

**Regular Meeting #14 - 2025**  
**Fairfield County Commissioners' Office**  
**April 1, 2025**

**Review Meeting**

The Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. at 210 E. Main St., Lancaster, OH. Commissioner Fix called the meeting to order, and the following Commissioners were present: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and David Levacy. County employees present: County Administrator, Aundrea Cordle; Deputy County Administrator, Jeff Porter; Clerk to the Board of Commissioners, Rochelle Menningen; Communications & Information Coordinator, Bennett Niceswanger; Budget Director, Bart Hampson; JFS Director, Corey Clark; IT Director, Daniel Neeley; EMA & Facilities Director, Jon Kochis; Utilities Director, Tony Vogel; Auditor, Dr. Carri Brown; Health Commissioner, Joe Ebel; Clerk of Courts, Branden Meyer; Treasurer, Jim Bahnsen; Budget Officer, Staci Knisley; FCFC Manager, Tiffany Wilson; Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Amy Brown-Thompson; Account Clerk, Emylee Gussler; Payroll Clerk, Chirstina Foster; Planner, Josh Hillberry; Human Resources Assistant, Lori Hawk; Service Desk Supervisor, Jimmie Gordon; Public Information Specialist, Donna Stalter; Economic & Workforce Development Director, Rick Szabrak; Engineer, Jeremiah Upp; Sheriff's Deputy, Kevin Romine; Urban Specialist, Chad Lucht; Workforce Clerical Specialist, Jenny Sturgeon; Also in attendance: Sherry Pymer, Ray Stemen, Garrett Davis, Jane Harf, Melissa Dever, Stephanie Taylor, Tina Anderson, Samantha Meadows, and Jerry Starner.

Virtual attendees: Lori Hawk, Charlie Schindler, Tony Vogel, Jennifer Morgan, Park Russell, Beth Cottrell, Baylie Blevins, Steven Darnell, Lori Lovas, Chris, Ashley Arter, Nicole Schultz, Belinda Nebbergall, Rachel Elsea, Vince Carpico, Shelby Hunt, Jessica Murphy, Jeanie Wears, Stacy Hicks, Jeff Barron, Britney Lee, BGM, Greg Forquer, Alex Lape, Michael Kaper, Deborah, Josh Horacek, Andrea Spires, and Jason Grubb.

**Welcome**

Commissioner Fix opened the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance.

**Introduction of the Fairfield County United Way Chief Executive Officer, Melissa Dever**

Commissioner Davis spoke about the selection process for the new United Way Chief Executive Officer, Melissa Dever. He stated there were many excellent candidates for the position and he is excited that Ms. Dever was selected.

Ms. Dever spoke about her years of experience fundraising for non-profit agencies and in several capacities as a social worker. She stated that she is very excited to be working with the many agencies in Fairfield County and with the team at United Way.

The Commissioners welcomed Ms. Dever and stated that they were excited to see what was to come for the Fairfield County United Way.

**Listen & Learn, Health Update**

Joe Ebel, Health Commissioner, provided an update on the Fairfield County Health Department. He summarized the Health Department's vision and highlighted activities from 2024 such as community outreach and grant monies awarded. The department received over \$1.8 million in grants in 2024, and the money was used for programs that keep kids safe and healthy, drug prevention, and several public health initiatives. The department has many plans for 2025 such as the addition of a case management and referral professional.

**Regular Meeting #14 - 2025**  
**Fairfield County Commissioners' Office**  
**April 1, 2025**

Commissioner Levacy spoke about the improvements in the County's Health Department since the addition of Mr. Ebel.

**Public Comments**

Ray Stemen of Lancaster offered a prayer for the leadership of the county.

**Legal Update**

Amy Brown-Thompson spoke about a new contract routing form due to O.R.C. 307.901 that will be effective April 9, 2025.

**County Administration Update**

- *The County Administration Update was provided by the County Administrator, Aundrea Cordle, unless otherwise noted.*

*April is National County Government Month (NCGM)*

National County Government Month is a great opportunity to highlight the role that counties play in serving our residents and all Ohioans. Throughout April we will highlight some of the essential services that county government provides.

*Ohio Public Works Programs*

On May 6th voters will have the opportunity to vote on the renewal of the Ohio Public Works Program. This program funds essential infrastructure programs in Ohio communities. This past December, the Ohio Senate started the process to continue a program that has been previously renewed three times, by adopting House Joint Resolution 8. Nearly 19,000 projects have been funded in every one of Ohio's 88 counties. In Fairfield County, the program has funded bridge replacements, street, culvert and drainage improvements, waterline replacements, and much more.

Engineer Upp stated that the program provides money that allows for jobs to be completed more efficiently. It is a renewal levy and not an increase.

**Highlights of Resolutions**

*Administrative Approvals*

The review packet contains a list of administrative approvals.

*Resolution Review*

There are 27 resolutions on the agenda for the Regular voting meeting.

Resolutions of note:

- There are 17 financial resolutions on today's agenda. Eight of which are to appropriate unappropriated funds. The other ten are for second quarter allocations,

**Regular Meeting #14 - 2025**  
**Fairfield County Commissioners' Office**  
**April 1, 2025**

account-to-account transfers, memo receipts, and for the approval of the payment of bills.

- The Engineer's Office has two resolutions for the Pickerington Road Bridge Replacement Project. One approves the contract with J&J Bridge Co., Inc, for the replacement of the bridge, and the other approves the Notice to Commence. The Engineer's Office also has a resolution to approve changing load ratings for bridges.

Engineer Upp stated that his office watches for new requirements each year.

- Facilities has a resolution to approve the bid award to Gutknecht Construction for the medical lab space at the Workforce Center.

Mr. Kochis stated the resolution is for the next phase of improvements at the Workforce Center. Construction should start next week and finish by October.

Mr. Szabrak thanked Facilities for working diligently to get the project started.

- And, JFS has six resolutions for the approvals of service agreements with JFS, Child Protective Services, for network placements.

**Budget Review**

- Budget Director, Bart Hampson, stated the 2026 budget season opens today. There are no surprises in parameters. Elected Officials and Department heads will receive an invitation to set up budget meetings to begin discussions.

**Calendar Review/Invitations Received**

- *The Calendar and Correspondence reviews were provided by Ms. Menningen.*

*Informational Items*

- Regional Planning Commission Meeting, April 1, 2025, 6:00 p.m., Fairfield County Records Center, 138 W. Chestnut St., Lancaster

**Correspondence**

- Lancaster Eagle Gazette, March 26, 2025, Jeff Barron, "Fairfield County Commissioner Dave Levacy Wants to Start a Local Veterans Hall of Fame"
- Letter from the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, R. Kyle Witt, March 26, 2025, Regarding 2026 Appropriations for Compensation of Elected Officials
- Correspondence Regarding Industrial Solar Projects

**Regular Meeting #14 - 2025**  
**Fairfield County Commissioners' Office**  
**April 1, 2025**

**Updates from Elected Officials and Department Heads**

Treasurer Bahnsen is looking for another provider for some of his processes.

Engineer Upp's department is finishing up winter projects and has been picking up roadway litter. They are getting work lined up for culverts.

Auditor Brown continues to explore artificial intelligence. She also reported that the PAFR received an award for excellence. Her office has issued fact sheets for property tax levies which are on the May ballot. The April Map of the Month shows historic and new walking and bike trails in Fairfield County.

Mr. Szabrak stated Hicks Partners is holding a non-profit grant workshop which already has 30 registrations. He thanked Jenny Sturgeon for being the face of the Workforce Center.

Mr. Kochis stated the entrance for the Workforce Center will change. He also mentioned that there will be lots of rain this week which could cause some flooding.

Mr. Clark stated the Child Abuse Prevention Breakfast will be next week at Life Church in Pleasantville.

**Old Business**

Commissioner Davis met with a transit coordinator from the Uber Company to see how they could be helpful in Fairfield County. They will conduct a high level analysis of the county's transit needs.

Commissioner Levacy attended the Celebration of Possibilities and thinks it was an exceptional event.

Commissioner Fix also attended the Celebration of Possibilities and added that it is inspiring when people are recognized for their work. He also participated in a Township Association meeting. The county's townships are engaged in managing the growth that is coming to the area.

**New Business**

Commissioner Fix spoke about upcoming CCAO meetings which would include county and state officials.

**Regular Meeting #14 - 2025**  
**Fairfield County Commissioners' Office**  
**April 1, 2025**

**Regular (Voting) Meeting**

The Commissioners continued to the voting portion of the meeting with the following Commissioners present: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and David Levacy. County employees present: County Administrator, Aundrea Cordle; Deputy County Administrator, Jeff Porter; Clerk to the Board of Commissioners, Rochelle Menningen; Communications & Information Coordinator, Bennett Niceswanger; Budget Director, Bart Hampson; JFS Director, Corey Clark; IT Director, Daniel Neeley; EMA & Facilities Director, Jon Kochis; Utilities Director, Tony Vogel; Auditor, Dr. Carri Brown; Health Commissioner, Joe Ebel; Clerk of Courts, Branden Meyer; Treasurer, Jim Bahnsen; Budget Officer, Staci Knisley; FCFC Manager, Tiffany Wilson; Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Amy Brown-Thompson; Account Clerk, Emylee Gussler; Payroll Clerk, Chirstina Foster; Planner, Josh Hillberry; Human Resources Assistant, Lori Hawk; Service Desk Supervisor, Jimmie Gordon; Public Information Specialist, Donna Stalter; Economic & Workforce Development Director, Rick Szabrak; Engineer, Jeremiah Upp; Sheriff's Deputy, Kevin Romine; Urban Specialist, Chad Lucht; Workforce Clerical Specialist, Jenny Sturgeon; Also in attendance: Sherry Pymmer, Ray Stemen, Garrett Davis, Jane Harf, Melissa Dever, Stephanie Taylor, Tina Anderson, Samantha Meadows, and Jerry Starner.

Virtual attendees: Lori Hawk, Charlie Schindler, Tony Vogel, Jennifer Morgan, Park Russell, Beth Cottrell, Baylie Blevins, Steven Darnell, Lori Lovas, Chris, Ashley Arter, Nicole Schultz, Belinda Nebbergall, Rachel Elsea, Vince Carpico, Shelby Hunt, Jessica Murphy, Jeanie Wears, Stacy Hicks, Jeff Barron, Britney Lee, BGM, Greg Forquer, Alex Lape, Michael Kaper, Deborah, Josh Horacek, Andrea Spires, and Jason Grubb.

**Announcements**

None.

**Approval of Minutes for March 25, 2025**

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Minutes for Tuesday, March 25, 2025, meeting.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix

**Approval of Resolutions from the Fairfield County Commissioners**

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from the Fairfield County Commissioners:

- |              |                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2025-04.01.a | A resolution authorizing a fund to fund transfer for Fairfield County Job and Family Services (JFS) for the 2nd Quarter 2025 Allocation                                         |
| 2025-04.01.b | A resolution approving an account to account transfer in a major object expense category for the FY2022 CDBG Grant                                                              |
| 2025-04.01.c | A Resolution Authorizing a Fund-to-Fund Transfer to the Fairfield County Family and Children First Council for the Multi-Youth Committee Second Payment for the 2025 Allocation |

**Regular Meeting #14 - 2025  
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office  
April 1, 2025**

2025-04.01.d      A Resolution Authorizing a Fund-to-Fund Transfer for the Second Quarter  
2025 Allocation for the Multi County Juvenile Detention Center

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: David Levacy, Steve Davis and Jeff Fix

**Approval of Resolutions from the Fairfield County Clerk of Courts – Legal Division**

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from the Fairfield County Clerk of Courts – Legal Division:

2025-04.01.e      A Resolution Approving an Account-to-Account Transfer into a Major  
Expenditure Object Category –1110

2025-04.01.f      A Resolution to Appropriate from Unappropriated in a Major Expenditure  
Object Category for Clerk of Courts Legal; Fund # 2318, Computer Fund

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix

**Approval of a Resolution from the Fairfield County Court of Common Pleas**

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from the Fairfield County Court of Common Pleas:

2025-04.01.g      A Resolution to Appropriate from Unappropriated in a Major Expenditure  
Object Category for Adult Probation; Fund # 2365, County Probation

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix

**Approval of Resolutions from the Fairfield County Engineer**

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from the Fairfield County Engineer:

2025-04.01.h      A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure  
object category County Engineer 2024-Motor Vehicle for other services

2025-04.01.i      A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure  
object category County Engineer 2024-Motor Vehicle for contractual  
services

2025-04.01.j      A resolution to approve a memo expense for W. Buckeye Lake/Ballard  
Lane expenses - Fairfield County Commissioners

2025-04.01.k      A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure  
object category County Engineer 2024-Motor Vehicle for software

**Regular Meeting #14 - 2025**  
**Fairfield County Commissioners' Office**  
**April 1, 2025**

- 2025-04.01.l      A Resolution to Approve the Contract with J&J Bridge Co., Inc. for the BLO-36, FAI-CR20-1.964 Pickerington Road Bridge Replacement Project
- 2025-04.01.m      A Resolution to Approve the Notice to Commence for the BLO-36, FAI-CR20-1.964 Pickerington Road Bridge Replacement Project
- 2025-04.01.n      A Resolution to Change Bridge Load Ratings

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix

**Approval of a Resolution from Fairfield County Facilities**

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from Fairfield County Facilities:

- 2025-04.01.o      A Resolution Accepting the Bids and Authorizing the Approval Bid Award

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix

**Approval of Resolutions from Fairfield County Job and Family Services**

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from Fairfield County Job and Family Services:

- 2025-04.01.p      A resolution to approve a memo exp./ memo receipt for the costs of Birth Certificates paid to Fairfield County Health Departments as a memo expenditure for fund# 2072 Public Children's Services
- 2025-04.01.q      A Resolution Authorizing the Approval of a Service Agreement by and between Fairfield County Job & Family Services, Child Protective Services, and Healing Pathways Transitional Homes, Inc.
- 2025-04.01.r      A Resolution Authorizing the Approval of a Service Agreement by and between Fairfield County Job & Family Services, Child Protective Services, and Just Like Us Enrichment Agency Inc.
- 2025-04.01.s      A Resolution Authorizing the Approval of a Service Agreement by and between Fairfield County Job & Family Services, Child Protective Services, and NECCO Inc.
- 2025-04.01.t      A Resolution Authorizing the Approval of a Service Agreement by and between Fairfield County Job & Family Services, Child Protective Services, and ENA Inc.
- 2025-04.01.u      A Resolution Authorizing the Approval of a Service Agreement by and between Fairfield County Job & Family Services, Child Protective Services, and The Village Network

**Regular Meeting #14 - 2025**  
**Fairfield County Commissioners' Office**  
**April 1, 2025**

2025-04.01.v      A Resolution Authorizing the Approval of a Service Agreement by and between Fairfield County Job & Family Services, Child Protective Services, and Ohio Guidestone

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:  
Voting aye thereon: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix

**Approval of a Resolution from Fairfield County Juvenile/Probate Court**

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from Fairfield County Juvenile/Probate Court:

2025-04.01.w      A Resolution Authorizing the Second Amendment to the FY25 Grant Agreement with the Ohio Department of Youth Services

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:  
Voting aye thereon: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix

**Approval of Resolutions from the Fairfield County Sheriff**

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from the Fairfield County Sheriff:

2025-04.01.x      A Resolution to Appropriate from Unappropriated in a Major Expenditure Object Category for Sheriff's Office; Fund 2711, Continuous Professional Training

2025-04.01.y      A Resolution to Appropriate from Unappropriated in a Major Expenditure Object Category for Sheriff's Office; Fund 2503, Police Revolving

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:  
Voting aye thereon: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix

**Approval of a Resolution from Fairfield County Utilities**

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from Fairfield County Utilities:

2025-04.01.z      A Resolution to Appropriate from Unappropriated in a Major Expenditure Object Category for Utilities; Fund 5044 Sewer & Fund 5046 Water

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:  
Voting aye thereon: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix

**Approval of the Payment of Bills**

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution for the Payment of Bills:

2025-04.01.aa      A Resolution Authorizing the Approval of Payment of Invoices for Departments that Need Board of Commissioners' Approval

**Regular Meeting #14 - 2025  
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office  
April 1, 2025**

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix

**Adjournment**

Commissioner Davis reiterated his excitement about the direction of United Way under the new leadership of Melissa Dever.

With no further business, on the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn at 9:51 a.m.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 8, 2025, in the Commissioners' Hearing Room, 210 E. Main St., Lancaster, OH.

---

Motion by: David Levacy

Seconded by: Steve Davis

that the April 1, 2025, minutes were approved by the following vote:

YEAS: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix

NAYS: None

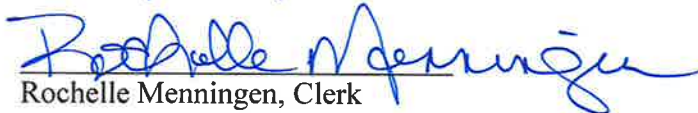
ABSTENTIONS:

\*Approved on April 8, 2025

  
Jeff Fix  
Commissioner

  
Steve Davis  
Commissioner

  
David Levacy  
Commissioner

  
Rochelle Menningen, Clerk

---

**THIS PAGE  
INTENTIONALLY  
LEFT BLANK**

