

**REGULAR SESSION**

**TUESDAY**

**JANUARY 29, 2019**

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

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 305.14 the Record of the Proceedings of the January 8, 2019 and January 15, 2019 meeting(s) were presented to the Board. Terry Boose made the motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the meeting(s) and approve as presented. Joe Hintz seconded the motion. Voting was as follows:

Aye – Terry Boose  
Aye – Joe Hintz  
Aye – Bruce Wilde

19-039

**IN THE MATTER OF CERTIFYING CLAIMS SCHEDULES TO THE HURON COUNTY  
AUDITOR FOR PAYMENT**

Terry Boose 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 Claim Schedule 01/29/19 and authorizes the Huron County Auditor to make the necessary warrants; 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.

Joe Hintz seconded the motion.

**\*Discussion:** Mr. Boose verified that the gas bill for 22 E. Main Street was for all of downtown, not just 22 East Main Street.

Mr. Boose also questioned the deductible for the 2016 federal lawsuit. Ms. Ziemba explained this had been split between multiple counties and was related to a lawsuit because of the way things were recorded in the 1930s, 40s and 50s.

Regarding the JFS alarm system upgrade, Mr. Boose said we need to pay one-quarter as agreed, but questioned the charge for the additional door upgrade. Ms. Ziemba will email JFS for more information.

Several people had questioned Mr. Boose as to why the Everbridge notification system hadn't sent texts out for the County Level 3. Mr. Wilde said he will bring that up at the EMA meeting on Thursday.

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

Aye – Terry Boose  
Aye – Joe Hintz  
Aye – Bruce Wilde

**Huron County  
Claims Register for Payment Batches**

Payment Type: All					Warrent Dates: 1/31/2019 to 1/31/2019	
Funds: 01 to 850					Payment Batches: 272531 to 272531	
Warrent Client	Batch ID	PO #/Line #	Line Description	Amount	Warrent #	
Fund: 001 - General Fund						
Department: Commissioners						
Account 001.001.00175 (Supplies) Total:	272531	2019-002871	Stamp	\$55.00		
Department Commissioners Total:				\$55.00		
Department: Microfilm						
01/31/2019	272531	2019-002831	Copy Paper	\$24.75		
Account 001.002.00175 (Supplies) Total:				\$24.75		
Department Microfilm Total:				\$24.75		
Department: Treasurer						
Account 001.005.00175 (Supplies) Total:	272531	2019-002861	Subsidiaries, ante, forwarding sheets, debit revenue	\$57.43		
Department Treasurer Total:				\$57.43		
Department: Adult Probation						
01/31/2019	272531	2019-000511	Scales, Business Cards, Tissues & Wipes	\$123.91		
Account 001.001.00175 (Supplies) Total:	272531	2019-000511	File Dividers	\$123.91		
Department Adult Probation Total:				\$123.91		
Department: Juvenile						
01/31/2019	272531	2019-000411	Reimbursement for Tissues	\$147.28		
Account 001.013.00020 (Equipment) Total:				\$147.28		
Department Juvenile Total:				\$147.28		
Department: Sheriff						
01/31/2019	272531	2019-000601	Book Cover Labels 01/15/2019-12/15/2019	\$8.56		
Account 001.013.00020 (Equipment) Total:	272531	2019-000601	Book Cover Labels 01/15/2019-12/15/2019	\$8.56		
Department Sheriff Total:				\$8.56		
Account 001.013.00020 (Equipment) Total:				\$1,814.13		

### Claims Register for Payment Batches

[illegible]

### Claims Register for Payment Batches

Warrant Date	Warrant Date	Batch ID	PO Line #	Line Description	Amount	Warrant #
Department: Sheriff						
01/01/2019	WFL Mason Co Inc	722501	2019-001601	Heavy Stamp	\$20.75	
01/01/2019	WFL Mason Co Inc	722501	2019-001601	Tire	\$68.61	
01/01/2019	12 Pack Battery	722501	2019-001601		\$197.23	
Account 001 0123.00175 (Supplies) Total:					\$286.59	
01/01/2019	Russo & Makis Inc	722501	2019-001611	Uniform Shirt, Pants & Accessories & Shop	\$150.45	
01/01/2019	Galls LLC	722501	2019-001611	Boots & Lynx	\$195.00	
01/01/2019	WFL Mason Co Inc	722501	2019-001611	Handcuffs	\$86.09	
01/01/2019	Galls LLC	722501	2019-001611	Boots & Lynx	\$86.09	
Account 001 0123.00200 (Equipment) Total:					\$402.64	
01/01/2019	Norfolk Pest Control	722501	2019-002001	Monthly Pest Control	\$85.00	
01/01/2019	North Coast Wireless	722501	2019-002001	Monthly Cell Phone	\$100.00	
01/01/2019	North Coast Wireless Communications	722501	2019-002001	Waiver/Outage Return February	\$140.19	
Account 001 0123.00275 (Contract: Reapine) Total:					\$325.19	
Department: Sheriff Total:					\$742.38	
Department: Recorder						
01/01/2019	CompuLink	722501	2019-000231	Correction Tape, Stamp, Markers & Folders	\$306.45	
Account 001 0124.00175 (Supplies) Total:					\$306.45	
Department: Recorder Total:					\$306.45	
Department: Disaster Service						
01/01/2019	Messiah	722501	2019-001251	MONTHLY MICROSOFT EMAIL	\$51.32	
01/01/2019	Microsoft	722501	2019-001251	Fire Alarm, Intrusion, Motion P	\$263.69	
Account 001 0124.00175 (Supplies) Total:					\$315.01	
01/01/2019	Florida	722501	2019-001251	Monthly Telephone Bill BWA	\$174.43	
Account 001 0124.00175 (Other Expenses) Total:					\$489.42	
Department: Disaster Service Total:					\$489.42	
Department: Public Defender Commission						
01/01/2019	MT Business Technologies Inc	722501	2019-000971	Roof Cover 0102-0227019	\$211.31	
Account 001 0127.00052 (Contract: Services) Total:					\$211.31	
Department: Public Defender Commission Total:					\$211.31	
Department: Jail Operations						
01/01/2019	Penalty Charge	722501	2019-001601	Penalty Charge	\$20.95	
01/01/2019	Penalty Charge	722501	2019-001601	Penalty Charge	\$20.95	
Account 001 0135.00175 (Supplies) Total:					\$104.73	

### Claims Register for Payment Batches

Warrant Detail	Account	Amount
01/01/2019	Vehicle Communication	\$32.64
Account 001-038-00177 (Medical/Hygiene) Total:		\$32.64
01/01/2019	Gala LLC	\$14.97
01/01/2019	Gala LLC	\$44.98
01/01/2019	Gala LLC	\$44.98
Account 001-038-00200 (Equipment) Total:		\$284.95
01/01/2019	Norwalk Pest Control	\$165.00
01/01/2019	Pumkin Patch Farm	\$165.00
Account 001-038-00275 (Contract Repairs) Total:		\$284.95
01/01/2019	Columbia Gas	\$1,085.19
Account 001-038-00827 (Gas) Total:		\$1,085.19
Department Jail Operations Total:		\$1,794.80
Department Insurance and Taxes		
01/01/2019	CORSA	\$846.68
Account 001-038-00586 (Insurance on Property) Total:		\$846.68
Department Insurance and Taxes Total:		\$846.68
Department Miscellaneous		
01/01/2019	Applied Court Fees	\$46.00
01/01/2019	Mattew-Henley Attorney At Law	\$46.00
01/01/2019	Mattew-Henley Attorney At Law	\$600.00
Account 001-040-00075 (Attorney Fees) Total:		\$1,092.00
Department Miscellaneous Total:		\$1,092.00
Fund 001 - General Fund Total:		\$24,385.70
Department Dog & Kennel		
01/01/2019	Cro's Net Inc	\$16.00
01/01/2019	BassFeed MassCare Program	\$440.58
Account 105-105-00275 (Contract Repairs) Total:		\$456.58
Department Dog & Kennel Total:		\$456.58
Fund 105 - Dog & Kennel Total:		\$456.58
Department Public Assistance		
Fund 115 - Public Assistance		\$565.70

## TUESDAY

### V.3.2

### V.3.2

### V.3.2

### 4.3.2

### W.3.2





**REGULAR SESSION**

**TUESDAY**

**JANUARY 29, 2019**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Huron County Commissioners hereby approves of the requests for payment and status of funds request as attached herein and certifies that the data reported is correct and that the amount of the Request for Payments is not in excess of current needs; 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.

Joe Hintz seconded the motion.

**\*Discussion:** Mr. Boose stated that last week's CHIP meeting was very enlightening and he learned a lot about the process.

Ms. Ziemba said this draw is in the amount of \$9,415 for home repair assistance to a home in Norwalk.

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

Aye – Terry Boose

Aye – Joe Hintz

Aye – Bruce Wilde

**At 9:10 a.m. Public comment** – Chris Bauer, Bellevue, Ohio

Mr. Bauer wanted to follow up on Mr. Ledet's visit a few weeks ago and ask questions regarding the resolution passed on March 13, 2018 to make sure he and the people of Huron County understand it better. He asked if the resolution signed on March 13, 2018 constituted an approval for the PILOT. Mr. Strickler said no, it does not. Mr. Wilde said it was their understanding that it did not. Mr. Bauer clarified for the record, no, it did not constitute approval for the PILOT.

Mr. Bauer asked if the March 13, 2018 resolution constitutes a commitment to approve the PILOT when it is filed. Neither Mr. Wilde nor Mr. Hintz thought it did. Mr. Strickler asked Mr. Bauer to repeat the question.

Mr. Bauer asked if the March 2018 resolution constitutes a commitment to approve the PILOT once it is filed, once it becomes a valid energy project. Mr. Strickler asked Mr. Bauer to clarify – did he mean once it is filed with the Ohio Power Siting Board? Mr. Bauer answered yes, when they bring the paperwork to the Commissioners. Mr. Strickler stated no. Mr. Bauer wanted to again be sure there was no commitment by this resolution to approve the PILOT once the paperwork is presented to the Commissioners. Mr. Strickler stated that all the resolution says is that, at that point in time, the Board of Commissioners support the application. Mr. Wilde said that was nine months ago and the information they had then is a bit different than the information they have today. Mr. Boose said that is the reason the process states you do not approve a PILOT program until it is a qualified project. He explained that, as of today, it is not a qualified project. Mr. Strickler added that the statute says that, until the Power Siting Board determines to qualify a project, we cannot grant a PILOT. He added that the resolution really has no sum and substance to it. Mr. Wilde indicated it is just words. Mr. Bauer confirmed again this was not a commitment to the PILOT. Mr. Strickler said it was support at the time but it was not a commitment.

Mr. Bauer had a final question - do we intend to approve a PILOT once it is submitted? Mr. Strickler advised the board not to answer as they do not have all the information. He said they have not seen the application that was submitted to the Power Siting Board.

Mr. Wilde stated that they receive information every day, and as they gather information they have more things to consider. Mr. Bauer said he appreciates that and agreed that things have changed everywhere, in the community and in the country. Mr. Bauer asked if that means the Commissioners would commit to the people of Huron County that they will have an open meeting to discuss this further, or if meant they were planning to proceed based on the information already received, the majority of which he thought probably come from Apex? Mr. Wilde stated he was not sure and that was something they will consider. Mr. Bauer said he would like a commitment on the part of the Commissioners to do that because he believes things have changed since he first talked to Mr. Hintz. Mr. Wilde stated that they have not

decided and to his knowledge there has not been an application filed, although he did not know for sure. Mr. Bauer asked that he be given the opportunity to come and speak again, as there was a lot more involved. He said there is a lot on both sides, but when you look at it in the middle, it is what the people of Huron County are asking for, and typically what you are seeing in the local area is that people are obviously against it. He would like the opportunity to at least present their side. Mr. Wilde noted Mr. Bauer's request.

Mr. Boose also acknowledged the request, but he informed Mr. Bauer there was no requirement on the Commissioner's part to do that. There have already been three hearings. Mr. Boose said that once the time comes when something has to be voted on they will look at it again. Mr. Bauer was appreciative and said he understands that the Huron County Commissioners will be having a public meeting. Mr. Boose reiterated that they had already had three. Mr. Bauer thought the point of contention for a lot of people was that they had missed the meetings because they were not advertised in the Bellevue newspaper or in the Norwalk newspaper, although Mr. Bauer acknowledged there is no newspaper in Bellevue. He believes there are many folks that are upset because they were unaware of the hearings. He would like the Commissioners to recognize that and at least give them an opportunity to be heard. He thinks it is only fair for the community.

Mr. Bauer again verified that the March 2018 resolution does not constitute an approval, does not constitute a commitment and the Commissioners are not ready to make an approval on the PILOT. Mr. Wilde stated that was correct.

19-043

**IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTMENTS TO THE HURON COUNTY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)**

Terry Boose moved the adoption of the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, new members need to be appointed to the Huron County LEPC; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the desire of the Board of Huron County Commissioners to appoint:

- Chief Mike Conney, Norwalk PD, to replace Dave Light
- Lt. Charles Gullett, OSP, to replace Lt. Hamman
- Chief Kurt Stang, HRJFD Monroeville, to replace Tom Beck now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Huron County Commissioners hereby appoints the above listed individuals to the Huron County LEPC; 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.

Joe Hintz seconded the motion.

**\*Discussion:** Mr. Boose explained these are the three that are replacing former Committee members.

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

Aye – Terry Boose  
Aye – Joe Hintz  
Aye – Bruce Wilde

19-044

**IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZING THE HURON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT (District) TO FILE AN APPLICATION TO THE OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO EPA COMMUNITY AND LITTER GRANT PROGRAM.**

Terry Boose moved the adoption of the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, funds are available to be awarded to support scrap tire amnesty and cleanup events sponsored by solid waste management districts through the Ohio EPA Community and Litter Grant Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, the District desires to participate in the Community and Litter Grant Program to receive financial assistance to hold scrap tire amnesty and cleanup events; and

**WHEREAS**, the District has the authority to apply for financial assistance and to administer the amounts received from the state of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency; and

**WHEREAS**, participation in the Community and Litter Grant Program requires compliance with all the terms, promises, conditions, and assurances as outlined in the 2019 CLG Manager's Manual and the 2019 CLG Application including, but not limited to, the requirement to charge a fee of \$1.00 per scrap tire collected as part of the scrap tire amnesty and cleanup events as conditioned pursuant to R.C. 3736.05(C);

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Huron County SWMD Board of all members thereof concurring:

**Section 1.** That the Board authorizes and directs Peter Welch to prepare and submit the Community and Litter Grant Fund *Project Nomination Form* to the Ohio EPA for financial assistance to hold scrap tire amnesty and cleanup events, and provide all information and documentation required in said Application for submission.

**Section 2.** That the Board hereby understands and agrees that participation in the program will require compliance with program guidelines and assurances including, but not limited to, charging a fee of \$1.00 per scrap tire collected as part of the scrap tire amnesty and cleanup events.

**Section 3.** That this resolution shall take effect and be in the force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

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.

Joe Hintz seconded the motion.

**\*Discussion:** Ms. Ziemba stated that this grant is to hold a scrap tire amnesty and clean up event. Mr. Boose said this is huge for the community and hopefully we can continue doing this. Short discussion on the many benefits of this program.

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

Aye – Terry Boose

Aye – Joe Hintz

Aye – Bruce Wilde



19-045

**IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZING THE HURON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT (District) TO FILE AN APPLICATION TO THE OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO EPA COMMUNITY AND LITTER GRANT PROGRAM**

Terry Boose moved the adoption of the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, funds are available to be awarded to support the purchase of a new roll-off truck for the Huron County Solid Waste Management District through the Ohio EPA Community and Litter Grant Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, the District desires to participate in the Community and Litter Grant Program to receive financial assistance to purchase a new roll-off truck; and

**WHEREAS**, the District has the authority to apply for financial assistance and to administer the amounts received from the state of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency; and

**WHEREAS**, participation in the Community and Litter Grant Program requires compliance with all the terms, promises, conditions, and assurances as outlined in the 2019 CLG Manager's Manual and the 2019 CLG Application;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Huron County SWMD Board of all members thereof concurring:

**Section 1.** That the Board authorizes and directs Peter Welch to prepare and submit the Community and Litter Grant Fund *Project Nomination Form* to the Ohio EPA for financial assistance to purchase a new roll-off truck, and provide all information and documentation required in said Application for submission.

**Section 2.** That the Board hereby understands and agrees that participation in the program will require compliance with program guidelines and assurances.

**Section 3.** That this resolution shall take effect and be in the force from and after the earliest period allowed by law. 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.

Joe Hintz seconded the motion.

**\*Discussion:** Mr. Boose asked if the Huron County Solid Waste Management Board consisted of just the Commissioners or if it was another group. Ms. Ziemba and Mr. Hintz both believe this is just referring to the Commissioners. Mr. Welch was brought in and verified it is just the Commissioners.

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

Aye – Terry Boose  
Aye – Joe Hintz  
Aye – Bruce Wilde

REGULAR SESSION

TUESDAY

JANUARY 29, 2019

19-046

**IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZING MEMBERSHIP IN THE COUNTY  
ADMINISTRATORS' ASSOCIATION OF OHIO**

Terry Boose moved the adoption of the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, Vickie Ziemba has asked for approval to hold membership in the County Administrators' Association of Ohio in the amount of \$360.00; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Huron County Commissioners recognizes that membership in this organization would be beneficial; now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that Vickie Ziemba is hereby endorsed for membership in the above listed association; 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.

Joe Hintz seconded the motion.

**\*Discussion:** Mr. Boose believes Ms. Ziemba is worth it and that there are many benefits to membership.

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

Aye – Terry Boose  
Aye – Joe Hintz  
Aye – Bruce Wilde

**IN THE MATTER OF TRAVEL**

Terry Boose moved to approve the following travel request this day. Joe Hintz seconded the motion. The roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Aye – Terry Boose  
Aye – Joe Hintz  
Aye – Bruce Wilde

Ashley Smith and Jessica Dendinger, JFS, to Cincinnati, Ohio for OCOWF Annual Training on March 14 and 15, 2019.

Warren Brown, HR, to Columbus, Ohio for State Personnel Board of Review seminar on March 22, 2019.

**At 9:30 a.m.** Pete Welch, Director of Operations, came before the board to answer any questions on the grants applications he would like to submit. The Board had no questions. Mr. Welch needs an executive session to discuss potential lawsuit.

**At 9:30 a.m.** Joe Hintz moved to enter into Executive Session ORC 121.22 (G)(3) a conference with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action. Terry Boose seconded the motion. The roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Aye – Terry Boose  
Aye – Joe Hintz  
Aye – Bruce Wilde

**REGULAR SESSION**

**TUESDAY**

**JANUARY 29, 2019**

**At 9:54 a.m. Terry Boose moved to end Executive Session ORC 121.22 (G) (3). Joe Hintz seconded the motion. The roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:**

*Aye – Terry Boose*

*Aye – Joe Hintz*

*Aye – Bruce Wilde*

**\* Action taken from Executive Session**

Instruct legal counsel to prepare a letter of response to Erie County relative to the Erie/Huron County trash hauling contract.

**At 10:00 a.m. Mr. Wilde opened the First Public Hearing for the Stieber – Metro Parks ditch petition.**

Mr. Wilde asked Ms. Ziemba to state the purpose of the hearing. Ms. Ziemba said the Board received a Ditch Petition from Ronald Sparks, Robert Stieber, Zachary Schaffer, Eli Schaffer, Craig Schaffer, Lawrence Koch and Shawn Houck on September 20, 2018 to reconstruct an agricultural ditch for the Stieber Metro-Parks ditch. The ditch viewing took place on Thursday, November 15, 2018. The originally scheduled first Public Hearing had been rescheduled for today.

Mr. Wilde asked one of the Petitioners to explain the reason for the petition, what they want done, and why.

Bob Stieber stated the reason they want the ditch put under ditch maintenance is because they believe it needs to be cleaned. Mr. Stieber asked the Board to look at the map. He explained that they would like ditch maintenance from the area where the bike trail has trees on both sides down to Halfway Road

Mr. Stieber said they started this project about 15 to 20 years ago. He explained the reason they want ditch maintenance instead of doing it themselves is because the bike trail owns the property, so they really can't do anything. Right now the bike trail is willing to work with them, as they would like ditch maintenance as well. The last time the ditch was dipped was 2003 at a cost of \$1,440. Since then it has been mowed twice, once in 2012 at a cost of \$1,296 and again in September 2018 at a cost of \$1,215.

Mr. Stieber explained they would like to have it under ditch maintenance so it will be forever maintained. Mr. Stieber believes, for the benefit of the landowners, that the County Commissioners should do this.

Mr. Stieber acknowledged that Larry Koch and Dave Schaffer were in the watershed, but they were not going to receive any benefit from the project. It is his group, Ron Sparks, the Stieber's, and Bob Schaffer that want it under maintenance.

Mr. Wilde asked Soil & Water for any additional comments or input. Nobody wished to speak. Mr. Wilde asked Mr. Tansey to summarize the Engineer's report.

Engineer Lee Tansey – Mr. Tansey said the Engineer has done their review and feel the ditch in question is operating adequately as it is now. They are not opposed to it being placed on maintenance, but they don't think any additional construction work needs to be done. Mr. Tansey explained the ditch really doesn't come up to full capacity, even through the culvert on Halfway Road. The Engineers don't see any reason to do any physical work to it but they are not opposed to it being on ditch maintenance for the future.

Mr. Boose had some questions on the Engineer's report. Mr. Boose said the report states that they have not identified any major issues downstream. However, he had been down at the bridge on Washington Road, although not recently, when there were heavy rains and the barn flooded. Mr. Tansey stated that the barn is in a flood plain, but the bridge does not reach capacity. Mr. Tansey said they noted that the ditch flattens out through there and the water comes up. The land is designated flood plain, and in heavy rain it is going to flood. There is really nothing you can do to prevent that – a flood plain is for flooding. Mr. Boose asked if the requested ditch maintenance would cause a bigger problem in that area. Mr. Tansey said there is that potential when you do any work upstream to bring the water faster downstream. He said with this amount of work they don't really think it is going to increase the flow enough to cause a problem. But the potential is there and they are not going to rule it out.

Mr. Wilde asked Mr. Stang from Soil & Water for his input. Mr. Stang stated that there would be no change at Halfway Road in the pipe size. Mr. Wilde asked if it was still somewhat restricted. Mr. Stang said, yes,

it is still restricted by that pipe – there is no change. Mr. Tansey said that the pipe is not restricting the flow now, it is oversized for what is coming to it – no matter what you do upstream that pipe is never going to reach capacity.

Mr. Boose had another concern. He mentioned there were a couple places in the report where Mr. Tansey had made comments, for example “*coordination and permits with Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway Company will likely be required before any work begins*”. Mr. Boose said the report also had made a couple comments regarding the bike path possibly putting down blacktop. Mr. Boose wondered if that would cause changes in the ditch, and/or could it make it harder to do the requested maintenance work. Mr. Boose questioned if the location between the bike path and the railroad could be an issue.

Mr. Tansey said any maintenance equipment would have to go down the bike trail. Typically bike trail pavement isn’t designed for heavy equipment, but can handle pickup trucks and other light duty equipment. Mr. Tansey said it can be done, but that would be solely up to the Metro Parks. There are some potential issues with coordination and making sure we don’t have any future problems or destroy any brand new asphalt pavement on the bike trail by maintenance activities.

Mr. Hintz wanted Mr. Tansey to clarify that, even though the ditch doesn’t require maintenance right now, he is in favor of the ditch maintenance program for future events. Mr. Tansey responded that they are neutral. They can see the benefits but can also see there are some negatives. Mr. Tansey stated that basically their report is a technical evaluation of the project provided to the Commissioners to help them make their decision. Mr. Hintz stated that the report read as if the Engineers were opposed, but now they are saying they are not really opposed to a maintenance program. Mr. Tansey clarified that the last paragraph states that they do see benefits for the future, but at the same time they don’t see any benefit to spending money for construction activities they don’t think are needed currently. The evaluation is for today, not for the future.

Mr. Wilde called once for testimony in favor of the ditch petition.

Robert Stieber. Mr. Stieber spoke in favor of the ditch petition. He believes it should be put under ditch maintenance. The County Engineer’s report said, in the last paragraph, that they weren’t opposed to ditch maintenance. The records Mr. Stieber had shown it doesn’t cost that much to maintain if you just dip the soils and keep the weeds and trees down, which is all they are asking for. He explained they don’t want to do anything with Mr. Koch’s or Mr. Schaffer’s property. They are just asking for a small section in the middle to be maintained in order to keep the fields from flooding.

Mr. Stieber went on to say that the bike trail inherited the ditch from the railroad. The railroad was supposed to take care of it but they are no longer there. Mr. Stieber said the property owners don’t own it so they can’t do anything about it. Mr. Boose said he thought the railroad still owned property through there. Mr. Tansey clarified there were two railroads - the inactive railroad is now the bike trail and the other railroad is still active –they are adjacent. Mr. Tansey said his surveyors coordinated with the railroad representative for the Engineer’s report. Mr. Tansey explained the railroad is very strict – you cannot step foot in the railroad right of way to do anything without permitting from them.

Gordon Oney from Lorain County Metro Parks. Mr. Oney said that he can speak about this from two perspectives. He has been a part of Rails to Trails about 20 years. He also has personal experience since he owns farm land that has a ditch that is on maintenance. It was put on maintenance in about 1980. The Soil & Water Conservation service does periodic work. All these years he has not had to maintain it and it has been a minimal charge on taxes for maintenance. He personally is in favor of ditch maintenance projects.

Mr. Oney said with regard to the bike path, they have been discussing this for nearly 20 years. The ditch must have periodic maintenance and, in fact, right now the north bank needs maintenance due to excavations and bringing heavy tractors down through there for the last mowing operation have collapsed some areas of the bank. This has created many holes and other hazards for people who are using the trail.

Mr. Oney said they have begun the process of looking at paving that trail. If they are able to accomplish it, it would probably take place three or four years down the road. Mr. Oney thinks getting this on a maintenance project is a good thing to do, rather than letting it deteriorate and having to rebuild the whole thing.

Mr. Boose has a question regarding the bike trail. He said that one thing they do to maintain is to spray the ditch. He asked if that a concern for the bike trail – trying to spray the ditch when people are riding bikes or horses down it. Mr. Oney stated whenever there is spraying there is always someone who objects to it. The Metro Park has been mowing one side with a ditch bank mower but they can only reach down about half way into the ditch. The north bank slopes about 12-15' and they reach down about half way. He stated the brush needs to be maintained.

Mr. Wilde called a second time for testimony for the ditch project.

Mr. Wilde called third time for testimony for the project.

Mr. Wilde called once for testimony against the project.

David O. Schaffer. Mr. Schaffer pointed out where his property was located on the other side of a small stretch of the ditch. He said that the part that would be going on maintenance is actually on Township property, not on his property. Mr. Schaffer said there was no benefit for his property for this ditch maintenance. He said all his water drains to a ditch further downstream.

Mr. Boose asked if the ditch would or would not be on his property. Mr. Schaffer said not the part of the ditch that they want to put into the maintenance.

Mr. Wilde asked Mr. Schaffer if he would be paying. Mr. Schaffer said according to the paperwork his taxes would be assessed for this project. He said there will be no benefit to him. Mr. Hintz clarified that even though part of the ditch is on Mr. Schaffer's property, the property drains elsewhere, so the ditch project would be of no benefit to him. Mr. Schaffer confirmed that was correct.

Robert J Smith. Mr. Smith explained the history of the area and where the old tiles and ditches were located in the fields. He explained that these tiles had never been cleaned out and thought at least some of them were plugged and didn't run. At the ditch viewing in November Mr. Smith thought someone said the railroad owns 50' from the center of the railroad on both sides. Mr. Smith feels that it is up to the railroad to clean and maintain the ditch. Mr. Smith did not feel this should be left up to the landowners to clean out, it is up to the railroad.

Mr. Smith said he would like to ask Bob Stieber exactly where he was talking about cleaning out the ditch and taking out trees. He asked if it was from Mr. Stieber's property to the Sparks' property. Mr. Stieber said no, it was the ditch that lays right alongside the bike trail. Mr. Smith was aware of this, but wanted to know exactly where. Mr. Stieber began to explain. Mr. Strickler suggested Mr. Stieber describe it using the map so everyone would be talking about the same place.

Mr. Stieber pointed out the ditch on the map. Mr. Smith said that they only cleaned out the ditch up to where the crossing was. Mr. Smith pointed out where the ditch had been, and what may have been the old gas line. There was discussion regarding the markings on the map. Everyone was aware that everything in blue was the proposed project. Mr. Smith stated that they had cleaned this out all the way over to somewhere near the crossover and asked if that was correct? Someone asked if they cleaned the trees out. Mr. Smith said no, not the trees – they cleaned the ditch. Mr. Smith thought that was fine. But he said the problem is, on each side of Norfolk & Southern the water can't get through. There never used to be water out in the field, and it is getting worse. Mr. Wilde said that was a different subject. Mr. Smith thought he knew where they were talking about, and asked what trees were coming out. Mr. Oney explained there were no trees there. Mr. Stieber, Mr. Smith and Mr. Oney discussed where the tiles ran under the fields, which ones were still there and which ones were not. Mr. Wilde did not want to bring another situation into the discussion and wanted to make sure everyone knew what area was being discussed.

Larry Koch – Mr. Koch was in attendance to represent Jim Doughty, who was in Florida. Mr. Koch explained that the problem actually starts on Halfway Road, since the water doesn't release fast enough and floods the yards. He explained that it is Mr. Doughty's opinion that if they don't address this problem first then he doesn't feel he needs to be paying for ditch maintenance further up. Mr. Doughty feels the actual problem starts in a different area. Mr. Wilde stated that was a different issue. Mr. Koch was aware of this, but he was representing Mr. Doughty. Mr. Boose understood the issue was that Mr. Doughty would be paying and he is not getting any benefit. Mr. Koch said Mr. Doughty feels that he shouldn't have to pay for it since it backs up in the area before where they want to start the maintenance.

Mr. Koch asked Mr. Tansey what they felt would be negative about cleaning out that ditch. Mr. Tansey said the problem was spending \$30,000 when they didn't feel it was necessary. He explained that was the estimate and the only number he had been given. Mr. Koch didn't see the problem with this, since he thought this was paid for with government money. Mr. Tansey explained it was paid from tax dollars. Mr. Tansey said it will be assessed on the taxes of whoever owns the property that uses the ditch. He explained that was the reason for the public meeting, as everyone in the room would be paying for it.

Mr. Tansey explained that the area Mr. Koch is discussing comes from the fields across Halfway Road and there are capacity issues crossing Halfway Road. He said that is a Township storm sewer. Mr. Boose wanted to verify that Halfway Road was a Township Road. Mr. Tansey answered yes, Ridgefield Township.

Mr. Koch wanted to know if there was anybody present from the railroad. Mr. Tansey explained getting the railroad to do anything would be a big undertaking.

Mr. Wilde stepped in and said he was hearing a couple different numbers which he thought would make a huge difference.

Mr. Robinson explained that \$30,000 is a complete reconstruction of the ditch, including side slopes, tree removal and rocks. He said they are talking about a bottom cleanout, which is anywhere from 75 cents to \$2 per foot. Mr. Stang said they were projecting to accept the ditch as is, outside of basically a dip out. They are not planning on reconstructing the side slopes. It is stabilized and in pretty good shape, so it is just basically a bottom clean out.

Mr. Robinson explained that, if there is a maintenance base of \$1,300, he can never collect enough money to actually maintain the ditch – he would receive 10% of that, or \$130. If the maintenance base is at \$30,000, he would collect 10% and have \$3,000.00 to keep in the account to do what they need to do.

Mr. Tansey stated he could only use the information he was given, which was the \$30,000 he pulled from old files. He was not given a plan of what was going to be done. His evaluation could only be based on the information he had on hand. Mr. Wilde stated that appeared to be an issue to him – no one really seemed to know what the plan was.

Calvin Lloyd. Mr. Lloyd said his property is right in the middle of all of it. The only time Mr. Lloyd had ever seen problems with water was straight across the street on the south side of Route 20 where there is a big drain culvert. Mr. Lloyd said the drain culvert fills up like a lake every spring. Mr. Lloyd believes the Schaffer's go in and clean it out and in a week or so it's all gone. He has never seen much of a problem.

Mr. Wilde called second time against the project.

Mr. Wilde called a third time against the project.

Mr. Boose expressed to Mr. Strickler that a big question hadn't been answered - what does the railroad own and what does it not own? Also, does that make a difference to this ditch? Mr. Boose said he understands that everybody in the watershed pays. However, the Federal government rules the railroad. Mr. Boose felt this might be an issue. Mr. Strickler stated he wasn't sure what the railroad owned. Mr. Tansey said he had received the drawings from the railroad representative which show they have a 99' right of way. By doing a preliminary check, it appears the railroad owns to the top of the ditch where it breaks on the south side, although the line could vary a little bit.

Mr. Wilde asked if there would be another hearing. Mr. Strickler thought there should be a second hearing. He said they have to review the information they have, see if there is anything else they need, request that information, and then have the second hearing.

Mr. Wilde stated he would like to know more about what was really going to happen. Mr. Tansey offered what he had available, but Mr. Wilde and Mr. Strickler both thought this information should come from Soil & Water. Mr. Stang said he hadn't thought they were to the point where they should be getting estimates for potential work. He stated they could get estimates for a full reconstruction, and also just for the dip out, knowing that the dip out is really all they want. However, they would need a higher maintenance base than just what the dip out would cost. Mr. Stang said that they would have figure out if they were

capable of accepting this project based on a new construction maintenance base, but only requiring minimal work. He said otherwise they will have to accept it as maintenance base based on the original dip out and most likely have to change it around within six years.

Mr. Boose said he would like some answers as to what authority Soil & Water had as far as accessing the property to do the work, given the unique location. Mr. Stang indicated that, based on the Ohio Revised Code, they would have a right of way similar to the railroad right of way. Mr. Robinson stated it would be a 20' right of way, up to 75' in an emergency. Mr. Stang said if the Metro Parks decided to blacktop the bike trail they would obviously have to work with them and figure out if they have the clearance to get an excavator down. Mr. Stang said they would have to work to make sure we weren't doing damage. But the right of way exists based on the Ohio Revised Code.

Mr. Boose followed up by asking if they could force either the railroad or the bike path to put something in that would be thick enough so they would not damage it, and who would pay for that? Mr. Boose noted that this affects the cost of the whole project. Mr. Stang said they would definitely have to sit down with the Metro Parks and figure out a plan moving forward.

Mr. Wilde feels there are still a lot of questions that need to be answered. Mr. Wilde said they would be gathering information. Mr. Strickler said the next hearing needed to be held within the next 25 to 90 days. It was decided that the final hearing would be April 2, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

**At 10:58 a.m.** Mr. Wilde adjourned the public hearing and recessed the regular session.

**At 11:20 a.m.** the board resumed regular session.

**Administrator/Clerk report**

Ms. Ziemba informed the board that EMA has set up three heat shelters – one in Norwalk, one in Willard and one in New London. She said Mr. Mead sent a request to purchase drinks and snacks. Mr. Boose suggested Mr. Mead check with the Salvation Army, CAC, and the newspapers for donations for food. However, since it was a last minute issue, Mr. Boose suggested it should be handled just like any other emergency situation.

Mr. Boose had received a phone call from Lorain County questioning if we were closing anything down due to the weather. He thought if anything closed it would be the landfill since they work outside. Mr. Welch will make sure his staff stays indoors as much as possible.

Ms. Ziemba had received an email from the mechanic on his assessment of the EMA Trailblazer. It needs parts totaling \$860. He said overall the vehicle is safe to drive, although not comfortable for long trips. Everyone thought it would be a good idea to fix it, but Ms. Ziemba explained EMA had to make the request and pay for the repairs. Mr. Boose said to suggest to them that they can use the Focus if they don't want to use the Trailblazer.

Ms. Ziemba had received an email from Mr. Brown at HR. Mr. Brown said the Board of DD was looking at changing their HR service, which is currently a part of COG. That contract is up for renewal in March. They are currently paying \$36,000 for those services and the person assigned spends about 40 hour every 2 weeks at their building. He would like to pursue a shared service agreement with them but wanted the approval of the Commissioners first. Mr. Boose feels it is too big of a need for our two person office. If Mr. Brown feels he can handle it with the current staffing that is fine, but we will not hire additional staff

Ms. Ziemba had received a response from Ms. Liebold regarding the Claims Schedule. The RJ Beck bill was for work done to make it possible for our system to be upgraded and updated so the veterans could move into the building. The additional door fee was for a fob to be placed on the CESA file room to reassure tax information is secure. The fob is easier for the employees as well as provides an extra amount of security.

The Board had questions regarding travel requests – do we need for CORSA or BWC Claims. Mr. Brown verified through CORSA that they do not pull these when there are accidents. That just left the ORC. Mr. Strickler will review it.

**Prosecutor report**

Mr. Boose stated he had reviewed the minutes of January 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. He had not been able to attend this meeting and was concerned by some of the discussion with the Health Department, and particularly regarding the internal security system. Mr. Boose said he has talked to numerous people and everyone agrees that anything attached to the building, stays with the building. Mr. Strickler said the problem is the internal security system was paid for from federal grant money, so it either has to go with them or the federal grant has to be reimbursed. Mr. Boose would like to see in the grant where it says that it stays with a department and doesn't stay with the building.

Mr. Boose feels we need to send the Health Department a letter stating anything that is attached in any way to the building stays with the building, unless it can be proven from the grant documents that they have to take it with them. He wants to make it very clear to them as to what is expected.

Mr. Boose brought up the transportation meeting and use of alert levels. He will discuss this later.

Mr. Boose asked Mr. Strickler about audits and who is in control of audits for departments that have boards. He asked if the Commissioners had any authority. Mr. Strickler said he believed it was up to the board. Mr. Boose asked how a question or complaint about the way a board is spending money should be handled. Mr. Strickler suggested making a complaint to the State Auditor as a citizen, but he didn't believe a board would be able to do it.

Mr. Boose questioned the Courthouse roof. We haven't heard anything from the architect/engineer in months. He thinks we should have them in for a status update. While they are here Mr. Boose would also like to ask them for cost estimates for certain other things, as this will affect the budget.

Mr. Wilde asked about the status with Senior Enrichment. Mr. Boose said that Ms. Knapp came in with Melissa James, who is helping the Senior Services Capital Campaign. Ms. Knapp had asked if we would consider giving Senior Services money from the Revolving Loan Fund for handicap accessibility in the building. Mr. Wilde thought we should consider this. Ms. Ziemba stated it would be similar to CDBG – they would still have to fill out the application, but it would be a quicker process because RLF monies fit the original intent. However, they can't start the application to find out what is eligible until they own the property. Mr. Boose understands it is their intent to own a building, whether they buy or build. There was discussion regarding the demolition of their existing building and scrap value of items in building. It was agreed that they should take anything they can use, leave us the scrap.

**At 11:58 a.m.** the board recessed.

**At 1:00 p.m.** the board resumed regular session.

**Wind Energy Discussion:**

Mr. Wilde brought up the Apex Wind project PILOT. We have not received any updates in a while. There have been a lot of people questioning the resolution from last March. Mr. Wilde asked for the Board's thoughts.

Mr. Boose said it seems as though there is some conflicting information about the March resolution. Mr. Hintz agreed there were misunderstandings. Mr. Boose would like Mr. Strickler to work with Ms. Ziemba to prepare a resolution to rescind the March resolution simply because it was not clear. Once the Power Siting Board rules on the project the Board will have to make a final decision anyway. Mr. Boose feels we should just rescind what we did and in the future we can reconsider where we stand. There was discussion that, although they had been given a lot of information at the time of the resolution was passed, a lot has changed since then. It was decided it might be better to remain neutral until they have the final information.

Mr. Wilde asked Ms. Ziemba if, after the Siting Board gives the okay, they have 30 days to make a decision. Ms. Ziemba said that would be a question for Mr. Strickler. Mr. Wilde thought he had read something which said the timeframe was 30 days. If we don't do anything within 30 days, the project goes on without a PILOT. Mr. Wilde said he thought this came from CCAO.

Ms. Ziemba asked if the Power Siting Board had ruled on the Greenwich project. Mr. Boose and Mr. Hintz said that they had. Mr. Boose stated the ruling was being appealed. Ms. Ziemba indicated that we



**REGULAR SESSION****TUESDAY****JANUARY 29, 2019**

had not received anything on that one and wasn't sure how that worked. Mr. Wilde said we would wait to hear back and that we were all in agreement that things have changed.

**Commissioner Hintz report**

Mr. Hintz attempted to contact Tim Hollinger, left a message. Mr. Hollinger has not gotten back to him. As far as the veterans, Mr. Hintz was not able to get a hold of them to follow up. Mr. Welch had sent them an email to inform them that Mr. Minor would be by on Friday to collect the keys.

**Commissioner Wilde report**

Mr. Wilde attended the Planning Commission meeting last week. Mr. Boose wanted to explain to Mr. Wilde that the Planning Commission has a much broader responsibility than what they have been doing recently. He said there are a couple big plans that have been approved and the Committee is in charge of ensuring everything goes smoothly. Mr. Boose suggested they all review those plans so they know what they are really talking about.

Mr. Wilde mentioned last Thursday's CHIP grant meeting. He received some good information from this meeting.

Mr. Wilde also attended Records Commission meeting last Thursday. They are trying to get an idea of the volume of records they are dealing with. Mr. Boose suggested to Mr. Wilde that they tour the basement and old jail to see how efficiently it is being used. He thought Records Retention might want to go on the tour also. Mr. Wilde will try to take a look at it as soon as he can.

There was also a Huron County Foundation event that Mr. Wilde attended last week. They give a large number of small grants to teachers to use for items they might have to use their own money for otherwise. They give away about \$20,000 at the event, and do it twice a year.

Mr. Wilde also attend the lunch last Friday at the Plymouth area museum, which is now on the National Register of Historic Places. They have worked really hard on this.

Mr. Wilde will attend the Record Commission meeting tomorrow at 1:30.

Mr. Wilde and Ms. Ziemba will go to the EMA meeting on Thursday.

John Chime's group is meeting in the Health Department on Thursday at 3:00 p.m.

Mr. Wilde said that there is a fundraiser for Mary Beth Shreve on Saturday at Eagles. Not a Commissioner's event, but still a community event.

Mr. Wilde then referenced the letter received from St. Alphonsus. The letter thanked the Commissioners and also presented some additional suggestions. Mr. Boose thought it should be forward to ODOT, Local State Highway Patrol, and State Representative Dick Stein.

Next Mr. Wilde mentioned the Huron County Master Gardener's Annual Recognition Dinner on February 28, 2019.

Mr. Wilde had the information he received from Mr. Boose on the manufacturing group that meets, but he was not sure if we need to be a part of this. Mr. Boose said he thought it might have tied into the Fireland's Partners meeting that Mr. Wilde had attended last week.

Mr. Wilde spoke about the Fireland's Partners meeting. Fisher Titus and Heather Horowitz were there. Mr. Boose questioned - who is Fireland's Partners? He asked if it was associated with the workforce development Ms. Horowitz was working on. Mr. Wilde said it is separate. There was discussion on who was a part of it and who was not. Mr. Boose doesn't feel it is necessary to have multiple workforce developments. He feels anything substantial with workforce development is going to be expensive and it would be better if everyone works together. Mr. Wilde will find out more at the next meeting on February 13.

**Commissioner Boose report**

Mr. Boose attended the Regional Transportation meeting and said there are new requirements from ODOT. It is necessary to have a plan if we want our County to receive ODOT money for public

**REGULAR SESSION****TUESDAY****JANUARY 29, 2019**

transportation. We have worked for the last two years to put a plan together. Another requirement to have quarterly meetings. Mr. Boose thinks it is a good idea to get everyone together to go over the issues. They also reviewed the mission and goals at the meeting.

Mr. Boose mentioned that the GLCAP website offers transportation information for every county. The Transportation Director at GLCAP is very impressed with Huron County's transportation system and understands we don't have enough money. Some of the larger counties are not using all of their money, so she is talking to ODOT to try to redirect those funds to us.

Mr. Boose went on to say that one of the biggest issues for every organization is a lack of transportation available to people in wheelchairs after hours. Mr. Hintz pointed out this goes back to the money issue. Mr. Boose said a lot of the problem is finding drivers for the off hours. This is partially due to the fact that we don't know exactly what the need is until it is up and running. GLCAP is going to work with us and try to see what other counties are doing.

At the Transportation meeting, Christie Lane and Senior Services representatives mentioned they were having a difficult time notifying the public of delays and cancellations, as well as staying updated on the changing levels during snowstorms. They discussed using the Everbridge text message system for this purpose.

Land Bank Network meeting on February 13, 2019. It will be the Winter Networking Meeting in Delaware County at the Orange Township Hall. Mr. Boose said they are asking land banks to submit a quarterly progress report, so he felt we should forward the information to Ms. Knapp.

Mr. Boose discussed the use of conveyance fees and DTAC funds for the land bank. There were some differences between what was budgeted and what was actually available. Ms. Ziemba thought it would be a good idea to have Ms. Knapp invite Mr. Tkach to attend a meeting and provide some more finite numbers.

Ms. Ziemba also mentioned that Mr. Tkach had told her he wanted to start getting together a plan of what properties to buy, as the first payment would be coming in soon. He also made a suggestion about possibly receiving an exemption from the State that would allow properties to be given. Everyone agreed there is a lot that needs to be discussed.

Mr. Boose mentioned that Erie Basin RCD was holding the Ohio Outdoor and Wildlife Expo at Sawmill Creek on March 30, 2019. He said this was a free event, but they were accepting donations to be used to help support the Ohio Wildlife Project.

Mr. Boose asked Ms. Ziemba if there was anything we need to do as far as getting information for the next public hearing on the Stieber – Metro Parks Ditch. Ms. Ziemba said she has not had a chance to look at everything but believes the timeframe is to allow for review what has been submitted. She wasn't sure if Soil & Water or the Engineer were going to send additional information.

Mr. Boose stated his biggest concern with this project was to find out what it was going to cost. He believes this is a really unique project with the railroad on one side and the bike trail on the other. There was a long discussion on the difficulties associated with this project. These include the differing positions of the landowners, the current condition of the railroad drainage and other distinctive issues of this property.

Ms. Ziemba had time to review the procedure during the discussion. She read: *At the first hearing the Commissioners must hear the preliminary report and hear any evidence offered by any of the owners for or against. The first hearing may be continued for more than one day in order for all interested owners to have an opportunity to be heard.*

Mr. Boose was concerned as he was aware there were some landowners who had not been able to attend this meeting and wanted to know when they would be heard. Ms. Ziemba said the one gentleman wanted the railroad attend, although Mr. Strickler informed him we can't force them to come to the hearing.

Ms. Ziemba continued reading: *No change shall be made in the nature of the work proposed after the first hearing is completed except upon application of an interested owner affected by the proposed improvement and upon notice given to all the owners affected by such a change.*

Ms. Ziemba continued: *Approving the Petition. The commissioners may approve the petition if they find that the project is necessary, conducive to the public welfare and is reasonably certain that the costs are less than the benefits . . .* Ms. Ziemba finished the paragraph.

Mr. Wilde pointed out that we do not know what it is going to cost, so we don’t know if the benefits outweigh the cost. He asked if they were just asking to scrape the bottom of the ditch. Mr. Boose and Ms. Ziemba both said no, they can’t specify one thing, and they can only ask to maintain the ditch. Mr. Boose explained the confusion is that sometimes there is not a ditch to start with, it has to be created. He thought the \$30,000 estimate was to create a new ditch, but the petitioners are only asking to maintain the existing ditch.

Mr. Boose asked if we could find out how the Soil & Water Board feels about this. There was a long discussion regarding who would be assessed, how much needed to be assessed, who would benefit and who actually owns the ditch. Mr. Boose wanted to make sure we had the right questions to the right people.

Mr. Boose pointed out that if the Engineer’s office and Soil & Water were working together, this would be a lot easier. Everyone agreed they were relying on the expertise of both departments to help with their decision.

Ms. Ziemba said we need talk to the Prosecutor’s office to find out what the next step is. There was more discussion on obtaining costs and details of the project.

Mr. Boose mentioned that the OCCO Legislative conference was April 9, 2019. He thought this was just going to be a meet and greet.

Ms. Ziemba said that the County Administrator’s Group was asking about weather closings due to the extreme cold predicted for the next couple days. After discussion it was decided to leave the closing of the Transfer Station to the discretion of Mr. Welch. All the other County buildings would remain open unless the electricity or other system, such as the furnace or boilers, went down. Ms. Ziemba said she would contact the Judges and make sure they were on board with that. Mr. Wilde stressed that the safety of the employees has to be the number one priority.

**At 2:25 p.m.** Joe Hintz left the meeting.

**At 2:29 p.m.** Terry Boose moved to adjourn. Bruce 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 January 29, 2019.

**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 2:29 p.m.

Terry Boose

Joe Hintz

Bruce Wilde

**ATTEST**

Clerk to the Board