

1 RESOLUTION NO. Substitute 2017-415

**First Reading Passage Requested**

**(D. Hamilton)**

2  
3 SPONSOR Mr. Hamilton

4  
5 DATE October 2, 2017

COMMITTEE Public Safety

6  
7 **A Substitute Resolution establishing the Summit County Jail Operation Advisory**  
8 **Commission, declaring its purpose and prescribing its membership, for the County**  
9 **Council, and declaring an emergency.**

10  
11 WHEREAS, over the last several years, several cuts from the State have required the  
12 County to keep operating budgets flat or to minimal increases; and

13  
14 WHEREAS, a new round of cuts from the State is looming and will begin affecting revenues  
15 in 2018; and

16  
17 WHEREAS, the Summit County Jail represents the largest general fund expenditure of the  
18 County; and

19  
20 WHEREAS, the County's limited financial resources have strained the operations of the  
21 Summit County Jail and have negatively impacted the ability of the County to provide services to  
22 inmates; and

23  
24 WHEREAS, at the same time that the State funding cuts have strained operations at the  
25 Summit County Jail, the opioid epidemic has resulted in increased arrests, prosecutions and  
26 incarceration for drug-related offenses; and

27  
28 WHEREAS, as a result of the State funding cuts and the opioid epidemic, among other  
29 issues, the Summit County Jail is now facing population control issues, which are further straining  
30 the inmates and staff at the facility; and

31  
32 WHEREAS, this Council believes that under these circumstances it is beneficial to empanel a  
33 commission of elected officials, community leaders and interested parties to provide advisory input  
34 for the benefit of improving operations at the Jail for the benefit of both the staff and inmates at the  
35 facility; and

36  
37 WHEREAS, similar entities at the County, such as the Abandoned and Vacant Property Task  
38 Force and the Methamphetamine Awareness Task Force have been successful in providing advisory  
39 input into various County operations and positively impacting County policy; and

40  
41 WHEREAS, this Council finds and determines, after reviewing all pertinent information, that  
42 the creation of the aforementioned commission is necessary and in the best interest of the County of  
43 Summit.

44  
45 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the County of Summit,  
46 State of Ohio, that:

47  
48 SECTION 1

49  
50 Council hereby establishes Summit County Jail Operation Advisory Commission with  
51 not less than ten (10) members. The membership shall be appointed by the County Executive  
52 and confirmed by this Council.  
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4 SECTION 1 (Cont.)

5  
6 The membership of the Commission shall represent the diversity of the people of Summit  
7 County. The Commission shall be self-governing, and upon convening shall establish by-laws  
8 by majority vote of the members that shall govern the operation of the Commission.

9  
10 SECTION 2

11  
12 The purpose of the Summit County Jail Operation Advisory Commission shall be to  
13 accomplish the following objectives:

- 14  
15 1. Through consultation with the Summit County Sheriff and his staff, obtain a thorough  
16 understanding of the operations of the Summit County Jail, including, but not limited to,  
17 staffing, inmate services, medical services, population control measures and use of force  
18 protocol.  
19  
20 2. Identify best practices used in similarly situated jails for matters including, but not  
21 limited to, staffing, inmate services, medical services, population control measures and  
22 use of force protocol.  
23  
24 3. Obtain a thorough understanding of the financial constraints that limit the staffing and  
25 inmate services, and impact population control, at the Summit County Jail.  
26  
27 4. Identify potential financial solutions and operational savings that allow for improved  
28 staffing levels, inmate services and population control at the Summit County Jail.  
29  
30 5. Obtain a thorough understanding of the steps presently being taken to improve diversity  
31 amongst the staff at the Summit County Jail, and identify best practices from similarly  
32 situated jails to increase diversity amongst the staff at the Summit County Jail.  
33  
34 6. Provide this Council, the County Executive and the County Sheriff with a report  
35 documenting the steps taken to fulfill the objectives above, and making recommendations  
36 to this Council, the County Executive and the County Sheriff to address operational and  
37 financial issues at the Summit County Jail, including, but not limited to, staffing, inmate  
38 services, medical services, population control measures, use of force protocol, and  
39 diversity of jail staff.  
40

41 SECTION 3

42  
43 The membership of the Summit County Jail Operation Advisory Commission shall  
44 consist of not less than ten (10) members, and shall be comprised of the following:

- 45  
46 1. Summit County Executive or designee.  
47 2. Summit County Sheriff or designee.  
48 3. Summit County Administrative Judge of the Court of Common Pleas – General  
49 Division or designee.  
50 4. Chair of the Summit County Council Public Safety Committee or designee.  
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Voice Vote: 11-0 - YES: Crawford, Dickinson, Donofrio, Feeman, Hamilton, Koehler, Prentice, Rodgers, Schmidt, Walters, Wilhite

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SECTION 3 (Cont.)

- 5. Summit County Prosecutor or designee.
- 6. A member representing the City of Akron.
- 7. A police chief of a municipality or township within the County.
- 8. Not less than three (3) other individuals who are residents of Summit County or work in Summit County. At least two (2) shall have a legal or law enforcement background and/or professional experience relating to Summit County Jail operations and/or substance abuse treatment.
- 9. In the event the County Executive appoints, and Council confirms, more than the ten (10) prior members, at least one of the additional members shall be an individual who was previously confined at the Summit County Jail.

SECTION 4

This Resolution is hereby declared an emergency in the interest of the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the County of Summit and for the further purpose to provide a commission to advise this County and the Sheriff on the County's current operations at the Summit County Jail.

SECTION 5

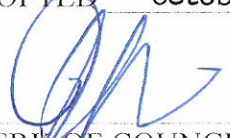
Provided this Resolution received the affirmative vote of eight members, it shall take immediately upon its adoption and execution by the Executive; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force at the earliest time provided by law.

SECTION 6

It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

INTRODUCED October 2, 2017

ADOPTED October 2, 2017

  
CLERK OF COUNCIL

  
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

APPROVED October 3, 2017

  
EXECUTIVE

October 3, 2017  
ENACTED EFFECTIVE