

The Board of Huron County Commissioners met this date in Regular Session. Roll being called found the following members present: Terry Boose, Harry Brady and Bruce Wilde.

The following were also in attendance: Vickie Ziemba, Administrator/Clerk; Randal Strickler, Assistant Prosecutor; Patricia Didion, Citizen; Shylee Greszler, Norwalk Ohio News.

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 305.14 the Record of the Proceedings of the April 4, 2024 meeting(s) were presented to the Board. Bruce Wilde made the motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the April 4, 2024 meeting(s) and approve as presented. Harry Brady seconded the motion. Voting was as follows:

Aye – Terry Boose  
Aye – Harry Brady  
Aye – Bruce Wilde

24-168

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING REQUESTS FOR EXPENDITURE OF OVER \$5,000.00 SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD MAY 2, 2024**

Bruce Wilde moved the adoption of the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, requests for expenditures of over \$5,000.00 have been submitted for approval by the Board of Huron County Commissioners as follows:

Ben’s Custom Painting	Repainting courthouse windows & doors	\$9,550.00	
			now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Huron County Commissioners hereby approves of the requests for expenditure of over \$5,000.00 as listed above; and further

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the foregoing resolution was adopted and all actions and deliberations of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Huron, Ohio relating thereto were conducted in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all applicable legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Harry Brady seconded the motion.

*\*Discussion:* Payment to be made from Building & Grounds #022. Mr. Boose thought they could transfer money from 099 if they needed to so he would have enough money.

The roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Aye – Terry Boose  
Aye – Harry Brady  
Aye – Bruce Wilde

**At 9:05 a.m. Public comment - None**

**IN THE MATTER OF TRAVEL – None**

**SIGNINGS - None**

**OLD BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS**

**Administrator report** – No update

**Assistant Prosecutor report** – No update

**Commissioner Wilde report**

Mr. Wilde will attend NEDC and Land Bank today.

**Commissioner Brady report**

Mr. Brady attended Family Children First Council yesterday. Donna Jenkins came in. She has the nonprofit organization, Hope Restored, and has been working with law enforcement, MHAS and FCFC.

**At 9:15 a.m. County Project updates. Pete Welch, Director of Operations and Steve Minor, Buildings & Grounds Supervisor. Also in attendance, Joel Riedy, Network Administrator.**

***Administration building elevator project.*** Mr. Boose noted Mr. Wilde and Ms. Ziemba had been part of the discussion regarding the elevator yesterday. Mr. Wilde said one of his questions was who was going to pay for it. Sona said they would pay for it. Mr. Welch explained it had been decided to take out the wall into the elevator shaft and drop the car in. When they originally looked at the job they were told they could go through the doorway or window by TKE, the elevator company. The person that bid it that way is no longer there. Now they are working with Andy, who has been there a long time, who said there is no way they could get it through a door or window. That is how they came to the conclusion they have to take out the side of the wall. Mr. Wilde said he made sure everyone was aware those costs were the contractor's responsibility, not the county's. They are going to start Monday morning, about 7 a.m. Mr. Welch explained they have to put the opening a little higher because of the structural support beam that is in the elevator shaft. They will basically be three feet off ground level on the outside. Mr. Wilde said they also talked about security. Mr. Welch said it would be secured with the elevator shaft inside. On the outside they are going to build doors out of plywood. Mr. Boose thought Ms. Ziemba had sent a nice email to the occupants of the building to let them know what was going on. Ms. Ziemba said she did stop and talk to everybody yesterday before she sent the email out. Mr. Wilde noted the actual car is here, there is no waiting anymore on anything. All the equipment is in. Mr. Welch said they were on schedule to be done by June 1.

**NCAT grant.** Mr. Welch stated he was working with Mr. Brady to try to figure out what NCAT is going to cover and what we were responsible for. He assumed the grant was being written to them, not to us. Mr. Brady stated the grant had already been awarded. They were awarded around \$270,000, but the money will not be available until July 1. Mr. Brady had called Ms. Habig and asked her to email a copy of the grant application to him and Mr. Welch so they can see what projects she had listed. Some of the projects have already been completed. Mr. Boose knew they were not discussing ARPA, but wanted to remind them they are under time limits.

**ARPA discussion.** Mr. Boose thanked Ms. Ziemba for the updated spreadsheet. He has something that he has been concerned about all along. It looks like they have at least \$100,000 of the bucket above the \$10 million that they need a project for immediately. This is the more restrictive bucket that includes internet infrastructure and the administrative fees for the consultant. Mr. Boose asked Mr. Riedy to figure out exactly what costs were left on the broadband project so they will know exactly how many dollars are left. Mr. Boose would also like to ask Ms. Gordon if any of the county capital projects might fit that bucket. Mr. Wilde asked if HVAC fit that category, could they mix and match the buckets? Ms. Ziemba thought she remembered Ms. Gordon saying they could, but it made things messy. The problem is they will have to have an architect and go out to bid if they use that money. She reminded them Ms. Gordon had said they could use the Ohio Procurement with the revenue replacement because we were unable to get anybody to bid or to get an architect to put together bid specs. Mr. Boose said he has been pushing this for the last six months. Somebody has to come up with a project to use the rest of that money. He thought this might include Mr. Riedy, because internet infrastructure was an approved use. He reminded him that it would have to be bid out by the end of the year. Ms. Ziemba said it has to be bid and in contract by the end of the year. Mr. Brady thought it would be nice if Mr. Riedy could take a look to see if there were any cracks in the North Coast project that could be filled in with the additional money. Mr. Riedy said the majority of the county will be covered with their project. He suggested the possibility of covering installation costs. Mr. Boose said to remember, you would have to have a vendor and you have to have it under contract that that vendor can use up to so many installations and those installations have to be done in two years. Mr. Welch asked if they could use the money for the floor at the Transfer Station. He has the bid specs prepared. Ms. Ziemba said that had been put under 310/Permanent Improvement during budget time. Mr. Boose noted this money was pretty restricted on what they could use it for. He suggested asking Ms. Gordon if they could do that.

**At 9:30 a.m. Amanda Gordon, McDonald Hopkins on the phone to continue the discussion on ARPA.** Commissioner Boose thought Ms. Gordon and Ms. Ziemba had worked out the administrative costs that were going toward the \$3 million plus we have in what he calls the special category. Ms. Gordon understood the county wanted to pay her costs out of ARPA. She noted they haven't approached the annual maximum that was in the contract. She thought if we work with the numbers she provided it would work. There is still some flexibility if something were to come up. They have issued additional FAQ on how, if we overestimate and there are excess funds, there are still some opportunities for counties to be able to use those monies.

Mr. Boose said he was very concerned that we get all this done by the end of the year and time is running out. We have what looks like a minimum of \$100,000 left in what he was calling the "restricted pot"; the over \$10 million. We need to come up with a project, and fairly soon, to get the whole process done by the end of the year. Right now we have one project that may or may not fit that pot. Mr. Boose explained we

have a major repair to the floor at the transfer station building, which is part of our landfill area. He asked Ms. Gordon what kind of information she would need to determine if that was an eligible project. Ms. Gordon asked if the transfer station was part of a solid waste utility. Mr. Boose and Mr. Wilde both said it was. Ms. Gordon said she immediately thinks of the water/sewer/broadband category. Ms. Gordon said she would delve into it a little further after the call. She clarified they were looking beyond the revenue loss amount. Ms. Ziemba stated it may have to be a split, because the project is going to be more than what we have available in the over \$10 million. Mr. Boose said if it is a bigger project than the amount of money we have, the split to him would be with 310, our own general fund account, not other ARPA money. He thought that would be a little bit cleaner than using two different pots of ARPA money. Ms. Ziemba clarified there would be split funding – local and ARPA. Ms. Gordon asked if they had thoughts on any other projects. Mr. Boose explained to Ms. Gordon they had Mr. Riedy present, and asked him if we have absolute final numbers for our broadband project. Mr. Riedy said the contract amount would be the final number. He did not see any change orders coming for that project. They are getting the coverage they want and need. Mr. Wilde asked if there were any additions they could do to take it up to 500 instead of 100. Mr. Riedy said that would require a change to the infrastructure of the towers. That type of project could exceed the \$100,000 available. Mr. Boose said they don't have the option of finding a \$100,000 project. But they have to make sure we use up that \$100,000. Now if it is \$150,000 they will have to find that \$50,000. But we can't just look for a \$100,000 project. Mr. Riedy explained the project Mr. Wilde had suggested might be pushing the limits of what the providers would be comfortable providing. Mr. Wilde thought it might be a potential backup project if Mr. Welch's didn't go. Mr. Boose asked Ms. Gordon if she knew of some things that other counties were doing as far as internet infrastructure that maybe we could do. Ms. Gordon said it was really varied, depending on the need. She cautioned them to be careful about changing the original scope of the broadband project. She would have to look into that a little further. Most of the contracts she has seen do permit for change orders, which would allow for some flexibility. She thought it would be helpful for the county to take a breath and examine usual and customary things the county does – water, sewer, road improvements. There is still a great deal of flexibility with these things without having to get into analysis about negative economic impact. Ms. Gordon said she was finding counties haven't had a problem finding eligible uses for the money in the day to day functions of county. She thought Huron County should put together a "mini wish list" of things that either need to be done or that they were planning to do with county funds. She would then provide eligibility memos for those projects. Then we have the ability to fluctuate as we need to.

Ms. Gordon asked if they were good with the Revenue Loss/\$10 million. Ms. Ziemba said she was just waiting on the updated memo for the HVAC. She had sent Ms. Gordon carpet specs last night. Mr. Boose asked if they do all these projects, is the money all spent? Ms. Ziemba said yes, they were over. She thought she had memo letters for everything except possibly painting the exterior of the Administration Building and stairwell renovations. She will review what she has and get with Ms. Gordon later.

Mr. Boose asked Mr. Welch if the roofing included the architect fees. Mr. Welch said it did. The estimate was just under \$1.2 million. Ms. Ziemba said she would get with Ms. Stebel to confirm she had all the engineer projects listed. She felt like she was missing one. Mr. Boose requested that they have all these answers by May 15. He asked Ms. Ziemba to work with Ms. Gordon on all the ideas they have. Then they need to be thinking about how they were going to spend that other \$100,000. But he would like projects to be before the board by May 15. Ms. Ziemba suggested they give her what they were thinking on different projects by the end of next week. That way she could get them to Ms. Gordon and she can do the research.

Mr. Brady asked if the \$10 million was zeroed out with the projects they had. Ms. Ziemba said yes, with the estimates. He knew Ms. Gordon was going to do research to determine if they could use the additional \$100,000 for the transfer station floor or internet infrastructure. If they could not, he asked Ms. Gordon to direct them, through Ms. Ziemba, as to what categories they could use it for without too much trouble with documentation. Ms. Gordon said she could get them some kind of a guideline for the wish list. She didn't think, given general county functions, there would be a problem finding a project. Mr. Brady said there doesn't seem to be a problem knowing what jobs we can use the under \$10 million for. It is the over \$10 million that gets really restrictive. So, before we waste a lot of time it would be easier to look for jobs that would fit that over \$10 million. Ms. Gordon said she could do that. Mr. Welch asked for a copy of the guidelines on what that money could be used for. He thought they had a number of jobs that they could potentially use it for. Ms. Ziemba said he could go on the Treasury's website and look at it. She noted one of the restricted uses was "*responding to the public health emergency and negative economic impacts*". No one really knew what that meant. Ms. Gordon said that was where the analysis goes all over the place and has to be very project specific and it is a much longer eligibility memo. But that, premium pay, water/sewer/broadband is what had just talked about and they extended a few of the items for CDBG type projects – transportation projects, things along that line. So that's when it requires more analysis as opposed to governmental purpose. Mr. Boose asked how general drainage fits in with water/sewer. He was talking about storm water, any kind of drainage like that. Does that fit the category? Ms. Gordon said storm sewer does qualify in a lot of cases because it directly impacts the sanitary sewers. If it qualifies under the clean water/revolving loan funds type projects, or the clean drinking water projects, that is a basic analysis and it

can kind of go from there. Storm water has been included. Mr. Boose wanted to give an example of what he was talking about. Our airport has some areas that are not part of the runway, it is land around the outside of the airport that needs some drainage. By drainage he meant putting land tile under the ground or putting a ditch in that leads to another drain or ditch type work. It has nothing to do with sanitation and sewer. He asked if that qualified. Ms. Gordon said her answer was maybe. She would have to look at it further; it may fall under part of the infrastructure category. She thought it would be a good candidate.

Mr. Boose noted the quicker they could get the information to Ms. Gordon the easier it would be for Ms. Gordon. He thanked Ms. Gordon for her time and let her know we would be in touch.

Mr. Boose said two different drainage projects had come to light in the last five minutes. If it is possible, he might have projects to give Ms. Ziembra by the end of the week.

### **OLD BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS *continued***

#### **Commissioner Boose report**

Childcare. Mr. Boose heard back from Ms. Laser with Firelands Forward two days ago. Janotta & Herner had gotten back to the child care committee. Ms. Laser may be calling them. Mr. Boose explained we want to make sure they understand what we are willing to do. Obviously, if we do some child care out there the building is not ready for that. The question is, what are we willing to do, what are we willing to start on? It doesn't have to be finished. Mr. Boose said when she talks to them she is not looking for a final decision. That can only be done in an open meeting. She was just possibly going to show them what came back, although it is a draft form right now, and ask some questions.

Firelands Forward meeting yesterday. There should be some announcements tomorrow.

Mr. Boose said Chief Riederman called yesterday. He wants to expand the dive team around the county. Right now it is heavily weighted on Willard. To do that, he is going to need some training dollars. He is talking anywhere from \$5,000 - \$10,000. But there might be some additional if some of the people that are already trained get some additional training. He wanted to know if the county would be able to pay for the training since it is more county wide. Mr. Boose told Ms. Ziembra to talk to Mr. Mead to see if there are funds there. If not, they will see if they can come up with money from somewhere else.

Chief Riederman also said they were ready to start moving forward on some 9-1-1 decisions. Mr. Boose suggested whatever they have, they take it to the 9-1-1 Committee before it comes to the commissioners. If necessary, he could ask Ms. Spears to call a special meeting.

#### **Assistant Prosecutor report**

NCAT lease. Mr. Strickler will send it out when he gets back to the office.

MOU with NEDC. Mr. Strickler will get this sent out.

Norwalk Arts Center lease amendment. Third amendment. If they do anything in March 2025 Mr. Strickler wants to do a new lease and clean it up.

**At 10:19 a.m.** Bruce Wilde moved to adjourn. Harry Brady seconded the motion. The meeting stood adjourned.

### **IN THE MATTER OF CERTIFICATION**

The Clerk to the Board does hereby attest that the foregoing is a true and correct record of all actions taken by the Board of Huron County Commissioners on May 2, 2024.

### **IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNING**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:19 a.m.

Clerk to the Board

Signatures on File

REGULAR SESSION

THURSDAY

MAY 2, 2024

The following bids for Wells Road Resurfacing project were opened on May 3, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.:

Wells Road Resurfacing																
Bid Opening: Friday, May 3, 2023 9:00 a.m.																
Ref.	Item	Description	Quant.	Unit	Unit Cost	Total Cost	Gerken Paving, Inc.	A.J.Riley, Inc.	Sarver Paving Co.	Erie Blacktop, Inc.	Precision Paving, Inc.					
1	103.5	Premium Contract Bond	1	LS	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,955.00	\$ 1,955.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	
2	254	Pavement Planning, Butt Joints (0" - 1 1/2"), as per plan	6	EA	\$ 800.00	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 477.00	\$ 2,862.00	\$ 950.00	\$ 5,700.00	\$ 485.00	\$ 2,910.00
3	407	Tack Coat @ 0.1 Gal/SY, non-tracking	3,500	GAL	\$ 2.75	\$ 9,625.00	\$ 2.25	\$ 7,875.00	\$ 3.00	\$ 10,500.00	\$ 2.75	\$ 9,625.00	\$ 2.55	\$ 8,925.00	\$ 4.00	\$ 14,000.00
4	441	Asphalt Conc., Level/Scratch, Type 1, Variable, PG64-22, as per plan	150	CY	\$ 210.00	\$ 31,500.00	\$ 210.00	\$ 31,500.00	\$ 180.00	\$ 27,000.00	\$ 197.00	\$ 29,550.00	\$ 189.50	\$ 28,425.00	\$ 209.00	\$ 31,350.00
5	441	Asphalt Conc., Surface Course, Type 1, 1 1/2" Avg., PG64-22, as per plan	1,350	CY	\$ 190.00	\$ 256,500.00	\$ 185.00	\$ 249,750.00	\$ 180.00	\$ 243,000.00	\$ 188.50	\$ 254,475.00	\$ 189.50	\$ 255,825.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 270,000.00
6	614	Maintaining Traffic	1	LS	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 10,849.00	\$ 10,849.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00
7	617	Stabilized Crushed Agg. (berm), as per plan	350	TN	\$ 50.00	\$ 17,500.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 55.00	\$ 19,250.00	\$ 32.25	\$ 11,287.50	\$ 50.00	\$ 17,500.00	\$ 47.00	\$ 16,450.00
8	623	Monument Boxes, Adjust to Grade	2	EA	\$ 400.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 742.00	\$ 1,484.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 650.00	\$ 1,300.00
9	624	Mobilization	1	LS	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 9,250.00	\$ 9,250.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,250.00	\$ 5,250.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
10	642	Center Line	2.7	Mile	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 3,240.00	\$ 825.00	\$ 2,227.50	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,700.00	\$ 825.00	\$ 2,227.50	\$ 875.00	\$ 2,362.50	\$ 860.00	\$ 2,322.00
11	642	Edge Line	5.4	Mile	\$ 800.00	\$ 4,320.00	\$ 565.00	\$ 3,051.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 4,050.00	\$ 565.00	\$ 3,051.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 3,240.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 3,240.00
12	644	Stop Bar, 24"	15	FT	\$ 40.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 525.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 16.00	\$ 240.00
13	Spec.	Contingencies	1	LS	\$ 3,615.00	\$ 3,615.00	\$ 3,615.00	\$ 3,615.00	\$ 3,615.00	\$ 3,615.00	\$ 3,615.00	\$ 3,615.00	\$ 3,615.00	\$ 3,615.00	\$ 3,615.00	\$ 3,615.00
<b>TOTAL =</b>						<b>\$ 360,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 330,993.50</b>	<b>\$ 333,640.00</b>	<b>\$ 336,456.00</b>	<b>\$ 338,392.50</b>	<b>\$ 353,927.00</b>					