

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF GENERAL SESSION

February 16, 2021

The Franklin County Board of Commissioners convened the General Session meeting via Zoom conferencing, at 9:00 A.M. on Tuesday, February 16, 2021.

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

Also present were Jeanine Hummer, First Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Prosecuting Attorney's Office; Kenneth N. Wilson, County Administrator; Zachary Talarek, Director, Office of Management & Budget; and, Dean M. Hindenlang, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners, amongst others.

*Participants were able to access General Session (via Zoom conferencing) by dialing (929) 436-2866, Meeting ID: 530 479 003; or by joining at: <https://franklincountyohio.zoom.us/j/530479003>*

President Boyce called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

President Boyce: As always during Black History Month during the month of February, we wanted to pay tribute to and honor the legacy of African Americans throughout the history of our great country. Today, we are excited to have a very special guest with us. I'd like to welcome Lyn Ford. Lyn Ford is a local teaching artist, published author, and storyteller of home-fried tales. Lyn is a fourth generation 'Affri-lachian,' facilitator with the Ohio Alliance for Arts Education, Thurber House mentor, laughter yoga instructor, and a fantastic cook. Congratulations on receiving the 2021 Storytelling World Resource Award for your book "Speak Peace: Words of Wisdom, Work & Wonder." Welcome Lyn. If you could please share one of your tales with us this morning that would be great.

Lyn Ford: Thank you very much for inviting me. My storytelling is rooted primarily in listening to my dad and my grandfather, my pop-pops, who was a tall-tale teller. But grandma said he was just a liar. I researched some of the stories that I heard as a child and I found that this one's roots are from the west coast of the continent of Africa, into Central Africa and other places, where lions live. It's a story of three young men who were making their way to the marketplace, and as they walked down the path to the road that would lead to town. They met three young and hungry lions. They could tell by the way those lions were smiling, that kind of grin that says, oh, good morning breakfast. Well, one of those young men was big and strong and he balled up his fists as if to fight and then he looked at the muscles in the backs and the legs of those lions and he took off running into the woods and made his way through the brush and the trees until he could manage to step out

in town. The second young man was lean and quick, and he thought perhaps he could run past those lions until he remembered how quickly lions can run, especially when they're hungry. So, he ran lickety-split through the woods, getting scratched by the brushes and the briars, until he got to town in the marketplace, both leaving behind the third young man who was a storyteller. Now, that young man looked at those lions and he said, kind sirs, it's always good to be polite. I am neither strong nor quick, and the way you are looking at me, I know what you intend to do and so I ask, I plead, please, could you let me do the thing I do best. Just one more time, please, could I tell you a story? Well everybody loves stories. So, the lions lay on the path and waited for the story to begin. The young storyteller took a deep breath, and then he began. Once there were three young men, who were on their way to the marketplace, and as they made their way to the road, they met three young and hungry lions. One young man ran through the forest, and then the other young man ran leaving behind one, all alone. Now he was not big, and he was very lean, and so he wondered which one of those lions would get to eat him. You see, he was not enough for three and that is the riddle of this tale. Which one lion would get to eat the storyteller, and then the storyteller shut his mouth? It's good to know when to shut your mouth, and those lions began to discuss things in the way that lions will do. They showed their claws, they bared their teeth, they snarled and growled, they fought with one another and as they did, the young storyteller backed to one side, made his way around them and down the road to town, where his friends were already mourning his death loudly in the marketplace. But when they saw him, they ran to him and they asked, what did you do, what power did you have that saved you from three lions? The storyteller said, I have the power that everyone should have, I knew how to tell a very convincing story, and I knew when to shut my mouth. And that's the end of that story.

(Laughter)

President Boyce: Where can we get your book and if someone wants to follow you or get to learn more about some of your stories that you share, where would we access that information?

Ms. Ford: You can reach me through my website, which is: [www.storytellerlynford.com](http://www.storytellerlynford.com). I am also in the artist's directories of the Ohio Arts Council, and the Alliance for Arts Education for their teaching artists. As for the way you would reach me there, I think you would go through [www.oaae.net](http://www.oaae.net), for the Ohio Alliance for Arts Education and through [www.oac.ohio.gov](http://www.oac.ohio.gov), for the Ohio Arts Council. The book, "Speak Peace," came from everyone being upset on Facebook. It's actually an outgrowth of people responding on Facebook to all the things that we all know have happened at times and everybody was just whining and moaning. I don't mean to sound negative about it, but my thought was, what are you going to do about it. So, my thought was, with a friend sharing to put together a book that included their suggestions for what we could do to speak peace with one another and to add to it the work of artists and storytellers who are working toward peace with different organizations and essays, and some folktales, so it's a resource for people, and that's how it got the Storytelling Resource Award.

President Boyce: It is also American Heart Month, and it is my pleasure to welcome our Franklin County Public Health Commissioner, Joe Mazzola, in his capacity as American Heart Association of Central Ohio Board member. February is American Heart Month, a time we nationally spotlight

heart disease, as the number one killer of Americans. Can you share what's happening in our community to highlight heart health?

Joe Mazzola, Health Commissioner, Franklin County Public Health: Good morning, Commissioners and County Administration. I'm very excited and really appreciate the Commissioners taking a few minutes to talk about Heart Health Month. We're privileged to have Brenda Baird, the Executive Director of the American Heart Association of Central Ohio with us. I want to thank you for your continued commitment to health and wellness for our community. Franklin County Public Health and the American Heart Association are pleased to co-lead the Franklin County hypertension network, and Brenda will talk a little more about that. The county's continued support of public health and wellness for its employees, our residents, is just unparalleled and we want to make sure that we highlight this particular disease this month. As you mentioned Commissioner Boyce, it takes such a toll on our community and on our nation. So, we're making good progress here in Franklin County. We have a lot of stakeholders around the table who are working diligently to reduce hypertension in our community, and I'm excited about the progress that we're going to continue to make. As you mentioned, I am a proud board member of the American Heart Association of Central Ohio. I am very pleased to introduce our Executive Director, Brenda Baird to talk a little bit more about hypertension, heart disease, and what we're doing here in Franklin County and Central Ohio.

Brenda Baird, Executive Director, American Heart Association of Central Ohio: Good morning, Commissioners. Happy Black History Month and Happy American Heart Month. I understand the Commissioners have the resolution declaring February as Heart Month, and why that's so important to us, is because heart disease is the number one cause of death here in the United States and worldwide. Eighty percent of cardiac deaths are preventable and that's through better lifestyle choices. So, it's been a tremendous privilege to be able to work with Joe Mazzola and be the lead agency working on the hypertension network, really focused on improving health outcomes. So, each February, we wanted to make sure that you knew during this month, the women unite around, "Go Red" initiative, and why this initiative is important, because heart disease is the number one health threat for all women. Go Red was designed to increase women's heart health awareness and serve as a catalyst for change to improve the lives of women globally. Over the last seventeen years, we've been active here in Franklin County, focused on not only funding research, but advancing public health policy, championing, closing gender gaps and addressing the social determinants of health, while creating a platform for women to address their greatest health risk, which is cardiovascular disease. Since the inception of Go Red, the AHA has decreased death rates for women by three hundred percent per day and we're super proud of that. However, heart disease still claims one in three women every single day. So, through our efforts with Go Red, we're to ensure awareness and empowering women to take charge of their heart health. This includes providing interactive tools and resources for individuals to take charge of their heart health and track their health information. Things that we promote through the hypertension network include live simple seven, and those resources can be found at [www.heart.org](http://www.heart.org).

Commissioner Brown: I know with women's heart issues there are different symptoms that women face, and they're not often advertised. There are different symptoms that women can have, can you talk a little bit about the symptoms that are different in women as opposed to men?

Ms. Baird: Yes. I lost my mom to a massive heart attack right before my senior year in college and I've made this my lifelong career. So, in knowing those symptoms and how they present differently in women is just a critical message to get out to everyone. Some of the differences, my own mother had and expressed right before her cardiac event, they tend to experience more indigestion-like symptoms that don't seem to be present in men and extreme fatigue. I think often, women are more likely just to dismiss those symptoms of just being part of the routine of the day. So, I think that knowing how you feel and if something's not right, to trust that gut instinct and to follow up and ask about it. So, that goes for men and women. But other symptoms that are similar between men and women, are jaw, neck or back pain, squeezing or pressure in the chest, women don't always have that like men do, and of course shortness of breath is shared among both. I think the main thing is, when things don't feel right, be your own health advocate, keep asking questions, go to the American Heart Association's website, and keep asking questions to your doctor.

Approval of the minutes of the February 9, 2021, General Session; the February 11, 2021, Briefing Session; and, the February 8, and 10, 2021, Administrative Briefings. Commissioner Brown moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The minutes were unanimously approved by roll call vote.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Resolution regarding the vacation of Armuth Avenue, Carroll Road, and two (2) public alleys, Mifflin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, viewed, Engineer to file report by February 23, 2021.

President Boyce: I would like to open the Public Hearing. Would anyone like to speak regarding this Public Hearing? Seeing none, I will close the Public Hearing.

**Resolution No. 0110-21**, vacation of Armuth Avenue, Carroll Road, and two (2) public alleys, Mifflin Township, Franklin County, Ohio, viewed, Engineer to file report by February 23, 2021 (Engineer), presented by Cornell Robertson, Engineer, Engineer's Office.

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

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 0110-21, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0111-21**, accepting the annual bridge inspection report for 2020 (Engineer), presented by Cornell Robertson, Engineer, Engineer's Office.

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

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 0111-21, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0112-21**, approving the 2020 Annual County Highway System Mileage Report (Engineer), presented by Cornell Robertson, Engineer, Engineer's Office.

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

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 0112-21, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0113-21**, report (3rd) of the Franklin County Engineer, establishing sums of compensation for a portion of the owners of property abutting the Morse Road at Babbitt Road Improvement project, Plain Township and Jefferson Township, Franklin County, Ohio (\$17,715.00) (Engineer), presented by Cornell Robertson, Engineer, Engineer's Office.

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

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 0113-21, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0114-21**, authorizing a contract with Dalene M. Pride, consultant, to provide expert consultant services to identify erroneous motor vehicle license registrations (\$20,000.00) (Engineer), presented by Cornell Robertson, Engineer, Engineer's Office.

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

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 0114-21, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0115-21**, awarding contract and approving contract bond to Shelly & Sands, Inc., for the Refugee Road 5.99 over Big Walnut Creek Improvement project (\$2,589,380.83) (Engineer), presented by Cornell Robertson, Engineer, Engineer's Office.

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

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 0115-21, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0116-21**, authorizing six grant agreements to provide community stabilization services for Franklin County Senior Options (\$240,122.00) (Office on Aging), presented by Damika Withers, Assistant Director of Support Services, Office on Aging.

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

*Victoria Harris, senior and program recipient, addressed the Board in support of the proposed resolution.*

Joy Bivens, Deputy County Administrator: For seniors who see this story and other families who see this story in our county, how can they get connected to the program and is there capacity for additional seniors to have access to this? If not, can you and I have an offline conversation on what we would need to happen?

Ms. Withers: Seniors can contact Central Community House directly, or they can contact Franklin County Office on Aging at (614) 525-6200, to be connected to these programs that we offer through our grant agencies.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 0116-21, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0117-21**, authorizing two grant agreements to provide intergenerational services for Franklin County Senior Options (\$125,044.00) (Office on Aging), presented by Damika Withers, Assistant Director of Support Services, Office On Aging.

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

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 0117-21, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0118-21**, authorizing five grant agreements to provide small group transportation services for Franklin County Senior Options (\$321,083.00) (Office on Aging), presented by Damika Withers, Assistant Director of Support Services, Office On Aging.

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

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 0118-21, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0119-21**, review of a petition to annex 30.2 +/- acres from Hamilton Township to the City of Columbus, Case #ANX-01-21 (Economic Development and Planning), presented by Jenny Snapp, Assistant Director, Economic Development and Planning.

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

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 0119-21, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote, with President Boyce abstaining.

**Resolution No. 0120-21**, review of a petition to annex 1.2 +/- acres from Mifflin Township to the City of Columbus, Case #ANX-02-21 (Economic Development and Planning), presented by Jenny Snapp, Assistant Director, Economic Development and Planning.

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

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 0120-21, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0121-21**, authorizing memorandums of understanding with Franklin County Public Health and Columbus Public Health for staffing and supportive services related to the Franklin County Rapid Resource Center through the FY 2018 Targeted Capacity Expansion grant program (\$10,000.00) (Justice Policy and Programs), presented by Melissa Pierson, Interim Director, Justice Policy and Programs.

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

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 0121-21, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0122-21**, authorizing the County Administrator to execute a contract agreement with Kalkreuth Roofing and Sheet Metal, Inc. to perform roofing & siding activities associated with the construction of the Franklin County Corrections Center Continuation Phase 2A (\$2,150,000.00) (Public Facilities Management), presented by Darla Reardon, Director, Public Facilities Management.

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

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 0122-21, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0123-21**, authorizing the County Administrator to execute a contract agreement with Mouser Masonry, Inc. to perform masonry activities associated with the construction of the Franklin County Corrections Center Continuation Phase 2A (\$5,555,000.00) (Public Facilities Management), presented by Vivian Alexander, Chief Operating Officer, Public Facilities Management.

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

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0123-21, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0124-21**, authorizing the County Administrator to execute a contract agreement with Omni Fireproofing Co., LLC to perform fireproofing activities associated with the construction of the Franklin County Corrections Center Continuation Phase 2A (\$677,653.00) (Public Facilities Management), presented by Darla Reardon, Director, Public Facilities Management.

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

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0124-21, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0125-21**, authorizing the County Administrator to execute a contract agreement with Teemok Construction, Inc. to perform general trades activities associated with the construction of the Franklin County Corrections Center Continuation Phase 2A (\$5,070,000.00) (Public Facilities Management), presented by Vivian Alexander, Chief Operating Officer, Public Facilities Management.

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

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0125-21, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0126-21**, authorizing the County Administrator to execute a contract agreement with Wanner Metal Worx, Inc. to perform miscellaneous steel activities associated with the construction of the Franklin County Corrections Center Continuation Phase 2A (\$2,315,275.00) (Public Facilities Management), presented by Darla Reardon, Director, Public Facilities Management.



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

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0126-21, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0127-21**, authorizing the County Administrator to execute a modification to the contract agreement with Cornerstone Detention Products, Inc. to perform additional detention equipment activities associated with the construction of the Franklin County Corrections Center Continuation Phase 2A in the amount of the contract not to exceed \$7,319,000.00, and authorizing the County Administrator to approve and execute additional minor modifications to the contract agreement (\$7,319,000.00) (Public Facilities Management), presented by Vivian Alexander, Chief Operating Officer, Public Facilities Management.

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

Commissioner O'Grady moved to approve Resolution 0127-21, seconded by President Boyce. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0128-21**, approving purchases for various Franklin County agencies (\$11,798,849.42) (Purchasing), presented by Megan Perry-Balonier, Director, Purchasing.

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

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 0128-21, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote, with President Boyce abstaining.

**Resolution No. 0129-21**, appointing the Franklin County Apiary Inspector for 2021 (\$12,000.00) (Board of Commissioners), presented by Zachary Talarek, Director, Office of Management & Budget, Board of Commissioners.

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

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 0129-21, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

President Boyce: Is it state law that requires us to have an Apiary contract?

Commissioner Brown: Yes.

**Resolution No. 0130-21**, appointing and reappointing members to the Franklin County Criminal Justice Planning Board (Board of Commissioners), presented by Erik Janas, Deputy County Administrator, Board of Commissioners.

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

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 0130-21, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0131-21**, reappointing various members of the Franklin County Children Services Board (Board of Commissioners), presented by Erik Janas, Deputy County Administrator, Board of Commissioners.

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

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 0131-21, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

Dean M. Hindenlang, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners read one (1) Journalization into the record:

Case number ANX-03-21, an expedited type 2 annexation petition, ANX-03-21, was filed with the Franklin County Economic Development and Planning Department on February 9, 2021. The petition is requesting to annex 0.5 +/- acres from Mifflin Township to the City of Columbus. The petition will be considered by the Board of Commissioners on March 16, 2021. Site: 2626 Johnstown Road; PID #190-004790.

**Resolution No. 0132-21**, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners to convene into Executive Session to confer with the Franklin County Prosecutor's Office concerning pending or imminent litigation (Board of Commissioners).

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution 0132-21, to confer with the Franklin County Prosecutor's Office concerning pending or imminent litigation, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by roll call vote and the Commissioners convened into Executive Session at 10:21 A.M.

At 10:45 A.M., Commissioner O'Grady moved to come out of Executive Session, with President Boyce seconding, which was approved by roll call vote. No action was taken upon exiting

Executive Session, and with no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 A.M.

**(Signature Page Follows)**

These minutes are a general summary of the Commissioners' General Session meeting of February 16, 2021.



**KEVIN L. BOYCE, PRESIDENT**



**MARILYN BROWN**



**JOHN O'GRADY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

Submitted by:



Victoria A. Caldwell