

Delaware County Commissioners

Jeff Benton Barb Lewis Gary Merrell

County Administrator Ferzan M. Ahmed Clerk to the Commissioners Jennifer Walraven

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Delaware County Announces New County Administration Team

DELAWARE, Ohio — The Delaware County Board of Commissioners today announced that a team of three administrators will replace their departing County Administrator.

When current County Administrator Ferzan Ahmed announced last month he would be leaving the County for a private-sector job, Board President Jeff Benton said he and fellow Commissioners Gary Merrell and Barb Lewis "felt the time was right to pause and think about how to best structure and position the organization for future success." Ahmed's last day with Delaware County is Friday, Nov. 10.

With Ahmed's departure, Benton said, "Our office's operations will be headed by a team of three experienced directors who are already in place here — Michael Frommer, head of our Regional Sewer District; Dawn Huston, our Administrative Services director; and Seiji Kille, our Fiscal Services director. Our other directors and department heads will each report to one of these three administrators."

For executive purposes, Frommer will carry the title of County Administrator, which will allow him to function as the legal representative for the Commissioners. Huston and Kille each will hold the title of Deputy Administrator.

Benton said the new structure better reflects how the Commissioners' office already functions and communicates, while also streamlining decision-making processes and improving operational efficiencies.

"In reality, our operations won't change significantly," Benton said, "but we think that formalizing this structure will make it easier for the public to access leadership when they need to, while also making sure we don't overburden one administrator with too many people reporting directly to her or him."

Frommer, who joined the County in February 2015 after a private-sector career in sanitary engineering, will continue to function as the Regional Sewer District's executive director and also will oversee a grouping of departments to be known as the Office of Infrastructure and Development. This will also include the County's Economic Development and Code Compliance departments and its Solid Waste Transfer Station.

Huston, who has been with the County for 25 years, will head the Office of Administration, Human Resources and Insurance/Risk, which will include those departments along with the Child Support Enforcement Agency, Records Center, and the Job & Family Services and Communications departments.

Kille, who has been employed by Delaware County for 16 years and previously by the State of Ohio Auditor's Office for five years, will lead the Office of Management and Budget. The departments of Fiscal Services, Emergency Communications, Emergency Medical Services, Safety & Security, Public Defender, Dog Warden, Facilities/Maintenance, and the Clerks to the Commissioners will report to him.

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