

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF GENERAL SESSION

April 28, 2026

The Franklin County Board of Commissioners convened in the Commissioners Hearing Room at 9:00 A.M. on Tuesday, April 28, 2026.

Present were: John O’Grady, President  
Kevin L. Boyce, Commissioner

Also present on the dais were: Kenneth N. Wilson, County Administrator; Kris Long, Deputy County Administrator; Damika Withers, Deputy County Administrator; Shayla Favor, Prosecuting Attorney; Zak Talarek, Director, Office of Management and Budget; and Brittany A. Razek, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners.

Using hybrid meeting technology, participants were also able to access General Session via Zoom Webinar Meeting ID: 811 9053 2115; Passcode: 1803, to attend virtually and watch the session live, [click here to register in advance](#).

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Commissioner O’Grady called the meeting to order at 9:17 A.M.

Commissioner O’Grady: April is County Government Month, and it’s a great time to recognize the people and partnerships that make Franklin County strong. Our motto is every resident, every day, and this month we’re bringing that to life by inviting residents to share what makes this community meaningful to them. We recently launched “Why I Love My County,” a simple way for residents to highlight the programs, places, and people that have made an impact in their lives. Whether it’s a service that helped their family, a park they’ve enjoyed for years, or a neighbor who stepped up when it mattered most, we want to hear those stories. If you haven’t already, we encourage you to visit [franklincountyohio.gov/publicsurvey](http://franklincountyohio.gov/publicsurvey) and share your perspective.

Later this week, we’ll also release our annual State of the County Report, which highlights how Franklin County government works alongside residents, businesses, and community partners to support a strong and growing region. With an annual operating budget of more than \$2 billion, we remain focused on responsible stewardship while investing in priorities that affect daily life—job creation, housing stability, transportation, public safety, and access to essential services.

The report reflects both the progress we’ve made and the work ahead. It shows how our programs and partnerships come together to strengthen communities, expand access to resources, and build a more resilient future for all residents. The report will be available to view this Thursday at [report.franklincountyohio.gov](http://report.franklincountyohio.gov).

Additionally, April is recognized as Second Chance Month, a time to raise awareness about the challenges individuals face when returning to the community after involvement with the criminal justice system. It's also an opportunity to recognize the importance of dignity, support, and access to opportunity in helping people successfully rebuild their lives. Joining us to share more is Reentry Services Coordinator Shana Sanders from the Office of Justice Policy and Programs.

*Ms. Sanders, Reentry Service Coordinator with the Franklin County Office of Justice Policy and Programs (OJPP), recognized National Second Chance Month as an effort to support individuals returning to society and reduce the long-term impact of criminal records, and noted alignment with county initiatives such as the Reentry Advisory Board and Poverty Blueprint focused on reducing barriers and promoting economic mobility. Ms. Sanders highlighted the Reentry Resource Fair as a key initiative serving an average of nearly 200 residents annually over the past three years, and credited its success to strong collaboration among county leadership, staff, and community partners.*

*Commissioner Boyce thanked Ms. Sanders for recognizing Second Chance Month and emphasized the importance of supporting returning citizens, highlighting the County's work to map mental health resources and improve access and parity for individuals reentering the community, while also reflecting on the "Why I Love My County" theme by noting lifelong ties to Franklin County, its growth and increasing diversity, and the "Columbus Way" as a culture of collaboration that continues to drive innovation and strengthen the community.*

*Commissioner O'Grady commended OJPP's work and reaffirmed Franklin County's commitment to supporting returning citizens, thanked Ms. Sanders while presenting a resolution, and reflected on lifelong ties to the County by expressing pride in its national reputation for strong government, noting recognition through the National Association of Counties, and crediting the County's success to the dedication of staff, leadership, and the strength of its people.*

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Approval of the minutes for the April 2, and April 9, 2026, Briefing Sessions, and the April 7, and the April 14, 2026, General Sessions. Commissioner Boyce moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The minutes were approved by roll call vote.

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**Resolution No. 0259-26**, authorizing a sixth amendment to the Contract with Hoover Blanket Inc. dba Main Street Computing for provision of dog licensing software (\$51,525.00) (Auditor), presented by Trenton Weaver, Director of Consumer Services, Auditor.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution No. 0259-26, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0260-26**, authorizing a contract with LexisNexis Risk Solutions to provide requested taxpayer contact information to the Franklin County Treasurer's Office (\$39,600.00) (Treasurer), presented by Dusten Kohlhorst, Information Technology Director, Treasurer.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution No. 0260-26, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0261-26**, authorizing the creation of a new position to design, implement, and improve a countywide digital accessibility program (Franklin County Data Center), presented by Julie Lust, Chief Financial Officer, Franklin County Data Center.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution No. 0261-26, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0262-26**, approving contract modifications and final extensions with vendors for Senior Adult Day Services and Senior Home Support Services (\$10,000,000.00) (Office on Aging), presented by Chanda Wingo, Director, Office on Aging.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution No. 0262-26, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0263-26**, authorizing a professional services contract with Dr. Leo Taylor to provide professional development workshops for Franklin County employees (Economic Engagement and Community Development), presented by Perla Martínez, Deputy Director, Economic Engagement and Community Development.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution No. 0263-26, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0264-26**, welcoming the 2026-2027 Racial Equity Council Members (Economic Engagement and Community Development), presented by Perla Martínez, Deputy Director, Economic Engagement and Community Development.

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

*Commissioner Boyce emphasized the importance of council members' roles in supporting Central Ohio's continued growth, noted the region's ongoing and future transformation, and encouraged members to extend their leadership beyond their formal duties into their communities. Commissioner Boyce thanked and congratulated them on their service.*

*Commissioner O'Grady thanked the council members and expressed appreciation for Economic Engagement and Community Development and its continued work and leadership in racial equity for Franklin County employees and residents.*

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution No. 0264-26, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0265-26**, authorizing a Contract with Byers Ford, LLC for the supply and delivery of Fleet vehicles for Franklin County Fleet Management (\$5,000,000.00) (Fleet Management), presented by Charlotte Ashcraft, Director, Fleet Management.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution No. 0265-26, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0266-26**, approving a contract for case management services between the Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services and Mount Carmel Health System at Mount Carmel East and Mount Carmel St. Ann's (\$239,607.48) (Job and Family Services), presented by Carmen Barnes, Assistant Director, Job and Family Services.

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

*Brittany A. Razek, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners, advised that a speaker slip on the proposed resolution has been submitted. The speaker was given three (3) minutes to speak.*

*Ms. Khaula Zafar spoke against Resolution No. 0266-26.*

*Ms. Zafar, a licensed foster and adoptive parent, urged the commissioners to delay action on the resolution until it is amended to include clearer details on the responsibilities and scope of related contracts and referral services. Ms. Zafar requested increased transparency and oversight of public assistance and placement-related processes.*

*Kenneth N. Wilson, County Administrator, clarified that the long-standing agreement discussed is specific to Job and Family Services and does not operate as a “one-stop” model that provides shared access across all Health and Human Services agencies (HHS), and confirmed that other HHS agencies, including Franklin County Children Services, are not included in the agreement. Administrator Wilson further explained that federal laws and regulations restrict data sharing between agencies, even in more integrated service models, and stated that case managers working under these agreements are strictly prohibited from accessing Franklin County Children Services data systems, and confirmed that this understanding reflects the current operational and legal framework.*

*Commissioner Boyce thanked Ms. Zafar and noted that contract information is publicly available and can be accessed with assistance, and clarified that Franklin County Children Services is a levy-funded agency with its own board. Commissioner Boyce explained that the agreements support coordinated case management and service linkage, and directed Health and Human Services staff to follow up with the speaker for additional assistance and clarification.*

*Ms. Zafar requested clarification on whether contract details are included in the resolution or elsewhere for public viewing. She confirmed that the discussion concerns regarding the contract being voted on and raised concerns that the term “public assistance programs” is too vague and lacks specificity regarding agency roles and separation. Ms. Zafar asked how referrals are handled between agencies, including whether families could be directed to CPS, and how coordination occurs between case managers and child welfare services.*

*Shayla Favor, Prosecuting Attorney, acknowledged Ms. Zafar’s advocacy and recent request for review of potential criminal concerns, and noted she became aware of the matter only recently and agreed with Commissioner Boyce that the discussion should continue offline to gather additional information. Prosecutor Favor clarified that the Prosecutor’s Office does not conduct investigations and would require a separate investigative agency to evaluate any potential criminal activity before any prosecutorial action could occur. Prosecutor Favor concluded by offering to provide her contact information for follow-up.*

*Kris Long, Deputy County Administrator, reported that, at the commissioners’ direction, she has been coordinating with the Director of Job and Family Services and internal staff,*

*and confirmed that county staff will meet with Ms. Zafar to follow up and provide additional information as requested.*

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution No. 0266-26, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0267-26**, approving a subaward agreement with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Ohio for an early childhood book distribution program (\$100,000.00) (Job and Family Services), presented by Carmen Barnes, Assistant Director, Job and Family Services.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution No. 0267-26, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0268-26**, approving a service agreement extension with CredibleMind, Inc. for a digital behavioral health platform that connects residents to online mental health and wellness information and resources (\$45,150.00) (Job and Family Services), presented by Carmen Barnes, Assistant Director, Job and Family Services.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution No. 0268-26, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0269-26**, authorizing three modifications to subgrant award agreements for juvenile justice and delinquency prevention programming under the FY 2024 Title II Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Formula Block Grant (\$30,000.00) (Justice Policy and Programs), presented by Brandon Curry, Deputy Director, Justice Policy and Programs.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution No. 0269-26, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0270-26**, authorizing a contract for services with Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services to support the expansion of the Common Pleas Court Children of Incarcerated Parents initiative under the FY 2024 Second Chance Act Addressing the Needs of

Incarcerated Parents and their Minor Children Grant (\$155,587.00) (Justice Policy and Programs), presented by Brandon Curry, Deputy Director, Justice Policy and Programs.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution No. 0270-26, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0271-26**, approving purchases for various Franklin County agencies (\$2,527,847.03) (Purchasing), presented by Megan Perry-Balonier, Director, Purchasing.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution No. 0271-26, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

**Resolution No. 0272-26**, approving the donation of a permanent easement and a temporary construction easement to the City of Columbus for purpose of constructing a portion of the Big Walnut Trail (Board of Commissioners), presented by Jesse Armstrong, Deputy Director – Business, Claims, and Real Estate, Prosecuting Attorney.

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

Commissioner Boyce moved to approve Resolution No. 0272-26, seconded by Commissioner O'Grady. The Resolution was adopted by roll call vote.

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There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:07 A.M.

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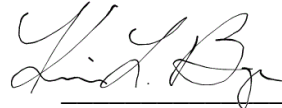
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These minutes are a general summary of the Commissioners' General Session for Tuesday, April 28, 2026.



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**JOHN O'GRADY, PRESIDENT**



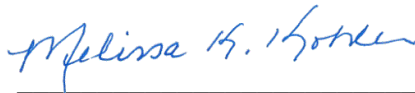
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**KEVIN L. BOYCE**

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**ERICA C. CRAWLEY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

Submitted by:



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Melissa K. Kohler  
Deputy Clerk to the Board of Commissioners