people to be concerned about a switch in the middle of a presidential year. So part of the would be, making sure that we are prepared to communicate to the public why the move is necessary and why it's beneficial for us to make this move, even though it's coming in the middle of a presidential year.

Mr. Frumkin: One thing I'd like to add is the fact, the company that we decided to land on through much discussion and how they went through their process, which I thought was very well done, is also a company that is throughout the United States, is in multiple counties and has done this for a while. They actually got certifications from different states and the federal government as well and I think that leads to even more so to why this is a really good choice for us to move forward.

Commissioner O'Grady: We should be, once again the bellwether county in what will be one of four or five of the most important states in the country. We better be ready.

Commissioner Boyce: I'll just add that I think it's very timely, considering how much we've invested in the voting machines themselves and just where we are in the electoral process that's coming up. But I would also just add that it really goes hand in hand to insuring that our residents know not only where they can vote, but how to register in the communication and the promotion piece of not just the election itself, but also how to register, where to register and how safe the registration is, what is important and so on. To me, it promotes even further the idea that we've got to have the right kind of communication to the public to help them ensure that they know where, and how to register, and how secure their information is because that can be a deterrent to registering.

Commissioner O'Grady: We'll get this coming election advertised one way, shape or form, we are going to get it done. Even with roadblocks and impediments.

Mr. Leonard: I will commit that I will do as much as I can from my position.

Commissioners: We know you will.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0491-19, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0492-19, review of petition to annex 0.6 +/- acres from Madison Township to the City of Columbus Case #ANX-11-19 (Economic Development and Planning), presented by Jenny Snapp, Assistant Director, Economic Development and Planning.

Ms. Snapp: Good morning, Commissioners. This resolution is to consider an expedited Type 2 annexation petition of 0.6 acres, more or less, from Madison Township to the City of Columbus. The area to be annexed includes property located at 5181 Ebright Road (Parcel ID# 180-000159), which is west of Ebright Road, north of US 33 (Columbus Lancaster Road), east of S. Hamilton Road and south of Winchester Pike. The petition was filed by the property owner Thomas M. Dixon who is acting on his own behalf and who is in attendance should you have any questions. 25.5% of the site's perimeter is contiguous to the City of Columbus and the City passed Ordinance Number 1497-2019 on June 10, 2019 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 requirement outlined in Section 709.021 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0492-19, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0493-19, review of petition to annex 1.033 +/- acres from Perry Township to the City of Columbus Case #ANX-12-19 (Economic Development and Planning), presented by Ms. Snapp.

Ms. Snapp: This resolution is to consider an expedited Type 2 annexation petition of 1.033 acres, more or less, from Perry Township to the City of Columbus. The area to be annexed includes property located at 2492 W. Dublin Granville Road (Parcel ID# 213-000246), which is north of W. Dublin Granville Road, west of Linworth Road and south and east of McVey Blvd. The petition was filed by Agent Timothy H. Linn, P.E./P.S., of Linn Engineering, on behalf of the property owners John and Elizabeth McCabe. Mr. John McCabe is in attendance should you have any questions. 46.5% of the site's perimeter is contiguous to the City of Columbus and the City passed Ordinance Number 1496-2019 on June 10, 2019 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.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0493-19, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0494-19, review of petition to annex 0.905 +/- acres from Jackson Township to the City of Grove City Case #ANX-13-19 (Economic Development and Planning), presented by Ms. Snapp.

Ms. Snapp: This resolution is to consider an expedited Type 2 annexation petition of 0.905 acres, more or less, from Jackson Township to the City of Grove City. The area to be annexed includes property located at S. Big Run Road (Parcel ID# 160-001043), which is north and west of S. Big Run Road, east of Demorest Road and south of I-270. The petition was filed by Agent/Attorney Kacie D. Waugh of Waugh Law LLC, on behalf of the property owners Paul and Alina Romanov, who is in attendance should you have any questions. 42.8% of the site's perimeter is contiguous to the City of Grove City and the City passed Resolution Number CR-25-19 on June 3, 2019 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.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0494-19, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0495-19, authorizing implementation of a \$15.00 an hour minimum wage for Board of Commissioner agency employees and associated adjustments (Human Resources), presented by Rob Young, Director, Human Resources.

Mr. Young: Good morning, Commissioners. The Commissioners recognized that competitive wages is an important aspect of an employee's overall compensation package. Changing our minimum wage to \$15.00 an hour, from \$13.69 an hour, will keep us competitive and improve the economic picture for Board of Commissioner employees. Current employees up to and including salary grade 14, will have their hourly rate changed to \$15.00 or by .50 cents, whichever results in the greater increase. The resolution is only for non-bargaining Board of Commissioner employees; however I've been authorized as the Human Resources Director to offer the same compensation package to the various unions who represent Board of Commissioner employees by Memorandum of Understanding. After Board approval, other Franklin County elected officeholders and the courts may submit a written request for a \$15.00 minimum rate if applicable.

Commissioner Boyce: If you could, we talked about it in Briefing Session, but I think it's important to say it publicly as well, this conversation around wage compression and how when you move this sort of floor, it has an effect on maybe longer time employees that aren't in high classifications, but you got someone that may have come in yesterday or today at \$15.00, but somebody that may have been here for ten years and worked their way up to \$15.89 or something, then that's the compression. I know that you and Administrator Wilson had talked about being aware of this wage compression issue and take a look at this, right? We are going to look at that and try to figure out because it's a fairness thing. Even though we've got the floor now, someone that's been working for a long time and their salaries are reflective of when they started and how they've gotten step increases over the years, but now that the floor, it should change their salaries too. That's a heavy lift for us as County Commissioners from a cost standpoint, but it's the fair and right thing to do. I just wanted it put on the record that's something we're looking at.

Mr. Young: We are looking at that. We recognize the \$0.50 cent adjustment is a lower percentage the higher your base salary is. So, the lower salary people, which are some of the people that have been here the shortest tenure, percentage-wise, they're getting a larger increase. We recognize that and we hope to address that through bargaining next year and for non-bargaining, we'll address that also.

President Brown: I think as an employer and coming out of the poverty blueprint, we have a responsibility to be a role model in the community by doing this \$15.00 an hour minimum starting. I think we couldn't expect other employers to do something to raise wages without us taking this step and I'm really proud that we are taking a stand and at least getting our staff to the minimum if they're at a lower wage. I think we're always going to be looking to do what we can to make this the best place to be working for all of our residents who want to work here. So I'm really glad that we're taking this step and I think we can't just rest on that and we have to be looking at ways to make this the best place to work, whether it's through direct wages, our benefits, whatever we do to help our employees want to be here with whatever ways we can. Thank you, thank you County Administration for getting this to this place.

Ken Wilson, County Administrator: I would like to thank the Board for your leadership and patience. It took so time to put this proposal together in the most fiscally prudent way possible. I just want to reiterate that we are always looking at how we can have the most competitive compensation package total, with both wages and benefits. Earlier in this meeting we talked about the ThriveOn challenge and the first ThriveOn 5k run/walk. Our most important resource here at Franklin County are our people, so we want to talk care of them in every way that we can in a fiscally responsible fashion. So, appreciate your leadership and encouragement of County Administration and Human Resources in trying to do that. So, we are going to in fact work through our collective bargaining process and try to improve each contract as I go to try to improve that contract from the last. It's a give and take. There are things that management need and there are things that we know our people need, so we try to offer the best package we can and continuing to keep Franklin County in a strong fiscal position for the long-term.

Commissioner O'Grady: Well, I appreciate you using the word patience. I haven't exactly been a gentleman about my displeasure about how long this took. I've certainly used language at times that my mother would not have been proud of. My frustration over the last, however long, but I am certainly happy that we are here today to do this. That said, \$15.00 an hour is certainly not enough money to be able to raise a family on, so while we are at the minimum of \$15.00 an hour, that's a good thing. \$15.00 an hour is a real tough wage in this economy, and this day and age to be able to raise a family on. I have a good friend out there campaigning across the country, who's talking about salaries that are twice that. We need to be able, not that Franklin County certainly can afford to do that, but we need to be out there doing what we can to encourage job growth and encourage wages and do what we can to grow the economy so that folks can afford to raise a family in the world. I am very happy and very proud to be voting for this today to raise our minimum to \$15.00 an hour and help encourage folks. We have plenty of people like Nationwide Children's Hospital, Aetna and Huntington National Bank that have begun this in this community. We need others to join us in this effort, but we also need to work with the business community and others to do what we can to help folks to get to a point where they can earn a wage, so that people don't have to work two or three jobs to able to raise their family and put food on the table.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0495-19, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0496-19, approving the Volunteer Initiative Plan (VIP) as a permanent program (Human Resources), presented by Mr. Young.

Mr. Young: A year ago, the Board approved a pilot program, called the Volunteer Initiative Plan (VIP), which provides each non-bargaining employee the ability to take up to sixteen of paid leave in order to participate in community volunteer projects arranged through the Department of Human Resources. The intention of this program is to create community engagement opportunities that are meaning, purposeful and help those in need, at the same

time the Board of Commissioners recognize that participating in these activities also enrich and inspire that lives of our employees. The pilot program partnered with forty-five non-profit entities, who offered two hundred and twenty-three opportunities and five hundred and fifty-six volunteer shifts. One hundred percent of the employees who utilize the program were satisfied with their experience and the feedback was overwhelmingly favorable. This resolution will put the VIP program in place on a permanent basis, giving the County Administrator the authority to sign necessary documents, such as voluntary agreements.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0496-19, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0497-19, approving purchases for various Franklin County agencies (\$595,973.76) (Purchasing), presented by Megan Perry-Balonier, Interim Director, Puchasing.

Ms. Perry-Balonier: Good morning, Commissioners. Commissioners, this resolution seeks approval of 90 Purchase Orders (POs), for which the County Auditor has pre-certified available funding. The resolution includes 13 eligible POs, totaling approximately \$43,000.00. These POs are for goods and services that have a higher likelihood of participation by Small & Emerging Business Enterprises (SEBEs). Of these POs, 8 were awarded to SEBEs totaling \$33,653.34, which is 62 percent of the eligible PO volume and 78 percent of the eligible PO dollar value.

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0497-19, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Resolution No. 0498-19, authorizing a Development Agreement with the City of Columbus and Crew SC Stadium Company, LLC for the support of Confluence Village and a Community Sports Park (Board of Commissioners), presented by Emmitt Kelly and David Rogers of Frost, Brown, Todd.

Mr. Kelly: Good morning, Commissioners. This development agreement has, as you all know, been worked on feverishly by everyone throughout the county, with the city, the Crew, and its ownership among other parties. We are at a good place here, compared to where we were back in December when the MOU was approved, and happy to answer any questions you have on the agreement.

President Brown: Any comments?

Mr. Kelly: Obviously, those two gentlemen down there along with the Prosecuting Attorney's Office have spent much time in deliberation on this.

Commissioner O'Grady: Well, it's an important thing that we do on behalf of the residents of the community, you know, just to get this thing done and we're all glad that we're a part of saving the Crew, and now let's get this thing done.

Mr. Kelly: I'm sure you all saw last night, City Council approved the agreement.

Commissioner Boyce: I'll say what I've said before, I love the Crew, I love soccer, but this is really about economic development for Franklin County, and Central Ohio. It's about job creation, about neighborhood development, about making the quality of life for Central Ohio residents, about creating opportunities. I know my colleagues have talked extensively about this, and have utilized the kind of resources that I think this is a good example of using resources strategically for that purpose.

Commissioner O'Grady: Commissioner Boyce is absolutely correct. Saving the Crew is a fantastic side note to the idea that ROI on this deal for the county is unbelievable. It's just a great deal for us, and for the residents of the community, so it's just a no brainer.

President Brown: It really saves the community and helps a community that's so vibrant, even get more vibrant and keep going in a forward direction, and saving the team and really creating that vibrancy that we know we have already. Working the way we do in this community with everybody working together for the same kind of result that we got in doing this, I think was what we all do so well here. This is economic development at its best, when we all want the same thing, and work toward it.

Mr. Kelly: Mr. Jim Schimmer's department was very influential in that.

Commissioner Boyce: It should be noted that our commitment is annually subject to appropriation of the Board of Commissioners. I think that also is something for us at a strategic level and investment, this is something that we will have to consider each year for so many years, as our investment becomes something that will be something that we look at and analyze annually. To Commissioner O'Grady's point, to look at the ROI to make sure they're getting the best bang for our buck with resources of Franklin County.

Mr. Wilson: We're working through this. Our number one priority was community benefit, the development of jobs. We all knew that the community, keeping this team was very important to the fabric of the community, but fortunately we're able to craft an agreement which allows us to have a focus on economic development. That's the way it started, nearly 800 jobs in the initial phase of the work.

Commissioner O'Grady: So that's an important point to also point out, is the Community Reinvestment Act that's a part of this. It not only covers the new stadium that's going to be built over near the ballpark, but it also covers Mapfre Stadium. Which is in my mind the other key piece of this, because that allows for more of the county's involvement moving forward as the dollars are invested there and the development is done there. That allows for the creation of that training facility and creation of all of those facilities. The

City is going to build a Community Sport's Park and that allows for our involvement potentially with the City and our clients, the folks that we serve on a regular basis. The residents that we work with on a daily basis through our Department of Job and Family Services, potentially a multitude of our other agencies so that we can then partner with the City and be able to continue to serve our clients and that's something we talked through during this entire process. It was similar to another deal that we thought we had done, but it didn't work out, but it allows us to continue to be able to do that, it's another aspect of this deal that allows us to be able to work with our residents.

Mr. Wilson: The hope and the goal of having this historically diversity and inclusion as a part of this project. There's a large outreach event at New Salem Baptist Church with two hundred people with interests at how they may benefit from both phases of this development, both Confluence Park and the Community Sports Park and the redevelopment amongst the training facility.

Commissioner Boyce: I'll just add to that, Administrator Wilson talked about the Sports Authority, the state authority will have to issue some debt around some of this just to get this sort of present value of it down, but even there when I look at minority participation financing side, so very ahead of the mark, the financial element. I also want to add, recently I had someone approach me about Franklin County, what was deemed to investing into a soccer stadium, and I said this is to be an economic development investment. If you don't think that investment is important, ask the construction workers that are on a jobsite for the next two years, building a stadium. Ask the small business that opens up in the region and has a customer base that is able to create jobs behind that. Ask the family that may move into that area or the millennial that may move into that area and count that as their neighborhood of well-being and living space. I look at everything from the financial lens, so this to me is very strictly, to use Commissioner O'Grady's point, that the ROI kind of consideration, and I think the numbers tell the story best, and it's a logical and important investment for Franklin County.


Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution 0498-19, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.


With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:11 A.M.

(Signature Page Follows)

These minutes are a summary of the Commissioners' meeting of July 2, 2019.


Marilyn Brown
MARILYN BROWN, PRESIDENT


John O'Grady
JOHN O'GRADY


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

Submitted by:


Victoria Caldwell