

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; Roger Hunker, Resident; Brad Mesenburg, Commissioner Elect; Tom Dunlap, Commissioner Elect; Patricia Didion, Resident; Matt Roche; Norwalk Ohio News.

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 305.14 the Record of the Proceedings of the November 19, 2024 meeting(s) were presented to the Board. Bruce Wilde made the motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the November 19, 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

24-377

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 and Then and Now’s for Payment Batches #392635 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. The roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

Huron County Claims Register for Payment Batches						Claims Register for Payment Batches								
Warrant Date	Claimant	Batch ID	PO #/Line #	Line Description	Amount	Warrant #	Warrant Date	Claimant	Batch ID	PO #/Line #	Line Description	Amount	Warrant #	
Fund: 001 - General Fund							Department Clerk of Courts Total:						\$1,567.74	
Department: Commissioners							Department Coroner Total:						\$5,805.00	
12040204	Fisher-Titus Medical Center	392635	2024-00281/1	New Hite drug test Mia Phillips	888.00		12040204	Mercury Services of Northwest Ohio LLC	392635	2024-00394/1	Body Transports	865.00		
Account 001.001.00475 (Other Expenses) Total:						\$58.00	12040204	Lucas County Coroner	392635	2024-00394/1	Autopsy	\$1,750.00		
12040204	DEX Imaging	392635	2024-00281/1	Copier	880.31		12040204	Lucas County Coroner	392635	2024-00394/1	Autopsy	\$1,750.00		
Account 001.001.00525 (Contract Services) Total:						\$80.31	12040204	Lucas County Coroner	392635	2024-00394/1	Autopsy	\$1,750.00		
Department Commissioners Total:						\$138.31	Account 001.018.00525 (Contract Services) Total:						\$5,805.00	
Department: Data Processing							Department Coroner Total:						\$5,805.00	
12040204	Schwabert Diagnostic LLC	392635	2024-00281/1	Website & GIS 1/12/2025-3/31/2025	\$3,750.00		Department: Building and Grounds							
Account 001.003.00275 (Contract Services) Total:						\$3,750.00	12040204	Wolf Bros Supply Inc	392635	2024-00281/1	Module WiFi Diagnostic-Office Bldg	\$156.20		
Department Data Processing Total:						\$3,750.00	12040204	Realt	392635	2024-00281/1	Fluorescent Cylinder	\$372.00		
Department: Treasurer							12040204	Refugeation Sales Corporation	392635	2024-00281/1	Low Level and Breath-Office Bldg	\$23.35		
12040204	CTAO	392635	2024-00191/1	2025 CTAO Dues	\$1,293.62		12040204	Lowe's	392635	2024-00281/1	Laser Tape Measure	\$160.55		
Account 001.005.00475 (Other Expenses) Total:						\$1,293.62	12040204	Hartford & Wilson	392635	2024-00281/1	Radiators-120Man	\$395.76		
Department Treasurer Total:						\$1,293.62	Account 001.022.00275 (Repairs Maintenance) Total:						\$1,107.85	
Department: Juvenile Probation							12040204	R J Beck Protective Systems Inc	392635	2024-00281/1	Replaced Door Pull Station Admin Bldg	\$392.00		
12040204	Kayla Fary	392635	2024-00112/1	Travel Reimbursement Mileage	\$154.77		Account 001.022.00280 (Service Contract) Total:						\$292.00	
Account 001.014.00475 (Other Expenses) Total:						\$154.77	12040204	Charter Communications	392635		Internet-180Man	\$608.00		
Department Juvenile Probation Total:						\$154.77	12040204	Charter Communications	392635		Internet-Downtown	\$1,081.00		
Department: Probate							Account 001.022.00524 (Internet) Total:						\$1,889.00	
12040204	Jaimie Enbly	392635	2024-00120/1	Travel Reimbursement Mileage & Turpinke Toll	\$161.20		12040204	Ohio Edison	392635		Electro-120ManRR	\$44.80		
12040204	Patricia A Vintez	392635	2024-00120/1	Spanish Interpretation	\$30.00		12040204	Ohio Edison	392635		Electro-120ManRR	\$45.34		
Account 001.016.00475 (Other Expenses) Total:						\$191.20	Account 001.022.00528 (Electric) Total:						\$173.90	
Department Probate Total:						\$191.20	Department Building and Grounds Total:						\$3,462.75	
Department: Clerk of Courts							Department: Sheriff							
12040204	Covisa Document Services LLC	392635	2024-00382/1	8 x 9 Certified Mail Envelopes	\$739.94		12040204	Outspikes com	392635	2024-00173/1	Pens, case files, packing tape	\$96.48		
Account 001.017.00175 (Supplies) Total:						\$739.94	12040204	Outspikes com	392635	2024-00173/1	Credit on account from 7/25/24	(\$55.89)		
Department Clerk of Courts Total:						\$739.94	12040204	Wes Bank 192884.7	392635	2024-00173/1	Runco Bus 1023 - 11/2/24	\$1,599.48		
Account 001.017.00175 (Supplies) Total:						\$739.94	12040204	Amazon Capital Services	392635	2024-00173/1	Flash Drive, case folders, ribbon for time stamp	\$90.84		
Department Clerk of Courts Total:						\$739.94	Account 001.023.00175 (Supplies) Total:						\$1,735.78	
Account 001.017.00175 (Supplies) Total:						\$739.94	12040204	Lucky Store Promotions	392635	2024-00174/1	2 Deputy uniform shirts, 2 deputy pants - Vugot	\$338.00		
Department Clerk of Courts Total:						\$739.94	Account 001.023.00200 (Equipment) Total:						\$338.00	
Account 001.017.00175 (Supplies) Total:						\$739.94	12040204	Treasurer State of Ohio	392635	2024-00175/1	MARCS index for 1/1 - 4/1/24	\$30.00		

Claims Register for Payment Batches table with columns: Warrant Date, Claimant, Batch ID, PO #/Line #, Line Description, Amount, Warrant #.

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Signatures: Sign 1 [Signature], Sign 2 [Signature], Sign 3 [Signature], [Signature], [Signature], [Signature]

24-378

IN THE MATTER OF RE-APPOINTMENT TO THE HURON COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Bruce Wilde moved the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the term for Mr. Kevin Rasnick will expire on December 31, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rasnick wishes to be re-appointed and it is the desire of the Board of Huron County Commissioners to re-appoint Mr. Rasnick to a four year term; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Huron County Commissioners hereby appoints Mr. Kevin Rasnick to the Huron County Board of Developmental Disabilities for the term beginning January 1, 2025 and ending December 31, 2028; 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

24-379

IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENTS WITHIN THE GENERAL FUND

Bruce Wilde moved the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Huron County Agricultural Society bid a Storage Building Project in July 2024 with the expectation of completion in 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Agricultural Society has received funding from private donations and the State of Ohio to complete the bid project; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Huron County Commissioners have committed up to \$300,000.00 in the event the bid project exceeds those amounts collected; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for an appropriation adjustment in order to encumber the funds; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Huron County Commissioners hereby approves the following appropriation adjustments:

FROM:	Dept	Account	Fund	Amount	TO:	Dept.	Account	Fund	Amount
	099	00600	001	\$300,000.00		021	00557	001	\$300,000.00
		Transfer Out					Capital Improvements	Other Exp.	
									and further

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Board is instructed to certify a copy of this resolution to the Huron County Auditor and the Auditor is authorized and instructed to record said appropriation adjustment as approved; and further

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Administrative Assistant is authorized to encumber the funds to be used upon the Commissioners approval of any requests, up to \$300,000.00, received by the Huron County Agricultural Society once they have exhausted the funds collected through private donations and the State of Ohio for the bid Storage Building Project; 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. Brady pointed out to Mr. Hunker the building was initially going to be a show ring, but was bid as a storage building, he wanted to make sure we aren't shorting ourselves in the use of the building. Mr. Brady understands it can be used for showing during the fair. He asked if it can be used for shows and auctions outside of the fair? Mr. Hunker said his answer would be yes, because other counties who have built some of their buildings under the same building code, have used the fairgrounds for shows and auctions. Mr. Hunker stated it will also depend on how the Fair Board decides to use it for off season. Mr. Wilde commented there are other buildings, like the Pickworth & Wilson buildings, that are used for other events.

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 - *None*

SIGNINGS - *None*

OLD BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Boose brought up the Senior Enrichment Center draft lease, that Mr. Strickler prepared for the Board's review. Below is some of the feedback for Mr. Strickler:

- The County will be doing the parking lot snow removal only. The Senior Enrichment Center is responsible for the sidewalk snow removal.
- The County will be responsible for mowing the lawn. The Senior Enrichment Center is responsible for the landscaping. Mr. Boose noted basically that is everything except the lawn.
- Mr. Brady stated Appendix A needs to list the ovens & steamer as staying with the building. They were purchased by the County.
- The County is responsible for the maintenance of the building for HVAC.
- The Senior Enrichment Center is responsible for paying the utilities.
- Mr. Boose said he and Mr. Welch reviewed the building maintenance section which confirms the Senior Enrichment Center is responsible for all utilities.

Mr. Boose stated the CCAO Counties Currents has an article about "hearing loops," Medina County did install them into their courthouse. It's essentially like an invisible fence that allows those with hearing aids to hear better, by removing the background noise. If the article is correct the cost is around \$2,300.00 per room. Mr. Boose is going to speak with the Medina County Commissioners to get more information. He will also give the article to Mr. Beal to research further for the Senior Enrichment Center.

Commissioner Wilde report

Mr. Wilde said he received a OneOhio Region 19 zoom meeting invitation, which is on Wednesday, December 18th, from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.

He mentioned the Veteran of the year ceremony at the Bellevue VFW, is this Saturday, from 5:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. However, he did not receive an invite. In the past the Commissioners have attended.

Huron County Growth Partnership meeting next Tuesday, December 10th, from 11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Mr. Brady suggested Mr. Mesenburg be the replacement for Mr. Wilde. Mr. Boose explained the Commissioners have asked them to change the day they meet, because it is during the commissioner's board meeting. However, they have not done so. Mr. Wilde said Huron County Growth Partnership listed all the things done in the past and next year when it comes out it will be one thing to Huron County Growth Partnership, this for Chamber and this for Economic Development etc. Mr. Boose asked Mr. Wilde, since he is a donor how does he know if his support went to Huron County Economic Development or to the Chamber, which entity received his donation? Mr. Wilde said he does not know about the future, but this year the Wilde Brothers are a member of the Chamber and they wrote the check directly to the Chamber this year. Mr. Boose commented he is going to assume the Chamber has a lot more members than Norwalk Economic Development. Mr. Wilde said they have had many people donating right now because they sent

out a mailing, and they had a bunch come in over the holidays. Mr. Boose asked how many people donated to Huron County Economic Development last year, besides the Commissioners. Mr. Brady and Mr. Wilde said not many. Mr. Wilde said the Huron County Growth Partnership is hitting on all cylinders right now. Mr. Brady commented that Willard Economic Development Corporation had talked about disbanding, because of Huron County Growth Partnership taking such a lead in all areas of the county, including the Willard area. However, they decided to continue and are excited to start working with Huron County Growth Partnership.

Commissioner Brady report

Mr. Brady has Transit Board Meeting in Tiffin, the morning of December 18th, 2024, then a Land Bank meeting and OneOhio Region 19 meeting after this, in the afternoon, at the Administration Building. He said he is attending the CCAO Winter Conference this week. Mr. Brady will be doing a presentation this year at the conference. It will be Thursday afternoon from 3:30p.m. until 4:30p.m. and is about transformational leadership, and how to utilize it in a county setting for the future. It will include utilizing communication and feedback, instead of constructive criticism.

Commissioner Boose report

Mr. Boose said next Monday may be the last Senior Enrichment Center construction meeting. Mr. Welch has been working with Mr. Beal on the dumpster. He was able to use a county dumpster instead of contracting it out. Mr. Beal is only going to clean their area. They have found other property that they believe is county property. The county staff will need to handle this. The Commissioners discussed the timeline for moving in and whether there will be an Open House. Mr. Boose stated he will ask those questions at the Monday construction meeting.

Mr. Boose commented there is an article in the CCAO Counties Current discussing that Ohio has been selected as part of a federal TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) pilot. It is a six-year program, which is awesome. TANF is usually pretty flexible money. It looks like it will give the Commissioners leeway. He said it is very good that Ohio is going to be part of this. He also noted another article in the CCAO Counties Current saying that the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant program deadline is December 20th, 2024. Mr. Boose stated he relayed the grant information to the fire chiefs, at one of their meetings. He read an article that said Norwalk may be applying. He would be interested to see how many other departments apply. This is a way for the fire fighters to get the equipment they say they need. If they serve under 20,000 residents the match is 5%. If over 20,000 the match is 10%. Mr. Wilde asked Mr. Dunlap if Norwalk was over 20,000 people, because the article said they were getting 10% and he thought they were under 20,000. Mr. Dunlap said it is going to be a 10% match. Mr. Roche said he thinks they are because it also includes the surrounding Townships outside the city; Norwalk and Bronson Townships.

Administrator/Clerk report

Ms. Ziemba reminded the Board they had a request from the Board of Election for an appropriation adjustment to pay out the Director and Deputy Director for 100 hours of their comp time. Mr. Brady stated they have a prosecutor's opinion, which says the BOE needs to ask the Commissioners for the transfer and the Commissioners *shall* approve the transfer. Mr. Brady stated he doesn't necessarily agree with it, but if that is what's required, then not sure there's anything they can do about it.

Mr. Brady contacted the liaison for the Secretary of State for the area and asked if the Elections Board can authorize the payout of comp time. The State Liaison said it is within the Elections Board's authority to pay the comp time, give the time off, or allow the employee to choose which option they want. Mr. Boose asked if the Commissioners have to transfer the money into the account if the BOE doesn't have the extra money already in their budget. Mr. Brady stated they have it in their contract services line. Mr. Brady stated last year they said the payout was due to having three elections and not having an opportunity to take the time off. The State Liaison said this was a presidential year so it may have caused the extra time, next year is a municipal election, so it should not be as much. Mr. Brady spoke with Ms. Blevins yesterday and voiced his opinion that he is not happy about the large amount being paid out. Ms. Blevins mentioned that they did not use all the grant money they were awarded so those funds will be going back into the general fund that could go towards the payment. Mr. Wilde asked if they took any vacation time this year, where they could have used comp time instead. He also asked if they could extend their comp time into next year. Mr. Brady said that their Board approved the payout and according to the Prosecutor's opinion this Board shall approve the request.

Mr. Boose said if this is the way they want to play ball, he made a recommendation to the next Board of Commissioners. In the past they are going to have people, when it comes to budget time, who will want to circumvent the systems and he feels this is exactly what this is doing. He said the Commissioners have always tried to be fair to all employees when it comes to budget. At budget time, they have contractual and non-contractual employees, the Commissioners always try to make sure everyone is treated as fair as possible. Mr. Boose said they hear from department heads their employees are better, they worked harder

than other employees each year, so they deserve more. Last year there were a lot of questions asked at this time and the basic thing that was discussed is this is a managerial problem, because the hours can all be managed. The Commissioners said something needs to be done to manage the hours better. It may be temporary or seasonal employees are needed. The other question that came up is how did comp time get built up? The Commissioners were told last year it was because of the extra election during the summer, which was thrown upon them and they did not have much of a chance to plan and manage. At this time, the Commissioners asked the Director and Deputy Director if this was every year type of thing and will they see this kind-of thing next year? The Director and Deputy Director replied they did not think so. Mr. Wilde pointed out this is in the minutes, however though it is little less than last year, it happened again this year. Mr. Boose said, in his opinion it is because of lack of managerial work done. One of the things the Commissioners look at when it comes to budget is they try to be reasonable with people. Over the last eight years he has questioned the Board of Election's budget. He said each year it increases. When the Commissioners ask the Board of Election if their budget will increase, they say, "well it could," and because of this they budgeted extra money in their budget, contract services. The Board of Election said they never know if they are going to need something or equipment breaks down. Mr. Boose said when the Commissioners do this with departments, the Commissioners assume the departments are going to use the money for these specific things. He feels they are not playing fair with the Commissioners. He suggested next year the future Commissioners do not have to give them the full amount in final budget that could be used. They should ask the Board of Election the exact things that must be done and only fund what must be done, not what could be done. He would then set money aside and transfer out money that the Commissioners may need, in case something does happen. He said he is not saying you must do it with every department because most departments are true to their word. If they need it the money is there. An example, with the Sheriff's jail, he does not spend every penny left over in an account. If an emergency comes up the money is there. There is no way to budget for every possibility. It would be a waste of taxpayers' money. Mr. Boose thinks this is a very important situation. He does not think it has happened just once. It has happened a couple of times. The Commissioners always hear in November or December that they have the money in their budget. Mr. Boose said the Commissioners put money in certain line items for a reason. Mr. Wilde said, for needs. Mr. Boose has always said the salary line item is the departments salary line item for the year. This is a very conscience decision the Commissioners make when they budget, which is how to be fair to everyone. They feel they have very hard-working employees in this county, no matter what department they are in. Mr. Boose has never been for transferring money into a payroll account, except for the Sheriff's, because the Commissioners made this decision. If people want to start playing with the numbers and start moving money around because some people think the Ohio Revised Code gives them this right, maybe their budget needs to be adjusted.

Ms. Ziemba asked what direction the Board wants her to take on the request. There's a draft resolution prepared. She asked if the Board wants to act on it today, if there are more questions they want her to ask, or if the Board would like the BOE scheduled in to discuss. Mr. Boose would like to wait until next week because he would like to bring this topic up at the CCAO Winter Conference.

Mr. Welch attended the meeting to give the Board the bid opening results for the Transfer Station Floor. There was one bidder, Smith's Paving, at \$220,000.00. Engineer's estimate was \$225,000.00. He said multiple companies picked up bid packets, but only Smith's Paving submitted a bid. This will be an ARPA project if there are remaining funds. Mr. Strickler will need to review the bid and the Board will need to award and enter it into contract before the end of the year.

Mr. Boose asked if there is a schedule to remove the trees on Shady Lane. Mr. Welch stated there's no timeframe yet. The contractor was initially waiting for the first freeze. Mr. Welch will contact him today for an update.

Mr. Boose discussed an email complaint the office received about a dog that was hurt, on a construction site, in the City of Norwalk. This happened behind the Eagles building on Willard St. The construction is a city project. The resident is looking for someone to pay their vet's bill. Mr. Boose is not sure why the City referred them to the Commissioners' Office. Mr. Boose would like Ms. Ziemba to contact the resident and let them know the complaint will be forwarded to the City, as this is within the city and it is their construction project.

Ms. Ziemba stated the farm lease bids were opened. The apparent high bidder amounts per acre, compared to the current rates are:

- Transfer Station - \$196.00 Per Acre (current), \$236.00 Per Acre (new bid)
- Airport - \$187.00 Per Acre (current), \$236.00 Per Acre (new bid)
- Shady Lane - \$246.00 Per Acre (current), \$276.00 Per Acre (new bid)

Mr. Boose stated he spoke with one of the bidders and he mentioned there is serious damage from geese at the Transfer Station property. However, it did not stop the farmer from bidding.

REGULAR SESSION

TUESDAY

DECEMBER 3, 2024

At 10:35 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 December 3, 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 10:35 a.m.

Signatures on File