

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; Roger Hunker, Lyme Township Trustee/APEX; Matt Roche, Norwalk Ohio News; Lee Tansey, Engineer; Patricia Didion, citizen; Tom Dunlap, citizen; Brad Messenburg, citizen; Scott Sparks, Airport Board.

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 305.14 the Record of the Proceedings of the June 20, 2024 and June 25, 2024 meeting(s) were presented to the Board. Bruce Wilde made the motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the June 20, 2024 and June 25, 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

24-246

**IN THE MATTER OF CERTIFYING CLAIMS SCHEDULE FOR PAYMENT BATCHES TO THE HURON COUNTY AUDITOR FOR PAYMENT:**

Bruce Wilde moved the adoption of the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, as per Ohio Revised Code 305.10, a resolution must be made by the Board of Huron County Commissioners to accompany the Claims Schedule to the Huron County Auditor's Office for payment; now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Huron County Commissioners does hereby approve the Claim Register for Payment Batch #384430 and authorize the Huron County Auditor to make the necessary warrant; 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:***

Paying for the three new sheriff vehicles- waiting for radios before they are put on the road.

Sheriff is paying for bulletproof vest and stab proof vests – payment is made upfront then submitted for reimbursement from grant.

Mr. Boose discussed the amount of the claims schedule, \$1,630,406.55 – If you multiple this time 52 because these are weekly reports, it is \$84,781,112. The commissioners totally disagree with Mr. Tkach reports that are coming out. It may be time for the commissioners to start having a say in what is going on with sales tax and other issues. He is tired of hearing everyone say they have much money and how good sales tax is doing. The commissioners had a taxation meeting yesterday and a state representative who attended talking about his bill to help with property tax. The bill is to put a 4% limit per year. The question was asked how will counties be made whole. The state representative said they counties do not need to be made whole because all the counties have more money than they could ever use and he commented that sales tax us coming in extremely high. Mr. Boose said sales are down \$8 million fir the first half of this year in comparison to last year. Mr. Roche said which is \$120,000 down in sales tax. Mr. Boose said the commissioners in the meeting corrected the state representative and said that is incorrect. Most the commissioners noted county sales tax is down. Mr. Boose noted state sales tax is also down. He said numbers cannot be based on one or two years. The commissioners are still coming out of ARPA. He said their estimates are so far off and so wrong, that should not even be part of the discussion. Mr. Boose said so many people, including the state representative think the counties are flush with money. Mr. Brady brought up this week is “sales tax holiday” week. Mr. Boose said the first two days of “sales tax holiday” at this time have no way of reimbursing local governments because in the bill the state put that they would reimburse August sales tax holidays. Although the commissioners have seen for two months now that the administration said they were going to take care of this, which still has not happened. Mr. Boose said he does not believe the state has any proper way of calculating what that sales tax holiday is.

Mr. Boose asked Mr. Roche to be called for input on the articles he writes about the sales tax, not just the auditor.

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

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

Claims Register for Payment Batches - Huron County. Table with columns: Warrant Date, Claimant, Batch ID, PO #, Line #, Line Description, Amount, Warrant #. Includes entries for Department Sheriff, Department Building and Grounds, Department Juvenile, Department Corrections, Department Capital Improvements, Department Public Works, Department Public Safety, Department Public Health, Department Public Utilities, Department Public Works, Department Public Safety, Department Public Health, Department Public Utilities.

Claims Register for Payment Batches - Huron County. Table with columns: Warrant Date, Claimant, Batch ID, PO #, Line #, Line Description, Amount, Warrant #. Includes entries for Department Public Works, Department Public Safety, Department Public Health, Department Public Utilities, Department Public Works, Department Public Safety, Department Public Health, Department Public Utilities.

Claims Register for Payment Batches - Huron County. Table with columns: Warrant Date, Claimant, Batch ID, PO #, Line #, Line Description, Amount, Warrant #. Includes entries for Department Public Works, Department Public Safety, Department Public Health, Department Public Utilities, Department Public Works, Department Public Safety, Department Public Health, Department Public Utilities.

Claims Register for Payment Batches - Huron County. Table with columns: Warrant Date, Claimant, Batch ID, PO #, Line #, Line Description, Amount, Warrant #. Includes entries for Department Public Works, Department Public Safety, Department Public Health, Department Public Utilities, Department Public Works, Department Public Safety, Department Public Health, Department Public Utilities.

Claims Register for Payment Batches

Table with columns: Warrant Date, Claimant, Batch ID, PO #, Line #, Line Description, Amount, Warrant #. Includes entries for County Government, Department of Corrections, Department of Health, and various public assistance programs.

Claims Register for Payment Batches

Table with columns: Warrant Date, Claimant, Batch ID, PO #, Line #, Line Description, Amount, Warrant #. Includes entries for Hercules, Department of Health, Department of Corrections, and various public assistance programs.

Claims Register for Payment Batches

Table with columns: Warrant Date, Claimant, Batch ID, PO #, Line #, Line Description, Amount, Warrant #. Includes entries for Department of Health, Department of Corrections, Department of Public Safety, and various public assistance programs.

Claims Register for Payment Batches

Table with columns: Warrant Date, Claimant, Batch ID, PO #, Line #, Line Description, Amount, Warrant #. Includes entries for Department of Health, Department of Corrections, Department of Public Safety, and various public assistance programs.

Claims Register for Payment Batches

Warrant Date	Client	Batch ID	PO #/Line #	Line Description	Amount	Warrant #
08/01/2024	Kaiser Police Supply	384430	2024-001981	Armo	\$1,100.56	
Account 135.130.00475 (Other Expenses) Total:					\$1,100.56	
Department Concealed Weapons Total:					\$1,100.56	
Fund 135 - Concealed Carried Weapons Total:					\$1,100.56	
08/01/2024	Common Pleas Computer	384430	2024-000981	Toner	\$211.38	
Account 135.130.00475 (Other Expenses) Total:					\$211.38	
Department Common Pleas Computer Total:					\$211.38	
Fund 138 - Common Pleas Computer Total:					\$211.38	
08/01/2024	Children's Services	384430	2024-002011	Long Training-C2-June 2024	\$97.49	
08/01/2024	Children's Services	384430	2024-002011	2024-002011	\$249.00	
08/01/2024	Children's Services	384430	2024-002011	SSAA Prevention-Respite-Care-M Month	\$249.00	
08/01/2024	Children's Services	384430	2024-002011	2024-002011	\$93.08	
08/01/2024	Children's Services	384430	2024-002011	Non-Respite-Adoption Fees-Campbell Family	\$70.70	
08/01/2024	Children's Services	384430	2024-002011	2024-002011	\$1,150.68	
Account 145.145.00180 (Subsidy Administration) Total:					\$2,066.32	
Department Children's Services Total:					\$2,066.32	
Fund 145 - Children's Services Total:					\$2,066.32	
08/01/2024	Local Fiscal Recovery Fund	384430	2024-002311	Lead Notice Rd for #55 Corner Project	\$198.47	
08/01/2024	Local Fiscal Recovery Fund	384430	2024-002311	Rehobing Unit Replacement-2252Main	\$4,184.49	
08/01/2024	Local Fiscal Recovery Fund	384430	2024-002311	Air Handler and roofing unit project-Adams, Blig	\$48,817.36	
Account 183.183.00475 (Other Expenses) Total:					\$100,887.42	
Department Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Total:					\$100,887.42	
Fund 183 - Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Total:					\$100,887.42	

Page 6 of 10  
7/26/2024 2:03 PM  
V.3.2

Claims Register for Payment Batches

Warrant Date	Client	Batch ID	PO #/Line #	Line Description	Amount	Warrant #
08/01/2024	Comprehensive Housing	384430	2024-003441	CHF-General Administration	\$5,612.80	
08/01/2024	Comprehensive Housing	384430	2024-003441	2024-003441	\$5,012.00	
08/01/2024	Comprehensive Housing	384430	2024-003441	CHF-729 S Myrtle Ave	\$1,380.00	
08/01/2024	Comprehensive Housing	384430	2024-003441	2024-003441	\$1,380.00	
Account 190.190.00610 (Home Repair) Total:					\$6,372.00	
Department Comprehensive Housing Total:					\$6,372.00	
Fund 190 - Comprehensive Housing Total:					\$6,372.00	
08/01/2024	Countywide Communications	384430	2024-002471	Monthly RM	\$27.73	
08/01/2024	Countywide Communications	384430	2024-002471	2024-002471	\$277.73	
Account 193.193.00225 (Contract Services) Total:					\$305.46	
Department 9-1-1 & Countywide Communications Total:					\$305.46	
Fund 199 - 9-1-1 & Countywide Communications Total:					\$305.46	
08/01/2024	Harter Trust	384430	2024-002841	Hartm-HCT A/R Day Pmts-25 for Foster Families	\$480.00	
Account 620.620.00250 (Activities) Total:					\$480.00	
Department Harter Trust Total:					\$480.00	
Fund 620 - Harter Trust Total:					\$480.00	
08/01/2024	Commissary Trust	384430	2024-002051	Bath Tissue, DCT Diapers, Big Shot, Laundry Soap	\$446.48	
08/01/2024	Commissary Trust	384430	2024-002051	Jane Commissary Stock	\$2,868.84	
Account 635.635.00250 (Expenses) Total:					\$3,315.32	
Department Commissary Trust Total:					\$3,315.32	
Fund 635 - Commissary Trust Total:					\$3,315.32	
Grand Total:					\$1,830,498.56	

Page 10 of 10  
7/26/2024 2:02 PM  
V.3.2

Sign 1: *Bruce Wilde*  
Sign 2: *Tiffy Hoover*  
Sign 3: *Roger Hunter*

**At 9:05 a.m. Public comment -- Roger Hunter, Fair Committee,** asked for an update on the fair buildings and moving forward. Mr. Strickler stated there will be a resolution authorizing the fair board to tear down and dispose of the buildings on Thursday. Mr. Boose asked that the resolution be sent to the fair board immediately afterwards because they meet Thursday evening.

24-247

**IN THE MATTER OF AWARDING THE BID FOR THE SECTION LINE 30 ROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT DESIGN/BUILD PROJECT (HUR-CR-030-03.30); PID 113806**

Bruce Wilde moved to adopt the following resolution:

**WHEREAS,** Pursuant to Resolution 24-210 the County Engineer requested authorization to seek bids for the Section Line 30 Road Bridge Replacement Design/Build Project; HUR-CR-030-03.30 ; PID 113806; and

**WHEREAS,** notice was given in accord with Section 307.87 of the Ohio Revised Code; and

**WHEREAS,** funding for this project will be provided in cooperation with the Ohio Department of Transportation; and

**WHEREAS,** bids were received Friday, July 19, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. from the following:

<b>R&amp;I Construction, Inc.</b>	<b>\$855,000.00</b>
<b>Fechko Excavating, LLC</b>	<b>\$891,395.00</b>

**BE IT RESOLVED,** the Board of Huron County Commissioners do hereby award the bid for the Section Line 30 Road Bridge Replacement Design/Build Project; HUR-CR-030-03.30; PID 113806, as recommended by the Huron County Engineer to R&I Construction, Inc, Tiffin, Ohio in the amount of \$855,000.00; and further

**BE IT RESOLVED,** that all further matters relative to this award be coordinated through and with the Huron County Engineer's Office; 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:** Mr. Tansey stated this is next year's project and is 95% federal funds.

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

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

24-248

**IN THE MATTER OF ENTERING INTO CONTRACT WITH ERIE BLACKTOP, INC. FOR THE BUTLER ROAD RESURFACING PROJECT FOR THE HURON COUNTY ENGINEER**

Bruce Wilde moved to adopt the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, Pursuant to Resolution 24-244 the bid was awarded to Erie Blacktop, Inc. for the amount of \$167,576.55 for the Butler Road Resurfacing project for the Huron County Engineer; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Huron County Commissioners desires to enter into contract with Erie Blacktop, Inc. for such goods and services; now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Huron County Commissioners does hereby approve entering into contract with Erie Blacktop, Inc., Sandusky, Ohio for the Butler Road Resurfacing project for the Huron County Engineer as attached hereto and expressly incorporate by reference herein; 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:** Mr. Tansey stated this is a project between Rt. 303 & Rt. 20 for resurfacing and signage. The project will be starting in the next couple of weeks and will be completed by fall.

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

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

*\*Contract on file*

24-249

**IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZING THE ADVERTISEMENT AND LETTING OF BIDS FOR THE OUTFITTING OF A TANDEM AXLE CAB & CHASSIS TRUCK.**

Bruce Wilde moved to adopt the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the Huron County Engineer has requested approval for seeking bids for the Outfitting of Tandem Axle Cab & Chassis Truck; and

**WHEREAS**, notice of this must be placed in a newspaper of general circulation and on the County’s website pursuant to Section 307.87 of the Ohio Revised Code; and

**WHEREAS**, the Huron County Engineer has requested that the bid bonding requirements as provided in O.R.C. §153.54 be waived for said bids and in its stead a certified check in the amount of \$500.00 (five hundred dollars) be required; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to O.R.C. §307.88(B), the Board of County Commissioners, by a unanimous vote of the entire board, may permit a contracting authority to exempt a bid from any or all of the requirements of O.R.C. §153.54; now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Huron County Board of Commissioners hereby approve of letting bids for the Outfitting of Tandem Axle Cab & Chassis Truck; and further

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that notice of this will be placed in a newspaper of general circulation and posted on the County’s website [www.hccommissioners.com](http://www.hccommissioners.com) accessed by clicking on legal notices, until the bid is

opened on Friday, August 23, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.;  
and further

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that pursuant to O.R.C. §307.88(B), the Board, by unanimous vote, hereby waive the bid bonding requirements as provided in O.R.C. §153.54 for the bids herein; a certified check in the amount of \$500.00 (five hundred dollars) will be required for bidding purposes; all other requirements of Section 153.54 of the Revised Code still apply for these bids; 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:** Mr. Tansey stated this is for salt spraying equipment and prepping the truck for the season. It will not be on the road until the 2025/26 season.

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

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

ADVERTISEMENT  
NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed bids may be submitted on or before the bid opening date of Friday, August 23, 2024, until 8:59 a.m. local time at the Huron County Commissioner's Office, 180 Milan Avenue, Suite 7, Norwalk, Ohio 44857 for: The Outfitting of Tandem Axle Cab and Chassis Truck. Bids shall be opened and publicly read aloud at 9:00 a.m.

Bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope, with the name of the Bidder and the name of the Proposal written on the outside of the envelope.

Proposals and Specifications may be obtained or examined at the office of Lee E. Tansey, Huron County Engineer, 150 Jefferson Street Norwalk, Ohio 44857.

By a unanimous vote of the Board of Huron County Commissioners, all of the bid bonding requirements of Section 153.54 of the Revised Code have been waived for these bids. **A certified check in the amount of \$500.00 (five hundred dollars) will be required for bidding purposes for each Bid submitted.** All other requirements of Section 153.54 of the Revised Code still apply for these bids.

The Board of County Commissioners of Huron County reserves the right to waive any and all irregularities in the bids or bidding process and may reject any and all bids.

This legal notice may also be viewed by logging on to <http://www.hccommissioners.com/> and clicking on the "Legal Notices" link or <http://www.huroncountyengineer.org> and clicking on the "Bid Information" link.

Advertise: August 1, 2024

24-250

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING THE PROPOSAL FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE HURON COUNTY 2024, 2025 and 2026 INDIRECT COST ALLOCATION PLAN**

Bruce Wilde moved the adoption of the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, under provisions of the Ohio Revised Code counties have the responsibility of administering public assistance and social service programs entitled to federal and/or state reimbursement and to receive reimbursement for county-wide indirect cost incurred in the administration of these programs through an indirect cost plan conforming to cost principles outlined in Federal Circular A-87 and Chapter 7000 of the Ohio Department of Job & Family Services Administrative Procedures Manual; now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Huron County Commissioners hereby approves Donald J. Schonhardt & Associates, Inc. 5307 Franklin St., Hillard, Ohio 44857 to prepare the indirect cost

allocation plan for Huron County for the years 2024, 2025, and 2026 at a cost not to exceed, \$7,800.00 for each year of production (excluding an allowance for mileage reimbursement), as attached herein; 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. The roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

*\*Contract on file*

24-251

**IN THE MATTER OF VOUCHERING FUNDS TO THE HURON COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY PURSUANT TO R.C. 1717.07**

Bruce Wilde moved the adoption of the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the mandate of Ohio Revised Code 1717.07, funds have been appropriated from the Huron County General Fund for the Huron County Humane Society for 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, a P.O. for these funds for a yearly payment is authorized to be issued by the Board of Huron County Commissioners; now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Huron County Commissioners hereby authorizes their Clerk to voucher the following sum from the Code listed in the General Fund budget to the Huron County Humane Society for the calendar year 2024:

From: 040-00569-001 Other Expenses \$1,800.00 annually 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. The roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

24-252

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING A CO-SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE HURON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND THE HURON COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY**

Bruce Wilde moved the adoption of the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the Huron County Commissioners and Huron County Airport Authority recognize the importance of maintaining compliance with the regulations and requirements set forth by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA); and

**WHEREAS**, the FAA requires a Co-Sponsorship Agreement between the Huron County Commissioners and Airport Authority setting forth their respective responsibilities and obligations under the FAA grants, including Airport Improvement Program (AIP) Grants and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Grants, for the operation of the Airport; and

**WHEREAS**, Randal Stickler, Assistant Prosecutor for Huron County, has prepared the attached Co-Sponsorship Agreement detailing these responsibilities and obligations and all parties have reviewed such Agreement; now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Huron County Commissioners hereby approves the Co-Sponsorship Agreement between the Huron County Commissioners and the Huron County Airport Authority as attached hereto and expressly incorporated by reference herein; 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. The roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

*\*Agreement on file*

**SIGNINGS**

July 30, 2024

Damian Slaughter  
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes  
451 7<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Room 8236  
Washington, DC 20410

Dear Mr. Slaughter:

We are writing in support of Erie County Health Department’s 2024 application for HUD’s Lead Hazard Reduction Grant and its expansion into Huron County.

Families in Huron County face an increased risk of exposure to lead-based paint, as the average age of homes in Huron County is 52 years, which surpasses both state and national averages. Age of housing is a key risk indicator because, in general, the older the housing unit is the greater the probability that lead-based paint exists.

To help decrease the lead-based paint risks in our community, we are in support of the Erie County Health Department’s HUD Lead Hazard Reduction grant application to expand its Lead Hazard Control services to Huron County.

We feel that if Erie County Health Department is awarded funding to expand coverage to Huron County, it will not only improve the condition of homes, but will positively impact the health and lives of the children that reside in those homes. For these reasons we ask that you please give this application full and fair consideration. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office.

Huron County Commissioners  
Terry Boose, Harry Brady, Bruce Wilde

**IN THE MATTER OF TRAVEL**

Bruce Wilde moved to approve the following travel request this day. Harry Brady seconded the motion. The roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

Lara Hozalski & Michele Pfeiffer, HR, to attend JFSHRA Meeting on 9/10/2024 in Marysville, OH.  
Nikki Cross, DJFS, to attend Ohio Family & Children First Council meeting in Findlay, OH on 9/25/24 & 11/20/24.  
Ashley Smith, Renee King, Marissa Saley, & Silvia Hernandez to attend the Youth Workforce Training Cuyahoga Tri-County in Cleveland, OH on 8/6/24.

**County Administrator/Clerk report**

The ARPA report has been filed

**Assistant Prosecutor**

Completed the Airport Co-Sponsorship Agreement



Completed the Prosecutor opinion on the 9-11 and Public Safety Communications System

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

##### **Commissioner Wilde report**

Muck crop meeting. They have had a product recall. Their computers are also down.

Broadband Ohio meeting – discrepancy in numbers between Spectrum and the utility companies. Mr. Wilde has asked for a meeting between Broadband Ohio, the utility companies, Joel Reidy and himself so that everyone is on the same page. Broadband Ohio is facilitating the meeting.

OneOhio – met with Kristen Cardone to go over the applications. Will have another meeting to finish the review.

Huron County Growth Partnership meeting later today.

Growth Partnership meeting tomorrow morning at 8:30 a.m.

WIOA tomorrow at 8:30 a.m.

##### **Commissioner Brady report**

Attended the virtual Energy Committee meeting – allow the purchasing of electric, the same as with gas.

On Thursday, he had a meeting with the Sheriff at 1:00 p.m. on the dispatch fees and contracts with the communities for service. They explained to Mr. Brady what dispatchers are responsible for. Mr. Brady said it was enlightening and asked Ms. Newton to put this information in the minutes of the meeting. The question he asked is what is the \$22,000 for and how much money has been paid to dispatch out of general fund and special funds in its entirety. He said he was given the number \$1,701 per day. The Sheriff had a spreadsheet that Mr. Brady asked Ms. Newton to include, \$570,000 based on the actual cost of \$1,701 per day, which would be approximately \$600,000. This is a discrepancy of approximately \$48,000. Mr. Brady now understands why there were two different billings. It was explained to him the reason is some of it is fire departments and there are four police departments that are billed. They each pay a monthly fee for the dispatching.

The commissioners held the last payment from 2023 and this year. After meeting with the Sheriff, Mr. Brady understands what the fees are for. When going out for the levy it was agreed to pay these fees from the levy funds. Mr. Brady believes this needs to be honored and moving forward, he believes the communities should be responsible for paying the fees. The new levy was reduced and they need to start picking up the payment of their contracts.

Mr. Strickler said in doing his research for the opinion he provided to Mr. Brady according to the statute, which essentially says that the commissioners cannot be the ones to make the charge, but the sheriff can. Mr. Boose interjected that this is only part of Ohio revised code, they must look at all of Ohio revised code. Part of Ohio revised code says that the Sheriff cannot put the commissioners in a position that he signs a contract which is a cost to the General Fund. Mr. Strickler said he understood this and clarified the Sheriff is the one who can have the contract with the municipalities for the dispatching and he can collect this fee. The commissioners cannot have this contract and collect this fee. Mr. Boose agreed.

Mr. Boose said he personally wants the other two commissioners to think about doing this as well, he is ready to go to the Attorney General's office to look at the agreements that are being made, to see if they're according to Ohio revised code and are proper. He said one reason is because he has looked at these numbers that the Attorney General sent and Mr. Boose has no idea why over the last two years, she has given the commissioners the total cost for a dispatcher is hourly wage, PERS and Medicare. However, when it is budget time it shows all the cost that goes into a salary, such as an officer, vacation time, longevity, holidays etc. Mr. Boose said this figure is different. Mr. Brady agreed with Mr. Boose. He said the code states all cost associated should be recouped. Mr. Brady said the topic of centralized dispatch came up at his meeting and he replied this conversation is not being discussed at this meeting. Mr. Boose commented that this issue is extremely complicated. He thanked Mr. Brady for the meeting and how he is going about finding answers. Mr. Boose stated in the budget every year, they budget for the dispatcher salaries in the general fund. Then they receive this money in a separate account. Are we overinflating the general fund budget?

Ms. Ziemba reminded the board there will be another payment of \$11,000 at the end of the year. The board agreed.

***Bruce Wilde moved to approve the payment into the Sheriff's Policing Fund for the last half of 2023 (\$11,000) and first half of 2024 (\$11,000) after confirming the funds are available in the levy fund.***

*Harry Brady seconded the motion. The roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:*

*Aye – Terry Boose*

*Aye – Harry Brady*

*Aye – Bruce Wilde*

Attended the CEBCO meeting Friday. Updated the board on the new updates for 2025 and the wellness program. Average renewal will be around 8% as a whole group.

**Commissioner Boose report**

**Landbank** – concerned the county is not going to receive the grant funding. The commissioners haven't heard anything regarding the grant. They have received no updates about asbestos, the covenant and demolition of buildings. Mr. Wilde said the money is not here yet. It will be coming, the legislature just finished. He will speak with Ms. Lykins today to let her know and he is trying to get something in writing. Mr. Boose is disappointed with how much money the commissioners will be receiving from Land Bank. He asked over a year ago that when the next grant came forward they would be put first because they have not asked for any project money from Landbank. He was hoping the first project for the demolition would be the commissioners. It is sounding like the commissioners are going to receive whatever money may be left over from other projects. Because of this reason, it is going to cost the General Fund a lot of money. The trees have been marked at Shady Lane. The county has been moving forward on their portion.

Attended the Tax Committee meeting with CCAO. Updated the board on the property tax discussion and the proposed house bill 6. Part of this bill is to put a cap on the total amount property tax can be increased per year is 4%. The problem the commissioners had with this is that it will not keep up with inflation. The answer was some years there will be no inflation. This means the commissioners will get no money. This bill has not had a hearing yet. Mr. Boose said the state is not trying to the problem, they are trying to place mandates in certain places. Mr. Boose said the bill will be a constitutional amendment people will vote on. Mr. Boose asked how are the voters going to be educated on property tax. They are also talking about eliminating the rollbacks. He feels to a personal or fixed income individual this is going to be very difficult. However, none of this has passed so no sense of getting into the details at this time. Mr. Boose asked CCAO to put together a program to educate commissioners to explain how all this works. CCAO is considering a webinar and also putting it on the agenda at the winter conference. Mr. Boose will invite the potential commissioner candidates to attend the webinar.

**At 10:44 a.m. Radio Request Discussion. Jess Spears, 9-1-1 Coordinator, Randy Strickler, Assistant Prosecutor, Vickie Ziemba, Administrator/Clerk, Terry Boose, President/Commissioner and Amanda Gordon, ARPA consultant (on the phone).** Mr. Boose explained the questions to be discussed were the cost of radios and what money is available for them and what they can afford to buy and what they are going to buy. He said the Fire Departments gave a number of how many mobile radios they wanted. Mr. Boose said the decision was made to ask the Fire Department to create a spreadsheet noting exactly what vehicles the mobile radios will be installed in and what that vehicle's purpose is. He said there is only a certain amount of money, some vehicles may not receive one.

Mr. Boose said the reason this is important is because they discussed what the cost will be. They really are not waiting for Cleveland Communications to come back because the dollar amounts for each of these radios is state purchasing therefore, they will pay whatever the state purchasing amount is and they will not go out for bid. They must make sure whatever radios they are purchasing are the easiest to use with the system they have and will have less software conversions. Mr. Boose said some vehicles need a different standard of vehicles than others. Mr. Strickler commented it is the ambulances that need a different type of radio for some reason. Mr. Boose said they are \$2,000 more per radio. When they had law enforcement in meeting last time they verified this is the type of radio the ambulances need. He confirmed with Ms. Spears there is \$200,000 available in the levy fund for the radios. Mr. Boose said they spoke with Ms. Gordon asking what ARPA funds could be used. He stated and asked Ms. Ziemba to confirm \$1.4 million is in pot one of money and pot two is \$10,000,000 which is more flexible, except in this case, it cannot be used. Ms. Gordon said they can use as much of the \$1.4 million as they want however, most of that has already been spent. Ms. Ziemba stated approximately \$140,000 to \$150,000 is left. Mr. Boose said the amount available for the radios is \$340,000 to \$350,000 when adding the two funds together. Ms. Ziemba noted, though they have the \$1.25 million appropriated, they have no idea if these costs will be that high. She suggested putting this radio project in \$1.4 million pot one, which must be under contract by the end of this year. Mr. Boose said if they spend more than \$350,000 on the radios, first, they will use Pot One and the rest will come out of General Fund.

Ms. Ziemba said to remember when it was said this will not go out to bid, Ms. Spears is working on gathering information as to whether or not it is state purchasing or sole source. Ms. Ziemba forwarded all this stuff to Ms. Gordon yesterday and they are waiting for her will determine the ARPA guidelines.

Mr. Boose said there was not adequate documentation of the radios which were recently distributed. The commissioners are in the process of receiving this information from the provider, Cleveland Communications. Mr. Strickler researched how the levy pays for the radios then the commissioners or county owns them because they are part of the system.

So now it gets back to how the commissioners use other levy money and the thought of the report that Mr. Boose is going to give everyone is when the commissioners agree to mobile radios or any radios they are going to need a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) given to whatever entity received these radios. He stated all radios are owned by the county. If for some reason they were to dispose of the radios, they must be returned to the commissioners just like any equipment, which we document etc. The second part of this memorandum is the department using these county radios are to maintain them including batteries and replacement if necessary. Mr. Boose also stated should anyone add personnel or vehicles the levy does not automatically add to the list of equipment the commissioners purchased. The commissioners decided to purchase a number of mobiles and radios. This does not mean all future radios will automatically be paid for out of this levy. The decisions made by the commissioners are for these two things only. This is county equipment owned by the county. Any maintenance needed should be done by the entity using the radios. Mr. Boose also stated each time the commissioners make a decision for these purchases they must consult legal counsel.

Mr. Brady noted certain entities, municipalities in this county that should be budgeting for such as, radios for their fire departments. There are other entities be it, Townships that do not have the same kind of tax base who could use the extra help. He approves of purchasing these radios. However, he also believes entities with full time fire departments should be budgeting in their budgets for equipment like this. Mr. Boose completely agreed.

Mr. Strickler said the commissioners in their sound discretion can determine where these radios will go especially because they own them. Such as, if determined a private ambulance company whomever that may be is part and partial of the county-wide public communication system, the commissioners can loan the radios to them by signing the MOU.

Mr. Boose said the levy that was passed does not mean that every time someone wants something that falls under that list that they immediately receive it. The example that Mr. Boose gave was that the TAC committee over a year ago received a budget spreadsheet from Ms. Bond that she asked them to approve for a five-year period she projected how the revenue would come in and the cost would come in. He explained when a five-year levy a fifth of it comes in, in year one. Therefore, you cannot purchase everything in year one because you only have a fifth of the money. It is a misunderstanding by some groups if it is a 9-1-1 issue the commissioners must pay because it was on the levy. Mr. Boose said it is a commissioners' decision after they listen to the TAC committee. The TAC committee approved the five-year budget. In that five-year budget, after five years there was going to be \$1,000,000 in reserves. The commissioner said no that is more tax money than needed and reduced the levy millage to only collect the budgeted expenses would be for the five years. Everyone is aware that inflation happened and a long list of what was needed came from the 9-1-1 county-wide public communication side because they did not have to pay for these items. Mr. Boose reiterated just because something can be paid for out of a levy, does not mean it is an automatically done. There is only so much budgeted money, that budget, even though they do not agree with it today was approved by the TAC committee. The commissioners used that budget to decide what the levy is He said they must take away the misconception that anything that is needed for communications and 9-1-1 must be paid immediately. Ms. Spears also told the commissioners she also has maintenance and other cost she must pay for other than just radios.

Mr. Boose asked Mr. Wilde when they went out for the first levy the commissioner's intention was not to say they would buy "everything" for 9-1-1 communication at the beginning. A budget was put together and it must be adhered to. Mr. Wilde and Mr. Strickler confirmed that was correct. The cities and villages are asking for the commissioners to pay for maintenance. The commissioners will explain to them that they did not budget for this.

Mr. Strickler said it is a matter of priorities and every year the commissioners review the priorities and handle the top priorities for each year. They must look at what needs to be purchased to insure the system is running properly. Mr. Boose commented some of these discussions in the future are going to be tough and complex such as, the meeting Mr. Brady had with the Sheriff. In Mr. Boose opinion there needs to be a group who heads up another discussion on whether centralized dispatching makes sense. One item to be reviewed is does centralized dispatch cost less money than having the PSAPs and have the Sheriff. It is confusing to the Sheriff what money he would have available for 9-1-1 and the dispatch and what money goes to the cities and the villages. Also, it gets complicated because some of the Villages cannot have their own dispatch so should the commissioners be paying part of theirs if some of the money the commissioners are using goes to PSAP that the other cities have.

**REGULAR SESSION**

**TUESDAY**

**JULY 30, 2024**

Mr. Boose suggested a topic of discussion will be; whether centralized dispatch is an option. If not an option, but, it cost more money to have PSAPs, who pays for the PSAPs? The county should not be responsible for all PSAPs. Mr. Boose suggested this may be a project for Kleinfelder to research and give recommendation because the problem is if it is done internally, everyone will have their own interest in mind. Kleinfelder could meeting with the TAC committee and they could say why or why not this recommendation may or may not work for Huron County.

**At 11:37 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 July 30, 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 11:37 a.m.

Signatures on File