TUESDAY

**NOVEMBER 17, 2020** 

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

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 305.14 the Record of the Proceedings of the October 15, 2020, October 20, 2020 and October 27, 2020 meeting(s) were presented to the Board. Terry Boose made the motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the October 15, 2020, October 20, 2020 and October 27, 2020 meeting(s) and approve as presented. Bruce Wilde seconded the motion. Voting was as follows:

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

20-309

## IN THE MATTER OF CERTIFYING CLAIMS SCHEDULE FOR PAYMENT BATCHES 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 Register for Payment Batches #307135 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.

Bruce Wilde seconded the motion.

\*Discussion: Mr. Boose noted that, once again, there were several payments for IT. He thought this should be something they discuss during today's Zoom meeting. He also asked if the keypad entry lock set for 180 Milan was due to the problems we had with the doors. Ms. Ziemba was not sure which door it was for – there had been problems with three of them. Mr. Boose clarified they were our normal doors but they were not working properly. Ms. Ziemba said that was correct.

Mr. Boose then noted the water bill for 180 Milan seemed high. He wondered if it could possibly be because there was so much going on with Board of Elections. Mr. Wilde pointed out the toilets were flushing a lot more. Mr. Boose asked Ms. Ziemba to check into it.

Next Mr. Boose looked at 023 - Contract Repairs. There were quite a few purchases. He hoped they weren't spending all their money at the end of the year because they have it.

Finally, Mr. Boose questioned the 25 bags of dog food being purchased by the Dog Warden. He will discuss with Mr. Jasinski when he comes in.

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

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

	Warrant Dates: 11/19/2020 to 11/19/2020	Payment Batches: 307135 to 307135 Amount Warrant #		\$7.75	\$7.75 \$7.75		\$160.96	\$160.96	\$2,635.00	\$1.07	\$2,636.07	10	2,01,01 € 03,09 kg	\$21.75 \$21.20	\$607.61	\$607.61	\$9.86	\$9.86		V.3.2		Amount Warrant#	\$185.00	\$194.86	5463.78	\$463.76	\$10,899.48	\$262.26	\$735.00	00.05/\$ \$\$7.50	\$664.43	\$97,68	\$147.88	\$13,172.81	\$181.52	\$181.82	\$214.62	\$396.44	957.12\$	\$27.55 \$48.00	\$48.00		V32	¥.046
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TUESDAY



At 9:10 a.m. Public comment – Mr. Boose had some things he wished to express to Carolyn Bick. He explained the Board was working on budget for next year. Ms. Ziemba had put some numbers together for them to review. Even though it is an interim budget, he had some concerns. The biggest thing was - should they be budgeting for things if they could possibly receive Covid funds that can't be used on budgeted expenses. He wondered if they should not budget for certain items. But that could throw off the whole budget. If Congress passes a new bill, he thought they need to put a lot more thought into how we are allowed to use the money. He asked Ms. Bick to pass that on to Congressman Jordan. This could make budgeting very difficult. Mr. Boose appreciated the numbers Ms. Ziemba put together, but he has a million questions. The Board may want to rethink what they are doing as far as giving the departments what the final budget was last year. He has a feeling there are a lot of people playing games with next year's budget, and if the Board doesn't play the same games they are going to get hurt. Ms. Bick said they would be working on this the first two weeks of December. She did not know if they would have anything finalized before budget was due, but she would pass it on to the Congressman.

#### 20-310

## IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENTS WITHIN THE GENERAL FUND

Terry Boose moved the adoption of the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, there is a request for an appropriation adjustment for the Sheriff's #023 account due to reimbursement from the CORSA Grant for 22 body cameras for road deputies; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Huron County Commissioners finds the requests to be reasonable;

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
	041	00572 Contingen		\$6,600.00		023	00200 Sheriff eq	001 uipment	\$6,600.00
		C					1	•	and further

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Huron County Auditor is authorized and instructed to record said appropriation adjustment as approved; and further

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**NOVEMBER 17, 2020** 

**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 department requesting said adjustment; 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.

Bruce Wilde seconded the motion.

\*Discussion: Mr. Boose stated he has concerns over this body camera grant. The Sheriff's office is receiving a CORSA grant to reimburse them for a portion of the body cams purchased two years ago. They wanted to use the reimbursement to purchase additional equipment. Ms. Ziemba said Chief Deputy Ditz indicated the purpose of requesting the funds was to use towards SWAT vests. They will still apply for reimbursement, but there is always a local match. Mr. Boose reminded the Board that once a piece of equipment is purchased, it is forever – they will always be expected to replace it. He said we keep buying equipment for them. If you look at the numbers Ms. Ziemba provided for their budget you will be blown away. Mr. Wilde noted the Commissioners had spent the money two years ago and now it was not coming back to them. Mr. Boose strongly suggested a "no" vote, or at the very least tabling it until they could speak to Mr. Ditz. Mr. Hintz agreed tabling it was a good idea until they could get more information.

Bruce Wilde moved to table resolution 20-310 for additional information. 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

20-311

# IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENTS WITHIN THE GENERAL FUND

Terry Boose moved the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, there is a need for appropriation adjustments; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Huron County Commissioners finds the request to be reasonable;

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
	026	00200 EMA equ	001 ipment	\$5,876.00		026	00125 EMA Sala	001 rv	\$4,158.00
			-p			026	00125 EMA OPI	001	\$1,476.00
						026	00125 EMA Med	001	\$242.00
									and further

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Huron County Auditor is authorized and instructed to record said appropriation adjustment as approved; 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 department requesting said adjustment; 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.

Bruce Wilde seconded the motion.

TUESDAY

\**Discussion*: Mr. Boose stated this is due to a budgeting error in the salary lines. It was not due to an increase in the EMA's salary.

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

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

20-312

#### IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING REQUEST FOR PAYMENT AND STATUS OF FUNDS REQUEST FOR THE HURON COUNTY COMMUNITY HOUSING IMPACT AND PRESERVATION PROGRAM (CHIP) B-C-19-1BJ-1 (DRAW #2) AND B-C-19-1BJ-2 (DRAW #6) SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD NOVEMBER 17, 2020

Terry Boose moved the adoption of the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, requests for payment and status of funds requests have been prepared and submitted to the Board of Huron County Commissioners as attached herein by Great Lakes Community Action Partnership for the Board's certification; and

WHEREAS the Board has reviewed the requests for payment and status of funds reports; now therefore

**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.

Bruce Wilde seconded the motion.

\**Discussion:* Ms. Ziemba explained 1BJ-1 was a CHIP draw down for repair assistance in New London and Norwalk, and then General Administration for a total dollar amount of \$6,423. The 1BJ-2 was for Administration in the amount of \$1,060.00

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

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

Submit to:			dress of Grantee:	CDBG E.E. RLF Balance:							
	Services Agency		Commissioners								
	munity Development	180 Milan Ave		CDBG Housing P.I							
P.O. Box 1001		Norwalk, Ohio		Cond Housing P.1	Balance:						
	io 43216-1001			Home Program In	come Balanco						
	n information	Grant Number		nome riogram as	come penonice						
Name: Marcia	Walters		 -C-19-1BJ-1	Date:							
Phone number	r; (419) 333-6118	Draw Number		Oste: Vouchenii: Warrantii							
	ers@gicap.org		2								
Project NBR	Project Name:	Activity NBR	Activity Name	Housing Site Address (If	Amount	Approved Activity/Site	Balance of Activity/Site				
				applicable)		Budget (\$)	Budget (\$)				
5	Repair Assistance	1	Home/Building Repair	243 Park Ave, New London	684.00	8380.00	0.				
5	Repair Assistance	1	Home/Building Repair	8 State St, Norwalk	2054.00	14938.00	12884.0				
2	Administration/Fair Housing	2	General Admin		3685.00	63500.00	56130.0				
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	unt of this Draw: on of Itemization of E					86818.00	69014.0				
Agreemen hat the d needs.	hat this request for Part (s) cited and that the ata reported above is	amount dr	awn is proper for p	ayment to the	drawer's de	positary. I a	also certify				
Date:	11/17/200		Signature:	8	title:	es Presio					
Date:			Countersignature: Tethy B		Title:						



#### 20-313

## IN THE MATTER OF DISPOSING COUNTY PROPERTY

Terry Boose moved the adoption of the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the Huron County Sheriff has eighteen (18) used lightbars that are older and of various styles and manufactures which he has determined are not needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Huron County Commissioners hereby determines that the county personal property is not needed for public use, or is obsolete or unfit for the use for which it was acquired, and that the property has no value; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code section 307.12(I), the Board has the authority to discard or salvage such property; now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED,** that the board hereby authorizes and directs the Sheriff to dispose of the county personal property as requested; 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.

Bruce Wilde seconded the motion.

\*Discussion: Mr. Boose said this was a discussion they had regarding lights that had been taken off vehicles and are sitting in a barn. They don't fit on any other equipment. He wanted to possibly give them to volunteer firefighters to use. However, he was not sure they had "no value" as the resolution stated. Mr. Strickler explained they have no value to us since they are obsolete and not up to date. Mr. Hintz thought the volunteer fireman could rig them for their vehicles, making them safer.

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

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

TUESDAY

20-314

## IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING A REQUEST FOR PAYMENT AND STATUS OF FUNDS REQUEST FOR THE HURON COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) B-F-20-1BJ-1 (DRAW #1) SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD NOVEMBER 17, 2020

Terry Boose moved the adoption of the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, a request for payment and status of funds report has been prepared and submitted to the Board of Huron County Commissioners as attached herein by Great Lakes Community Action Partnership for the Board's certification; and

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the request for payment and status of funds report; now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Huron County Commissioners hereby approves of the request for payment and status of funds report as attached herein and certifies that the data reported is correct and that the amount of the Request for Payment 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.

Bruce Wilde seconded the motion.

\**Discussion:* Ms. Ziemba said this was the initial payment for this grant cycle. It was \$5,000 for Administration.

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



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

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Broadband. Ms. Ziemba did not know if we had heard anything else on broadband. The last note she had indicated Mr. Wilde will try contacting the company that first addressed the Board and Mr. Boose will talk to Congressman Jordan. Mr. Wilde said he has left multiple messages, but no one has been responsive. Mr. Boose reminded Ms. Bick that he had told her office that it was time to quit piece-mealing broadband grants. There needs to be a larger plan that all the money flows through so everybody has the same opportunity.

Public records request. Mr. Boose said he had a call from Adam Schwiebert from CCAO. They discussed Senator Manning's bill that would make it easier for public records requests to go to Court as opposed to running through the process. Mr. Schwiebert wanted to know if there were any suggestions on how to make the bill better. He also would like the Huron County Board to contact Senator Manning and Representative Stein regarding the December 1 expiration date for virtual meetings. There is a divide on this at CCAO. Mr. Boose explained this seemed to be an opportunity for people not to attend regular meetings and is becoming a problem in some counties. However, other counties are saying they cannot go back to regular meetings at this time. Mr. Strickler thought with the spike in Covid cases they really should get it extended. He understands some people in other counties were probably taking advantage of it, but it doesn't seem to be a problem in Huron County. Mr. Boose would like some guardrails put in if it is extended. Mr. Strickler was not sure what kind of guard rails could be added. He mentioned the statute used to read that elected officials had to be in the County once every 90 days. Mr. Boose thought 90 days being on vacation and doing virtual phone calls was a big disadvantage to other Commissioners. Mr. Strickler agreed, and whether they make it 60 or 30 days, that was the only guardrail he could think of. Mr. Boose likes how they have been doing their meetings, but had some concerns about other departments and local governments. He did not think they were truly transparent. Mr. Wilde thought it went back character integrity of the people doing it.

Mr. Schwiebert also reminded him that there are a lot of things that expire December 1. However, he did not go into detail.

Cook Road. Mr. Strickler is still working on the motion.

IT Department. Mr. Wilde said they have two more interviews on Friday, November 20 at 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. It has been difficult coordinating schedules. Mr. Boose asked how they were handling the hiring process. Mr. Wilde explained they will continue with interviews and possibly second interviews. After that they will have the Board interview the top one or two candidates. Mr. Boose thought they would be interviewing for another couple weeks. By the time they offered someone a position, and that person gives two weeks' notice, we would be hiring them during the Christmas/New Year holiday. He did not think that was a good decision. So basically there are four weeks to get this done.

Mr. Boose thought, during the Zoom meeting, he would recommend that people not go to conferences or travel at this time. Everyone is going back to virtual meetings.

At 9:45 a.m. Nord Center, Don Schiffbauer and Bethany Lewis, NORD Center. Mr. Schiffbauer explained he was the CEO for the Nord Center. Nord Center is a community behavioral health agency based in Lorain County. They have had a presence in Huron County since mid-2019. Their services include adult/child/adolescent counseling services; mobile crisis services that respond out into the community as well as emergency assessments at their location in Lorain County. He detailed the services they provide. This included recently expanding their services to include substance use disorder. Eventually they would like to provide a center that provides emergency behavioral health, paid counseling, medication stabilization and assessment and disposition to an appropriate level of care you in an effort decrease the utilization of high cost services.

Bethany Lewis, Director of Sexual Assault Services, Nord Center. Ms. Lewis said they have sexual assault services in Norwalk on Benedict. They also have a child advocacy center and a rape crisis center there. Since they started serving clients in Huron County in 2019, they have served 545 survivors and their families. Even since Covid began in March they have kept their numbers up. They have started doing in-house medical exams. So, for the first time in Huron County people who need a private medical exam no longer need to go out of County. To date in 2020 they have conducted 98 forensic interviews in Huron County. Forensic interviews are an opportunity for law enforcement, Children's Services, and the Prosecutor, to get together to have one single interviewer who is trained in best practice. Nord Center's goal is to increase capacity for both children and adults by 5% this year.

Mr. Boose thanked them for being in Huron County and providing services that we didn't have before, as well as providing services that we did have before. We know in Huron County we don't have enough services. He explained he works with Firelands Forward, a new workforce development group for Erie & Huron County. They are looking for contacts to be made in each county. He will have them contact Nord Center. Firelands Forward focuses on helping young people get prepared, find and retain jobs.

#### **CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND REQUESTS**

Ms. Ziemba presented requests for CARES Act expenses. The requesting departments have submitted the required documentation and state the expenses meet the three requirements: Are **necessary** expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19); Were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020 (the date of enactment of the CARES Act) for the State of government; and Were incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020 and ends on December 30, 2020.

TUESDAY

- Prosecutor, \$5,851.93, Amazon, Seven Lenovo Thinkpad laptops
- Prosecutor, \$435.00, Fireland's Computer Service, VPN Router.

Mr. Strickler explained this would allow them secure access to the router remotely in the event they have to work at home. The laptops are also in case they have to work from home. They have three laptops now, but these will ensure that each secretary and each attorney is able to work from home. Mr. Draper will handle the setup and Fireland's will provide the software licenses.

Terry Boose moved to approve the presented Coronavirus Relief Fund Requests as they meet the required criteria. Bruce Wilde seconded the motion. The roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

Mr. Boose has been thinking about the fuel tank request for the Health Department. He just does not see this as a proper use for the CARES Act funds. Mr. Hintz agreed with him.

Terry Boose moved to deny the Health Department's request for a fuel tank. Bruce Wilde seconded the motion. The roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

<u>Grant update</u>. Ms. Ziemba said they had received a few calls in the office inquiring about CARES funds. One was a request from Catholic Charities for funding for sanitization of the Miriam House shelter. Another was from the American Legion in Monroeville. Mr. Boose was aware the American Legion had just been awarded money from the Village of Monroeville. There was also a request from the hot dog stand in Plymouth. Ms. Ziemba explained most of the calls had been referred on, but she wanted the Board to be aware we were receiving them. Mr. Boose thought maybe they could contact HCDC and see if they fit any categories we had before. Ms. Ziemba said she had received something, she thought from CCAO, regarding money from the State for nonprofits. Mr. Boose was aware of it and said it was misleading. They had guardrails on it that Huron County had not had. Mr. Wilde thought Catholic Charities might qualify for the State program. Mr. Boose suggested telling Ms. Knapp to have them apply through the State if they qualify. But if they fall through the cracks maybe the Commissioners can put some more money in and figure out how to help them.

Ms. Ziemba said she had received an email from Plymouth. Their Mayor had a Zoom meeting with the Richland County Chamber. They are now doing NOOB grants and wondered if Huron County was doing this as well. No one was sure what that was. Mr. Boose asked if Mr. Wilde and Mr. Hintz remembered the discussion they had with the Mayor of Plymouth. He thought the reason some businesses couldn't get money was because they weren't open. Mr. Boose said he would like to have a program for the groups that fell through the cracks, such as the ones that couldn't or didn't open due to Covid. All the County grants had been based on businesses that opened up. Mr. Boose would like to set aside \$50,000 for businesses that hadn't opened. He acknowledged they would have to come up with some guardrails and have it administered by HCDC. Mr. Wilde asked if \$50,000 was enough. Mr. Boose thought it would depend who applied. If there was one application, they might get the whole \$50,000. If there five applications, each applying for \$5,000 and one application for \$50,000 – they may not get the full amount they ask for, but they might get something. Mr. Wilde said he would call Ms. Knapp right after today's meeting. Mr. Boose did not want people falling through the cracks – he was pretty sure that was what happened with the Plymouth hot dog stand. They would like to open, but there wasn't money for them. We want to be fair to everybody and give everybody an opportunity to survive. Mr. Boose thought maybe they should put something in that says if you don't open back up after a year they have to pay the money back. He had already discussed this with OBM, who told him that is a local government decision. Ms. Ziemba reminded them they have to have guidelines and approve the program before they can offer the money. Then they will have to follow those guidelines when they review the grants.

At 10:20 a.m. Josh Jasinski, Dog Warden, addressed the board on his request to purchase two Chevrolet Equinox vehicles.

November 13, 2020

Board of Huron County Commissioners,

#### TUESDAY

I am requesting to purchase two new vehicles to replace the 2x2 Ford Ranger and the Crown Vic. The 2x2 Ranger uses a box, which makes it difficult to put large size dogs into. This issue has been seen throughout the time we got the trucks. The effort to put a large dog in a box that does not cooperate could be dangerous for the officer. To get a large dog back to the office because it's too large to get in the box, the officer has to put it in the front risking getting bite or worse. For safety concerns, a vehicle that can accommodate a large dog is essential—the Ford Crown Vic. Car, well, it has 245,000 miles on it, and the car stalls out. This is a safety concern if the vehicle stalls out while driving. The Ranger and Crown Vic. Will be sold or traded in to help defer the cost. These vehicles can go on the surplus auction or another county agency. Whatever, the commissioners decided on.

The idea the office came up with is the use of the Chevy Equinox. This vehicle has space in the trunk area to fit a large crate for a large dog with the back seat to safely transport injured dogs. I have included with this letter paperwork for both vehicles. They will cost together with \$41,560.00. They are used vehicles, so I believe State Bid does not apply. Upon purchasing these vehicles, this office will provide all safety lights, crates, and decals for the cars. These vehicles will help the officer transport dogs of all sizes and keep a uniformed fleet among the Dog Warden Office deputies.

Dog Warden Joshua Jasinski

Mr. Jasinski explained the Dog Warden's office was interested in getting some new vehicles that are more driveable than the car, which has 260,000 miles. Also, the two-wheel drive truck only has a small box in the back. It is difficult to get a dog into it. If it is a large dog, the only way to get it back to the office is to put it in the front seat. He is looking at two Equinox's, which will enable them to tie a dog in the back seat.

Mr. Boose thanked Mr. Jasinski for getting a good deal. Mr. Jasinski said he would try to trade in the car and the truck to get a better deal. The Board is in agreement with the purchase since it is in their budget. A resolution will be prepared for an upcoming meeting after the dog warden presents his final numbers.

Mr. Boose asked if the dog food on claims schedule is the best price they can get. Mr. Jasinski stated it's the food they have used for years that all dogs seem to do well on and have the least complications. The Board is okay with this purchase.

#### At 10: 25 a.m. the board recessed.

At 10:48 a.m. the board resumed regular session with an in person and Zoom meeting with Elected Officials and Department Heads. Mr. Hintz said that Mr. Starret would start the meeting with a presentation.

Mr. Starret wanted to talk about the effect Covid was having on the workforce and provide ideas and suggestions on how to handle some of the issues. He had six scenarios that they had encountered so far and tried to work through their responsibilities as Department Heads and Elected Officials. Mr. Strickler and the Health Department worked with him to help come up with the following suggestions.

<u>Scenario #1</u>. An employee calls off not feeling well, but it is not Covid related. He reminded everyone that not everything was Covid related. The responsibility the DH/EO has is to make sure it was not Covid-related symptom. For example, if an employee says they have a sinus headache and they get them every now and then. In that case, follow the normal call off procedure.

<u>Scenario #2</u>. An employee is experiencing Covid symptoms, or they have confirmed symptoms on their selfassessment. Mr. Starett reminded them every office should have some form of employee self-assessment. In this case, it is employer's responsibility is to make sure the employee does not come to work. If the employee is at work, isolate that employee immediately and get them out of the building. In this scenario it is required that the employee take time off until they have a negative Covid test or they are released by a health care professional to return to work. Mr. Strickler clarified they could also receive clearance from the Health Department. Mr. Starett agreed. He said to find out what the health care professional recommends and follow the medical lead. In this scenario the employee may be eligible for emergency paid sick leave.

<u>Scenario #3</u>. An employee's household member is experiencing Covid symptoms. The employee is fine, but they have son/daughter/spouse who is experiencing Covid symptoms. This involves the same responsibility as Scenario #2. The employee is required to take 14 days off, or until their family member has a negative Covid test, or verification from a medical professional/Health Department that they are no longer contagious. Again, the employee may be eligible for the emergency sick leave.

<u>Scenario #4</u>. An employee's household member is being tested due to symptoms/possible exposure. This is the same as #3. They should not be in the building. The employee should not report to work until the employee's household member has a negative Covid test or verification from a medical professional that they are no longer contagious. It is important to have the documentation when the employee comes back to work. The employee may be eligible for emergency paid sick leave.

#### TUESDAY

<u>Scenario #5</u>. The employee has tested positive for Covid. The employee needs to stay home, they should not come back to the office for any reason. They have to stay off until ten days after the onset of symptoms, or they no longer have a fever, or they are released from quarantine by a health care provider/Health Department. Mr. Starett explained what he has seen in this case is that the Health Department is involved in the process. He looks for a release from the Health Department to say the employee is eligible to come back into the workplace. That is the easiest and cleanest way to handle that situation. The Health Department then is making that call because they are the medical professionals. Again, the employee may be eligible for the emergency paid sick leave.

<u>Scenario #6</u>. Mr. Starett said this is probably most complicated and most difficult. The employee has been exposed to someone who tested positive. There has been some exposure, but the employee has not tested positive. Again, we want the employee to stay home. We don't want them in the work place until we can verify they are not contagious. In this case, the employee needs to be out 14 days from the last contact with the person who tested positive, or 14 days from when the positive person is released from isolation. If it is a household member that has tested positive, the employee has to wait until that person's isolation has been completed and then 14 days past that to ensure that they have not gotten it. So if it is outside the household, it is 14 days from the last contact. If it is in the household, then you have to wait for that household member's isolation to be complete and then you are looking at 14 days after that. Again, the employee may be eligible for emergency paid sick leave.

Mr. Starett said those were the scenarios they have seen. He had a document that outlined the required timeframe for each scenario. They seem to line up with the CDC recommendations.

Mr. Starett explained that if one scenario develops into another the employee has to be off until they produce a negative Covid test. If they are off because they are experiencing symptoms and get a positive test result, the timeline starts over. Any time you move from one situation to the other, if in fact it progresses, the time off in the first scenario does not count for the second scenario. You actually have to start everything all over again.

Ms. Bond had a questions. A member of an employee's household is sick. Once they are cleared, then the employee has to wait 14 days. What if during that 14 days the employee tests positive, but 10 days later they test clear? Can they return to work? Mr. Starett said yes. Anytime an employee tests positive he will look for the Health Department to provide a release for that employee to come back to work. He will wait for verification from the Health Department or a medical professional.

Mr. Welch asked if you have an employee who has symptoms, they stay home, but they don't get tested. When are they eligible to come back to work? Mr. Starett said in 14 days.

There was a question asking what happens if an employee's spouse is a health care worker? After thinking about it Mr. Starett said he didn't believe there would be possible exposure because a health care worker is taking precautions in the workplace. His initial thought was it was no different than any other workplace. If the health care worker had a possible exposure then we would go to that scenario. Ms. Hazel asked if it would be recommended that they ask the employee to work from home? Mr. Starett said that was an individual call for each of the Department heads to make. However, he thought erring on the side of caution, especially now when things were spiking, was always a good idea.

Mr. Boose reminded them that if the Elected Officials/Department Heads decide on an option that could cost extra money out of the General Fund, and they don't get approval from the Commissioners first, it will have to come out of their budget. He cautioned there was only so much money in the budget, so use it wisely.

Ms. Bond had another questions. She pointed out that this is the time of year a lot of people are sick anyway. Every symptom under the sun seems to be a Covid symptom. Sinus infections are going around. People typically wouldn't get tested for these things. She asked what the guidance was, although obviously err on the side of caution. Mr. Starett said his first guidance is, if you are sick, stay home. Have employees use the benefit time they have. The second thing is, have the employee talk to a doctor. Let the doctor make the decision on whether the employee should be tested. He explained there was no guaranteed way to keep Covid out of the workplace. All we can do is what we know is best practice. Encourage staff to stay home if they are sick, contact their doctor, let the doctor make the decision of whether they should have a Covid test or not. The other piece practice is what we know is good practice in the workplace. Wear your facemask, social distance, avoid places where employees can congregate.

Discussion as to what if it was a grant employee. Mr. Strickler did not think it mattered – if they have benefits then they can use their sick time. Mr. Boose said unless the grant specifically says. It was decided that the Department Head would have to read the grant to make a determination.

### TUESDAY

Mr. Starett acknowledged it was challenging to try to manage this. He was finding that almost every situation was different. He stressed it was important to go back to the individual employee and get all the facts before making a decision. Make sure you get everything directly from the employee. It is also important to listen to the health care providers and the Health Department if they are involved to make sure they are communicating with you about what is going on with that employee. Get everything in writing and keep the documentation.

Mr. Boose said the Commissioners had several things they would like to talk about.

First, they are recommending that employees do not travel during this Covid outbreak until further notice. Mr. Boose was not sure the Board would approve any future travel requests. They strongly recommend that people do not go to their winter conferences if they are being held in person. Mr. Boose also made the recommendation, and he clarified that it was only a recommendation, that no one travel to other states that are currently on the "watch list" for vacation. It they were just going to a family member's home, that was different. But if they were going to do vacation activities in a state that is on the "watch list", Mr. Boose's recommendation was that the employee quarantine for 14 days, unpaid, when they return. However, the Board hasn't talked seriously about it or made any formal decisions. And of course, it is up to each Elected Official. Mr. Boose understood they can't tell employees where to go on vacation, but they can discuss if it is going to cost the County money when they come back.

Next Mr. Boose wanted to discuss interim budget. He was a little worried with the initial numbers that came in. By contract there are some mandatory increases. He cautioned that they should not think the County has plenty of money just because sales tax looks good. That is only one portion of the money the County receives. Also, Mr. Boose believes the sales tax is unrealistically high due to all the CARES Act and stimulus money that has come into the community. Sooner or later we will start feeling the effects of Covid. Mr. Boose was pretty sure the County would get cut back from the State. They have already told us they are going to cut back reimbursements on indigent defense. That will affect the General Fund budget. At the end of the year, when they release the interim budget, there will also be a list of recommendations as to how we should or should not be spending General Fund money. Also, there is no guarantee the final budget will be at least as much as the interim budget. In the past the final budget has always gone up. He cautioned that this year it could go down.

Mr. Boose said they feel we are still in a very strong Covid situation at this point. They had discussed having employees working from home again for the protection of the employees. However, the end of the year is a very, very busy time for certain departments. They understand that some can't work from home right now. But Mr. Boose thought, if you can go back to what you were doing in March, you should. The numbers are pretty scary and they have heard a considerable amount of Covid situations from the departments. They are worried about the departments, about the employees being safe, and worried about having enough employees to get the sanitization done. He asked that everyone be cautious.

Finally, Mr. Boose said they would be sending an email out in the near future to discuss hazard pay. Two different departments have asked for hazard pay. At this time the Commissioners have not made a decision on what they are going to do. Some of them feel that if they are going to pay hazard pay to one department, they should open it up to all departments. If employees had to deal with the public in any way, or were required to do any kind of sanitization, they should be eligible for hazard pay. However, employees would not be eligible during the weeks they may have been off or working from home. The County will probably set aside a lump sum to divide amongst everyone. Mr. Boose asked if anyone had any thoughts or ideas on hazard pay.

Sheriff Corbin indicated he had already submitted a package and thought it was great the County Commissioners were open to hazard pay. He knows it has been brought up before and thinks it is worthwhile. His office deals directly with the public and helps other departments with some of their duties. For instance, they are still doing welfare checks for JFS. The Sheriff was all for it and thought if other departments feel their employees have earned it, it was a great way to help them out. He pointed out that if an employee does test positive, the money to quarantine comes out of the employee's pocket. He again stated he was glad to hear they were open to hazard pay and said he would be happy to attend any more discussion if they wanted him to.

Ms. Minor, Job & Family Services, agreed the Sheriff was a big help for them and indicated she would like to have more discussion as well.

Mr. Boose encouraged everyone to speak up. Mr. Mead, EMA, noted they have been in the trenches through the whole process. He and Ms. Bond are 40-hour salary employees but have been working 60+ hours per week since this started. He would love to have the option for hazard pay, just as a "thanks" for being there all day, every day. Mr. Boose acknowledged that the Commissioners appreciate everything they and every department has done throughout Covid.

#### TUESDAY

Mr. Kline from Board of Elections noted that their staff had put in a lot of hours due to the recent election. They would like to be included in that group. The amount of traffic they had for early voting and in their office for the last several months has been crazy. Mr. Boose agreed they should be included, but asked if Mr. Kline was thinking just permanent employees, or part-time employees also. Mr. Kline thought part time should be included, as they put in a lot of hours and were right there with the permanent employees. Mr. Boose thought they had a really unique situation and appreciated hearing their ideas.

Ms. Minor mentioned that MHAS has also been working nonstop since the beginning of Covid. She thought they should do whatever they could to thank them as well. Ms. Cardone asked if she could make an announcement. She said they have been working on an app for the County. People are struggling and they are not okay. MHAS is trying to be as creative as possible with ways to reach people, and primarily our youth. So they created an app that is currently being tested. They hope to have published by the beginning of December. After that they will do a mass push to get it out to as many people as possible. It lists all our local contact providers and resources, general wellness resources, links to schools and community partners, and general stress management and self-care. They know people are struggling currently, holidays make it even worse, so they are just trying to get out ahead of it. Mr. Boose said communication is what it is all about during Covid, the more we can communicate and help each other out the better off we are going to be.

At 11:34 a.m. the board recessed.

At 11:53 a.m. the board resumed regular session.

At 11:54 a.m. Terry Boose moved to enter into Executive Session ORC ORC 121.22 (G)(1) to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or <u>compensation</u> of a public employee or official, or the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual. ORC 121.22 (G)(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. And ORC 121.22 (G) (6) Specialized details relative to the security arrangements and emergency response protocols for a public body or a public office, if disclosure of the matters discussed could reasonably be expected to jeopardize the security of the public body or public office. Bruce Wilde seconded the motion. The roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

At 1:47 p.m. Terry Boose moved to end Executive Session ORC 121.22 (G)(1), (3), and (6). Bruce Wilde 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- none.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Boose was not sure if the Board wanted to pursue a policy that, if an employee travels to a state the Governor indicates is high risk, they be required to quarantine for 14 days. He would like Mr. Starett or Mr. Strickler to talk to CCAO about this. Mr. Wilde agreed. Mr. Boose felt it was about being responsible. Since the County money is the taxpayer's money, he believes they expect us to act responsibly. Mr. Starett asked if the Governor had imposed restrictions or if it was guidance. Mr. Boose said it was a recommendation. Mr. Strickler thought, unless the Governor actually orders it, there was not much the County could do. There was a limit to what an employer could do. Mr. Starett agreed, saying whatever order the Commissioners are able to pass by motion or resolution is a function of the Governor's order. Mr. Boose thought as an employer they should have rights as to what they can set for their employees. Mr. Strickler reminded him that, as Board of Commissioners they are a creation of statute. They can only do what the statutes permit or the law permits. There is a very fine line between making rules for employees and possibly violating people's constitutional rights.

Upcoming meetings. Mr. Boose said he had a lot of them, so there would be some he would not be able to attend.

MHAS board meeting tonight. Mr. Boose does not feel the way they are doing these is a transparent way of doing business.

Mr. Wilde will attend the FCFC tomorrow morning at 9:00 a.m. He will stay for the 10:00 a.m. WIOA meeting.

TUESDAY

**NOVEMBER 17, 2020** 

Energy meeting tomorrow at 10:00 a.m.

TAC tomorrow at 9:00 a.m.

Mr. Boose has a Government Committee meeting with CCAO this week. He also has a CCAO Board meeting on Friday.

Two Governors press conferences this week.

Mr. Wilde has two interviews on Friday morning for the IT Department.

Planning Commission meeting Tuesday, November 24 at 1:00 p.m.

Land Bank has been canceled and moved to December 3.

At 1:58 a.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 November 17, 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 1:58 p. m.

Signatures on File