

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: Valerie Stebel, Administrative Assistant; Randal Strickler, Assistant Prosecutor; Shylee Greszler, Norwalk Ohio News, Lee Tansey, Engineer, Brad Mesenburg, commissioner candidate.

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 305.14 the Record of the Proceedings of the September 3, 2024 and September 5, 2024 meeting(s) were presented to the Board. Bruce Wilde made the motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the September 3, 2024 and September 5, 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

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

24-294

**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 #387397 and #386180 (JPMorgan Chase Bank NA) 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:** Mr. Boose said on page 3, Brady Signs, final payment to move the sign, He said remember when they were told there was electric running out to the sign. Mr. Wilde said they did not and that is why all the people were digging for the other day. Mr. Boose said they will be getting a change order regarding this. Mr. Wilde said all the utilities were supposed to be run back there. Mr. Boose said they are still working on the sign. He also wanted to take note for Thursday’s meeting on page 12 under 911 final payment, 911 and radio equipment, \$483,541.

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

Table with columns: Warrant Date, Claimant, Batch ID, PO #, Line #, Line Description, Amount, Warrant #. Includes entries for Department: Adult Probation, Department: Sheriff, Department: Public Defender Commission, Department: Jail Operations, Department: Dog & Kennel.

Claims Register for Payment Batches

Table with columns: Warrant Date, Claimant, Batch ID, PO #, Line #, Line Description, Amount, Warrant #. Includes entries for Department: Coroner Total, Department: Building and Grounds, Department: Jail Operations, Department: Dog & Kennel.

Claims Register for Payment Batches

Table with columns: Warrant Date, Claimant, Batch ID, PO #, Line #, Line Description, Amount, Warrant #. Includes entries for Department: Sheriff, Department: Public Defender Commission, Department: Jail Operations, Department: Dog & Kennel.

Claims Register for Payment Batches

Table with columns: Warrant Date, Claimant, Batch ID, PO #, Line #, Line Description, Amount, Warrant #. Includes entries for Department: Sheriff, Department: Public Defender Commission, Department: Jail Operations, Department: Dog & Kennel.





**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

24-296

**IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZING THE ADVERTISEMENT AND LETTING BIDS FOR THE HURON COUNTY DOWNTOWN OFFICE COMPLEX REROOF AND STRUCTURAL WORK PROJECT**

Bruce Wilde moved to adopt the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2021, the President of the United States signed into law the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to provide continued relief from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, the ARPA program appropriates funds to provide support to State, Local, Tribal and Territory governments in responding to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, Huron County has applied for and received ARPA funds from the U.S. Department of Treasury under the under the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds established by American Rescue Plan Act of 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, all funds received from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 shall be expended only to cover costs of the County consistent with the requirements of section 603(c)(1) of ARPA as described in H.R. 1319, and any applicable regulations and guidance only to cover expenses that:

- (1) to respond to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality;
- (2) to respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers of the county that are performing such essential work, or by providing grants to eligible employers that have eligible workers who perform essential work;
- (3) for the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue of such county due to the COVID-19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year of the county prior to the emergency; or
- (4) to make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

**WHEREAS**, Huron County desires to seek bids for the Huron County Downtown Office Complex Reroof and Structural Work Project. The project will be funded with ARPA funds; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Huron County Commissioners has engaged McDonald Hopkins LLC for assistance in determining the eligibility of projects for the use of ARPA funding pursuant to the regulations promulgated for ARPA; and

**WHEREAS**, McDonald Hopkins LLC has reviewed the Huron County Downtown Office Complex Reroof and Structural Work Project request and the relevant ARPA regulations and has determined that the use of ARPA funds received by the County may be used under the Revenue Loss Category because the use of such funds meets the “government services” requirement of the Rules, a copy of McDonald Hopkins LLC’s opinion is attached hereto and expressly incorporated by reference herein; and

**WHEREAS**, a notice seeking bids for the aforementioned Project must be placed in a newspaper of general circulation within Huron County for a minimum of two weeks and on the County’s website pursuant to Section 307.87 of the Ohio Revised Code; now therefore



understand why this was not part of the budget at the beginning of the year. He said this is not a brand-new grant that no one knew about. He said the second thing is he would like to know what it is being used for. He said this kind-of goes back to the contracts that the commissioners do not get the opportunity to sign. Mr. Boose said \$80,000 is a lot of money to just transfer over and the commissioners have no idea what it is going to be used for. He understands it is a special fund. The time to appropriate money for special funds is by March 31<sup>st</sup>, unless there is a very big or important need that comes up during the middle of the year. Mr. Boose has asked the reason this money is needed and has not received a response. Mr. Brady said he believes they will be in at 10:00 a.m. and the commissioners will at this time ask him these questions.

***Bruce Wilde moved to hold Resolution 24-297 until they can speak to the Sheriff and get their questions answered, Harry Brady seconded this motion.***

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

Aye – Terry Boose  
Aye – Harry Brady  
Aye – 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

Amy Leibold & Ashley Capucini-Smith, JFS, to Delaware, Ohio for GOWBI Fiscal/Program Meeting on October 2, 2024.

John McClafin & Cain Clark, Weights/Measurers, to Findlay, Ohio for ODA Regional Training Meeting on October 17, 2024.

Roland Tkach, Auditor, to Dublin, Ohio for CCAO Winter Conference on November 12, 2024 – November 15, 2024.

Mr. Boose explained he received the information regarding the CCAO Winter Conference. He said everyone should think about which hotel they would like to stay at, Hilton or Drury. He stated it does not matter which hotel they stay at because all hotels have the same government rates. Mr. Brady stated he would like to stay at the Drury and Mr. Boose would like to stay at the Hilton. Mr. Brady said they had discussed previously sending the newly elected Commissioners to the CCAO Winter Conference.

***Bruce Wilde moved to approve the newly elected Commissioners to attend the CCAO Winter Conference being paid by the county. 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***

#### **SIGNINGS – None**

***Bruce Wilde moved to approve the Award of Special Distinction for the 185<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Collins Church. Harry Brady seconded the motion.***

***\*Discussion:*** Mr. Brady will be presenting this certificate to Collins Church, Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

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

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





## NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS

### Commissioner Boose report

Mr. Boose said he received an email this morning from the group doing the environmental assessment at Shady Lane, they need two things. Mr. Strickler said he sent the legal description he had from Amanda Busser and asked what do they want now? Mr. Wilde read an email from Mr. Bowen at MAK Solve, “Vickie, good morning, If you recall MAK Solve has been contracted by the County to perform a Phase I Environmental Assessment at the Shady Lane property in anticipation of the Demo Grant, which is under the Brownfield Program. There were two items that needed to happen first on the County’s side before I could finish that up. One was obtaining the No Further Action for the underground storage tank situation and the other was getting the property replatted to cut out the portion of the land that used to be an orchard. I’m following up to see if any of that has happened. The Ohio DOD seems to be gaining some momentum in terms of getting these grants at least into the Cure period, which is only 15 days. So I don’t want to get stuck behind the eight ball if that happens for this site and we only have 15 days to get all this done. If anyone needs a refresher on any of this, I’m available to chat.” Mr. Tansey told Mr. Strickler they sent him the platted information. Mr. Boose and Mr. Strickler agreed Mr. Welch needs to contact BJAAM for the “no further action” for the underground storage tank situation.

Mr. Brady asked Mr. Strickler if he had the NCAT contract for out at 306 South Norwalk Rd., where Mr. Strickler took out that NCAT was going to maintain the restrooms. Mr. Strickler confirmed he did send the contract back to NCAT. Mr. Boose said he drove by there the other day and behind the fence, next to the building there seems to be a lot of pallets, bales of recyclable stuff and trash that does not look nice. Mr. Boose said he is pretty sure they told them to store these things inside. He is going to mention it to Mr. Welch. Mr. Brady mentioned there is foliage that needs to be cleaned out. Mr. Boose said the trees have been marked and the ravine is going to be cleaned out however, they marked some trees to save. It cannot be done till after fall so they do not interrupt the bats. Mr. Brady wanted to make it clear the commissioners did not arbitrarily decide to cut down some trees. The commissioners have had professional Arborists in who made recommendations to the commissioners, which they are following. The commissioners did this for drainage and so the trees they are saving can thrive.

Mr. Boose attended the Senior Center construction meeting yesterday, He said they discussed hooking up the generator for the kitchen and emergency issues. Mr. Baucher, Garmann Miller, stated that their electrical engineer commented he should prepare the Commissioners for a pricing shock, it’s between \$22,000 and \$23,000 and this does not include the generator. He said they need an answer today. Mr. Brady asked, since they are doing all this, why not take the next step, at some point, to place a generator in. Mr. Boose would like to wait until Thursday to discuss further.

*Bruce Wilde moved not to exceed \$25,000.00 for the preparation of wiring the building for emergency to where it can be hooked up to a generator, so that during outages they can power part of the building. Harry Brady seconded.*

**\*Discussion:** Mr. Boose would like to ask the architect what generator size is needed to power the building. Mr. Strickler wanted to clarify that the motion does not include the generator. Mr. Boose confirmed that it does not include the generator.

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

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

Mr. Boose said 90% of the drywall is in and 40% of the painting is complete. He stated they may have some companies, profit or non-profit looking to possibly do some naming rights for some rooms at the Senior Center. The money that would come from these naming rights would be used for Mr. Beal to buy furnishings for the Senior Center. Mr. Beal is asking for approval to do this. Mr. Boose commented if this is done, the naming rights are only valid when Senior Center is in the building. Mr. Boose may have Mr. Beal contact Mr. Strickler to make sure this is done legally.

*Bruce Wilde moved to do an MOU with the Senior Center to have naming rights for the rooms in order to purchase furnishings. Harry Brady seconded.*

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

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

**\*Discussion:** Mr. Boose said there was a long discussion about electronics, especially what is being run for the speaker system inside the Senior Center. Mr. Beal said they have two options. One, keep what is in the current plans which is hard-wiring. Two, a better system with access points for WI-FI. There may be a small change order for this. Mr. Boose said he found the space for the electrical panel, he asked everyone how big do they think it is? He said it is as big as the board room door from ceiling to floor.

**At 10:02 a.m. the Board recessed.**

**At 10:10 a.m. the Board resumed regular session.**

Mr. Boose would like to bring back the discussion of the held Resolution 24-297, the commissioners did not understand the transfer of money to the SOR grant for \$80,116.67. Mr. Brady said it was on hold because the commissioners did not understand what is being done with this money and why it needed to moved.

Chief Ditz explained they received grants through MHAS. They received them for the body scanner, drug detecting devices, security checks. Also, through Black Creek, there is a monitoring device the inmates who are at risk wear. Right now, they are in the final stages of tweaking it for heart rate, other vitals and if they take a hard fall. Chief Ditz explained somehow from last year to this year that SOR grant line item somehow did not transfer from last year's budget to this year's budget, so, the money is sitting there. Mr. Wilde asked if this money will be used for the monitoring device. Chief Ditz said yes, the final part of it and also it will be used for updating six mobile data terminals/computers in the cruisers.

*Bruce Wilde moved to take Resolution 24-297 off hold, Harry Brady seconded.*

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

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

**At 10:16 a.m. Bruce Wilde moved to enter into Executive Session ORC 121.22 (G)(1) to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official, or the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual. ORC 121.22 (G)(4) Preparation for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions for public employees, concerning employee compensation or other**

*terms and conditions of employment. 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*

*At 11:11 a.m. Bruce Wilde moved to end Executive Session ORC 121.22 (G)(1), & (G)(4). 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*

**\*\*No Action Taken**

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

Ms. Stebel had no further business.

#### **Mr. Wilde report**

Mr. Wilde went to the CORSA annual meeting in Columbus on Friday. He said in the five-year period autos are the devil. The severity and frequency are high. Mr. Boose was surprised that the price for CORSA per vehicle has not sky-rocketed. Mr. Wilde said increases will be coming. Mr. Boose asked when increases will be going into effect. Mr. Wilde stated he thinks the beginning of the year. He said there is nothing they are doing wrong, it is just that everything is getting more expensive.

Cyber Security on Wednesday, he will be attending the 10 a.m. meeting.

LEPC meeting at 1:00 p.m., Thursday, tomorrow.

He said Ms. Ross wanted to make sure everyone knew, if the commissioners would like to golf in the Chamber Golf Outing, it would be free for the commissioners. Mr. McCully, EHOVE, mentioned to Mr. Wilde, while he was at the Huron County Growth Partnership meeting, they are going to have a levy discussion from 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. next Wednesday, in Monroeville.

He said there is also a meeting in Norwalk, Oct. 2, Norwalk Public Library from 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. It is another levy discussion for EHOVE. Mr. Brady mentioned he will probably attend this one.

Family Dependency Court is September 26, 2024, Thursday. Mr. Wilde has already RSVP'd.

#### **Mr. Brady's report**

Mr. Brady will be at a Transit meeting Wednesday morning.

Mr. Brady stated he was at interviews on Monday. They had five scheduled, one was a no show. There are two tomorrow afternoon also so he cannot go to the Cyber Security. However, they are recording it so he can listen and watch later.

He will attend Trauma Informed Care Community at JFS, Friday, 10:00 a.m.

Last week he did attend the Fire Fighters Association Meeting in Townsend Township. They have a beautiful hall and fire station.

He also went down to Plymouth for Fire Station ground-breaking ceremony. There was a school there on the property and they have found a brick from the school, that will be incorporated into the new station. They also found a brick from Broadway that was part of the road and they are going to incorporate that in one of the garden areas.

There are new fire stations built in Norwalk, Wakeman and Townsend Township,

Mr. Brady said there was a line of broken bottles on Rt. 20 in the west bound lane. He stopped and told a Deputy, who immediately took care of the situation. He commented he appreciates our Sheriff Department's public servants.

#### **Mr. Boose report cont'd**

Mr. Boose read from the State House report that OBM released their monthly financial report updates for fiscal year 2025. Personal income tax revenue will be \$321.4 million and \$681 million less than initially anticipated. He said so we keep hearing from the state how good everything is doing, until they get into

the details. He reported Mr. Stebel is already working on a partnership with Amazon Business Prime. She has had discussions with CCAO as to how they can take advantage of the membership which is \$1,299.

Mr. Boose commented there is a service the state has called OPM Connect\$ and it is to help us with all the different grants that the state has. He feels we need to make sure at least JFS is aware of this, especially with all the grants they do.

Mr. Boose asked Ms. Stebel how are we doing on the fraud training. Ms. Stebel stated that she only has one person left to do the training.

Mr. Boose stated that for the new commissioners the Northwest District just received \$750,000 from "Save America's Treasures Grant Program through the Historic Preservation Fund to complete renovations to the courthouse. Mr. Boose did point out though it also states the Huron County Commissioners will contribute \$750,000 as their cost share. He said 50% is better than 100%.

He also stated it is interesting in the Northeast District a state representative from Youngstown, he quoted, *"The public needed an update (Mr. Boose clarified this is talking about property taxes.) to understand that the increase property owners are seeing in their property taxes solely rest on the state legislature and it is a choice."* He read she was telling the people at this meeting, *"don't go after your county government people or the schools about the property tax increases, they need to be talking to legislature who are the only ones that can really change the rules. Legislators over a couple of decades have engaged in tax shifting, which is shifting taxes away from the state and onto local home owners and communities."* Mr. Boose read, *"she finished the press conference by urging the state leaders in Columbus to get serious about proving literally to all Ohioans they absolutely can lower our property taxes, reduce cost and still support the central services if we ensure that the state pays its fair share and returns our tax dollars to our local communities."*

On Thursday, the Board will be discussing the letter from Mr. Tkach regarding questions as to what the anticipated carryover is going to be in several different accounts.

Mr. Boose commented Thursday will be an extremely busy meeting. He said he told Ms. Ziemba nothing can be moved to next meeting, keep agenda as is.

**At 11:37 a.m.** Mr. Brady moved to adjourn. Mr. Wilde 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 September 17, 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