

REGULAR SESSION

TUESDAY

MAY 5, 2020

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

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 305.14 the Record of the Proceedings of the April 7, 2020, April 14, 2020, April 16, 2020 and April 21, 2020 meeting(s) were presented to the Board. Bruce Wilde made the motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the April 7, 2020, April 14, 2020, April 16, 2020 and April 21, 2020 meeting(s) and approve as presented. Joe Hintz seconded the motion. Voting was as follows:

Aye – Terry Boose

Aye – Joe Hintz

Aye – Bruce Wilde

20-115

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 Claim Register for Payment Batches #296901 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.

Joe Hintz seconded the motion.

***Discussion:** Terry Boose to abstain from voting on the payments to Norwalk Concrete.

Mr. Boose asked about putting Covid-19 on all the appropriate bills. He noted at least 9 that were Covid-19 related. Ms. Ziemba explained they were tracked by “Project” type, which does not show up on the Claims Schedule.

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[illegible]

Claims Register for Payment Batches

Warrant #	Amount	Line Description	PO #/Line #	Batch ID
256901	\$570.35	Psychological services 425.456/2020	2020-000081	256901
256901	\$970.35			
256901	\$110.00			
256901	\$10.00			
256901	\$10.00			
256901	\$16.72			
256901	\$2,123.04			
256901	\$15.76			
256901	\$13.14			
256901	\$24.00			
256901	\$45.00			
256901	\$140.00			
256901	\$1,020.42			
256901	\$3,648.32			
256901	\$18.31			
256901	\$10.87			
256901	\$24.38			
256901	\$168.80			
256901	\$467.72			
256901	\$104.50			

Claims Register for Payment Batches

[illegible]

Claims Register for Payment Batches

Warrant Date	Client	Batch ID	PO Line #	Line Description	Amount	Warrant #
06/07/2020	West Essex Range Inc	266001	2020-001171	2 Broom Vases	\$750.30	2020-001171
Account 001.030.00275 (Contract Repairs) Total:					\$750.30	
Department Jail Operations Total:						\$13,055.61
Department Miscellaneous:						
06/07/2020	Hess Midwestern Allen & Koch Co LPA	266001	2020-002871	Appointed Counsel Fees	\$1,480.00	
Account 001.040.00070 (Attorney Fees) Total:					\$1,480.00	
06/07/2020	Sealed Distributing LLC	266001	2020-004271	Chow Classification Vases	\$150.00	
Account 001.040.00072 (COVID-19) Total:					\$150.00	
Department Miscellaneous Total:					\$1,485.00	
Fund 001 - General Fund Total:					\$40,616.79	
Fund: 104 - Indigent Guardianship						
Department Indigent Guardianship						
06/07/2020	Loeb & Van The Co LPA	266001	2020-000767	Attorney Fees	\$150.00	
06/07/2020	Loeb & Van The Co LPA	266001	2020-000767	Attorney Fees	\$150.00	
Account 104.104.00250 (Guardianship) Total:					\$187.60	
Department Indigent Guardianship Total:					\$187.60	
Fund 104 - Indigent Guardianship Total:					\$187.60	
Fund: 105 - Dog & Kennel						
Department Dog & Kennel						
06/07/2020	Kyrline Company	266001	2020-001461	Warrant MD - Sanitizer wipes	\$119.04	
06/07/2020	Kyrline Company	266001	2020-001461	Room Service Sanitizer Aerosol	\$119.04	
Account 105.105.00175 (Supplies) Total:					\$238.08	
06/07/2020	Haven Court Commissioners	266001	2020-001911	Disinfectant	\$198.00	
06/07/2020	Haven Court Commissioners	266001	2020-001911	Oil Change And Dog Warden	\$198.00	
Account 105.105.00275 (Contract Repairs) Total:					\$200.88	
06/07/2020	Coast to Coast Solutions Inc	266001	2020-001541	Nitrile Gloves	\$475.62	
Account 105.105.00475 (Other Expenses) Total:					\$475.62	
Department Dog & Kennel Total:					\$1,005.48	
Department: Dog & Kennel Clerk						

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Bruce Wilde moved to table the Resolution 20-116 until we know the procedure the Engineer's Office will take for the bid openings. Joe Hintz seconded.

Mr. Boose thought that, due to the Covid virus we need to know how bids will be opened and taken care of. Mr. Hintz hates to table it and slow the process, but he understands what Mr. Boose is saying. Mr. Wilde understands Covid is as an issue, but Meeting Room A is big enough they can follow proper precautions.

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

Aye – Terry Boose

Aye – Joe Hintz

Aye – Bruce Wilde

Mr. Boose wanted to point out, for the record, they were not wearing their masks because it interfered with the taping of the meetings. They wear them into the meeting and when they leave, but they leave them off during the meeting so they may be heard.

20-117 - *Hold*

At 9:09 a.m. Public comment – *none*

20-118

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING AN AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE BOARD OF HURON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND CLEVELAND COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

Bruce Wilde moved the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Huron County 9-1-1 Planning Committee has recommended to the Board of Commissioners entering into an agreement with Cleveland Communications, Inc. to provide certain equipment and perform services regarding the Purchase and Set Up of 700 MHz Linear Simulcast Communications System Equipment for the Huron County, Ohio 911 and Countywide Public Safety Communications Systems; and

WHEREAS, Cleveland Communications, Inc. has the State of Ohio Procurement Contract, Index #STS-073 Schedule #534414, for Communication Equipment & Services; and

WHEREAS, Cleveland Communications, Inc. has submitted a proposal in the amount of \$2,305,083.00 for the equipment and services as attached; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Huron County Commissioners approves the agreement submitted by Cleveland Communications, Inc., 5220 Hauserman Rd. Cleveland, Ohio 44130 for the Purchase and Set Up of 700 MHz Linear Simulcast Communications System Equipment for Huron County as attached hereto and incorporated herein; and further

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

Joe Hintz seconded the motion.

***Discussion:** Mr. Wilde explained that Ms. Bond, 9-1-1 Coordinator, had done all the research on this. The TAC Committee had been involved. They voted on this on April 8. Ms. Bond listed the ten members that participated, including all five fire chiefs. The vote was 10-0. From there it went to the Planning Committee, which consists of three members. The vote was 3-0. Mr. Wilde wanted to make sure everyone understood that he had not heard anything negative through this entire process. Everything was unanimous, everybody has been on board. He thought Ms. Bond had done a good job putting this all together.

Mr. Boose said there had been a meeting on February 18 between Ms. Bond and the Norwalk Fire Department. Norwalk Fire had commented how good the Harris system was at that time. There had also been significant discussion as to what direction the County was going. He wanted to make it clear the decision had not been made without a lot of thought and open discussion. Mr. Boose wanted to point out the reason they were approving this today. It was not because they “hadn’t got to it yet” or “weren’t ready”, which is what had been said in a Norwalk City Council meeting. The Commissioners have been ready to pass this for a long time. They didn’t pass it right away as a courtesy to the City of Norwalk, because they knew there would be problems with the Norwalk radios. The Commissioners waited to see if anything might come up that would change the

situation. They may not have officially signed it, but it is not like they were undecided. They made it well known all along what direction they were going. One of the biggest reasons they chose these radios was technology. It is easy to buy old technology that has been around for a long time. The industry is starting to move toward new technology. They looked at all the bids, at Motorola and how they were moving forward. Motorola was way behind technology-wise and what the County wanted to do based on future needs. The County wants something that can be around for a long time, they don't want to buy into old technology. Mr. Boose thought it was very important that they didn't just make a decision and choose it for no specific reason – there are a lot of very good reasons, including the quality of the technology. There has been a lot of discussion. The Fire Departments are all on the TAC advisory committee. At no point did he hear anybody say anything against going in this direction. The Sheriff's office is also 100% on board. It was part of their recommendation that we do this to have the best technology. Norwalk City Council brought up that they get more radios with Motorola. They are looking at getting 36 radios for 18 firefighters. Mr. Boose said he would be interested to know how many radios they currently have, how many radios they are buying and why there was such a great need to get as many radios as possible instead of getting the quality that we are getting with ours.

Mr. Hintz said he concurred with what was said and wanted to thank Ms. Bond for all her hard work.

Mr. Wilde said he thought Mr. Hintz and Mr. Boose had attended a meeting that included presentations of all three radios. Mr. Boose said he had and at that time had commented that he hoped the Harris radios were affordable, as they can do so much more and are so much better technology-wise than everyone else. Mr. Wilde said he thought we had done our due diligence.

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

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

**Agreement on file*

20-119

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING THE HUNTINGTON PUBLIC CAPITAL CORPORATION
MASTER LEASE AGREEMENT NO. 15214 (TAX EXEMPT)**

Bruce Wilde moved the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Huron County is desirous of financing the Purchase and Set Up of the 700 MHz Linear Simulcast Communications System Equipment to be purchased from Cleveland Communications, Inc. for the Huron County 911 and Countywide Public Safety Communications Systems; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Huron County Commissioners is desirous of entering into a Tax-Exempt Master Lease Agreement with Huntington Public Capital Corporation; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Huron County Commissioners hereby enters into a Tax-Exempt Master Lease Agreement with Huntington Public Capital Corporation for the Purchase and Set Up of 700 MHz Linear Simulcast Communications System Equipment for Huron County as attached hereto and incorporated herein; and further

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

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

**Agreement on file*

20-120

IN THE MATTER OF HIRING A FULL-TIME, NON-EXEMPT, CLASSIFIED, DEPUTY DOG WARDEN I EMPLOYEE FOR THE HURON COUNTY DOG WARDEN

Bruce Wilde moved the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Board of Huron County Commissioners to hire a Deputy Dog Warden I as a full-time, non-exempt, classified employee for the Huron County Dog Warden; and

WHEREAS, this position was posted and advertised in accordance with the Huron County Personnel Policy Manual; and

WHEREAS, all applications were reviewed and three applicants were interviewed, and

WHEREAS, the Huron County Dog Warden, recommends the hiring of Tiffany A. Ptak for the position of Deputy Dog Warden I; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Huron County Commissioners hereby approves the appointment of Tiffany A. Ptak to the position of Deputy Dog Warden I, in accordance with the Huron County Personnel Policy Manual, effective May 11, 2020, at the rate of \$10.50 per hour with an additional \$.50/hr. after successful six month evaluation, 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. Wilde said this was to replace Katie Christopher, who moved over a month ago. Mr. Boose pointed out we have been without a Deputy Dog Warden for over a month. There are only three total employees to handle all the responsibilities, including taking care of all the dogs and cleaning all the kennels. We are not adding a new position, this is a position we are behind in hiring. Also, our Dog Warden is talking about retirement, if not this year then next year, so we have to get everyone trained and things up and running. The Dog Warden money is totally separate from the General Fund budget. They have money in their budget for this and the position is definitely needed.

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

Aye – Terry Boose

Aye – Joe Hintz

Aye – Bruce Wilde

20-121

IN THE MATTER OF HIRING A HUMAN RESOURCE DIRECTOR /LOSS PREVENTION COORDINATOR FOR HURON COUNTY

Bruce Wilde moved the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Board of Huron County Commissioners to hire a Human Resource Director/Loss Prevention Coordinator for Huron County; and

WHEREAS, the Huron County Commissioners posted and advertised this position in accordance with the Huron County Personnel Policy Manual; and

WHEREAS, all applications were reviewed, interviews were conducted, and Donald Starett was deemed to be the most qualified applicant; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that in addition to Donald Starett's duties as Human Resources Administrator for Huron County Department of Job and Family Services, Mr. Starett will fill the position of Human Resource Director/Loss Prevention Coordinator for Huron County, effective May 6, 2020, as an unclassified, FLSA exempt employee for an additional compensation of \$15,000 annually (paid from account 012-00125-001); and further

BE IT RESOLVED, Mr. Starett shall serve a 120 calendar-day probationary period in accordance with the terms and conditions as outlined in the Huron County Personnel Policy Manual; and further

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BE IT RESOLVED, it is expressly agreed between the Board of Commissioners and the Director of the Huron County Department of Job and Family Services that Mr. Starett will perform the duties of both Human Resources Administrator for Huron County Department of Job and Family Services, and Human Resource Director/Loss Prevention Coordinator for Huron County, effective May 6, 2020 as set forth herein;
and further

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

Joe Hintz seconded the motion.

***Discussion:** Mr. Boose stated we have been without a Human Resources Director since December. Ms. Minor, the JFS Director, had come to them and said she knew finances would be tight. Mr. Starett has done an excellent job for JFS, so she thought he could also work for the Commissioners. Not having to hire another full-time employee would be very helpful in the Covid-19 budget that is about to come up. Mr. Boose was very happy they could work something out and get somebody as talented as Mr. Starett. Mr. Hintz wanted to thank Mr. Starett for his dedication to the County. He said it is unknown what the future is going to bring and this is going to be very helpful. Mr. Boose also wanted to thank Ms. Ziemba for filling in for the last four months in that job. He observed there was probably more going on in Human Resources in the last four months than we have had in the last four years with all the Covid changes.

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

Aye – Terry Boose

Aye – Joe Hintz

Aye – Bruce Wilde

Old Business

SES. Ms. Ziemba was not sure what was going on with them since the levy failed. Mr. Strickler said he spoke to Mr. Beal and suggested he talk to his board about putting the bond issue on the ballot again in November. Ms. Ziemba is working on setting up a meeting with Mr. Boose, Mr. Beal and a member of the board.

Cook Road. Mr. Strickler said he has it sitting on his desk. It is still important, but has kind of been moved to the back burner due to current Covid issues.

IT Department. This is on hold. Mr. Wilde noted that Mr. Starett is also an IT person, he does some of the IT work for JFS.

Adult Parole. Mr. Strickler still has not received anything back from them.

RFQ - architect. Ms. Ziemba asked Mr. Strickler if the RFQ period could be opened back up to try to get some local vendors. The RFQ hit about the same time as Covid-19. Mr. Boose pointed out we have a lot of RFQ's, about 15, but none of them are local. Mr. Strickler thought it could be reopened due to Covid and the health emergency for the same period it had been opened for the first time. This would give all vendors a chance to submit and make sure the County has the largest pool of applicants to review and choose from. Ms. Ziemba thought we should include that those who have already submitted do not need to resubmit. Mr. Strickler thought that was a good idea – he did not want anyone thinking all RFQ's had been rejected.

Courthouse ramp. Ms. Ziemba has submitted this for the CDBG. Ms. McConnell is in the process of putting everything together – there are also two other projects. From there it will be submitted to the Commissioners to review and choose the projects. Mr. Boose clarified we are looking at funding it without using General Fund money. It will be CDBG money. The ramp has holes in it, you can see to the ground underneath. Mr. Wilde thought it was still safe, it is concrete. Mr. Hintz wanted to be clear we do not think it is unsafe, but it definitely needs attention. Ms. Ziemba pointed out that with this grant the work will not begin until next spring.

Imagination Library. Mr. Boose said the bottom line is they are asking the Commissioners for roughly \$17,000 to finance this for the next year. He acknowledged it was a very good program and would love to see it happen. But at this time he does not see how we can do something that is not mandated, because we have no idea what our funding is going to be like for next year. We know it is going to be down but we don't know how far. Mr. Boose does not think it would be responsible for us to be funding things that are not required. Most counties are funding it through fundraising. Mr. Hintz wanted to say he agrees with Mr. Boose. \$17,000 may not sound like a lot, but with what we are facing or possibly facing, he concurs with what Mr. Boose said. Mr. Wilde also agreed. This was not something on our list of priorities. However, if something were to change, he thought they could always take another look at it. He is more interested in keeping the County employees employed. That is his goal, but we don't know what is going to happen. Mr. Boose said it has been stated that 70-80% of our total General Fund budget goes to payroll.

Ms. Ziemba said it wasn't old business, but everyone has received an email from a gentleman who was interested in an unpaid internship. Mr. Boose would like this information passed on to Mr. Strickler, if he has not already received it. He wanted to let Mr. Strickler know this is a person that is looking for an internship - nonfunded, he has a fellowship. Mr. Boose thought this person could shadow Mr. Strickler at their meetings. He would like to give somebody that is going out into the legal world an opportunity to see this part of the legal world that a lot of people don't even know exists.

Ohio Power Siting Board. Ms. Ziemba has handed all the documents she had over to Mr. Strickler. Mr. Strickler said there was a lawsuit involving a wind project in the western part of the county, but he did not think we necessarily needed to get involved in it. Mr. Boose said we have not heard anything more about the rescheduling of that meeting. Mr. Strickler said that everything is still stayed, they have not rescheduled. All the time schedules, not just the hearings, but also the time to submit documents and everything has been held in abeyance. People are still submitting documents to the Power Siting Board, be it for or against. He has not seen anything where they have rescheduled hearings.

Commissioner Wilde said he has heard a lot of people beating the Commissioners up for not doing more to open the county up. Then there is the other side that doesn't want to rush things. He said recently they had a conference call with the Lt. Governor. The Commissioners then set up a Reopening Committee and spent last weekend working on a plan. He knew Mr. Boose had spent hours working on it. They prepared a six-page document explaining how Huron County is different and why we thought we could open. The letter was hand delivered to Lt. Governor Husted by State Representative Dick Stein. Mr. Boose said we have not officially had a response. They are pushing as hard as they can to get things reopened, but have stated they will not go against the Governor. He said once again the lack of communication from the administration seems to be the course they take. About two weeks ago he personally wrote a letter to the Senate President and the Speaker of the House. He reminded them Ohio is made up of three branches of government, and there is a reason for that. He only sees one branch doing everything right now, and he is not even sure if there is any consulting going on. He asked them to please not just meet, but to do something. They are the only ones that can – it is out of the Commissioner's hands. Mr. Boose does not think we are being heard, except by Representative Stein. He has signed our letters and been part of our solution the whole time, but he can't do it without leadership's approval.

Mr. Wilde explained they have been very busy. They have had plenty of Zoom meetings, webinars and conference calls. These included daily conference calls with the Health Department at one point. They have had regular conference calls with CCAO and have followed the Governor's briefings daily. They also have had conference calls with the Lt. Governor, as well as Senators Brown and Portman, set up through CCAO. The Commissioners have been in contact with local businesses. Mr. Wilde thought it might be time to put out a press release to let people know what they have been doing.

Mr. Boose added that they have called all the mayors and local officials two different times to see if there was any way they could help them. Mr. Wilde said they also called Senior Enrichment and were able to get masks for their bus drivers. Ms. Bond and EMA are also constantly in contact with the local cities and villages. EMA has worked with them to consolidate and make large PPE orders for the County, rather than everyone doing their own. Ms. Bond explained they are helping anybody they can and have pointed the vendors to neighboring counties who were also having trouble getting PPE. Mr. Boose said EMA had done a fantastic job organizing all the donations and getting them where they were needed.

At 10:01 a.m. Bruce Wilde moved to adjourn. Joe Hintz seconded the motion. The meeting stood adjourned.

IN THE MATTER OF CERTIFICATION

The Clerk to the Board does hereby attest that the foregoing is a true and correct record of all actions taken by the Board of Huron County Commissioners on May 5, 2020.

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 10:01 a. m.

Signature on File