

Resolution authorizing the Franklin County Engineer to enter into agreements with farmers to leave cornstalks in the ground as snow fence barriers (Engineer) (\$20,000.00)

WHEREAS, for the past twenty-two winter seasons, the County Engineer has initiated various programs to minimize snow drifting along County roadways, including the "Cornstalks for Snow Fence" program; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the installation and removal of several miles of snow fence, Franklin County has also compensated farmers for leaving cornstalks standing in fields bordering designated County roadways to act as a natural snow fence, resulting in a significant reduction in blowing and drifting snow along portions of roadways where cornstalks are left in place; and

WHEREAS, the cost of leaving a swath of cornstalks 200 feet wide along roadways is less than the cost of erecting and removing snow fencing along the same roadway frontage; and

WHEREAS, the County Engineer is requesting authority to enter into agreements with various farmers to leave cornstalks in their fields along County roadways and to reimburse these farmers at a rate of \$50.00 per acre (acre = 218 feet roadway frontage x 200 feet wide) for leaving these cornstalks in their fields; and

WHEREAS, the program participants will be reimbursed in the spring of 2023, based on their compliance with program requirements; and

WHEREAS, the total of the payments under this program will not exceed twenty thousand dollars and zero cents (\$20,000.00), and will be pre-certified by the Franklin County Auditor subsequent to the winter inspection; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO:

Section 1) That the Franklin County Engineer is hereby authorized to enter into agreements with individuals whose land runs parallel to County roadways for the purpose of leaving cornstalks in the fields, as specified herein, to act as a natural snow fence.

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Section 2) That the Franklin County Engineer will reimburse these individuals, as detailed herein, \$50.00 per acre to perform this service.

Section 3) That reimbursements to the program participants will be paid after the winter inspection has been completed.

Section 4) That the total reimbursement amounts for this program will not exceed twenty thousand dollars and zero cents (\$20,000.00).

CRR:WFC:nas

Prepared By: Nick A. Soulas, Jr.

c: Engineer