

Regular Meeting #45 - 2025
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
October 21, 2025

Review Meeting

The Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners Hearing Room located 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. Also present: County Administrator, Aundrea Cordle; Deputy County Administrator, Jeff Porter; Information and Communications Coordinator, Bennett Niceswanger; Budget Director, Bart Hampson; Budget Officer, Staci Knisley; Sheriff, Alex Lape; EMA and Facilities Director, Jon Kochis; Sergeant James Williams; Sheriff's Deputy, Kevin Romine; IT Director, Dan Neeley; JFS Director, Corey Clark; Recorder, Lisa McKenzie; Soil and Water Manager, Nikki Drake; Treasurer, Jim Bahnsen; Auditor, Dr. Carri Brown; Engineer, Jeremiah Upp; Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Amy Brown-Thompson; Deputy JFS Director, Heather O'Keefe; Utilities Director, Tony Vogel; Economic & Workforce Development Director, Rick Szabrak; Interim RPC Director, Holly Mattei; and Economic Development Specialist, Anthony Iachini. Also in attendance: Chris Snider, Garrett Davis, Sherry Pymer, Beverly Sturm, and Betty Bennett.

Virtual attendees: Rochelle Menningen, Josh Horacek, Ashley Arter, Lynette Barnhart, Steven Darnell, David Uhl, Deborah, Lori Hawk, Jessica Murphy, Shannon Ward, Andy Robberts, Sean Byrne, Andrew Hinton, Shelby Hunt, Jason Grubb, Vince Carpico, Stacy Hicks, Greg Forquer, Lori Lovas, Jim, Abby King, Jim Bahnsen, Jeff Barron, Britney Lee, Jerry Starner, Joe Ebel, Leighann Adams, Baylie Blevins, Bayley Fields, Brian Wolfe, and Lisa Rector.

Welcome

Commissioner Fix opened the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance.

Public Comments

Beverly Elder of Lockbourne thanked the commissioners for their support of the Fairfield County Fair. She spoke on her family lineage and their community involvement in Fairfield County.

Legal Update

None.

County Administration Update

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

Week in Review

October 28, 2025, Commissioner Meetings

The Commissioners will meet for their Review and Regular Meeting, next week, October 28th, at 1:00 p.m. The meeting will be held here, in the Hearing Room. The Budget Hearing will begin at 9:00 a.m. at that same day.

2026 Meeting Dates

During next week's voting portion of the meeting, the Commissioners will have a resolution to approve their 2026 Meeting Dates, times, and locations. This will include

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their regular meetings. State of the County, Leadership Conference, Roundtables, and Budget Hearing dates.

DD Appointments

The Fairfield County Board of Developmental Disabilities has three board appointments expiring on December 31st, Kellie Smith, Jessica Roth, and Becky Schaade. Dr. Uhl has emailed the Commissioners' Office and would like all three reappointed for a term beginning January 1, 2026, and ending December 31, 2029.

Highlights of Resolutions

Administrative Approvals

The review packet contains a list of administrative approvals.

Resolution Review

There are 22 resolutions on the agenda for the Regular voting meeting.

Resolutions of note:

- Economic and Workforce Development has two resolutions on the agenda. The first is a resolution authorizing an Enterprise Zone agreement between Fairfield County and Vantage Data Centers and authorizing a school compensation agreement. The second resolution is to authorize an escrow agreement between the county, the Village of Millersport, North Valley Bank, and Vantage Data Centers.

Rick Szabrak stated the resolution for the enterprise agreement allows Vantage Data Centers to power the data center without taking away electricity from the power grid. Under the escrow agreement, legal fees and other costs will be covered by Vantage Data Centers. Szabrak stated the agreement is a opportunity for the Village of Millersport and the two area school districts.

- The Engineer's Office has a resolution to authorize a Road Usage Agreement between Fairfield County and the Ohio Power Company.
- Facilities has a resolution to approve an easement for natural gas services at the airport.

Jon Kochis stated the resolution will allow natural gas to be provided to the new hangar.

- IT has a resolution to approve cybersecurity consulting services for 2025, 2026, and 2027, with Schneider Downs & Co, Inc.
- The Sheriff's Office has two resolutions approving the disposal of six disabled vehicles.
- Community Action has a resolution to approve the 4th quarter budget revisions for the CFLP Solid Waste District Recycling Services Contract.

Budget Review

There was no Budget Review.

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Calendar Review/Invitations Received

Informational Items

- Lancaster Fairfield Community Action Agency Board of Directors Meeting, October 23, 2025, 11:00 a.m., Virtual
- CFLP Solid Waste District Board of Directors Meeting, October 24, 2025, 9:00 a.m., Don Hill County Administration Building, 20 S. Second St., Newark

Correspondence

- Lancaster Eagle Gazette, October 13, 2025, Jane Imbody, "Ohio University Lancaster and Fairfield County Boost Manufacturing Talent"

Updates from Elected Officials and Department Heads

Sheriff Lape stated he and other law enforcement personnel from the area participated in law enforcement technologies coursework at Ohio University Lancaster.

Holly Mattei stated RPC is getting ready to solicit proposals from villages and townships for neighborhood revitalization grant programs.

Recorder McKenzie stated an oil and gas corporation had reached out to her office for records.

Garrett Davis of Fairfield County United Way stated the United Way campaign is approaching their goal and urged county departments to submit their pledge forms.

Engineer Upp spoke about presentations provided by his office and added that they will also have presentations on chainsaw safety and road safety.

Auditor Brown stated the county's investment income has increased by \$480,000. She added that her team met the October 15th deadline for the tax abstract, they are underway with the "Making Numbers Count" seminar and are conducting township and village training. She further added that she recently presented at the Pickerington Chamber and will attend the "Take Back the Night Event".

Nikki Drake spoke about the upcoming DEI takeback event at the Violet Township Service Center.

Tony Vogel spoke about contracts that the Utilities department is working on.

Rick Szabrak thanked Amy Brown-Thomson for her assistance with legal documents for the Vantage Data Center. He added that he attended an annual summit where Fairfield County Economic and Workforce Development was a finalist for an award due to their assistance with Pixelle employees in Chillicothe.

Jon Kochis stated the Workforce Center project and a couple other projects are coming to completion and Veterans Services will relocate to the Levacy Center on October 27th.

Dan Neeley stated that employee cybersecurity training is 73% complete.

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Corey Clark reported that JFS had 63 employers at the job fair.

Old Business

Commissioner Davis stated he is looking forward to volunteering with the Lancaster Festival.

Commissioner Levacy spoke about his focus on the November 13th Veterans Hall of Fame event where he is honored that General Harris will be the keynote speaker.

Commissioner Fix stated that MORPC posted a subset of the housing study and that he will be meeting with the Columbus Partnership on the topic.

New Business

None.

Regular (Voting) Meeting

The Commissioners continued to the Regular/Voting portion of the meeting, and the following Commissioners were present: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis and David Levacy. Also present: County Administrator, Aundrea Cordle; Deputy County Administrator, Jeff Porter; Information and Communications Coordinator, Bennett Niceswanger; Budget Director, Bart Hampson; Budget Officer, Staci Knisley; Sheriff, Alex Lape; EMA and Facilities Director, Jon Kochis; Seargent James Williams; Sheriff's Deputy, Kevin Romine; IT Director, Dan Neeley; JFS Director, Corey Clark; Recorder, Lisa McKenzie; Soil and Water Manager, Nikki Drake; Treasurer, Jim Bahnsen; Auditor, Dr. Carri Brown; Engineer, Jeremiah Upp; Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Amy Brown-Thompson; Deputy JFS Director, Heather O'Keefe; Utilities Director, Tony Vogel; Economic & Workforce Development Director, Rick Szabrak; Interim RPC Director, Holly Mattei; and Economic Development Specialist, Anthony Iachini. Also in attendance: Chris Snider, Garrett Davis, Sherry Pymmer, Beverly Sturm, and Betty Bennett.

Virtual attendees: Rochelle Menningen, Josh Horacek, Ashley Arter, Steven Darnell, David Uhl, Deborah, Lori Hawk, Jessica Murphy, Shannon Ward, Andy Robberts, Andrew Hinton, Shelby Hunt, Jason Grubb, Vince Carpico, Stacy Hicks, Greg Forquer, Lori Lovas, Jim, Jim Bahnsen, Britney Lee, Jerry Starnier, Joe Ebel, Leighann Adams, Baylie Blevins, Bayley Fields, Brian Wolfe, and Lisa Rector.

Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Fix asked everyone to rise as able and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements

Bennett Niceswanger stated that the resolution for Information Technology incorrectly lists the title of the resolution as an administrative approval but contains the correct language for a resolution. He added that he would correct the title of the resolution once it was read.

Approval of Minutes for October 14, 2025

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Minutes for the Tuesday, October 14, 2025, meeting.

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Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Approval of Budget Hearing Minutes for October 14, 2025

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Budget Hearing Minutes for the Tuesday, October 14, 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 Board of Commissioners

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

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| 2025-10.21.a | A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in major expenditure object categories for 911 Wireless Fund# 2683 |
| 2025-10.21.b | A resolution to approve to appropriate from unappropriated into a major expense category for the State Infrastructure Bank (SIB) Loan Basil Wester Fund# 4917. |

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 Board of Elections

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

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| 2025-10.21.c | A Resolution Approving an Account-to-Account Transfer into a Major Expenditure Object Category –Fund 1001, General Fund |
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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 Economic & Workforce Development

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 Economic & Workforce Development:

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| 2025-10.21.d | A resolution authorizing the execution and delivery of an enterprise zone agreement between the county and vantage data center management company; and authorizing the execution and delivery of a school compensation agreement and approving related materials. |
| 2025-10.21.e | A resolution authorizing the execution and delivery of an escrow agreement between the county, the village of Millersport, North Valley Bank, and Vantage Data Centers Management Company, and approving related materials. |

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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:

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| 2025-10.21.f | A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure object category County Engineer 2024-Motor Vehicle for materials & supplies |
| 2025-10.21.g | A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a major expenditure object category County Engineer 2024-Motor Vehicle for equipment |
| 2025-10.21.h | A resolution to request for appropriations for additional unanticipated receipts of memo receipts and memo expenses for fund 3445 BLO-36 bridge replacement |
| 2025-10.21.i | A resolution to approve the Road Usage Agreement between Fairfield County and Ohio Power Company, a unit of AEP |

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:

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| 2025-10.21.j | A resolution to approve an easement for natural gas service at the Airport |
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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 Information Technology

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 Information Technology:

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| 2025-10.21.k | A Resolution to Approve an agreement of cybersecurity consulting services in 2025, 2026 and 2027 with Schneider Downs & Co., Inc. |
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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:

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| 2025-10.21.l | A resolution authorizing the approval of a service agreement by and between Fairfield County Job & Family Services, Child Protective Services Division and Victory House LLC. |
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- 2025-10.21.m A resolution authorizing the approval of a service agreement by and between Fairfield County Job & Family Services, Child Protective Services Division and Marie's House of Hope, Inc.
- 2025-10.21.n A resolution regarding a Purchase of Service Agreement between Eastland-Fairfield Career & Technical Schools and Job & Family Services, Workforce Development Services Division

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:

- 2025-10.21.o A Resolution Approving an Account-to-Account Transfer into a Major Expenditure Object Category –23100101, General Fund
- 2025-10.21.p A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated funds in a major expenditure object category, fund to fund transfer to the General Fund, and Closing out Fund# 2709 Ed Byrne for the Sheriff's Office.
- 2025-10.21.q A Resolution to Appropriate from Unappropriated in a Major Expenditure Object Category for Sheriff; 2442, Commissary
- 2025-10.21.r A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated funds in a major expenditure object category, fund to fund transfer to the General Fund, and Closing out Fund# 2812 for the Sheriff's Office.
- 2025-10.21.s A resolution approving the disposal of a disabled vehicle
- 2025-10.21.t A resolution approving the disposal of 5 disabled vehicles

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 Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action Agency

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from the Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action Agency:

- 2025-10.21.u A resolution to approve additional CFLP Solid Waste District Recycling Services Contract fourth Quarter 2025 Budge Revisions.

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 Fairfield County Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution for the Payment of Bills:

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2025-10.21.v

A resolution authorizing the approval of payment of invoices for departments that need Board of Commissioners' approval.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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

Adjournment

Commissioner Davis stated the reason for his early comment was due to the excess energy capacity.

With no further business, on the motion of David Levacy, and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn at 9:38 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 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 28, 2025, in the Commissioners' Hearing Room, 210 E. Main St., Lancaster, OH.

Motion by: David Levacy

Seconded by: Steve Davis

To approve the October 21, 2025, minutes by the following vote:

YEAS: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

*Approved on October 28, 2025

Jeff Fox
Commissioner


Steve Davis
Commissioner


David Levacy
Commissioner

Commissioner Commis

 Bennett Niceswanger, Asst. Clerk